Returning to my home state as the director of the University of Alabama Press, I’m struck as always by Alabama’s remarkable abundance. Our famous Black Belt soils are abundantly fertile, and Alabama farmers who cajole their living from red clay do it with abundant perseverance. A friend in the marvelously named Brilliant, Alabama, told me this morning that he’s been wading in his creek amid drifting mountain laurel blossoms. People are setting out okra, and abundant gumbo will follow in the fall.

Alabama owes its rich biodiversity to its eight great rivers, whose watersheds are home to unique species of plants and animals. Very soon Cahaba lilies will bloom across acres of wetlands, and their watery efflorescence in the day will mirror abundant shoals of stars in our empyrean nights.

And there’s another great river, the University of Alabama Press. Since 1945, the press has poured forth books across the literary and cultural landscape that illuminate our past, present, and possible futures. Now part of the University of Alabama Libraries, we are based in Tuscaloosa but also serve Alabama A&M University, Auburn University, the University of Alabama at Birmingham, the University of Alabama in Huntsville, and the University of South Alabama.

Adding to our many thousands of books in print, this season we are pleased to publish *Odyssey of a Wandering Mind: The Strange Tale of Sara Mayfield*, Author (page 16) by literary luminary Jennifer Horne. Horne’s fascinating account of Mayfield’s life in the world of theater and letters traces her work and relationships with Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald, H. L. Mencken, Tallulah Bankhead (perhaps the biggest star ever to fall on Alabama), and many others.

Few things bring us more pride than our enduring partnership with Fiction Collective 2 (FC2), another literary river, whose authors year after year explore the headwaters of creative writing. On pages 5 to 7, we are proud to present a satire of higher education, *School* by Ray Levy; the bricolage novel of contemporary American life, *There Is Only One Ghost in the World* by Sophie Klahr and Corey Zeller; and the award-winning short fiction collection, *Ways to Disappear* by Victoria Lancelotta.

On page 18, *Cartoons and Caricatures of Mark Twain in Context* by Leslie Diane Myrick and Gary Scharnhorst is eliciting abundant interest among Twain scholars and fans. And Moshe Y. Miller’s *Samson Raphael Hirsch’s Religious Universalism and the German-Jewish Quest for Emancipation* adds to our deep backlist of Judaic Studies.

Building a new website is hardly news per se these days, but we were glad to launch our first new website in more than a decade in the fall. Please visit us at uapress.ua.edu to keep up to date with our news.

JD Wilson

Director
Examines Japan’s war generation—Japanese men and women who survived World War Two and rebuilt their lives, into the 21st century, from memories of that conflict

Tattered Kimonos in Japan
Remaking Lives from Memories of World War II
Robert Rand

Since John Hersey’s *Hiroshima*—the classic account, published in 1946, of the aftermath of the atomic bombing of that city—very few books have examined the meaning and impact of World War II through the eyes of Japanese men and women who survived that conflict. *Tattered Kimonos in Japan* does just that: It is an intimate journey into contemporary Japan from the perspective of the generation of Japanese soldiers and civilians who survived World War II, by a writer whose American father and Japanese father-in-law fought on opposite sides of the conflict.

The author, a former NPR senior editor, is Jewish, and he approaches the subject with the sensibilities of having grown up in a community of Holocaust survivors. Mindful of the power of victimhood, memory, and shared suffering, he travels across Japan, including Hiroshima and Nagasaki, meeting a compelling group of men and women whose lives, even now, are defined by the trauma of war, and by lingering questions of responsibility and repentance for Japan’s wartime aggression.

The image of a tattered kimono from Hiroshima is the thread that drives the narrative arc of this emotional story about a writer’s encounter with history, inside the Japan of his father’s generation, on the other side of his father’s war. This is a book about history with elements of family memoir. It offers a fresh and truly unique perspective for readers interested in World War II, Japan, or Judaica; readers seeking cross-cultural journeys; and readers intrigued by Japanese culture, particularly the kimono.

Robert Rand has worked in journalism for more than three decades. He was senior editor of the weekend edition of NPR’s *All Things Considered* and has produced and reported stories and documentaries that have aired on NPR’s news magazines as well as other public radio platforms. Rand is also author of four other books, among them *Tamerlane’s Children: Dispatches from Contemporary Uzbekistan*; *Comrade Lawyer: Inside Soviet Justice in an Era of Reform*; and *My Suburban Shtetl: A Novel About Life in a Twentieth Century Jewish-American Village*.

**ALSO OF INTEREST**

*Blessed Are the Peacemakers: Small Histories during World War II, Letter Writing, and Family History Methodology*
Suzanne Kesler Rumsey
ISBN 978-0-8173-2090-4
$54.95 cloth
ebook available

“...the writing in *Tattered Kimonos in Japan* is graceful, never precious, forced, or labored. In presenting these stories, observations, insights, and acts, Robert Rand brings about the remembering of a war that, in turn, makes that war real.”
—Donald Anderson, author of *Quagmire: Personal Stories from Iraq*
Hiroshima A-bomb survivor with kimono pattern burned into her skin by force of blast, at the Ujina Branch of the Hiroshima First Army Hospital.

Photographed by Gonichi Kimura following the August 6, 1945 bombing. Courtesy of the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum.

Above, Close-up of a tattered scrap of the kimono she was wearing when the A-bomb went off.


Left, the author’s father-in-law, Kenichi Hibi (middle row center), with his military unit in Japanese-occupied China, circa 1944. Courtesy of family. Right, the author’s father, Al Rand, standing beside his motorcycle at a military facility in Hampton Roads, Virginia, 1943, prior to European deployment. Courtesy of author.
Ways to Disappear

*Stories*

Victoria Lancelotta

The stories in Victoria Lancelotta’s *Ways to Disappear* excavate the unexamined places between dread and desire, promise and threat, where the body is both prison and salvation. Populated by the grieving and the exultant and those who see no difference between the two, by men and women who are only a little bit broken and boys and girls who can’t wait to be, by souls untethered, rootless, yet bound by blood and flesh, Lancelotta’s characters are driven by the irresistible need to be a bigger part of the worlds they each inhabit, by turns strange and commonplace. In language lush and jagged, never sentimental, these stories scrutinize the exhaustion and enchantment of the everyday: houses seething with resentment and devotion, cars dream-full and hurtling the children in them into a world they think they know but can’t imagine; front porches, back yards, luxury hotels, and truck stops. Lancelotta understands that sometimes people check their wounds not to see if they’ve healed, but to be sure they’re still there.

Victoria Lancelotta is author of *Here in the World: Thirteen Stories*, and the novels *Far and Coeurs Blesses*. Her short fiction has appeared in anthologies, including *The Best American Short Stories* and *The Pushcart Prize*. She is the recipient of a Tennessee Individual Artist Fellowship, multiple Maryland State Arts Council Individual Artist Grants, and a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship. She lives in Frederick MD.
Both an exorcism of contemporary academia and a comedic portrait of an artist seeking the means to survive

School
A Novel
Ray Levy

At once angry and jubilant, Ray Levy’s School is a curse on life in a dying university system and an incantation for transforming the material of one’s academic humbling into a vessel for capacious, creative selfhood.

The novel incorporates a variety of forms, including a dissertation manuscript possessed by the spirit of Marquis de Sade, a lecture on psychoanalysis delivered as stand-up comedy by a dysphoric graduate student, a review of a found-footage horror movie that’s also a YouTube video of a conference presentation on French theory, an interview with an avant-garde filmmaker that’s really an invocation for conjuring your demon brother, and more. The whole functions as a caustic ritual. School overshares and withholds, cites and détournés, chants and channels as it invokes the dead fathers of deconstruction for the black mass that occurs painfully and parodically across the pages.

A hand-biting tale, one that chews off the finger instead of kissing the ring, School is a deeply unprofessional book about intellectual professions with reference to endless debt and neoliberalization, coercive seduction rites and fetishizations of authority, and the realization of a life in which you have not lost—and, yes, you deserve the full horizon of possibility.

Ray Levy is assistant professor of English at the University of Mary Washington. He is author of Negative Space and A Book So Red.
A rabbit hole of memory and longing

There Is Only One Ghost in the World

Sophie Klahr and Corey Zeller

There is a sense that, if only the pieces could be put together in the right way, some answer to a spill of unasked questions would become clear. There Is Only One Ghost in the World follows the stories of a multilayered voice broken into fragments, an intimate witness that both delicately and bluntly reveals the best and the worst in all of us. The intricately woven voice(s) embark on a kaleidoscopic investigation into the loneliness of modern American life and family relationships, exploring the truths and lies we tell one another, and why, with empathy, grief, and humility. There is spiritual significance and consequence to these investigations, knit with the opaque vein of exploring language itself, the practice of etymological study wielded as one tool of unearthing. Inherently political, there is an unavoidable violence in this work, as stories travel from the oil-slicked beaches of California and the alleys of New Orleans to the steps of the Capitol. Here: the raw nerves of gender and identity; here: the lessons of heartbreak; here: true myths and old rumors; here: legacies of art and incisors of seasons. Incompletable Venn diagrams, sibling porn stars; addiction and climate change, the lyrics of disco and taxonomy of slot machines; last meals and unearthed mummies. There Is Only One Ghost in the World is a book about what happened just before you woke up, and what happened just after. And what happened next.

Sophie Klahr is author of Meet Me Here at Dawn and Two Open Doors in a Field.

Corey Zeller is author of Man vs. Sky and You and Other Pieces.
Deeply personal essays probing the lingering legacies of the southern social divide

Written in the Sky
Lessons of a Southern Daughter
Patricia Foster

In Written in the Sky: Lessons of a Southern Daughter, Patricia Foster presents a double portrait of place and family, a book of deeply personal essays that interrogate the legacy of racial tensions in the South, the constriction of caste and gender, and the ways race, class, and white privilege are entwined in her family story. After interviewing girls at Booker T. Washington High School in Tuskegee, Alabama, visiting the National Memorial for Peace and Justice in Montgomery, Alabama, and exploring Africatown in Plateau, Alabama, Patricia Foster was moved to reflect on the racial scars and crossroads in her southern past as well as to reckon with the intimate places of her own wounding and grief.

The story of place, she discovers, emerges not only from family histories and cultural traditions but also from wrestling with a culture’s irreconcilable ideas: the hard push to determine what matters. What matters to her are the shadow stories beneath our mythologies, the complicated and radiant narratives that must be excavated and reckoned with, stories that have no neat or binary resolution, stories full of luminous moments and riveting facts, and stories where the secrets hide. Written in the Sky presents the best of nonfiction storytelling: searingly honest portraits, dramatic encounters, and lyrical narratives that will interest teachers and students as well as social justice advocates, policymakers, and readers compelled by stories of awakening and the white-hot beauty of language.

Patricia Foster is professor emerita at the University of Iowa’s MFA Program in Nonfiction, where she taught for twenty-five years. She is author of numerous books, including Girl from Soldier Creek, Just Beneath My Skin: Autobiography and Self-Discovery, and All the Lost Girls: Confessions of a Southern Daughter.
How the tropes of science fiction infuse and inform avant-garde poetics and many other kindred arts

The Science Fiction of Poetics and the Avant-Garde Imagination

Michael Golston

This insightful, playful monograph from Golston does exactly what it advertises: modeling poetics based on how poetry (and some parallel artistic endeavors) has filtered through a century-plus of science fiction. This is not a book about science fiction in and of itself, but it is a book about the resonances of science-fiction tropes and ideas in poetic language.

The germ of Golston’s project is a throwaway line in Robert Smithson’s Entropy and the New Monuments about how cinema supplanted nature as inspiration for many of his fellow artists: “The movies give a ritual pattern to the lives of many artists, and this induces a kind of ‘low budget’ mysticism, which keeps them in a perpetual trance.” Golston charts how the demotic appeal of sci-fi, much like that of the B-movie, cross-pollinated into poetry and other branches of the avant-garde.

Golston creates what he calls a “regular Rube Goldberg machine” of a critical apparatus, drawing on Walter Benjamin, Roman Jakobson, and Gilles Deleuze. He starts by acknowledging that, per the important work of Darko Suvin to situate science fiction critically, the genre is premised on cognitive estrangement. But he is not interested in the specific nuts and bolts of science fiction as it exists but rather how science fiction has created a model not only for other poets but also for musicians and landscape artists.

Golston’s critical lens moves around quite a bit, but he begins with familiar enough subjects: Edgar Rice Burroughs, Mina Loy, William S. Burroughs. From there he moves into more “alien” terrain: Ed Dorn’s long poem Gunslinger, the discombobulated work of Clark Coolidge. Sun Ra, Ornette Coleman, and Jimi Hendrix all come under consideration. The result of Golston’s restless, rich scholarship is the first substantial monograph on science fiction and avant-garde poetics, using Russian Formalism, Frankfurt School dialectics, and Deleuzian theory to show how the avant-garde inherently follows the parameters of sci fi, in both theme and form.

The literary journals of a key figure in both the Beat and San Francisco Renaissance movements of the New American Poetry, and an ordained Zen Buddhist priest

**Bowed Some, Chanted a Little**
*Philip Whalen’s Zen Journals and the San Francisco Renaissance*
Edited and Introduced by Brian Unger

Philip Whalen (1923–2002) authored twenty collections of verse, more than twenty broadsides, two novels, a huge assemblage of autobiographical literary journals, nine or ten experimental prose works, and dozens of critical essays, lectures, commentaries, introductions, prefaces, and interviews. But he came to regard his literary journals as his most important prose legacy.

Whalen’s literary work represents a significant turn in American letters, as he and his closest colleagues immersed themselves in East Asian literature and religion, reinvigorating strikingly new linguistic and aesthetic paths for North American writers and artists. However, until now Whalen’s forty-plus years of journals—sixty small eight-by-six-inch notebooks—have been largely inaccessible, archived in the rare book and manuscript library at the University of California, Berkeley, undigitized and unavailable online. Thus, the publication of a critical scholarly edition of Whalen’s journals and notebooks constitutes an important literary event and an invaluable resource for scholars, teachers, poets, and lay readers who follow twentieth-century North American poetry.

**Brian A. Unger** is editor of *Zen Monster*, a literary and arts magazine.
Delves into the rhetorical work of elective single mothers (ESMs) in the late twentieth- and early twenty-first centuries as they sought—and continue to seek—to legitimize their maternal identities and family formations

The Case for Single Motherhood

Contemporary Maternal Identities and Family Formations

Katherine Elizabeth Mack

Scholars of rhetoric have largely overlooked the inherent rhetoricity of family. In The Case for Single Motherhood, Katherine Mack posits family as a central concern of rhetorical studies by reflecting on how language is used by single mothers who seek to reenvision the personal, social, and political meanings of family.

Drawing on intersectional and rhetorical theories, Mack demonstrates how the category of elective single motherhood emerged in response to the historically differential treatment of “unwed mothers” along racial and class lines. Through her readings of a range of self-sponsored ESM texts—guidebooks, memoirs, and interactive digital media written by and primarily for other ESMs—and from her perspective as an elective single mother herself, Mack evaluates the rhetorical power, as well as the exclusions and hierarchies, that the ESM label effects. She analyzes how ESMs envision motherhood, visions that entail their musings about who can and should mother. Ultimately, Mack offers women who are considering nonnormative paths to motherhood a way to affirm their maternal identities and paths without disparaging others.

Scholars in the fields of rhetoric and feminist rhetorical studies will find in this volume an illuminating perspective on the rhetorical power of self-sponsored texts in particular. Crafting a methodology to identify and evaluate the goals and effects of legitimacy work and selecting sources that bring academic attention to varied genres of self-sponsored writings, Mack paves the way for future rhetorical studies of motherhood and family.

Katherine Mack is professor of English at the University of Colorado in Colorado Springs. She is author of From Apartheid to Democracy: Deliberating Truth and Reconciliation in South Africa, as well as scholarship in Rhetoric Society Quarterly, Rhetoric Review, and Reception: Texts, Readers, Audience, History.
How the syntax used in US political discourse creates the very crises it describes

Tense Times
Rhetoric, Syntax, and Politics in US Crisis Culture
Lee M. Pierce

American public culture is obsessed with crisis. Political polarization, economic collapse, moral decline—the worst seems always yet to come and already here. Tense Times argues that the ways we discuss these crises, especially through verb tenses, not only contribute to our perception and description of such crises but create them.

Past. Present. Future. These are the three principal verb tenses—the category of syntax that allows us to discuss time—that account for much of what is written about our crisis culture. Lee M. Pierce invites readers to expand their syntactic inventory beyond tense to include aspect (duration) and mood (attitude). Doing so opens new possibilities for understanding crisis discourse, as Pierce demonstrates with close readings of three syntaxes: the historical present, the past imperfective, and the retroactive subjunctive. Each mode produces a different experience of crisis and can help us understand our current political reality.

The book investigates a dozen widely circulated discourses from the past decade of US political culture, from Beyoncé’s controversial hit single “Formation” to the presidential campaign slogans of Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump, from the dueling rallies of Glenn Beck and Jon Stewart at the National Mall to the Ground Zero Mosque controversy and the 2007–2008 bailout. Taking a comparative approach that integrates theories of syntax from rhetorical, literary, affect, and cultural studies as well as linguistics, computer science, and Black studies, Tense Times suggests that the public’s conjuring of crisis is not inherently problematic. Rather, it is the openness of that crisis to contingency—the possibility that things could have been otherwise—that ought to concern anyone interested in language, politics, American culture, current events, or the direction this country is headed.

Lee M. Pierce is assistant professor of rhetorical communication at the State University of New York (SUNY) Geneseo.

“A Pierce’s approach to cultural analysis brings together rhetorical and critical theory in fresh ways while always attending to close reading and careful textual analysis of cultural events.” — Sharon J. Kirsch, author of Gertrude Stein and the Reinvention of Rhetoric
Illustrates how the Dreamer community was created rhetorically—in the discourse, messages, actions, and visual representations of undocumented youth

Dreamer Nation

Immigration, Activism, and Neoliberalism

Ana Milena Ribero

Dreamer Nation tells the story of how Dreamers in the Obama era creatively confronted a complex sociopolitical landscape to advocate for immigrant rights and empower undocumented youth to proudly represent their lives and identities, all while under the ever-present threat of detention and deportation. Contributing to rhetorical studies of social movements, immigration, and minoritized rhetorics, Ribero argues that even though Dreamer rhetorics were reflective of the discursive limits of the neoliberal milieu, they also worked to disrupt neoliberal constraints through activism that troubled the primacy of the nation-state and citizenship, refused to adhere to respectability politics, forwarded embodied identity and transnational belonging, and looked for liberation in community—not solely in legislative action.

Each chapter presents a different rhetorical situation within the US “crisis” of immigration and the rhetoric that Dreamers used to respond to it. Organized chronologically, the chapters document Dreamer activism during the Obama presidency, from the 2010 hunger strikes advocating for the DREAM Act to undocuqueer “artivism” responding to Trump’s presidential campaign. The author draws not only on the methods and theories of rhetorical studies but also on women of color feminisms, ethnic studies, critical theory, and queer theory. In this way, the book looks across disciplines to illustrate the rhetorical savvy of one of the most important US social movements of our time.

Ana Milena Ribero is assistant professor of rhetoric and composition at Oregon State University. She has published articles in Rhetoric Review, Peitho, and Present Tense, among others.
A life-and-times biography of the minister and social reformer Renwick C. Kennedy

Dixie Heretic
The Civil Rights Odyssey of Renwick C. Kennedy

Tennant McWilliams

Drawn from some 5,000 letters, six decades of daily-diary writings, and extensive interviews, Dixie Heretic: The Civil Rights Odyssey of Renwick C. Kennedy offers a life-and-times biography of the Alabama Black Belt minister, Renwick C. Kennedy (1900–1985). Here, Tennant McWilliams gives an unvarnished account of Kennedy's tortuous efforts to make his congregants and other southern whites “better Christians.”

Kennedy came from “upcountry” South Carolina, a place rife with Scotch-Irish Associate Reformed Presbyterians—people of biblical infallibility and individual piety and salvation. In 1927, after a life-changing theology education at Princeton, he moved to Camden, Alabama, county seat of Wilcox County. There, he came to believe that God had a mandate for him: to change the “Half Christian” conservative, and the often violent, racial behaviors around him. As a neo-orthodox Protestant, Kennedy never rejected literal approaches to the Bible. Still, out of the “Full Christian” Social Gospel, he urged changed racial behavior. Ultimately this led him to publish confrontational short stories and essays in Christian Century and New Republic—most set in fictitious “Yaupon County.”

In World War II, Kennedy served as a chaplain with the famed 102nd Evacuation Hospital. He came home hoping the Allied victory would spur Americans to fight racial segregation just as they had fought racial fascism in Europe. The 1948 Dixiecrat movement dashed these hopes, turning much of his neo-orthodox optimism to cynicism. His hope found fleeting resurgence in the civil rights movement, and saw Kennedy quietly leading desegregation of Troy University, where he was an administrator. But the era’s assassinations, combined with George Wallace and the rise of southern white Republicans, regularly returned him to the frustrated hopes of 1948 and fostered a pessimism about truly changed hearts that he took to his grave in 1985.

Tennant McWilliams is dean and professor emeritus of history at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and today teaches occasionally at the University of South Alabama. His previous writings include The New South Faces the World, The Chaplain’s Conflict: Good and Evil in a War Hospital, and Alabama and the Problem of Change.

Renwick Kennedy was a significant intellectual of Depression-era and postwar Alabama, and the author makes clear his relevance for a variety of issues in the South and the nation. Kennedy’s name has long been associated with the Black Belt, and he shows up in most studies of the region. No one before has given the sustained and smart attention as the author here has done.” —Charles Reagan Wilson author of Baptized in Blood: The Religion of the Lost Cause and Judgment and Grace in Dixie: Southern Faiths from Faulkner to Elvis

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3 MAPS
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“Renwick Kennedy was a significant intellectual of Depression-era and postwar Alabama, and the author makes clear his relevance for a variety of issues in the South and the nation. Kennedy’s name has long been associated with the Black Belt, and he shows up in most studies of the region. No one before has given the sustained and smart attention as the author here has done.” —Charles Reagan Wilson author of Baptized in Blood: The Religion of the Lost Cause and Judgment and Grace in Dixie: Southern Faiths from Faulkner to Elvis

Religion & American Culture

ALSO OF INTEREST

Deep South Dynasty: The Bankheads of Alabama
Kari Frederickson
$39.95 CLOTH
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Reassesses the ancient Indigenous McKeithen site in northern Florida in light of new data, analyses, and theories

Revisiting McKeithen Weeden Island
Complexity, Ritual, and Pottery
Prudence M. Rice

Revisiting McKeithen Weeden Island further illuminates an Indigenous Late Woodland (ca. AD 200–900) mound-and-village community in northern Florida that was first excavated in the late 1970s. Since then, some artifacts received additional analyses, and the topic of prechiefdom societies has been broadly reconsidered in anthropology and archaeology. These developments allow new perspectives on McKeithen’s history and significance.

Prudence M. Rice, a Mayanist who began her career at the University of Florida, revisits what is known about McKeithen and recontextualizes the 1970s excavations. Weeden Island and McKeithen are best known through mortuary mounds and mortuary ritual, mainly involving unusual pottery bird effigies. Rice discusses current theoretical trends in studies of ritual and belief systems and their relation to mound-building at McKeithen in early stages of developing societal complexity.

Revisiting McKeithen Weeden Island serves as a masterful example of an esteemed archaeologist advancing the field through rethought and updated interpretations of the site and its significance, primarily through its pottery. Rice’s case study ultimately also fosters understanding of later Mississippian society and other civilizations around the world at this time period. Archaeologists, anthropologists, and social historians as well as students and avocational readers will welcome Rice’s insight.

Prudence M. Rice is distinguished professor emerita in anthropology at Southern Illinois University Carbondale. A specialist in Maya archaeology, she is author of numerous books, including Pottery Analysis: A Sourcebook, Maya Political Science: Time, Astronomy, and the Cosmos, and Anthropomorphizing the Cosmos: Middle Preclassic Lowland Maya Figurines, Ritual, and Time.
A bold reconceptualization of how settler expansion and narratives of victimhood, honor, and revenge drove the conquest and erasure of the Native South and fed the emergence of a distinct white southern identity

**Aggression and Sufferings**

*Settler Violence, Native Resistance, and the Coalescence of the Old South*

F. Evan Nooe

In 1823, Tennessee historian John Haywood encapsulated a foundational sentiment among the white citizenry of Tennessee when he wrote of a “long continued course of aggression and sufferings” between whites and Native Americans. According to F. Evan Nooe, “aggression” and “sufferings” are broad categories that can be used to represent the framework of factors contributing to the coalescence of the white South.

Traditionally, the concept of coalescence is an anthropological model used to examine the transformation of Indigenous communities in the Eastern Woodlands from chieftaincies to Native tribes, confederacies, and nations in response to colonialism. Applying this concept to white southerners, Nooe argues that through the experiences and selective memory of settlers in the antebellum South, white southerners incorporated their aggression against and suffering at the hands of the Indigenous peoples of the Southeast in the coalescence of a regional identity built upon the violent dispossession of the Native South. This, in turn, formed a precursor to Confederate identity and its later iterations in the long nineteenth century.

Geographically, *Aggression and Sufferings* prioritizes events in South Carolina, Florida, Tennessee, Georgia, and Alabama. Nooe considers how divergent systems of violence and justice between Native Americans and white settlers (such as blood revenge and concepts of honor) functioned in the region and examines the involved societies’ conflicting standards on how to equitably resolve interpersonal violence. Finally, Nooe explores how white southerners constructed, propagated, and perpetuated harrowing tales of colonizers as both victims and heroes in the violent expulsion of the region’s Native peoples from their homelands. This constructed sense of regional history and identity continued to flower into the antebellum period, during western expansion, and well through the twentieth century.

**F. Evan Nooe** is assistant professor of history and historian for the Native American Studies Center at the University of South Carolina Lancaster. He has published numerous journal articles and essays on Native American history, southern history, and violence in the South. His work has appeared in academic journals such as *Ethnohistory*, *The Southern Quarterly*, and *Native South*.
Sara Mayfield was born into Alabama’s governing elite in 1905 and grew up in a social circle that included Zelda Sayre, Sara Haardt, and Tallulah and Eugenia Bankhead. After winning a Goucher College short story contest judged by H. L. Mencken, Mayfield became friends with Mencken and his circle, then visited with Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald and hobnobbed with the literati while traveling in Europe after a failed marriage. Returning to Alabama during the Depression, she briefly managed the family landholdings before departing for New York City where she became involved in the theater. Inventing a plastic compound while working on theatrical sets, she applied for a patent and set her sights on a livelihood as an inventor and businesswoman. With the advent of World War II, Mayfield returned to her family home in Tuscaloosa where she expanded her experiments, freelanced as a journalist, and doggedly pursued a bizarre series of military and intelligence schemes, prompting temporary hospitalization. Back in Tuscaloosa after the war, however, she struggled to find her way with both work and family, becoming increasingly paranoid about perceived conspiracies arrayed against her. Finally, her mother and brother committed her to Bryce Hospital for the Insane, where she remained for the next seventeen years.

Throughout her life, Mayfield kept journals, wrote fiction, and produced thousands of letters while nursing the ambition that had driven her since childhood: to write and publish books. During her confinement, Mayfield assiduously recorded her experiences and her determined efforts—sometimes delusional, always savvy—to overturn her diagnosis and return to the world as a sane, independent adult. At 59, she was released from Bryce and later obtained a decree of “having been restored to sanity,” enabling her to manage her own financial affairs and to live how and where she pleased. She went on to publish noteworthy literary biographies of the Menckens and the Fitzgeralds plus a novel based on the life of Mona Lisa, finally achieving her quest to become the author of books and her own life. In Odyssey of a Wandering Mind, noted writer Jennifer Horne draws on years of research and an intimate understanding of the vast archive Sara Mayfield left behind to sensitively render Mayfield’s struggle to move through the world as the person she was—and her ultimate success in surviving to define the terms of her story.

Jennifer Horne is writer, editor, teacher, former Poet Laureate of Alabama, and author of three collections of poetry, Tell the World You’re a Wildflower: Stories, and editor of several volumes of poetry, essays, and stories.
The first in-depth study in English to analyze post-utopian historical novels written during and in the wake of brutal Latin American dictatorships and authoritarian regimes

Anything but Novel
*Pushing the Margins in Latin American Post-Utopian Historical Narrative*
Jennie Irene Daniels

During neoliberal reforms in the 1980s and 1990s, murder, repression, and exile had reduced the number of intellectuals and Leftists, and many succumbed to or were coopted by market forces and ideologies. The opposition to the economic violence of neoliberal projects lacked a united front, and feasible alternatives to the contemporary order no longer seemed to exist. In this context, some Latin American literary intellectuals penned post-utopian historical novels as a means to reconstruct memory of significant moments in national history. Through the distortion and superimposition of distinct genres within the narratives, authors of post-utopian historical novels incorporated literary, cultural, and political traditions to expose contemporary challenges that were rooted in unresolved past conflicts.

In *Anything but Novel*, Jennie Irene Daniels closely examines four post-utopian novels—César Aira’s *Ema, la cautiva*, Rubem Fonseca’s *O Selvagem da Ópera*, José Miguel Varas’s *El correo de Bagdad*, and Santiago Páez’s *Crónicas del Breve Reino*—to make their contributions more accessible and to synthesize and highlight the literary and social interventions they make. Although the countries the novels focus on (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, and Ecuador) differ widely in politics, regime changes, historical precedents, geography, and demographics, the development of a shared subgenre among the literary elite suggests a common experience and interpretation of contemporary events across Latin America. These novels complement one another, extending shared themes and critiques.

Daniels argues the novels demonstrate that alternatives exist to neoliberalism even in times when it appears there are none. Another contribution of these novels is their repositioning of the Latin American literary intellectuals who have advocated for the marginalized in their societies. Their work has opened new avenues and developed previous lines of research in feminist, queer, and ethnic studies and for nonwhite, nonmale writers.

**Jennie Irene Daniels** is associate professor of world languages, literatures, and cultures at the College of Idaho.

**ALSO OF INTEREST**

*Gringos Get Rich: Anti-Americanism in Chilean Music*
Eunice Rojas
ISBN 0-8173-6097-9
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“‘There is a timeliness to this study given the current events taking place in each of the four countries under consideration and perhaps a sense that the post-utopianism of previous decades is giving way to a renewed and sustained critique of neoliberalism.’ —*Jason A. Bartles, author of Arteletra: The Sixties in Latin America and the Politics of Going Unnoticed*"
Cartoons and Caricatures of Mark Twain in Context

Reformer and Social Critic, 1869–1910

Leslie Diane Myrick and Gary Scharnhorst

The first book-length treatment of Mark Twain’s public persona as depicted in newspaper and magazine illustrations

Cartoons and Caricatures of Mark Twain in Context

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Leslie Diane Myrick and Gary Scharnhorst

Cartoons and Caricatures of Mark Twain: Reformer and Social Critic, 1869–1910 reproduces for students and scholars of Twain and American literature a provocative series of visual texts that illustrate the growth of Twain’s reputation as a social and political satirist. Myrick and Scharnhorst trace the evolution of Twain’s depiction across more than forty years and seventy-nine illustrations—from portrayals of the famous author as a court jester adorned with cap and bells, to a regally haloed king with a royal train—offering a new perspective on his influence. Although he was among the most photographed figures of the nineteenth century, Myrick and Scharnhorst focus on a medium that Twain, a genius of self-promotion and an expert at brand management, could not control. As a result, Myrick and Scharnhorst have compiled an innovative and incisive type of reception history.

This initial volume of Cartoons and Caricatures of Mark Twain emphasizes Twain’s reputation as a political satirist. It illustrates the popular response to many famous and infamous episodes in his career, such as the storm of controversy that surrounded the publication of his anti-imperialist writings at the turn of the twentieth century. Routinely depicted with hair like a fright wig, a beak-like nose, and a cigar in hand, no matter the context or the costume, Twain was not only the greatest writer in American literary history but perhaps the most iconic figure in American popular culture.

Leslie Diane Myrick is associate editor of The Autobiography of Mark Twain, Volumes 1–3. Her work has appeared in American Literary Realism, Classical Journal, and Zeitschrift für Celtische Philologie.

Gary Scharnhorst is distinguished professor emeritus of English at the University of New Mexico. He has written 18 monographs, including a three-volume biography of Mark Twain, and edited 34 other books, including Mark Twain: The Complete Interviews.
How the study of Shakespeare’s legacy, specifically in film and television, can radically challenge what we consider to be authentically Shakespearean

**Uncanny Fidelity**
*Recognizing Shakespeare in Twenty-First-Century Film and Television*

James Newlin

In the field of adaptation studies today, the idea of reading an adapted text as “faithful” or “unfaithful” to its original source strikes many scholars as too simplistic, too conservative, and too moralizing. In *Uncanny Fidelity: Recognizing Shakespeare in Twenty-First-Century Film and Television*, James Newlin challenges these critical orthodoxies. Instead, recognizing how a film or television series closely recalls Shakespeare’s drama encourages an interrogation of what we consider to be “Shakespeare” in the first place.

Drawing upon Sigmund Freud’s model of the uncanny—the sudden sensation of peculiar, discomforting familiarity—this book focuses on films and television series that were not marketed as adaptations of Shakespeare. Yet these works unexpectedly invoke lost, even troubling aspects of Shakespeare’s original playtexts, their performance history, or their reception. Broadening the scope of fidelity readings beyond familiar concerns like plot and language, Newlin demonstrates how the study of Shakespeare’s afterlife can clarify both the historical context of his drama and its relevance for the current political moment. Engaging contemporary debates in literary and psychoanalytic theory, this book features provocative close readings of *The Tempest*, *Othello*, and *The Winter’s Tale* alongside recent films and television series, from art-house movies such as *The Master* and *Manchester by the Sea* to the cult favorites *Brigsby Bear* and *Vice Principals*. These works conjure widely overlooked qualities of Shakespeare’s drama by recalling the casting practices or the generic contexts of the early modern stage or by making a meaningful intervention in the plays’ critical reception. Closely examining these surprisingly faithful adaptations of Shakespeare’s drama helps us to articulate the original experience of the early modern stage and better consider its resonance in the present.

*Uncanny Fidelity* will be of interest to scholars of performance history, source studies, and early modern discourses of race and gender—as well as anyone interested in the unexpected connections between canonical literature and contemporary culture. By examining adaptation as an instance of uncanny return, Newlin demonstrates how the study of Shakespeare’s afterlife can radically challenge what we consider to be authentically Shakespearean.

James Newlin is lecturer in the Department of English at Case Western Reserve University. He is coeditor, with James W. Stone, of the volume *New Psychoanalytic Readings of Shakespeare: Cool Reason and Seething Brains*.
Examines the experiences of thousands of Jewish Argentines who built their life trajectories through migrations to and from Israel

**Between Two Homelands**

*Argentine Migration to and from Israel*

Adrián Krupnik

Emigration from Israel to other parts of the world has not yet received significant scholarly attention, as the subject is a sensitive one in Israeli society. Zionist ideology has long compelled Israelis to approach emigration from Israel through a very biased lens. The Hebrew words *aliyah* and *yerida*, which mean, respectively, “ascent” and “descent,” are often used to refer to immigration and emigration. These ideological terms, which are charged with religious meaning, are heavily loaded with praise for immigrants and scorn for emigrants. Yet, thousands of Jews from all over the world have lived between two homelands, as the Israeli-Argentine case demonstrates. This study challenges the formerly dominant Zionist narrative that presents immigration to Israel as unique and emigration as a disgrace, shedding light on issues of immigrant identities, belonging, and expectations.

Based on archival documents in English, Spanish, and Hebrew, as well as on interviews, Adrián Krupnik’s study gives voice to Argentine migrants to and from Israel. The pursuit of two often irreconcilable ways of living—peace and economic prosperity—repeatedly vexed migrants moving in either direction. Many Jewish-Argentine migrants between 1980 and 2006 lost everything and became the “new poor” in both countries. Protracted recessions and incessant political crises in Argentina continued to drive migrants in one direction, only to arrive in an Israel submerged in the violence of multiple intifadas.

In our own era, one that will see unprecedented global migration patterns based on similar economic and political—and environmental—upheavals, *Between Two Homelands* serves as an important and informative cautionary tale of the personal, social, and economic stakes at play in an utterly unsettled globalized landscape.

Adrián Krupnik is a Minerva Stiftung postdoctoral researcher at the Lateinamerika-Institut der Freie Universität. He has served as a research fellow at the Selma Stern Zentrum für Jüdische Studien in Berlin-Brandenburg and the University of Potsdam Institut für Jüdische Studien und Religionswissenschaft. He is a fellow of the Schusterman Center for Israel Studies at Brandeis University.
An account of how Rabbi Samson Raphael Hirsch promulgated an inclusive vision of Judaism in the context of advancing the civic equality of German Jews in the nineteenth century

Samson Raphael Hirsch’s Religious Universalism and the German-Jewish Quest for Emancipation

Moshe Y. Miller

In Samson Raphael Hirsch’s Religious Universalism and the German-Jewish Quest for Emancipation, Moshe Miller contends that nineteenth-century German Jews of all denominations actively sought acceptance within German society and aspired to achieve full emancipation from the many legal strictures on their status as citizens and residents. While non-Orthodox Jews sought a large measure of cultural assimilation, Orthodox Jews were concerned with more delimited acculturation—but they were no less enthusiastic about achieving emancipation and acceptance in German society. There was one issue, though, which was seen by non-Jewish critics of emancipation as a barrier to granting civic rights to Jews: namely, the alleged tribalism of Judaism and the supposedly chauvinistic notion of Jews as “the Chosen People.”

These charges could not go unanswered, and in the writings of Rabbi Samson Raphael Hirsch (1808–1888), the leading thinker of the Orthodox camp, they did not. Hirsch stressed the universalism of the Jewish ethic and the humanistic concern for the welfare of all mankind, which he believed was one of the core teachings of Judaism. His colleagues in the German Orthodox rabbinate largely concurred with Hirsch’s assessment. Samson Raphael Hirsch’s Religious Universalism and the German-Jewish Quest for Emancipation places Hirsch’s views in their historical context and provides a detailed account of his attitude toward non-Jews and the Christianity practiced by the vast majority of nineteenth-century Europeans.

Moshe Y. Miller is assistant professor and deputy chair of the Department of Judaic Studies at Touro University’s Lander College for Women. He is also assistant professor of Jewish History at Touro’s Graduate School of Jewish Studies and Lander College for Men.
Documents counterimperialism in Chilean music since the 1960s

Gringos Get Rich

Anti-Americanism in Chilean Music

Eunice Rojas

Gringos Get Rich: Anti-Americanism in Chilean Music examines anti-Americanism in Latin America as manifested in Chilean music in recent history. From a folk-based movement in the 1960s and early 1970s to underground punk rock groups during the Pinochet regime, to socially conscious hip-hop artists of postdictatorship Chile, Chilean music has followed several left-leaning transnational musical trends to grapple with Chile’s fluctuating relationship with the United States. Eunice Rojas’s innovative analysis introduces US readers to a wide swath of Chilean musicians and their powerful protest songs and provides a representative and long view of the negative influences of the United States in Latin America.

Much of the criticism of the United States in Chile’s music centers on the perception of the United States as a heavy-handed source of capitalist imperialism that is exploitative of and threatening to Chile’s poor and working-class public and to Chilean cultural independence and integrity. Rojas incorporates Antonio Gramsci’s theories about the difficulties of struggles for cultural power within elitist capitalist systems to explore anti-Americanism and anticapitalist music. Ultimately, Rojas shows how the music from various genres, time periods, and political systems attempts to act as a counterhegemonic alternative to Chile’s political, cultural, and economic status quo.

Rojas’s insight is timely as a political trend toward the right continues in the Americas. There is also increased interest in and acceptance of popular song lyrics as literary texts. The book will appeal to Latin Americanists, ethnomusicologists, scholars of popular culture and international relations, students, and general readers.

Eunice Rojas is the Herman N. Hipp Associate Professor of Modern Languages and Literatures at Furman University. She is author of Spaces of Madness: Insane Asylums in Argentine Narrative and coeditor of Sounds of Resistance: The Role of Music in Multicultural Activism.
Documents the history of Catholic activism to mitigate human rights abuses in Guatemala and the failed US policies in the country and region during the 1970s and 1980s

**Blessed Are the Activists**

*Catholic Advocacy, Human Rights, and Genocide in Guatemala*

Michael J. Cangemi

*Blessed Are the Activists* examines US Catholic activists’ influence on US-Guatemalan relations during the Guatemalan civil war’s most violent years in the 1970s and 1980s. Cangemi argues that Catholic activists’ definition of human rights, advocacy methods, and structure caused them to act as a transnational human rights NGO that engaged Guatemalan and US government officials on human rights issues, reported on Guatemala’s human rights violations, and criticized US foreign policy decisions as a contributing factor in Guatemala’s inequality, poverty, and violence. His work foregrounds how Catholic activists emphasized dignity for Guatemala’s poorest citizens and the connections they made between justice, solidarity, and peace and brought Guatemala’s violence, poverty, and inequality to greater global attention, often at great personal risk.

Cangemi pays considerable attention to multiple facets of the strained US-Guatemala diplomatic relationship, including how and why Guatemala’s military dictatorship exposed the internal flaws within the Carter administration’s decision to link military aid to human rights and how internal foreign policy debates in the Carter and Reagan administrations helped to intensify Guatemala’s bloody civil war. He also includes interviews conducted with Guatemalan genocide survivors and refugees to provide firsthand accounts of the consequences of those policymaking decisions. Finally, he offers readers an in-depth examination of the US Catholic press’s sharp rebukes of US policies on Guatemala and all of Central America when the broader Roman Catholic Church began to move farther toward the ideological right under John Paul II.

*Blessed Are the Activists* offers rich, original research and a gripping narrative. With Guatemala and other countries in Latin America still experiencing human rights abuses, this book will continue to provide context. It will appeal to a broad swath of readers, from scholars to the general public and students.

Michael J. Cangemi is assistant professor of history at the US Military Academy.

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“Michael Cangemi provides an outstanding contribution to historical research on Guatemala, Catholic activism, and US policy in Central America. By using a breadth of United States English language secular and religious archives, a range of Catholic newspaper accounts, and by delving into Guatemalan Human Rights reports, Cangemi creates a dialogue among these distinct experiences of and perspectives on Guatemala’s violent history.”

—Susan Fitzpatrick-Behrens, author of *The Maryknoll Catholic Mission in Peru, 1943–1989: Transnational Faith and Transformation*

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** ALSO OF INTEREST **

**Tell Mother I’m in Paradise: Memoirs of a Political Prisoner in El Salvador**

Ana Margarita Gasteazoro, edited by Judy Blankenship and Andrew Wilson


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American Examples

*New Conversations about Religion, Volume Three*

Edited by Cody Musselman, Erik Kline, Dana Lloyd, and Michael J. Altman

*American Examples: New Conversations about Religion, Volume Three,* is the third in a series of annual anthologies produced by the American Examples workshop hosted by the Department of Religious Studies at the University of Alabama.

*Cody Musselman* is a postdoctoral fellow at the John C. Danforth Center on Religion and Politics at Washington University in St. Louis.

*Erik Kline* is assistant professor of American literature at the University of Wisconsin River Falls.

*Dana Lloyd* is assistant professor of global interdisciplinary studies at Villanova University.

*Michael J. Altman* is associate professor in religious studies at the University of Alabama.

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Theatre History Studies 2023, Vol. 42

Edited by Lisa Jackson-Schebetta

*Theatre History Studies (THS)* is a peer-reviewed journal of theatre history and scholarship published annually since 1981 by the Mid-America Theatre Conference (MATC).

*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.

**CONTRIBUTORS**
The remarkable story of a North Carolina Cherokee community who avoided forced removal on the Trail of Tears

**Their Determination to Remain**

*A Cherokee Community's Resistance to the Trail of Tears in North Carolina*

Lance Greene

During the 1838 forced Cherokee removal by the US government, a number of close-knit Cherokee communities in the Southern Appalachian Mountains refused to relinquish their homelands, towns, and way of life. Using a variety of tactics, hundreds of Cherokees avoided the encroaching US Army and remained in the region.

In his book *Their Determination to Remain: A Cherokee Community's Resistance to the Trail of Tears in North Carolina*, Lance Greene explores the lives of wealthy plantation owners Betty and John Welch who lived on the northern edge of the Cherokee Nation. John was Cherokee and Betty was white. Although few Cherokees in the region participated in slavery, the Welches held nine African Americans in bondage.

During removal, the Welches assisted roughly 100 Cherokees hiding in the steep mountains. Afterward, they provided land for these Cherokees to rebuild a new community, Welch's Town. Betty became a wealthy and powerful plantation mistress because her husband could no longer own land. Members of Welch's Town experienced a transitional period in which they had no formal tribal government or clear citizenship yet felt secure enough to reestablish a townhouse, stickball fields, and dance grounds.

Greene's innovative study uses an interdisciplinary approach, incorporating historical narrative and archaeological data, to examine how and why the Welches and members of Welch's Town avoided expulsion and reestablished their ways of life in the midst of a growing white population who resented a continued Cherokee presence. The Welch strategy included Betty's leadership in demonstrating outwardly their participation in modern Western lifestyles, including enslavement, as John maintained a hidden space—within the boundaries of their land—for the continuation of traditional Cherokee cultural practices. *Their Determination to Remain* explores the complexities of race and gender in this region of the antebellum South and the real impacts of racism on the community.

**Lance Greene** is professor of anthropology at Wright State University and coeditor of *American Indians and the Market Economy, 1775–1850*.
Forgotten Veterans, Invisible Memorials
How American Women Commemorated the Great War, 1917–1945
Allison S. Finkelstein

Investigates the groundbreaking role American women played in commemorating those who served and sacrificed in World War I

In Forgotten Veterans, Invisible Memorials: How American Women Commemorated the Great War, 1917–1945, Allison S. Finkelstein argues that American women activists considered their own community service and veteran advocacy to be forms of commemoration just as significant and effective as other, more traditional forms of commemoration such as memorials. Finkelstein employs the term “veteranism” to describe these women’s overarching philosophy that supporting, aiding, and caring for those who served needed to be a chief concern of American citizens, civic groups, and the government in the war’s aftermath. However, these women did not express their views solely through their support for veterans of a military service narrowly defined as a group predominantly composed of men and few women. Rather, they defined anyone who served or sacrificed during the war, including women like themselves, as veterans.

Allison S. Finkelstein serves as Senior Historian at Arlington National Cemetery.

True Faith and Allegiance
An American Paratrooper and the 1972 Battle for An Loc
Mike McDermott

An intimate and compelling account of the most brutal infantry warfare and a critique of the mishandling of America’s departure from Indochina

True Faith and Allegiance: An American Paratrooper and the 1972 Battle for An Loc details the unintended consequence of Washington’s stampede to get out of Indochina was an upsurge in combat on a scale not seen before in Vietnam, peaking with the Easter Offensive of 1972. The battle for An Loc, a key component in the North Vietnamese attempt to overwhelm the South, swept Mike McDermott, then the senior advisor to an elite South Vietnamese paratrooper battalion, into some of the most horrific close-quarters fighting of the war. His in-the-trenches account is augmented by detailed descriptions of a user’s perspective on the parachute resupply, tactical airpower, and B-52 strikes that allowed the An Loc garrison to survive. True Faith and Allegiance is a riveting recounting of the prism through which a Vietnam veteran views the war as he continues to live with the aftereffects of life-altering experiences in the service of his country.

Mike McDermott is a retired infantry colonel and one of the most highly decorated soldiers of the Vietnam War—two Distinguished Service Crosses, the Silver Star, two Bronze Stars for Valor, the Purple Heart, and some thirty other awards and decorations—and served four years in combat with US and Vietnamese paratrooper units. He and his wife, Chulan, live in Wyoming.
The Founding of Alabama  
*Background and Formative Period in the Great Bend and Madison County*

Frances Cabaniss Roberts, edited and introduced by Thomas Reidy

The most thorough history of Alabama’s Madison County region, widely available for the first time

The 1956 dissertation by Frances Cabaniss Roberts is a classic text on Alabama history that continues to be cited by southern historians. Roberts’s dissertation, “Background and Formative Period in the Great Bend and Madison County,” remains the most thorough history of the region yet produced. While certainly a product of its era, Roberts work is visionary in its own way and offers a useful look at Alabama’s rise to statehood. Thomas Reidy, editor of this edition, has kept Roberts’s words intact except for correction of minor typographical errors and helpful additions to the notes and citations.

Frances Cabaniss Roberts (1916–2000) played a major role in founding the University of Alabama in Huntsville, where she was a professor of history for more than forty years.

Thomas Reidy is former lecturer of history at the University of Alabama in Huntsville.

The Journal of Sarah Haynsworth Gayle, 1827–1835  
*A Substitute for Social Intercourse*

Edited by Sarah Woolfolk Wiggins with Ruth Smith Truss

The remarkable journal of the young wife of early Alabama governor John Gayle and a primary source of our knowledge about early Alabama and the antebellum American South

Astonishing, tragic, and remarkable, the journal of Sarah Haynsworth Gayle, wife of early Alabama governor John Gayle, is among the most widely studied and seminal accounts of antebellum life in the American South. This is the first complete edition of the journal in print. The poor condition of the journal and its transcripts, sometimes disintegrated or reassembled in the wrong order, has led historians to misinterpret Gayle’s words. Gayle’s descendants, Alabama’s famed Gorgases, deliberately obscured or defaced many passages. Using archival techniques to recover the text and restore the correct order, Sarah Wiggins and Ruth Truss reveal the unknown story of Sarah’s economic hardships, the question of her husband’s “temperance,” and her opium use. The *Journal of Sarah Haynsworth Gayle, 1827–1835*, is a robust and gripping account and is of inestimable value to our understanding of antebellum society, religion, intellectual culture, and slavery.

Sarah Woolfolk Wiggins (1934–2020) was professor emerita of history at the University of Alabama, a past president of the Alabama Historical Association, and editor of the *Alabama Review* for twenty years.

Ruth Smith Truss is a professor of history and department chair at the University of Montevallo.
This Bright Light of Ours
*Stories from the Voting Rights Fight*
Maria Gitin; Foreword by Lewis V. Baldwin

Combining memoir with oral history, *This Bright Light of Ours* offers a tightly focused insider’s view of the community-based activism that was the heart of the civil rights movement. A celebration of grassroots heroes, this book details through first-person accounts the contributions of ordinary people who formed the nonviolent army that won the fight for voting rights. Combining memoir and oral history, Maria Gitin fills a vital gap in civil rights history by focusing on the neglected Freedom Summer of 1965 when hundreds of college students joined forces with local Black leaders to register thousands of new Black voters in the rural South.

Maria Gitin was a national organizational development consultant and diversity trainer for thirty years. She has served as executive director of a YWCA where she cofounded a shelter for survivors of domestic violence. Gitin continues to be a frequent presenter on racial equity and voting rights while serving as a mentor to younger activists. She lives in Northern California with her photographer husband, Samuel Torres Jr.

Time in the Barrel
*A Marine’s Account of the Battle for Con Thien*
James P. Coan

A Marine’s highly personal memoir reliving the hellish days of a pivotal conflict of the Vietnam War

For eight months, James P. Coan’s five-tank platoon was assigned to Con Thien while attached to various Marine infantry battalions. A novice second lieutenant at the time, the author kept a diary recording the thoughts, fears, and frustrations that accompanied his life on “The Hill.” *Time in the Barrel: A Marine’s Account of the Battle for Con Thien* offers an authentic firsthand account of the daily nightmare that was Con Thien. An enticing and fascinating read featuring authentic depictions of combat, it allows readers to fully grasp the enormity of the fierce struggle for Con Thien.

More than a retelling of military movements, Coan’s engrossing narratives focus on the sheer sacrifice and misery of one Marine’s experience in Vietnam. Through his eyes, we experience the abysmal conditions the Marines endured, from monsoon rainstorms to the constant threat of impending attack. Climactic moments in history are captured through the rare, personal perspective of one particularly astute and observant participant.

James P. Coan is a former Marine Corps captain who was awarded a Purple Heart for his injuries at Con Thien. He is author of the historical memoir *Con Thien: The Hill of Angels*. He resides in Sierra Vista, Arizona, with his wife and family.
Cather Among the Moderns
Janis P. Stout

A masterful study by a preeminent scholar that situates Cather as a visionary practitioner of literary modernism

Willa Cather is often pegged as a regionalist, a feminine and domestic writer, or a social realist. In Cather Among the Moderns, Janis P. Stout firmly situates Cather as a visionary practitioner of literary modernism, something other scholars have hinted at but rarely affirmed. Stout presents Cather on a large, dramatic stage among a sizable cast of characters and against a brightly lit social and historical backdrop, invoking numerous figures and instances from the broad movement in the arts and culture that we call modernism.

Early on, Stout addresses the matter of gender. The term “cross-dresser” has often been applied to Cather, but Stout sees Cather’s identity as fractured or ambiguous, a reading that links her firmly to early twentieth-century modernity. She explores Cather’s links to a small group of modernists who, after the war, embraced life in New Mexico, a destination of choice for many artists, which led to two of Cather’s most fully realized modernist novels, The Professor’s House and Death Comes for the Archbishop.

Janis P. Stout is professor of English emerita at Texas A&M University. She is author of Picturing a Different West: Vision, Illustration, and the Tradition of Cather and Austin, among others.

Gertrude Stein’s Surrealist Years
Ery Shin

Examines how surrealism enriches our understanding of Stein’s writing through its poetics of oppositions

Gertrude Stein’s Surrealist Years brings to life Stein’s surrealist sensibilities and personal values borne from her WWII anxieties, not the least of which originated from a dread of anti-Semitism. Stein’s earlier works such as Tender Buttons and Lucy Church Amiably tend to prioritize formal innovations over narrative-building and overt political motifs. However, Ery Shin leads us through the question of how Stein’s later works engage with storytelling and life-writing in startling ways—most emphatically and poignantly through the surrealist lens.

Besides illuminating Stein’s art and life, the surrealist framework developed here brings readers deeper into those philosophical ideas invoked by war. Topics of discussion emphasize how varied Jewish experiences were in Hitler’s Europe, how outliers like Stein can be included in the surrealist project, surrealism’s theoretical bind in the face of WWII, and the age-old question of artistic legacy.

Ery Shin is assistant professor of English at the University of Southern Mississippi. Her work has appeared in Modern Language Studies, the Journal of Modern Literature, and Texas Studies in Literature and Language.
The Emperor’s Last Campaign

A Napoleonic Empire in America
Emilio Ocampo

The fascinating story of the breakdown of the Spanish empire in America and the rise of the United States as a world power

Napoleon’s last campaign didn’t end at Waterloo. After that fateful day on June 1815, hundreds if not thousands of veterans of Napoleon’s army emigrated to America. Many went farther south and joined the rebels fighting for independence in the Spanish colonies, from Mexico to Buenos Aires.

The Emperor’s Last Campaign is the first full-length examination of the Bonapartists who emigrated from France after Napoleon’s defeat and exile, who formed a loose confederation with adventurers and romantics, and who contemplated a new empire in the Western Hemisphere. The scheme had the support and encouragement of the fallen emperor himself and his brother Joseph, former king of Spain, who lived in exile in the United States.

Emilio Ocampo worked for more than a decade as an investment banker on Wall Street. In 2002 he became a historian. Since then, he has written three books and more than a dozen articles dealing with early nineteenth-century history in Europe and America.

The Politics of Trust

Reubin Askew and Florida in the 1970s
Gordon E. Harvey

Recounts the extraordinary political career of Reubin Askew, governor of Florida from 1971 to 1979, under whose unorthodox leadership Florida undertook numerous successful reform initiatives

Florida governor Reubin Askew memorably characterized a leader as “someone who cares enough to tell the people not merely what they want to hear, but what they need to know.” It was a surprising statement for a contemporary politician to make, and, more surprising still, it worked. In The Politics of Trust: Reubin Askew and Florida in the 1970s, Gordon E. Harvey traces the life and career of the man whose public service many still recall as “the Golden Age” of Florida politics.

Touting honesty, candor, and transparency, Askew dubbed his administration “government in the sunshine.” Harvey demonstrates that Askew’s success was not in spite of his penchant for bold, sometimes unpopular stances, but rather because his mix of unvarnished candor, sober ethics, and religious faith won the trust of the diverse peoples of his state.

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