ON THE COVER
Stained glass window from 16th Street Baptist Church from the interior of Dear Denise by Lisa McNair. Photo by Audra L. Gray.

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A comprehensive history of the Provincetown Players and their influence on modern American theatre

**Staging America**
*The Artistic Legacy of the Provincetown Players*

Jeffery Kennedy

The Provincetown Players created a revolution in American theatre, making room for truly modern approaches to playwriting, stage production, and performance unlike anything that characterized the commercial theatre of the early twentieth century. In *Staging America: The Artistic Legacy of the Provincetown Players*, Jeffery Kennedy gives readers the unabridged story in a meticulously researched and comprehensive narrative that sheds new light on the history of the Provincetown Players. This study draws on many new sources that have only become available in the last three decades; this new material modifies, refutes, and enhances many aspects of previous studies.

At the center of the study is an extensive account of the career of George Cram Cook, the Players’ leader and artistic conscience, as well as one of the most significant facilitators of modernist writing in early twentieth-century American literature and theatre. It traces Cook’s mission of “cultural patriotism,” which drove him toward creating a uniquely American identity in theatre. Kennedy also focuses on the group of friends he calls the “Regulars,” perhaps the most radical collection of minds in America at the time; they encouraged Cook to launch the Players in Provincetown in the summer of 1915 and instigated the move to New York City in the fall of 1916.

Kennedy has paid particular attention to the many legends connected to the group (such as the “discovery” of Eugene O’Neill), and also adds to the biographical record of the Players’ forty-seven playwrights, including Susan Glaspell, Neith Boyce, Edna St. Vincent Millay, Floyd Dell, Rita Wellman, Mike Gold, Djuna Barnes, and John Reed. Kennedy also examines other fascinating artistic, literary, and historical personalities who crossed the Players’ paths, including Emma Goldman, Charles Demuth, Berenice Abbott, Sophie Treadwell, Theodore Dreiser, Claudette Colbert, and Charlie Chaplin. Kennedy highlights the revolutionary nature of those living in bohemian Greenwich Village who were at the heart of the Players and the America they were responding to in their plays.

Jeffery Kennedy is associate professor of interdisciplinary arts and performance at Arizona State University. He is author of numerous journal articles and book chapters on American theater history, with a strong focus on Eugene O’Neill, Susan Glaspell, and the Provincetown Players.

**ALSO OF INTEREST**

*The Women of Provincetown, 1915–1922*  
Cheryl Black  
$29.95 s PAPER  
EBOOK AVAILABLE
Poignant, honest, and heartfelt letters to a sister who perished in the 16th Street Baptist Church bombing

Dear Denise
Letters to the Sister I Never Knew
Lisa McNair

Lisa McNair was born in 1964, one year after her older sister, Denise, was murdered in the bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama. Dear Denise is a collection of forty letters from Lisa addressed to the sister she never knew, but in whose shadow of sacrifice and lost youth she was raised. These letters offer an intimate look into the life of a family touched by one of the most heinous tragedies of the Civil Rights Movement.

Written in a genuine, accessible, familiar, and easy-to-read voice, Lisa's letters apprise her late sister of all that has come to pass in the years since her death. Lisa considers her own challenges and accomplishments as a student in remarkably different—and very racially complex—schools; the birth of their baby sister, Kim; their father's election to the Alabama legislature; her evolving sense of faith and place, and sometimes lack thereof, within the Black church; her college experiences; and her own sense of self as she's matured into adulthood. She reveals some of the family's difficulties and health challenges, and shares some of their joys and celebrations.

The letters are accompanied by 29 black-and-white photographs, most of them from the McNair family collection, many of them taken by her father, a professional photographer who documented the Civil Rights Movement in Alabama both before and after Denise's murder. An unswervingly candid, gentle, and nuanced book, Dear Denise is a testament to one singular life lived bravely and truthfully (if sometimes confusedly or awkwardly), during decades of bewildering social change and in the shadow of one life never fully lived.

Lisa McNair is a Birmingham native and the oldest living sister of Denise McNair, one of the four girls killed in the infamous 1963 bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church. Lisa is a renowned national public speaker on the topic of racial reconciliation and also leads anti-racism workshops. Visit www.speaklisa.com for more information.
This book records my journey to discover who I am and how I gained peace with myself. I am exploring this through writing letters to the sister I never knew; the sister taken away from our family in such a tragic and senseless way. The struggles of my childhood and teenage years in an America that was not familiar to anyone I knew nonetheless might have been familiar to my older sister Denise, because she would have lived through some of the same struggles—had she been allowed to live. I had few people, either Black or white, to talk to about what I was feeling and even fewer who understood, but I could have and would have talked to her. No one had lived what I was living so that I could learn from their experiences. My parents, two of the most loving and supportive people in the world, could not help me because they didn't know anything about what I was going through. Mostly I didn't share with them because I knew they could not relate. Through many hurts, pains, and tears, I learned to make peace with both cultures around and inside of me. I want to write this book to help others who might be experiencing what I went through. To get past these feelings and to fully understand my identity, I am talking it through with Denise in these letters. In doing so, I hope to speak to those who have endured similar struggles and are still carrying around unexpressed pain because they didn't know there was anyone who shared their story and they decided to hate their own Blackness. It is my hope that by opening up and sharing my story, I can help others make this journey with less pain and more awareness and understanding. Maybe they won't have to go through what I did and they can love themselves; not some of themselves but all of their whole being. I want to be that older sister to them and share with them how I made my peace. I also want the world to be made aware of this part of life because I don't hear people speaking about it, at least not deeply or seriously. Maybe my book will begin the dialogue.

This collection of my letters to Denise also tells my life story and the story of our family after the horrific loss of my sister. I discuss how we have navigated through racism in this country. In these letters, I tell her about Mamma and Daddy, and what they have gone through, as best I know, since her death. I tell her that her life and death mattered not just to me, Mamma, Daddy, and our sister Kim, but to people she never knew. I wrote these letters over the course of many years, and since I started, some things have changed in my life and the lives of those closest to us. Some of our loved ones are no longer with us. I want her to understand that her people are not just her family, not just the ones she was in church with the day she died, not people in Birmingham, not just people in Alabama, not just African Americans, not just Americans, but people throughout the world who truly appreciate the meaning of freedom and justice because she lived and died. That she was even important to the white people who were shamed by the tragedy of her death into taking a second look at the evils of segregation and what they needed to do to rectify it. And to the ones who were silent witnesses to the evil that was being perpetrated on our people and did not speak out about it.

I stand on the shoulders of my sister Denise, and as proud as I am to do so, I often wish I could have just cried on those shoulders while talking to her about school, about life, and about my dreams just one time.

LISA S. MCNAIR
BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA
Marcia Herman’s family moved to Birmingham in 1946, when she was five years old, and settled in the steel-making city dense with smog and a rigid apartheid system. Marcia, a shy, only child, struggled to fit in and understand this world, shadowed as it was by her mother’s proud antebellum heritage. In 1966, weary of Alabama’s toxic culture, Marcia and her young family left Birmingham and built a life in North Carolina.

Later in life, Herman-Giddens resumed a search to find out what she did not know about her family history. *Unloose My Heart* interweaves the story of her youth and coming of age in Birmingham during the Civil Rights Movement together with this quest to understand exactly who and what her maternal ancestors were and her obligations as a white woman within a broader sense of American family.

More than a memoir set against the backdrop of Jim Crow and the civil rights struggle, this is the work of a woman of conscience writing in the twenty-first century. Haunted by the past, *Unloose My Heart* is a journey of exploration and discovery, full of angst, sorrow, and yearning. Unearthing her forebears’ centuries-long embrace of plantation slavery, Herman-Giddens dug deeply to parse the arrogance and cruelty necessary to be a slaveholder and the trauma and fear that ripple out in its wake. All this forced her to scrutinize the impact of this legacy in her life, as well as her debt to the enslaved people who suffered and were exploited at her ancestors’ hands. But she also discovers lost connections, new cousins and friends, unexpected joys, and eventually, a measure of peace in the process.

With heartbreak, moments of grace, and an enduring sense of love, *Unloose My Heart* shines a light in the darkness and provides a model for a heartfelt reckoning with American history.

Marcia Edwina Herman-Giddens is adjunct professor at the Gillings School of Global Public Health, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and consultant on tick-borne infections. Before retiring, she was a pediatric practitioner, child advocate, family health consultant, and teacher. She is best known professionally for her studies on child abuse homicides, which led to new laws, and landmark studies documenting the earlier age of onset of puberty in American children. This is her first work of narrative nonfiction.
Adventures and misadventures exploring nature on a patch of “worthless” abandoned farmland

Salleyland
Wildlife Adventures in Swamps, Sandhills, and Forests
Whit Gibbons

Following his retirement from academic life, renowned naturalist and writer Whit Gibbons and his family purchased a tract of abandoned farmland where the South Carolina piedmont meets the coastal plain. Described as backcountry scrubland, it was originally envisioned as a family retreat, but soon the property became Gibbons’s outdoor learning laboratory where he was often aided by his four grandchildren, along with a host of enthusiastic visitors.

Inspired by nature’s power to excite, educate, and provide a sense of place in the world, Gibbons invites readers to learn about their surrounding environments by describing his latest adventures and sharing expert advice for exploring the world in which we live. Peppered throughout with colorful personal anecdotes and told with Gibbons’s affable style and wit, Salleyland: Wildlife Adventures in Swamps, Sandhills, and Forests is more than a personal memoir or a record of place. Rather, it is an exercise in learning about a patch of nature, thereby reminding us to open our eyes to the complexity and wonder of the natural world.

Starting with the simple advice of following your own curiosity, Gibbons discusses different opportunities and methods for exploring one’s surroundings, introduces key ecological concepts, offers advice for cultivating habitat, explains the value of and different approaches to keeping lists and field journals, and celebrates the advances that cell phone photography and wildlife cameras offer naturalists of all levels. With Gibbons’s guidance and encouragement, readers will learn to embrace their inner scientists, equipped with the knowledge and encouragement to venture beyond their own front doors, ready to discover the secrets of their habitat, regardless of where they live.

Whit Gibbons is professor emeritus of ecology at the University of Georgia and former head of the Environmental Outreach and Education program at the Savannah River Ecology Laboratory. He has published numerous books on herpetology and ecology including Snakes of the Eastern United States and Their Blood Runs Cold. His narrative works include two books coauthored with his sister Anne R. Gibbons based on his long-running newspaper column, Ecoviews.
A universal story of exile, of the refugee and emigrant, and of all those displaced who can reconstruct a sense of home only by weaving a new fabric of the imagination

**Benefit Street**

*A Novel*

Adria Bernardi

**WINNER OF FC2’S CATHERINE DOCTOROW INNOVATIVE FICTION PRIZE**

For nearly two decades, Şiva has met after work on Tuesdays with four friends at a teahouse called the Kafiye. In interrupted conversations, the women explore what it is to live engaged lives inside and outside the home. Amidst joking and complaints, while drinking too much tea and eating too many sweets, they tell of their days: a son’s ninth birthday; the bruise on the arm of an aging parent; soldiers stationed outside the school; the funeral of a political opposition leader killed in a mysterious car accident.

Set in an unnamed provincial capital of an unnamed country, *Benefit Street* tells of a wide circle of friends—teachers, lawyers, missionaries, doctors, artisans—in a time of gathering and dispersal. It tells the story of mothers, daughters, sisters, wives, colleagues, and neighbors, as war to the East threatens and constitutional rights are daily eroded by an increasingly authoritarian regime.

The ideals of youth, freedom, and coexistence are severely tested with the shocking revelation that the charismatic leader of their group has sexually abused the women under his care. The limits of reconciliation are tested as Şiva makes an arduous journey into the mountains to meet an estranged mother with a genius for weaving complex rugs.

**Adria Bernardi** is a writer and translator whose publications include an oral history, a collection of essays, a collection of short stories, and two novels. Her work has been awarded the Bakeless Prize for fiction, the Drue Heinz Literature Prize, and the Raiziss/de Palchi Translation Award. She lives in Nashville.
A kaleidoscopic sequence of autofictional narratives about identity, grief, and narrative itself

Shame
Grant Maierhofer

Shame is a daring exploration of the potential and limits of autofiction, wherein certain authentic features of the author’s life are written alongside fictitious ones. Here we meet Grant Maierhofer at various points within his life then, now, and in the future as he investigates the sense of shame that haunts the course of his days. The real and unreal, fact and fiction, blur together in a Kaufmanesque sequence of overlapping narratives about who we really are, how we cope with regret, and the repetitions of our behavior.

Through lists, fragments, recollections, and rants, the story of a son’s vexing grief for his father emerges. A sober addict trying to figure out how to navigate pleasure, diversion, and escape. A father trying to figure out marriage, children, maturity, and responsibility. A confused observer in a world constantly torn apart by media, politics, and aggression. A meditation on the nature of art, and art’s place in contemporary life.

Grant Maierhofer is author of Drain Songs, Peripatet, Works, and others.
Meditations on the ways grief is felt and harvested—the funny, the sorrowful, the surreal, and the unmentionable

My Haunted Home
Stories
Victoria Hood

WINNER OF FC2’S RONALD SUKENICK INNOVATIVE FICTION PRIZE

The stories in My Haunted Home delve in startling ways into the lives of the obsessed, the grieving, and the truly haunted. Victoria Hood conjures a shifting range of narrators through an unstable range of worlds where mothers might be dead, girls compulsively shove peanuts inside their ears, agoraphobia traps people inside their houses, and cats won’t eat your soup. In “The Teeth, the Way I Smile,” a daughter who looks like her dead mother manifests grief both in her house and her body. In “Smelly Smelly,” a woman slowly comes to realize her boyfriend has been dead for weeks. In “You, Your Fault,” we explore the unfolding love of two women who love every part of each other—including the parts that fixate on arson and murder.

Each story is a bite-size piece of haunting candy on a necklace of obsession holding them together. Hood probes the worlds of what can be haunted, unpacking the ways in which hauntings can be manifested in physical forms, mentally harvested, and lived through, and even probes a change in what is haunting.

Victoria Hood strives to create work that can meld together the punk roots her parents raised her in with the disillusionment of losing her mother at a young age. Through her writing she hopes to discomfort, humor, and charm. She is author of the chapbooks Death and Darlings and I Am My Mother’s Disappointments.
A visually stunning narrative of three eras in humankind’s vexed relationship with nature

Ascension

A Novel

Steve Tomasula

Ascension is a novel about the end of nature, or rather, the end of three “natures”: the time just before Darwin changed the natural world; the 1980s, just as the digital and genetic revolutions begin to replace “nature” with “environment”; and today, a time when we have the ability to manipulate nature at both the scale of the planet and at the genome. The narrative follows three different biologists on the brink of each of these cultural extinctions to explore how nature occupies our imaginations and how our imaginations bring the natural world, and our place in it, into existence.

Ascension is a story of how we continually remake the world and are in turn remade by the new nature we’ve created. It is the story of humans yearning to understand their families, themselves, and the world in which they live as it comes to a close, leaving them to anticipate what will follow. Rich in visual depictions of the natural world—from nineteenth century engravings and paintings to twentieth century photography and twenty-first century databases—Ascension uses the materials of three eras to drive home our inability to escape nature, and the ways our fates are irrevocably bound together even as our actions usher in an end-time.


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“In this epic-scale novel, Steve Tomasula uses multiple modalities and media formats to track the course of ecological impacts and change. From illustrations of contact encounters, to a movie script, to elaborate aerial views and data visualizations, Tomasula demonstrates his unique capacity to engage with technologies of knowledge in constructing his provocative narrative. As always in his projects, the result is a striking work of combined intellectual and creative force. He makes vividly evident the terrifying reality of our current dystopia as we careen towards disaster—starting with the epigraph ‘it did not have to happen this way.’” —Johanna Drucker, author of Iliazd: A Meta-Biography of a Modernist

ALSO OF INTEREST

Conceptualisms: The Anthology of Prose, Poetry, Visual, Found, E- & Hybrid Writing as Contemporary Art
Edited by Steve Tomasula
$39.95t PAPER
EBOOK AVAILABLE
A critical meditation of the iconic 24-7 roadside chain and its place in the southern imaginary

Smothered and Covered
Waffle House and the Southern Imaginary
Ty Matejowsky

Waffle House has long been touted as an icon of the American South. The restaurant’s consistent foregrounding as a resonant symbol of regional character proves relevant for understanding much about the people, events, and foodways shaping the sociopolitical contours of today’s Bible Belt. Whether approached as a comedic punchline on the Internet, television, and other popular media or elevated as a genuine touchstone of messy American modernity, Waffle House, its employees, and everyday clientele do much to transcend such one-dimensional characterizations, earning distinction in ways that regularly go unsung.

Smothered and Covered: Waffle House and the Southern Imaginary is the first book to socioculturally assess the chain within the field of contemporary food studies. In this groundbreaking work, Ty Matejowsky argues that Waffle House’s often beleaguered public persona is informed by various complexities and contradictions. Critically unpacking the iconic eatery from a less reductive perspective offers readers a more realistic and nuanced portrait of Waffle House, shedding light on how it both reflects and influences a prevailing southern imaginary—an amorphous and sometimes conflicting collection of images, ideas, attitudes, practices, linguistic accents, histories, and fantasies that frames understandings about a vibrant, if also paradoxical, geographic region.

Matejowsky discusses Waffle House’s roots in established southern foodways and traces the chain’s development from a lunch-counter restaurant that emerged across the South. He also considers Waffle House’s place in American and southern popular culture, highlighting its myriad depictions in music, television, film, fiction, stand-up comedy, and sports. Altogether, Matejowsky deftly and persuasively demonstrates how Waffle House serves as a microcosm of today’s South with all the accolades and criticisms this distinction entails.

Ty Matejowsky is professor of anthropology at the University of Central Florida. He is author of Fast Food Globalization in the Provincial Philippines.
A groundbreaking appreciation of Dylan as a literary practitioner

No One to Meet

Imitation and Originality in the Songs of Bob Dylan

Raphael Falco

The literary establishment tends to regard Bob Dylan as an intriguing, if baffling, outsider. That changed overnight when Dylan was awarded the 2016 Nobel Prize in Literature, challenging us to think of him as an integral part of our national and international literary heritage. No One to Meet: Imitation and Originality in the Songs of Bob Dylan places Dylan the artist within a long tradition of literary production and offers an innovative way of understanding his unique, and often controversial, methods of composition.

In lucid prose, Raphael Falco demonstrates the similarity between what Renaissance writers called imitatio and the way Dylan borrows, digests, and transforms traditional songs. Although Dylan's lyrical postures might suggest a post-Romantic, “avant-garde” consciousness, No One to Meet shows that Dylan's creative process borrows from and creatively expands the methods used by classical and Renaissance authors.

Drawing on numerous examples, including Dylan's previously unseen manuscript excerpts and archival materials, Raphael Falco illuminates how the ancient process of poetic imitation, handed down from Greco-Roman antiquity, allows us to make sense of Dylan's musical and lyrical technique. By placing Dylan firmly in the context of an age-old poetic practice, No One to Meet deepens our appreciation of Dylan's songs and allows us to celebrate him as what he truly is: a great writer.

Raphael Falco is professor of English at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, and coeditor of The Dylan Review. He is author of Cultural Genealogy: An Essay on Early Modern Myth, Charisma and Myth and Charismatic Authority in Early Modern English Tragedy.

“No One to Meet is a welcome contribution to literary-critical scholarship’s engagement with the Dylan canon. Raphael Falco’s focus on the artist’s compositional method, viewed as the key to understanding his predecessors’ influences and his own . . . lyrical experimentation, is compelling.” —Michael J. Gilmour, author of The Gospel According to Bob Dylan: The Old, Old Story for Modern Times

“No One to Meet contains multitudes; it will be a major contribution to Dylan studies and American studies.” —David Yaffe, author of Bob Dylan: Like a Complete Unknown
DOCUMENTS THE MARITIME HISTORICAL RESEARCH AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK USED TO IDENTIFY THE WRECK OF THE NOTORIOUS SCHONNER CLOTILDA

**Clotilda**

*The History and Archaeology of the Last Slave Ship*

James P. Delgado, Deborah E. Marx, Kyle Lent, Joseph Grinnan, and Alexander DeCaro

Clotilda: The History and Archaeology of the Last Slave Ship is the first definitive work to examine the maritime historical and archaeological record of one of the most infamous ships in American history. Clotilda was owned by Alabama businessman Timothy Meaher, who, on a dare, equipped it to carry captured Africans from what is now Benin and bring them to Alabama in 1860—some fifty years after the import of captives to be enslaved was banned. To hide the evidence, Clotilda was set afire and sunk.

What remained was a substantially intact, submerged, and partially buried shipwreck located in a backwater of the Mobile River. The site of the wreck was an open secret to some people who knew Meaher, but its identity remained unknown for more than a century as various surveys through the years failed to locate the ship.

This volume, authored by the archaeological team who conducted a comprehensive, systematic survey of a forgotten “ship graveyard,” details the exhaustive forensic work that conclusively identified the wreck, as well as the stories and secrets that have emerged from the partly burned hulk. James P. Delgado and his co-authors discuss the various searches for Clotilda, sharing the forensic data and other analyses showing how those involved concluded that this wreck was indeed Clotilda. They also offer physical evidence not previously shared that situates the schooner and its voyage in a larger context of the slave trade. After reviewing the maritime trade in and out of Mobile Bay, this account places Clotilda within the larger landscape of American and Gulf of Mexico schooners and chronicles its career before being used as a slave ship.

James P. Delgado is senior vice president of SEARCH Inc., the largest cultural resource management firm in the United States, and adjunct professor of archaeology at Simon Fraser University.

Deborah E. Marx is a maritime archaeologist specializing in the maritime cultural landscape of the California lumber industry and nineteenth-century ship construction.

Kyle Lent is a maritime archaeologist at SEARCH Inc. specializing in remote-sensing surveys, site assessments, diver investigation, and data recovery projects.

Joseph Grinnan is a maritime archaeologist at SEARCH Inc. overseeing and conducting submerged remote-sensing surveys, diver identification, data recovery projects, and diver safety.

Alexander DeCaro is a maritime archaeologist specializing in marine remote sensing and the archaeological interpretation of acoustic datasets.
Recounts the stories of the USS *Block Island* CVE 21 and CVE 106 and their crews, many of whom served on both ships in the Atlantic and Pacific theatres

**Valor and Courage**

*The Story of the USS Block Island Escort Carriers in World War II*

Benjamin J. Hruska

In *Valor and Courage: The Story of the USS Block Island Escort Carriers in World War II*, Benjamin J. Hruska explores the history and commemoration of the USS *Block Island*—or, more properly, the *Block Islands*, as two escort carriers bore that name during WWII. The first, CVE 21, bears the distinction of having been the only American aircraft carrier sunk in the Atlantic Theatre after being torpedoed by a German U-boat off the coast of North Africa.

Of the CVE 21’s 957 crew members, six sailors were killed and eighteen injured in the strike, and four of the Block Island’s fighter pilots were lost later in the day searching for a safe place to land their planes. When the CVE 106 was commissioned to replace its predecessor, Captain Massie Hughes successfully persuaded the Navy to keep the CVE 21’s crew together in manning the new ship. After resurrection as the CVE 106, the Block Island was assigned to the Pacific theatre where it fought until the end of the war. The saga of these two ships and the crew that navigated two very different theatres of war offers a unique lens on naval strategy and engineering as it evolved during WWII, especially as pertains to the escort carrier class—generally underappreciated both in naval studies and in public memory.

Using archival materials, dozens of oral histories, primary sources, and official records, Hruska traces the life of the *Block Island* from the CVE 21’s construction through its missions in the Atlantic, its work as an antisubmarine hunter, its destruction, and the lasting impact of those experiences on its crew. Hruska’s study juxtaposes traditional military history with an examination of the acts of remembrance and commemoration by veterans who served on the escort carriers, how those practices evolved over time, and how the meanings of personal wartime experiences and memories gradually shifted throughout that process.

**Benjamin J. Hruska** is a public historian who teaches at Basis Prescott Charter School in Prescott, Arizona. He is author of *Interpreting Naval History at Museums and Historic Sites*.

"*Valor and Courage* is a captivating microhistory that weaves together personal narratives from crew members about their experience aboard Naval escort carriers in both the Atlantic and the Pacific campaigns of WWII. By compiling crew members’ accounts of daily life and the dramatic events of Naval battle within the context of interwar Naval industry and technology and the importance of aircraft carrier escorts during WWII, Hruska’s book documents the memory of these Naval veterans that is often difficult to locate in terrestrial cultural landscapes. Public historians, military historians and scholars of memory will appreciate Hruska’s exploration of the complications of memorializing events that happened at sea.” —Melissa Bingmann, associate professor and public historian, West Virginia University

**ALSO OF INTEREST**

*On Wide Seas: The US Navy in the Jacksonian Era*  
Claude Berube  
$54.95s CLOTH  
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The story of Catawba women who experienced sweeping changes to their world but held onto traditional customs that helped them create and preserve a Catawba identity and build a nation

**Becoming Catawba**

*Catawba Indian Women and Nation-Building, 1540–1840*

Brooke M. Bauer

Brooke M. Bauer’s *Becoming Catawba: Catawba Indian Women and Nation-Building, 1540–1840* is the first book-length study of the role Catawba women played in creating and preserving a cohesive tribal identity over three centuries of colonization and cultural turmoil. Bauer, a citizen of the Catawba Indian Nation of South Carolina, weaves ethnohistorical methodologies, family history, cultural context, and the Catawba language together to generate an internal perspective on the Catawbas’ history and heritage in the area now known as the Carolina Piedmont.

This unique and important study examines the lives and legacies of women who executed complex decision-making and diplomacy to navigate shifting frameworks of kinship, land ownership, and cultural production in dealing with colonial encroachments, white settlers, and Euro-American legal systems and governments from the mid-sixteenth century to the early nineteenth century. Personified in the figure of Sally New River, a Catawba cultural leader to whom 500 remaining acres of occupied tribal lands were deeded on behalf of the community in 1796 and which she managed until her death in 1821, Bauer reveals how women worked to ensure the survival of the Catawba people and their Catawba identity, an effort that resulted in a unified nation.

Bauer’s approach is primarily ethnohistorical, although it draws on a number of interdisciplinary strategies. In particular, Bauer uses “upstreaming,” a critical strategy that moves toward the period under study by using present-day community members’ connections to historical knowledge—for example, family histories and oral traditions—to interpret primary-source data. Additionally, Bauer employs archaeological data and material culture as a means of performing feminist recuperation, filling the gaps and silences left by the records, newspapers, and historical accounts as primarily written by and for white men. Ultimately, *Becoming Catawba* effects a welcome intervention at the intersections of Native, women’s, and Southern history, expanding the diversity and modes of experience in the fraught, multifaceted cultural environment of the early American South.

Brooke M. Bauer is assistant professor in the history department at the University of Tennessee and a citizen of the Catawba Indian Nation of South Carolina.
Dialogue between a medical anthropologist and a Cherokee linguist about health, well-being, and environmental issues

Sounds of Tohi
Cherokee Health and Well-Being in Southern Appalachia
Lisa J. Lefler and Thomas N. Belt

Sounds of Tohi: Cherokee Health and Well-Being in Southern Appalachia is the result of almost two decades of work by medical anthropologist Lisa J. Lefler and Cherokee elder and traditionalist Thomas N. Belt. The narrative consists of a dialogue between them that displays traditional Indigenous knowledge as well as the importance of place to two people from cultures and histories that intersect in the mountains of Southern Appalachia. Together, Lefler and Belt decolonize thinking about health, well-being, and environmental issues through the language and experiences of people whose identity is inextricably linked to the mountains and landscape of western North Carolina.

Lefler and Belt discuss several critical cultural concepts that explain the science of relationships with this world, with the spirit world, and with people. They explore tohi, the Cherokee concept of health, which offers a more pervasive understanding of relationships in life as balanced and moving forward in a good way. They converse about the importance of matrilineality, particularly in light of community healing, the epistemologies of Cherokee cosmography, and decolonizing counseling approaches.

The discussions here offer a different way of approaching the issues that face Americans in this difficult time of division. Lefler and Belt share their urgency to take action against the wholesale exploitation of public lands and the shared environment, to work to perpetuate tribal languages, to preserve the science that can make a difference in how people treat one another, and to create more forums that are inclusive of Native and marginalized voices and that promote respect and appreciation of one another and the protection of sacred places. Throughout, they rely on the preservation of traditional knowledge, or Native science, via Native language to provide insight as to why people should recognize a connection to the land.

Lisa J. Lefler is director of the Culturally-Based Native Health Program at Western Carolina University and also founder and former executive director of the Center for Native Health. She is editor of Anthropology: Weaving Our Discipline with Community, Under the Rattlesnake: Cherokee Health and Resiliency, and Southern Foodways and Culture: Local Considerations and Beyond and coeditor of Southern Indians and Anthropologists: Culture, Politics, and Identity.

Thomas N. Belt is a retired coordinator of Western Carolina University’s program in Cherokee language and recipient of an honorary doctorate degree from Western Carolina University and a national honor for service from the Cherokee Nation. He is cofounder of the annual Rooted in the Mountains Symposium.

SEPTMBER
6 x 9 / 136 PAGES / 2 B&W FIGURES / 1 TABLE
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“Lefler and Belt offer timely and much-needed insights into health and healing that center Indigenous knowledge and language, the importance of community, and the sacredness of the land and all life. It is a valuable contribution that will no doubt inform scholars and practitioners in the areas of mental health, environmental ethics, and, of course, Cherokee studies.”—Clint Carroll, author of Roots of Our Renewal: Ethnobotany and Cherokee Environmental Governance

ALSO OF INTEREST

Their Determination to Remain: A Cherokee Community’s Resistance to the Trail of Tears in North Carolina
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Analyzes Mississippian daily life at Cahokia’s environs during wartime

Life in a Mississippian Warscape
Common Field, Cahokia, and the Effects of Warfare
Meghan E. Buchanan

In Life in a Mississippian Warscape: Common Field, Cahokia, and the Effects of Warfare, Meghan E. Buchanan posits that to understand the big histories of warfare, political fragmentation, and resilience in the past, archaeologists must also analyze and interpret the microscale actions of the past. These are the daily activities of people before, during, and after historical events. Within warscapes, battles take place in peoples’ front yards, family members die, and the impacts of violence in near and distant places are experienced on a daily basis. This book explores the microscale of daily lives of people living at Common Field, a large, palisaded mound center, during the period of Cahokia’s abandonment and the spread of violence and warfare throughout the Southeast.

Linking together ethnographic, historic, and archaeological sources, Buchanan discusses the evidence that the people of Common Field engaged in novel and hybrid practices in these dangerous times. At the microscale, they adopted new ceramic tempering techniques, produced large numbers of serving vessels decorated with warfare-related imagery, adapted their food practices, and erected a substantial palisade with specially prepared deposits. The overall picture that emerges at Common Field is of a people who engaged in risk-averse practices that minimized their exposure to outside of the palisade and attempted to seek intercession from other-worldly realms through public ceremonies involving warfare-related iconography.

Meghan E. Buchanan is associate professor of anthropology at Auburn University. She is coeditor of Tracing the Relational: The Archaeology of Worlds, Spirits, and Temporalities.
Explores the embodiment of religion in the Cahokia land and how places create, make meaningful, and transform practices and beliefs

**Land of Water, City of the Dead**  
*Religion and Cahokia's Emergence*  
Sarah E. Baires

Cahokia, the largest city of the Mississippian mound cultures, lies outside present-day East St. Louis. *Land of Water, City of the Dead* reconceptualizes Cahokia's emergence and expansion (ca. 1050–1200), focusing on understanding a newly imagined religion and complexity through a non-Western lens. Sarah E. Baires argues that this system of beliefs was a dynamic, lived component, based on a broader ontology, with roots in other mound societies. This religion was realized through novel mortuary practices and burial mounds as well as through the careful planning and development of this early city’s urban landscape.

Baires analyzes the organization and alignment of the precinct of downtown Cahokia with a specific focus on the newly discovered and excavated Rattlesnake Causeway and the ridge-top mortuary mounds located along the site axes. *Land of Water, City of the Dead* also presents new data from the 1954 excavations of the ridge-top mortuary Wilson Mound and a complete analysis of the associated human remains. Through this skeletal analysis, Baires discusses the ways that Cahokians processed and buried their ancestors, identifying unique mortuary practices that include the intentional dismemberment of human bodies and burial with marine shell beads and other materials.

**Sarah E. Baires** is associate professor of anthropology at Eastern Connecticut State University.

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“Baires makes a good case for her theory of Cahokia. She looks at the great city and its religion in a different way that will aid future studies while promoting new perspectives.” — *American Archaeology*
Essays that show what a broad conception of rhetoric means and does in relation to practice

The Practice of Rhetoric
Poetics, Performance, Philosophy
Edited by Debra Hawhee and Vessela Valiavitcharska

Rhetoric is the art of emphasis, in the ancient sense of bringing to light or obscuring in shadow, and it is both a practice and a theory about that practice. In recent decades, scholars of rhetoric have turned to approaches that braid together poetics, performance, and philosophy into a “practical art.” The Practice of Rhetoric: Poetics, Performance, Philosophy presents just such an account of rhetoric that presumes and incorporates theoretical approaches, offering a collection of principles assembled in the heat and trials of public practice. The essays gathered in this volume are inspired by the capacious conception of rhetoric put forth by historian of rhetoric Jeffrey Walker, who is perhaps best known for stressing rhetoric’s educational mission and its investments in both theory and practice.

The book extends that vision through the prisms of poetics, performance, and philosophy of argument. Poetics shows rhetoric’s meaning-making in all its verbal possibilities and material manifestations, in contexts ranging from mouse-infested medieval fields to the threat of toxin-ridden streams in the twentieth century. Performance puts what is created into the heat of public life, tapping out the rhythms of Byzantine prose or using collage to visually depict the beliefs and convictions of Martin Luther King Jr. Philosophy of argument enacts the mutually constitutive relationship between rhetoric and dialectic, offering new insights on and contexts for old tools like stasis and disputation, while keeping the focus on usefulness and teachability.

Ranging across centuries and contexts, the essays collected here demonstrate the continued need to attend carefully to the co-operation of descriptive language and normative reality, conceptual vocabulary and material practice, public speech and moral self-shaping. This volume will rekindle long-standing conversations about the public, world-making practice of rhetoric, thereby enlivening anew its civic mission.

Debra Hawhee is McCourtney Professor of Civic Deliberation and Professor of English and of Communication Arts and Sciences at Penn State University. She is author of Rhetoric in Tooth and Claw: Animals, Language, Sensation; Moving Bodies: Kenneth Burke at the Edges of Language; and Bodily Arts: Rhetoric and Athletics in Ancient Greece.

Vessela Valiavitcharska is associate professor of language, rhetoric, and writing in the Department of English at the University of Maryland. She is author of Rhetoric and Rhythm in Byzantium: The Sound of Persuasion.
A rhetorical exploration of an underexamined side of climate change—the ongoing research into and development of geoengineering strategies

**Geoengineering, Persuasion, and the Climate Crisis**

* A Geologic Rhetoric

Ehren Helmut Pflugfelder

*Geoengineering, Persuasion, and the Climate Crisis: A Geologic Rhetoric* exposes the deeply worrying state of discourse over geoengineering—the intentional manipulation of the earth’s climate as means to halt or reverse global warming. These climate-altering projects, which range from cloud-whitening to carbon dioxide removal and from stratospheric aerosol injection to enhanced weathering, are all technological solutions to more complex geosocial problems.

Geoengineering represents one of the most alarming forms of deliberative discourse in the twenty-first century. Yet geoengineering could easily generate as much harm as the environmental traumas it seeks to cure. Complicating these deliberations is the scarcity of public discussion. Most deliberations transpire within policy groups, behind the closed doors of climate-oriented startups, between subject-matter experts at scientific conferences, or in the disciplinary jargon of research journals. Further, much of this conversation occurs primarily in the West.

Ehren Helmut Pflugfelder makes clear how the deliberative rhetorical strategies coming from geoengineering advocates have been largely deceptive, hegemonic, deterministic, and exploitative. In this volume, he investigates how geoengineering proponents marshal geologic actors into their arguments—and how current discourse could lead to a greater exploitation of the earth in the future.

Pflugfelder’s goal is to understand the structure, content, purpose, and effect of these discourses, raise the alarm about their deliberative directions, and help us rethink our approach to the climate. In highlighting both the inherent problems of the discourses and the ways geologic rhetoric can be made productive, he attempts to give “the geologic” a place at the table to better understand the roles that all earth systems continue to play in our lives, now and for years to come.

**Ehren Helmut Pflugfelder** is associate professor of professional, technical, and scientific writing at Oregon State University. He is author of *Communicating Mobility and Technology: A Material Rhetoric for Persuasive Transportation.*
Demonstrates how policymakers influenced environmental science during the early nuclear age

Atomic Environments
Nuclear Technologies, the Natural World, and Policymaking, 1945–1960
Neil S. Oatsvall

In Atomic Environments: Nuclear Technologies, the Natural World, and Policymaking, 1945–1960, Neil S. Oatsvall examines how top officials in the Truman and Eisenhower administrations used environmental science to develop nuclear strategy at the beginning of the Cold War. While many people were involved in research and analysis during the period in question, it was at highest levels of executive decision-making where environmental science and nuclear science most clearly combined to shape the nation’s policies.

Oatsvall clearly demonstrates how the natural world and the scientific disciplines that study it became integral parts of nuclear science rather than adversarial fields of knowledge. But while nuclear technologies heavily depended on environmental science to develop, those same technologies frequently caused great harm to the natural world. Moreover, while some individuals expressed real anxieties about the damage wrought by nuclear technologies, policymakers as a class consistently made choices that privileged nuclear boosterism and secrecy, prioritizing institutional values over the lives and living systems that they were ostensibly charged to protect.

By scrutinizing institutional policymaking practices and agendas at the birth of the nuclear age, a constant set of values becomes clear. Oatsvall reveals an emerging technocratic class that routinely valued knowledge about the environment to help create and maintain a nuclear arsenal, despite its existential threat to life on earth and the negative effects many nuclear technologies had on ecosystems and the American people alike. Although policymakers took their charge to protect and advance the welfare of the United States and its people seriously, Atomic Environments demonstrates how they often failed to do so because their allegiance to the US nuclear hierarchy blinded them to the real risks and dangers of the nuclear age.

Neil S. Oatsvall is an independent scholar. His scholarship has appeared in Agricultural History, Environment and History, and Gastronomica: The Journal of Critical Food Studies, among other outlets.
An innovative exploration of early twentieth-century avant-garde poetry’s relationship to the public sphere

**Omnicompetent Modernists**

*Poetry, Politics, and the Public Sphere*

Matthew Hofer

“‘It is difficult / to get the news from poems / yet men die miserably every day / for lack / of what is found there,’” as the poet William Carlos Williams memorably declared. In *Omnicompetent Modernists: Poetry, Politics, and the Public Sphere*, Matthew Hofer examines, through a multilayered literary critique of interwar modernist poetry, what it might mean to get the news, and more, from a poet.

Using pragmatist ideas about the public sphere as a tool, Hofer reveals how Langston Hughes, Ezra Pound, and Mina Loy sought to use literature to both express and enable thought. In Hughes, Pound, and Loy, Hofer attends to poets whose work vigorously imagined possible new relationships between language, thinking, and public society. Each poet had different goals and used different methods, but all found both inspiration and encouragement in popular political theory. Hughes advocated for a more just vision of color and class in the United States. Pound sought to condemn those whom he associated with public harm, linguistically, socially, economically, and politically. Loy championed the “psycho-democratic” representation of women, in both public and private life.

Although Hughes, Pound, and Loy are rarely considered together, what unites these three writers is how each reconceived the public realm, and revolutionized aesthetic form to articulate those visions. Hofer combines sharp intellectual historiography with rigorous literary criticism and the result is a study that reinvigorates both the poems and poets under consideration and speaks to the immense power of language in manipulating public opinion—with pertinent implications for the politics of the present.

**Matthew Hofer** is professor of English at the University of New Mexico and edits the series *Recencies: Research and Recovery in Twentieth-Century American Poetics*. He is coeditor of many volumes, including expanded facsimile editions of *LEGEND* and *L=A=N=G=U=A=G=E* as well as *The Language Letters: Selected 1970s Correspondence of Bruce Andrews, Charles Bernstein, and Ron Silliman.*
The Failure of Our Fathers
Family, Gender, and Power in Confederate Alabama
Victoria E. Ott

The Failure of Our Fathers: Family, Gender, and Power in Confederate Alabama examines the evolving position of non-elite white families in Alabama during one of the most pivotal epochs in the state's history. Drawing on a wide range of personal and public documents reflecting the state's varied regions and economies, Victoria E. Ott uses gender and family as a lens to examine the yeomanry and poor whites, a constituency that she collectively defines as "common whites," who identified with the Confederate cause.

Ott provides a nuanced examination of how these Alabamians fit within the antebellum era's paternalistic social order, eventually identifying with and supporting the Confederate mission to leave the Union and create an independent, slaveholding state. But as the reality of the war slowly set in and the Confederacy began to fray, the increasing dangers families faced led Alabama's common white men and women to find new avenues to power as a distinct socioeconomic class.

Ott argues that family provided the conceptual framework necessary to understand why common whites supported a war to protect slavery despite having little or no investment in the institution. Going to war meant protecting their families from outsiders who threatened to turn their worlds upside down. Despite class differences, common whites envisioned the Confederacy as a larger family and the state as paternal figures who promised to protect its loyal dependents throughout the conflict. Yet, as the war ravaged many Alabama communities, devotion to the Confederacy seemed less a priority as families faced continued separations, threats of death, and the potential for starvation. The construct of a familial structure that once created a sense of loyalty to the Confederacy now gave them cause to question its leadership. Ott shows how these domestic values rooted in highly gendered concepts ultimately redefined Alabama’s social structure and increased class distinctions after the war.

Victoria E. Ott is the James A. Woods Professor of American History at Birmingham-Southern College. She is author of Confederate Daughters: Coming of Age during the Civil War.
Recounts the social, racial, and political dramas that attended the deployment of a major Deep South infantry division, both at home and abroad

Mobilizing the South

The Thirty-First Infantry Division, Race, and World War II

Christopher M. Rein

Chris Rein’s study of the Thirty-First Infantry Division, known officially as the “Dixie Division,” illuminates the complexities in mobilizing American reserve units to meet the global emergency during World War II. Citizen soldiers from Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, and Mississippi formed the core of one of the ninety infantry divisions the Army successfully activated, trained, equipped, and deployed to defeat fascism in Europe and race-based imperialism in the Pacific. But the Army mobilized ideas along with manpower, and soldiers from across the Jim Crow South brought their racial ideas and views with them into the ranks and then exported these across the South Pacific. If the American victory in World War II represents a “double victory” over racism abroad and at home, the division’s service is a cogent reminder that the same powerful force could pull in opposite directions.

While focused on the division’s operational service during the war years, Mobilizing the South: The Thirty-First Infantry Division, Race, and World War II spans the division’s entire service from 1917 to 1967, from an interwar period highlighted by responses to natural disasters and facing down lynch mobs through a postwar service that included protecting activists in the most important struggles of the civil rights era. But the division’s extended service as a training establishment highlights lingering resentments and tensions within the American military system between the active and reserve components. Despite this, the division performed well in General Douglas MacArthur’s island-hopping campaign across the South Pacific. Using official records as well as details drawn from correspondence and oral histories, Rein captures how individual soldiers framed their exposure to a larger world, and how service alongside African American, New Guinean, and Filipino units both reinforced and modified views on race and postwar American society.

A comparison of the faith and politics of former Confederate chaplains with intriguing insights about the evolution of their postwar beliefs and the Lost Cause

**Pulpits of the Lost Cause**

*The Faith and Politics of Former Confederate Chaplains during Reconstruction*

Steve Longenecker

*Pulpits of the Lost Cause: The Faith and Politics of Former Confederate Chaplains* during Reconstruction is the first in-depth study of former chaplains that juxtaposes their religion and politics, thereby revealing important insights about the Lost Cause movement. Steve Longenecker demonstrates that while some former chaplains vigorously defended the Lost Cause and were predictably conservative in the pulpit, embracing orthodoxy and resisting religious innovation, others were unexpectedly progressive and advocated on behalf of evolution, theological liberalism, and modern biblical criticism.

Former Confederate chaplains embodied both the distinctive white, Southern, regional identity and the variation within it. Most were theologically conservative and Lost Cause racists. But as with the larger South, variation abounded. The Lost Cause, which Longenecker interprets as a broad popular movement with numerous versions, meant different things to different chaplains. It ranged from diehard-ism to tempered sectional forgiveness to full reconciliation to a harmless once-a-year Decoration Day ritual.

This volume probes the careers of ten former chaplains, including their childhoods, wartime experiences, Lost Cause personas, and theologies, making use of manuscripts and published sermons as well as newspapers, diaries, memoirs, denominational periodicals, letters, and the books they themselves produced. In theology, many former chaplains were predictably conservative, while others were unexpectedly broad-minded and advocated evolution, theological liberalism, and modern biblical criticism. One former chaplain became a social-climbing Harvard progressive. Another wrote innovative, liberal theology read by European scholars. Yet another espoused racial equality, at least in theory if not full practice. Additionally, former chaplains often exhibited the fundamental human trait of compartmentalization, most notably by extolling the past as they celebrated the Lost Cause while simultaneously looking to the future as religious progressives or New South boosters. The stereotypical preacher of the Lost Cause—a gray-clad Bible thumper—existed sufficiently to create the image but hardly enough to be universally accurate.

Steve Longenecker is professor of history emeritus at Bridgewater College, where he chaired the Department of History and Political Science. He is author of *Gettysburg Religion: Refinement, Diversity, and Race in the Antebellum and Civil War Border North*, and *Shenandoah Religion: Outsiders and the Mainstream, 1716–1865*. 
Explores the crucial role of rhetoric and oratory in creating and propagating a “Lost Cause” public memory of the American South

Enduring Legacy
Rhetoric and Ritual of the Lost Cause
W. Stuart Towns

Enduring Legacy explores the vital place of ceremonial oratory in the oral tradition of the South and analyses how rituals such as Confederate Memorial Day, Confederate veteran reunions, and dedication of Confederate monuments have contributed to creating and sustaining a Lost Cause paradigm for Southern identity. Towns studies in detail secessionist and Civil War speeches and how they laid the groundwork for future generations, including Southern responses to the civil rights movement and beyond.

The Lost Cause orators that came after the Civil War, Towns argues, helped to shape a lasting mythology of the brave Confederate martyr, and the Southern positions for why the Confederacy lost and who was to blame. Innumerable words were spent—in commemorative speeches, newspaper editorials, and statehouse oratory—condemning the evils of Reconstruction, redemption, reconciliation, and the new and future South. Towns concludes with an analysis of how Lost Cause myths still influence Southern and national perceptions of the region today, as evidenced in debates over the continued deployment of the Confederate flag and the popularity of Civil War reenactments.

W. Stuart Towns is a retired professor and department chair for communication studies at Southeast Missouri State University. He is author of “We Want Our Freedom”: Rhetoric of the Civil Rights Movement and three other books on southern public address history.

DECEMBER
6 x 9 / 208 PAGES
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“The Lost Cause, like William Faulkner’s past, is not dead—and, according to W. Stuart Towns, it’s not even past. In this deftly reasoned and cogently argued exploration of the rhetoric and ritual associated with the South’s most enduring myth, Towns stresses that 20th-century white Southerners learned most of what they feel about race, the North, the Civil War and Reconstruction, and themselves from Lost Cause rhetoric.” —Civil War Magazine

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The Rebel Yell: A Cultural History
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An illustrated account of the life and work of the pioneering photographer

The Photographic Legacy of Frances Benjamin Johnston

Maria Elizabeth Ausherman

The Photographic Legacy of Frances Benjamin Johnston (1864–1952) draws on original papers and photographs from the Library of Congress to document the extraordinary life and nearly seventy-year career of this pioneering photographer. Maria Elizabeth Ausherman illuminates the early origins of Johnston’s style and vision, and her attempts to change society through her art. One of the first women to work in an emerging field dominated by men, Johnston achieved acclaim as an accomplished photographer and photojournalist.

As the official White House photographer for five administrations, she was instrumental in defining the medium and inspiring women to train in and appreciate photography. But it is her monumental nine-state survey of southern American architecture that stands as her most significant contribution to the history and development of photography both as art and as documentary. Through her photography, Johnston showed reverence for the beautiful historic buildings she appreciated and also helped shape architectural and photographic preservation in the United States.

Maria Elizabeth Ausherman is author of Behind the Camera: American Women Photographers Who Shaped How We See the World. She is coauthor of Georgia O’Keeffe’s Hawai’i.

“Ausherman offers the fullest account available of the remarkable career of Frances Benjamin Johnston, one of America’s finest photographers and recorders of the national heritage. This book is exceptional for its assured handling of Johnston’s place as pioneer woman photographer and leader in the movement for architectural recording and preservation.” —John Maynard, New York University

“Given the importance of Johnston’s work, a comprehensive study is long overdue. Ausherman traces connections between her early work—in portraiture, artistic studies, and photojournalism—and her later architectural and garden photography. This book explores Johnston’s innovative impact on early photography.” —Ian J. Firth, University of Georgia

ALSO OF INTEREST

Shot in Alabama: A History of Photography, 1839–1941, and a List of Photographers
Frances Osborn Robb

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Affirms, validates, and reiterates the yearning for an orderly, peaceful and just world

Faces of Freedom Summer
Bobs M. Tusa and Herbert Randall

The old adage “one picture is worth ten thousand words” is definitely true for *Faces of Freedom Summer*. There are simply not enough words to describe the period in our history that is recorded by the pictures in this book.

As this book affirms, the resurgence of overt activities by hate groups—both the old traditional ones (e.g., the Ku Klux Klan) and the new ones (e.g., the Skin Heads)—however much the hard work and sacrifices of the modern civil rights movement humanized American society, much still remains to be done. The modern civil rights movement associated with the 1960s was not in vain, yet it did not eradicate from our society the evils of racism and sexism. While activists made the United States more of an open society than it has ever been in its history, the vision and desire for the beloved community did not reach into all sectors of American society. “Freedom,” it has been said, “is a constant struggle, a work of eternal vigilance.”

*Faces of Freedom Summer* brings to life that there was such a time and there were such people and, if such a people were once, then they are still among us. Yet, they may only become aware of themselves when they are confronted with visible evidence, such as the evidence contained in the pictures of Herbert Randall.

**Bobs M. Tusa** is a retired university archivist from the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg.

**Herbert Randall** has exhibited photographs at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the International Center of Photography, and other noted museums.

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“*Faces of Freedom Summer* is the rare book that both movement scholars and nonexperts will find useful. . . . Randall’s memorable photographs reveal Freedom Summer’s importance to workers, residents, and the civil rights movement in southern Mississippi.” —*Journal of Southern History*

“*Faces of Freedom Summer* includes both blacks and whites, volunteers and locals, and young and old. Images—like the young black shoeless boy playing outside the shoe shine parlor, the bloodied and bruised faces of civil rights workers, and the wonder of the children—make this volume unforgettable.”
—*Virginia Quarterly Review*
An intellectual biography that reassesses one of the premier Jewish humanists of the mid-twentieth century

Maurice Samuel

Life and Letters of a Secular Jewish Contrarian

Alan T. Levenson

In Maurice Samuel: Life and Letters of a Secular Jewish Contrarian, Alan T. Levenson recaptures the life, works, and milieu of the Romanian-born, English-educated, American belletrist Maurice Samuel. A diaspora intellectual—or a rooted cosmopolitan, as Levenson describes him—Samuel made an indelible mark on many features of contemporary Jewish thought and culture. A generalist in an age of experts, an independent scholar in an age of rabbis and professors, Samuel was one of the most productive and visible members of the group dubbed “The Other New York Jewish Intellectuals.”

His fame as a public intellectual and popular speaker were well warranted: no mere popularizer, Samuel contributed significantly to four seemingly unrelated but critical areas of modern Jewish thought. Samuel is characterized by some as principally a Zionist, by others as an accomplished translator and many Americans’ first entrée into the world of Yiddish literature, by still others as a polemicist and campaigner against anti-Semitism, and finally as a media-savvy biblical critic, essayist, and radio personality. But he was all of these things, since Samuel succeeded in an era when it was possible to be a public intellectual without being an expert.

Drawing on Samuel’s vast literary opus, as well as previously unexplored archival material from three continents, this study writes Samuel back into the history of mid-twentieth century American letters. Levenson argues that Samuel’s varied and substantive contributions demand reconsideration of our assumptions about the means and ends of cultural transmission, and merit him a place as one of twentieth century American Jewry’s most significant cultural and intellectual voices.

Alan T. Levenson is Schusterman/Josey Chair in Jewish History and director of the Schusterman Center for Judaic and Israel Studies at the University of Oklahoma. He is author of Joseph: Portraits Through the Ages; The Making of the Modern Jewish Bible: How Scholars in Germany, Israel, and America Transformed an Ancient Text, and An Introduction to Modern Jewish Thinkers: From Spinoza to Soloveitchick.
The 1935 autobiography of Alexander Ziskind Gurwitz, which captures turbulent changes in early twentieth-century Jewish history

**Memories of Two Generations**
*A Yiddish Life in Russia and Texas*

Alexander Z. Gurwitz, Edited and Introduced by Bryan Edward Stone

In 1910, at the age of fifty-one, Alexander Ziskind Gurwitz made the bold decision to emigrate with his wife and four children from south-eastern Ukraine in Tsarist Russia to begin a new life in Texas. In 1935, in his seventies, Gurwitz composed a retrospective autobiography, *Memories of Two Generations*, that recounts his personal story both of the rich history of the lost Jewish world of Eastern Europe and of the rambunctious development of frontier Jewish communities in the United States.

In both Europe and America, Gurwitz inhabited an almost exclusively Jewish world. As a boy, he studied in traditional yeshivas and earned a living as a Hebrew language teacher and kosher butcher. Widely travelled, Gurwitz recalls with wit and insight daily life in European shtetls, providing perceptive and informative comments about Jewish religion, history, politics, and social customs. Among the book’s most notable features is his first-hand, insider’s account of the yearly Jewish holiday cycle as it was observed in the nineteenth century, described as he experienced it as a child.

Gurwitz’s account of his arrival in Texas forms a cornerstone record of the Galveston Immigration Movement; this memoir represents the only complete narrative of that migration from an immigrant’s point of view. Gurwitz’s descriptions about the development of a thriving Orthodox community in San Antonio provide an important and unique primary source about a facet of American Jewish life that is not widely known.

Gurwitz wrote his memoir in his preferred Yiddish, and this translation into English by Rabbi Amram Prero captures the lyrical style of the original. Scholar and author Bryan Edward Stone’s special introduction and illuminating footnotes round out a superb edition that offers much to experts and general readers alike.

**Bryan Edward Stone** is professor of history at Del Mar College in Corpus Christi, Texas, and has taught as a visiting professor at the Schusterman Center for Jewish Studies at the University of Texas at Austin.

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**Jews and Judaism: History and Culture**

**ALSO OF INTEREST**

*Polacos in Argentina: Polish Jews, Interwar Migration, and the Emergence of Transatlantic Jewish Culture*

Mariusz Kalczewiak


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Fresh new perspectives on the study of religion, ranging from SoulCycle to Mark Twain

American Examples
New Conversations about Religion, Volume Two
Edited by Samah Choudhury, Prea Persaud, and Michael J. Altman

American Examples: New Conversations about Religion, Volume Two is the second in a series of annual anthologies produced by the American Examples workshop hosted by the Department of Religious Studies at the University of Alabama. In the latest volume from this dynamic academic project, nine scholars with diverse topics and methodologies vividly reimagine the meaning of all three words in the phrase “American religious history.” The essays use case studies from America, broadly conceived, to ask trenchant theoretical questions that are of interest to scholars and students beyond the subfield of American religious history.

Cody Musselman uses a Weberian analysis to explore questions of identity, authority, and authenticity in the world of SoulCycle while Zachary T. Smith finds commonality between the rhetoric and practices of scholarship and mixed martial arts. Erik Kline provides a new perspective on the psychedelic mysticism of the 1960s, and Brook Wilensky-Lanford takes stock of the cultural power of parody in Mark Twain’s last work of fiction. Christopher Cannon Jones examines the reciprocal relationship between religious texts and cultural contexts by comparing early Mormon missions to Hawai’i and Jamaica and Lindsey Jackson explores what debates over circumcision can tell us about gender stereotypes and motherhood. Dana Lloyd uses the 1988 Supreme Court decision in Lyng v. Northwest Indian Cemetery Protective Association as a case study in order to consider how Indigenous religion and sovereignty have been understood and adjudicated in the American legal system. Matt Sheedy studies the identity categories of “atheist” and “ex-Muslim,” and Brad Stoddard uses ethnographic fieldwork to evaluate the role of religious pluralism in regulating and policing correctional institutions.

Visit americanexamples.ua.edu for more information on upcoming workshop dates and future projects.

Samah Choudhury is assistant professor in the Department of Philosophy and Religion at Ithaca College. She holds a doctorate in Islamic studies from UNC Chapel Hill.

Prea Persaud is lecturer in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina Charlotte, where she teaches classes on Hinduism, religion in the Americas (inclusive of the Caribbean), and issues concerning race, identity, and postcolonialism.

Michael J. Altman is director of the American Examples working group and associate professor of religious studies at the University of Alabama. He is author of Heathen, Hindoo, Hindu: American Representations of India, 1721–1893.
A study of the depictions of women's executions in Renaissance England

A Weak Woman in a Strong Battle
Women and Public Execution in Early Modern England
Jennifer Lillian Lodine-Chaffey

A Weak Woman in a Strong Battle: Women and Public Execution in Early Modern England provides critical insights on representations of women on the scaffold, focusing on how female victims and those writing about them constructed meaning from the ritual. Jennifer Lodine-Chaffey draws on a wide range of genres, from accounts of martyrdom to dramatic works, to explore not only the words of women executed in Tudor and Stuart England, but also the ways that writers represented female bodies as markers of penitence or deviance.

A significant part of the execution spectacle—one used to assess the victim’s proper acceptance of death and godly repentance—was the final speech offered at the foot of the gallows or before the pyre. To ensure their final words held value for audiences, women adopted conventionally gendered language and positioned themselves as subservient and modest. The reception of women’s speeches, Lodine-Chaffey argues, depended on their performances of accepted female behaviors and language as well as physical signs of interior regeneration. Indeed, when women presented themselves or were represented as behaving in stereotypically feminine and virtuous ways, they were able to offer limited critiques of their fraught positions in society.

Just as important as their words, though, were the depictions of women’s bodies. The executed woman’s body, Lodine-Chaffey contends, functioned as a text, scrutinized by witnesses and readers for markers of innocence or guilt. The intense focus on the words and bodies of women facing execution during this period, Lodine-Chaffey argues, became a catalyst for a more thorough interest in and understanding of women’s roles not just as criminals but as subjects.

Jennifer Lillian Lodine-Chaffey is assistant professor of English at Southeastern Oklahoma State University. Her peer-reviewed scholarship has appeared in the Ben Jonson Journal, Parergon, Quidditas: Journal of the Rocky Mountain Medieval and Renaissance Association, Marlowe Studies, and Brontë Studies.

“*In A Weak Woman in a Strong Battle, Professor Lodine-Chaffey leads readers through the sixteenth- to eighteenth-century’s paradoxical world of women on the scaffold. The book’s many illustrative examples show women who are weak yet divinely empowered. They exhibit culturally endorsed female traits while framing themselves as subjects subverting the theater of death’s ritual. In the gendered execution, they display modesty even as they critique society’s conventions concerning gender roles. Lodine-Chaffey’s exceptionally well-researched book chronicles the transition of women’s punishments in early modern to eighteenth-century executions.”* —P. J. Klemp, author of *The Theatre of Death: Rituals of Justice from the English Civil Wars to the Restoration* and senior editor of *Milton Quarterly*

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Martin Luther King Jr., Heroism, and African American Literature
Trudier Harris

Examines how representations of Martin Luther King Jr.'s character and persona in works of African American literature have evolved and reflect the changing values and mores of African American culture.

African American writers have incorporated Martin Luther King Jr. into their work since he rose to prominence in the mid-1950s. *Martin Luther King Jr., Heroism, and African American Literature* is a study by award-winning author Trudier Harris of King’s character and persona as captured and reflected in works of African American literature.

One of the most revered figures in American history, King stands above most as a hero. His heroism, argues Harris, is informed by African American folk cultural perceptions of heroes. Brer Rabbit, John the Slave, Stackolee, and Railroad Bill—folk heroes all—provide a folk lens through which to view King in contemporary literature. These writers illustrate that Martin Luther King Jr. provides one of the strongest influences upon the creative worlds of multiple generations of African American writers of varying political and social persuasions.

Trudier Harris is University Distinguished Research Professor of English at the University of Alabama. She is author of *The Scary Mason-Dixon Line: African American Writers and the South*.

The Other Movement
*Indian Rights and Civil Rights in the Deep South*
Denise E. Bates

Examines the most visible outcome of the Southern Indian Rights Movement: state Indian affairs commissions.

In recalling political activism in the post-World War II South, rarely does one consider the political activities of American Indians as they responded to desegregation, the passing of the Civil Rights Acts, and the restructuring of the American political party system. Native leaders and activists across the South created a social and political movement all their own, which drew public attention to the problems of discrimination, poverty, unemployment, low educational attainment, and poor living conditions in tribal communities.

*The Other Movement* looks specifically at Alabama and Louisiana, places of intensive political activity and increasing Indian visibility and tribal reorganization. Between 1960 and 1990, US census records show that Alabama's Indian population swelled by a factor of twelve and Louisiana's by a factor of five. Thus, in addition to serving as excellent examples of the national trend of a rising Indian population, the two states make interesting case studies because their Indian commissions brought formerly disconnected groups together for the first time, creating an assortment of alliances and divisions.

Denise E. Bates is an historian of the twentieth-century Indigenous US southeast. She is associate dean and professor in the College of Integrative Sciences and Arts at Arizona State University.
Sold Down the River

Slavery in the Lower Chattahoochee Valley of Alabama and Georgia

Anthony Gene Carey

Examines a small part of slavery’s North American domain, the lower Chattahoochee River Valley between Alabama and Georgia.

In the New World, the buying and selling of enslaved people and of the commodities that they produced generated immense wealth, which reshaped existing societies and helped build new ones. From small beginnings, slavery in North America expanded until it furnished the foundation for two extraordinarily rich and powerful slave societies, the United States of America and then the Confederate States of America. The expansion and concentration of slavery into what became the Confederacy in 1861 was arguably the most momentous development after nationhood itself in the early history of the American republic.

This book examines a relatively small part of slavery’s North American domain, the lower Chattahoochee River Valley between Alabama and Georgia.

Anthony Gene Carey is professor of history at Appalachian State University and author of Parties, Slavery, and the Union in Antebellum Georgia. He received the 2012 Leadership in History Award from the American Association for State and Local History.

The Jackson County War

Reconstruction and Resistance in Post-Civil War Florida

Daniel R. Weinfeld

Offers original conclusions explaining why Jackson County became the bloodiest region in Reconstruction Florida.

From early 1869 through the end of 1871, citizens of Jackson County, Florida, slaughtered their neighbors by the score. The nearly three year frenzy of bloodshed became known as the Jackson County War. The killings, close to one hundred and by some estimates twice that number, brought Jackson County the notoriety of being the most violent county in Florida during the Reconstruction era. Daniel R. Weinfeld has made a thorough investigation of contemporary accounts. He adds an assessment of recently discovered information, and presents a critical evaluation of the standard secondary sources.

The Jackson County War focuses on the role of the Freedmen’s Bureau, the emergence of white “Regulators,” and the development of African American political consciousness and leadership and follows the community’s descent after the Civil War into disorder punctuated by furious outbursts of violence until the county settled into uneasy stability seven years later.

Daniel R. Weinfeld is a practicing attorney in New York City. He is author of articles on the Reconstruction era that have appeared in the Florida Historical Quarterly and Southern Jewish History, and editor of T. Thomas Fortune’s After War Times: An African American Childhood in Reconstruction-Era Florida.
History and deployment of smart weapons

Weapons of Choice
The Development of Precision Guided Munitions
Paul G. Gillespie

While World War II was dominated by large-scale strategic bombing—essentially throwing out tons of free-falling munitions in the hope they hit something important—both sides in the war worked to develop airborne munitions that could be steered toward a target. However after that war, US national security policy focused on the atomic bomb, hardly a weapon that needed to be directed with accuracy.

The cost of emphasis on atomic weapons was revealed in the general unsuitability of American tactics and weapons deployment systems during the Vietnam War. Lessons learned in that conflict, coupled with rapid technological developments in aerodynamics, lasers, and solid-state electronics, brought air power dramatically closer to the “surgical strike” now seen as crucial to modern warfare. New technology created attractive choices and options for American policymakers as well as field commanders, and events in the Arab-Israeli wars, the U.S. raid on Libya, and most dramatically in the first Gulf War created an ever-increasing demand for the precision weapons.

The prospect of pinpoint delivery of weapons right to the enemy’s door by speeding aircraft seems to presage war in which the messy and politically risky deployment of ground troops is unnecessary. The potential of such weapons, and their strategic limitations, made the Gulf War and Iraqi War living theatres for assessing what such weapons can and cannot do and have important implications for planning for future warfare.

Paul G. Gillespie is associate professor and director of military history at the US Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs and coeditor of Harnessing the Heavens: National Defense through Space. He has appeared as a consultant on the History Channel’s Modern Marvels series.
The official journal of the Mid-America Theatre Conference

Theatre History Studies 2022, Volume 41
Edited by Lisa Jackson-Schebetta

Theatre History Studies is the official journal of the Mid-America Theatre Conference, Inc. (MATC). The conference is dedicated to the growth and improvement of all forms of theatre throughout a twelve-state region that includes the states of Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. Its purposes are to unite people and organizations within this region and elsewhere who have an interest in theatre and to promote the growth and development of all forms of theatre.

Published annually since 1981, Theatre History Studies provides critical, analytical, and descriptive essays on all aspects of theatre history, and is devoted to disseminating the highest quality peer-review scholarship in the field.

Lisa Jackson-Schebetta is chair of the theater department and associate professor of history and theater at Skidmore College. She is president of the American Theatre and Drama Society.

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