Revealing, candid, vivid: a rare and generous portrait of one man’s view of aging

My Last Eight Thousand Days
An American Male in His Seventies
LEE GUTKIND

| CRUX: THE GEORGIA SERIES IN LITERARY NONFICTION |

“Life-changing in its perceptive and honest revelations of growing older. A must-read for all of us longing to peel back the truth of ourselves.”—Gay Talese

“The master of immersion research has immersed himself this time in his own story, with courage and honesty, generosity and wisdom, holding nothing back. Anyone who is aging and/or confronting loneliness (that means pretty much everyone) could benefit from reading this thoroughly engaging book.”—Phillip Lopate, editor of The Art of the Personal Essay

As founding editor of Creative Nonfiction and architect of the genre, Lee Gutkind played a crucial role in establishing literary, narrative nonfiction in the marketplace and in the academy. A long-standing advocate of New Journalism, he has reported on a wide range of issues—robots and artificial intelligence, mental illness, organ transplants, veterinarians and animals, baseball, motorcycle enthusiasts—and explored them all with his unique voice and approach.

In My Last Eight Thousand Days, Gutkind turns his notepad and tape recorder inward, using his skills as an immersion journalist to perform a deep dive on himself. Here, he offers a memoir of his life as a journalist, editor, husband, father, and Pittsburgh native, not only recounting his many triumphs, but also exposing his missteps and challenges. The overarching concern that frames these brave, often confessional, stories is his obsession and fascination with aging: how aging provoked anxieties and unearthed long-rooted tensions and how he came to accept, even enjoy, his mental and physical decline. Gutkind documents the realities of aging with the characteristically blunt, melancholic wit and authenticity that drive the quiet force of all his work.

Lee Gutkind is the author and editor of more than thirty books, including You Can’t Make This Stuff Up: The Complete Guide to Writing Creative Nonfiction; Forever Fat: Essays by the Godfather; and the award-winning Many Sleepless Nights: The World of Organ Transplantation. He has appeared on many national radio and television shows, including The Daily Show with Jon Stewart, Good Morning America, and National Public Radio’s All Things Considered. He is professor and writer-in-residence at Arizona State University.
A stunning photographic tribute to one of the earliest and most impactful collaborations between Jews and African Americans in the cause of civil rights

A Better Life for Their Children
Julius Rosenwald, Booker T. Washington, and 4,978 Schools That Changed America
PHOTOGRAPHS AND STORIES BY ANDREW FEILER
WITH A FOREWORD BY CONGRESSMAN JOHN LEWIS

“Andrew Feiler’s photographs and stories bring us into the heart of the passion for education in black communities: the passion of teachers who taught multiple grades and dozens of students in a single classroom; the passion of parents and neighbors who helped to raise the money to build our schools and then each year continued to reach deep to purchase school supplies; the passion of students like me who craved learning, worked hard, and read as many books as we could put our hands on.”—Congressman John Lewis
Born to Jewish immigrants, Julius Rosenwald rose to lead Sears, Roebuck & Company and turn it into the world’s largest retailer. Born into slavery, Booker T. Washington became the founding principal of Tuskegee Institute. In 1912 the two men launched an ambitious program to partner with black communities across the segregated South to build public schools for African American children. This watershed moment in the history of philanthropy—one of the earliest collaborations between Jews and African Americans—drove dramatic improvement in African American educational attainment and fostered the generation who became the leaders and foot soldiers of the civil rights movement.

Of the original 4,978 Rosenwald schools built between 1917 and 1937 across fifteen southern and border states, only about 500 survive. While some have been repurposed and a handful remain active schools, many remain unrestored and at risk of collapse. To tell this story visually, Andrew Feiler drove more than twenty-five thousand miles, photographed 105 schools, and interviewed dozens of former students, teachers, preservationists, and community leaders in all fifteen of the program states.

*A Better Life for Their Children* includes eighty-five duotone images that capture interiors and exteriors, schools restored and yet-to-be restored, and portraits of people with unique, compelling connections to these schools. Brief narratives written by Feiler accompany each photograph, telling the stories of Rosenwald schools’ connections to the Trail of Tears, the Great Migration, the Tuskegee Airmen, *Brown v. Board of Education*, embezzlement, murder, and more.

Beyond the photographic documentation, *A Better Life for Their Children* includes essays from three prominent voices. Congressman John Lewis, who attended a Rosenwald school in Alabama, provides a forward; preservationist Jeanne Cyriaque has penned a history of the Rosenwald program; and Brent Leggs, director of African American Cultural Heritage at the National Trust for Historic Preservation, has written a plea for preservation that serves as an afterword.

Andrew Feiler is a fifth-generation Georgian and an award-winning photographer whose work has been featured in museums and galleries and is in a number of public and private collections. He is the author/photographer of *Without Regard to Sex, Race, or Color: The Past, Present, and Future of One Historically Black College* (Georgia). More of his photography can be seen at andrewfeiler.com.
A conversation about the history and continuing fight over the right to vote

Voter Suppression in U.S. Elections

STACEY ABRAMS, CAROL ANDERSON, JIM DOWNS, KEVIN M. KRUSE, HEATHER COX RICHARDSON, AND HEATHER ANN THOMPSON
IN CONVERSATION WITH JIM DOWNS

Historians have long been engaged in telling the story of the struggle for the vote. In the wake of recent contested elections, the suppression of the vote has returned to the headlines, as awareness of the deep structural barriers to the ballot, particularly for poor, black, and Latino voters, has called attention to the historical roots of issues related to voting access.

Perhaps most notably, former state legislator Stacey Abrams’s campaign for Georgia’s gubernatorial race drew national attention after she narrowly lost to then–secretary of state Brian Kemp, who had removed hundreds of thousands of voters from the official rolls. After her loss, Abrams created Fair Fight, a multimillion-dollar initiative to combat voter suppression in twenty states.

At an annual conference of the Organization of American Historians, leading scholars Carol Anderson, Kevin M. Kruse, Heather Cox Richardson, and Heather Ann Thompson had a conversation with Abrams about the long history of voter suppression. This book is a transcript of that extraordinary conversation, edited by Jim Downs.

Voter Suppression in U.S. Elections offers an enlightening, history-informed conversation about voter disenfranchisement in the United States. By gathering scholars and activists whose work has provided sharp analyses of this issue, we see how historians in general explore contentious topics and provide historical context for students and the broader public.

The book also includes a “top ten” selection of essays and articles by such writers as journalist Ari Berman, Pulitzer Prize–winning historian David Blight, and civil rights icon John Lewis. Additional content (more articles, podcasts, and other news) is available on the UGA Press’s Manifold digital-publishing platform site for further study.

Jim Downs is a professor of history and American studies at Connecticut College. He is the author of Stand by Me: The Forgotten History of Gay Liberation (Georgia) and Sick from Freedom: African-American Illness and Suffering during the Civil War and Reconstruction and coeditor of Beyond Freedom: Disrupting the History of Emancipation (also Georgia) and Connexions: Histories of Race and Sex in North America.
An artist considers the complex sociocultural ramifications of immigration across generations

Entry Without Inspection
A Writer’s Life in El Norte

CECILE PINEDA
| CRUX: THE GEORGIA SERIES IN LITERARY NONFICTION |

Cecile Pineda—award-winning novelist, memoirist, theater director, performer, activist—felt rootless throughout much of her life. Her father was an undocumented Mexican immigrant, and her mother was a French-speaking immigrant from Switzerland. Pineda, born in New York City, felt culturally disconnected from both of her parents, while also ill at ease in U.S. culture. In her life, we see the strange intersection of immigrant politics, troubles with ethnic identity, and the instability of family ties.

In Entry Without Introspection, Pineda brings it all together, reconciling her past (much of which she had to piece together from vague memories and parental clues) while tracing how she formed her own identity through prose and theater in the absence of known roots. But as Pineda discovers, her life story doesn’t belong solely to her but is interwoven with those of her families, whether biological or chosen, and of the world around her. Because of this, Pineda’s memoir features parallel stories, that of her life running alongside and being informed by those of other immigrants.

Pineda traces her story while also documenting the work of the first whistleblower to reveal an immigrant death in detention, in 2009, with the storylines converging to reveal the lasting consequences of U.S. immigration policy. She explores the ripple effects of these policies over generations, revealing the shocking truths of marginalization and deportation. Pineda exposes both the cultural losses and the traumatic aftereffects of misguided U.S. immigration policy. Entry Without Inspection is thus a truly American story in all its historical and emotional complexity, one in which personal ethics and political commentary are necessarily and inextricably interwoven.

Cecile Pineda is a professor emerita of English at San Diego State University. She is the founder, director, and producer of the Theatre of Man and the author of several books, including Face, Frieze, and The Love Queen of the Amazon. Her novels have won numerous awards, including the Sue Kaufman Prize for First Fiction, a Gold Medal from the Commonwealth Club of California, and a National Endowment for the Arts Creative Writing Fellowship.
A Curious Garden of Herbs is a richly illustrated collection of herbal fact and lore that illuminates the “why” rather than the “how” of the historical kitchen garden. Rather than offering a how-to of gardening methods, Kay K. Moss and Suzanne S. Simmons trace herbs and their uses back to earlier times and places. *A Curious Garden of Herbs* is peppered with reflections and observations from manuscripts and published herbals that detail the historical uses and fascinating stories surrounding plants of documented interest in the early American South and mid-Atlantic.

Practicality and necessity were the guiding theses for gardening in eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century rural and frontier settlements in the Southeast. There were plants for food, for seasoning, for medicine, for dye, for insect repellency, and for scent. While many of these plants were also decorative, utility dominated the rationale of backcountry gardeners. Unlike the experimental and exotic collections of Thomas Jefferson and other wealthy gentleman botanists, the gardens detailed in these pages are generally of the “middling sort”—of townspeople and farmers, of “housewives,” merchants, and artisans. *A Curious Garden of Herbs* brings these everyday herbs to life with sixty historical illustrations.
In addition to including the well-known varieties such as parsley, lavender, cucumber, and asparagus, this wonderfully illustrated catalog of more than a hundred plants also reveals new ways to enjoy violet, rose, and nasturtium. Moss and Simmons also encourage readers to invite lesser-known plants, such as wild purslane, mullein, and wood sorrel, into their gardens and conversations.

Kay K. Moss is adjunct curator, retired program specialist, and founder of Eighteenth-Century Backcountry Lifeways Studies at the Schiele Museum of Natural History. She is the author of Seeking the Historical Cook: Exploring Eighteenth-Century Southern Foodways, Southern Folk Medicine, Decorative Motifs from the Southern Backcountry, and Journey to the Piedmont Past, and coauthor of The Backcountry Housewife.

Suzanne S. Simmons is a North Carolina native with a lifelong interest in our natural environment, native plants, and early technologies. Simmons retired after thirty-four years with the Schiele Museum of Natural History, as living-history interpreter, researcher, and backcountry farm manager, interweaving natural and cultural history, thereby eliminating the false boundary between them.
A handy reference guide to identify beach fossils, from the prehistoric to the recent

**A Beachcomber’s Guide to Fossils**

**BOB GALE, PAM GALE, AND ASHBY GALE**  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY ASHBY GALE  
WITH A FOREWORD BY RUDY MANCKE

Compiled from decades of visiting beaches along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts collecting fossils and conducting extensive research, *A Beachcomber’s Guide to Fossils* is the definitive guide for amateur collectors and professionals interested in learning more about the deep history they tread on during their vacations. Authored by Bob, Pam, and Ashby Gale, this guide offers more than twelve hundred high-quality color photographs and detailed descriptions of more than three hundred fossil specimens found on beaches from Texas, east to Florida, and north to New Jersey.

The book includes descriptions and identifying information for the fossil remains of mammals, reptiles, birds, and fish. Because the tides provide a new beach to explore every day, and beachcombers need immediate comparison for identification, the *Beachcomber’s Guide* is essential for quick and easy reference. And while the seemingly infinite varieties of shark teeth form much of what beachcombers find on their sandy strolls, this guide also illuminates the fossilized remains of species that walked in a different world. From glyptodonts (a huge prehistoric armadillo) and giant sloths to the intricately patterned remains of the ancestors of manta rays and pufferfish, this book teaches its readers not only what treasures to look for but how to look for them.
Bob Gale is the ecologist and public lands director for MountainTrue, a North Carolina environmental nonprofit organization. His publications include articles in South Carolina Wildlife, American Forests, and Islander and the natural history sections for the Highroad Guide to the North Carolina Mountains.

Pam Gale is the founder of Kreation Station, an art instruction studio on Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, and Majik Studios in Asheville, North Carolina, a teaching studio of professional artists.

Ashby Gale is a paleontologist and the principal of Charleston Fossil Adventures in Charleston, South Carolina. He previously served as an interpretive ranger and a program specialist at Edisto Beach State Park, South Carolina.
A Perfect Souvenir
*Stories about Travel from the Flannery O’Connor Award for Short Fiction*

**EDITED BY ETHAN LAUGHAMAN**

| STORIES FROM THE FLANNERY O’CONNOR AWARD FOR SHORT FICTION |

Travel can whisk us away to craggy mountainsides and sunny coastlines or to bustling cities and mysterious jungles. Travel can excite and rejuvenate or intimidate and overwhelm. These sixteen stories reflect on our immense, intriguing world and our explorations of it, whether you choose to follow the beaten path or abandon it.

**CONTRIBUTORS:** Gail Galloway Adams, Geoffrey Becker, Daniel Curley, Philip F. Deaver, Dennis Hathaway, Mary Hood, Tom Kealey, Peter LaSalle, E. J. Levy, Susan Neville, Dianne Nelson Oberhansly, Lori Ostlund, Anne Panning, Melissa Pritchard, Margot Singer, and Sandra Thompson

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**Jasandeep Kaur**

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**Ethan Laughman** is a recruitment, marketing, and communications specialist at the University of Georgia’s College of Environment and Design. Among the few who have read every Flannery O’Connor Award–winning volume, he has collaborated closely with the series’ authors in compiling these new anthologies.

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A Day’s Pay
*Stories about Work from the Flannery O’Connor Award for Short Fiction*

**EDITED BY ETHAN LAUGHAMAN**

| STORIES FROM THE FLANNERY O’CONNOR AWARD FOR SHORT FICTION |

Sometimes work is rewarding, and sometimes it’s just demanding. Whether set in a cubicle or a courtroom, on a stage or in a station, these fifteen stories reflect on the time we dedicate to the jobs we do—from the moment we begin our commute to the second we return home, and every hardworking hour in between.

**CONTRIBUTORS:** Robert Abel, Wendy Brenner, David Crouse, Alfred DePew, Carole L. Glickfeld, Monica McFawn, Melinda Moustakis, Randy F. Nelson, Gina Ochsner, Andy Plattner, Frank Soos, and Nancy Zafris
If We Were Electric
Stories
PATRICK EARL RYAN

“*If We Were Electric*, the debut short story collection from New Orleans native Patrick Earl Ryan, is indeed fiercely electric. These twelve startling fictions have been crafted by a writer with an assured and absolutely original voice and a remarkable understanding of how place is as much a compelling character in a good story as the people who populate it. There are stories here about unrequited love and youthful yearning, the complexities of desire between men, the beginnings and ends of relationships, deaths both inevitable and untimely, the bitter ache of loneliness, the quiet horrors that unexpectedly befall us, and the magic of the ordinary world. With this outstanding collection, Patrick Earl Ryan makes his mark on southern literature and how.”—Roxane Gay, Flannery O’Connor series editor and author of *Ayiti, Hunger*, and *Bad Feminist*

*If We Were Electric*’s twelve stories celebrate New Orleans in all of its beautiful peculiarities: macabre and magical, muddy and exquisite, sensual and spiritual. The stunning debut collection finds its characters in moments of desire and despair, often stuck on the verge of a great metamorphosis, but burdened by some unreasonable love. These are stories about missed opportunities, about people on the outside who don’t fit in, about the consequences of not mustering enough courage to overcome the binds.

In “Feux Follet,” an old man’s grief attracts supernatural lights in the dark Louisiana swamps. An exploding transformer’s raw, unnerving energy in the title story matches the strange, ferocious temper of an unlucky hustler. “Blackout” sets the profound numbness of a young man physically abused by his mentally unstable partner beside the meaningful beauty of an unexpected moment of joy with someone else. The teenage narrator in “Before Las Blancas” is so overwhelmed by his sexuality that he abandons everything and everyone he’s known to live in a happy illusion . . . in Mexico. And “Where It Takes Us” is a poignant, understated snapshot of a gay man who accompanies his straight, HIV-positive brother to the racetrack to bond again.

Patrick Earl Ryan was born and raised in New Orleans, Louisiana. His work has appeared in the *Ontario Review*, *Pleiades*, *Best New American Voices*, *San Francisco Bay Guardian*, *Men on Men: Best New Gay Fiction for the Millennium*, *Cairn*, and the *James White Review*. Founder and editor in chief of *Lodestar Quarterly*, Ryan has also taught martial arts philosophy and tai chi chuan for many years. He lives in San Francisco, California.
How a PR team masterminded the KKK’s wildly successful growth and influence on American politics

Selling Hate
Marketing the Ku Klux Klan
DALE W. LAACKMAN

“I’ve read many histories of the Ku Klux Klan . . . but none accomplishes what this book does, which is to show that the Invisible Empire was in many ways the creation of modern public relations.”—Steve Oney, author of And the Dead Shall Rise: The Murder of Mary Phagan and the Lynching of Leo Frank

Selling Hate is a fascinating and powerful story about the power of a southern PR firm to further the Ku Klux Klan’s agenda. Dale W. Laackman uncovered never-before-published archival material, census records, and obscure books and letters to tell the story of an emerging communications industry—an industry filled with potential and fraught with peril.

The brilliant, amoral, and spectacularly bold Bessie Tyler and Edward Young Clarke—together, the Southern Publicity Association—met the fervent William Joseph Simmons (founder of the second KKK), saw an opportunity, and played on his many weaknesses. It was the volatile, precarious terrain of post–World War I America. Tyler and Clarke took Simmons’s dying and broke KKK, with its two thousand to three thousand associates in Georgia and Alabama, and in a few short years swelled its membership to nearly five million. Chapters were established in every state of the union, and the Klan began influencing American political and social life. Between one-third and one-half of the eligible men in the country belonged to the organization.

Even to modern sensibilities, the extent of Tyler and Clarke’s scheme is shocking: the limitlessness of their audacity; the full-scale and ongoing con of Simmons; the size of the personal fortunes they earned, amassed, and stole in the process; and just how easily and expertly they exploited the particular fears and prejudices of every corner of America. You will recognize in this pair a very American sense of showmanship and an accepted, even celebrated, brash entrepreneurial hustle. And as their story winds down, you will recognize the tainted and ultimately ineffectual congressional hearings into the Klan’s monumental growth.
The first biography of one of America’s most influential news editors

A Nervous Man Shouldn’t Be Here in the First Place

The Life of Bill Baggs

AMY PAIGE CONDON

“As Amy Paige Condon so masterfully reveals, Baggs led the [press] on race, Vietnam, the environment, historic preservation, land conservation, and the liberal conversation we’re still having today. This is a necessary resurrection of a departed journalist worth celebrating.”—Hank Klibanoff, Pulitzer Prize-winning coauthor of The Race Beat: The Press, the Civil Rights Struggle, and the Awakening of a Nation

“This is not a simple life, my friend, and there are no simple answers.”—Bill Baggs

The late editor of the late Miami News, Bill Baggs, stamped these words on plain white postcards and sent them to readers who sent him hate mail—a frequent occurrence, as Baggs, a white editor of a prominent southern newspaper, championed unpopular ideas in his front-page columns, such as protecting the environment, desegregating public schools, and peace in Vietnam.

Under his leadership, the Miami News earned three Pulitzer Prizes. For his stances, Baggs earned a bullet hole through his office window, police officers stationed outside his home, and a used Mercedes outfitted with a remote starter so that if it had been rigged with a bomb, it would blow up before he opened the door. Despite his causes and accomplishments, when Baggs died of pneumonia in 1969 at the age of forty-five, his story nearly died with him, and that would have been a travesty because Baggs still has so much to teach us about how to find the answers to those not-so-simple questions, like how to live in peace with one another.

In this first biography of this influential editor, Amy Paige Condon retraces how an orphaned boy from rural Colquitt, Georgia, bore witness and impacted some of the twentieth century’s most earth-shifting events: World War II, the civil rights movement, the Cuban Missile Crisis, and the Vietnam War. With keen intellect and sparkling wit, Baggs seemed to be in the right place at the right time. From bombardier to reporter, then accidental diplomat, Baggs used his daily column as a bully pulpit for social justice and wielded his pen like a scalpel to reveal the truth.
Essays that explore the cultural traditions of nomadism, the psychology of domestic architecture, and the emotional landscapes of home

Mobile Home
A Memoir in Essays
MEGAN HARLAN

“...In prose rooted in the arc of an unsentimental education, Megan Harlan moves us through her unmanifest destiny, using the essay sharply as she takes us through the doors and tunnels, roads and bridges, trailers and cities, the spiders and fairies of her memory. Mobile Home is architectural and geographical, philosophical and historical, but always with an eye on the establishing shot: the nomadic Bedouin image of Harlan’s childhood that serves as a metaphor for our own extreme mobility.”—David Lazar, author of I’ll Be Your Mirror: Essays and Aphorisms

Uprooting ourselves and putting down roots elsewhere has become second nature. Americans are among the most mobile people on the planet, moving house an average of nine times in adulthood. Mobile Home explores one family’s extreme and often international version of this common experience. Inspired by Megan Harlan’s globe-wandering childhood—during which she lived in seventeen homes across four continents, ranging in location from the Alaskan tundra to a Colombian jungle, a posh flat in London to a double-wide trailer near the Arabian Gulf—Mobile Home maps the emotional structures and metaphysical geographies of home.

In ten interconnected essays, Harlan examines cultural histories that include Bedouin nomadic traditions and modern life in wheeled mobile homes, the psychology of motels and suburban tract housing, and the lived meanings within the built landscapes of Manhattan, Stonehenge, and the Winchester Mystery House. More personally, she traces the family histories that drove her parents to seek so many new horizons—and how those places shaped her upbringing. Her mother viewed houses as a kind of large-scale plastic art ever in need of renovating, while her father was a natural adventurer and loved nothing more than to travel, choosing a life of flight that also helped to mask his addiction to alcohol. These familial experiences color Harlan’s current journey as a mother attempting to shape a flourishing, rooted world for her son. Her memoir in essays skillfully explores the flexible, continually inventive natures of place, family, and home.
What unites and what divides us? What is the essence of American identity?

Genus Americanus
Hitting the Road in Search of America’s Identity
LOREN GHIGLIONE
WITH ALYSSA KARAS AND DAN THAM

“Loren Ghiglione’s passion for journalism and education informs every page of Genus Americanus, as he and his two students crisscross the country, giving voice to our collective psyche on matters of race, class, and other critical issues.”—Norman Pearlstine, executive editor of the Los Angeles Times

A seventy-year-old Northwestern journalism professor, Loren Ghiglione, and two twenty-something Northwestern journalism students, Alyssa Karas and Dan Tham, climbed into a minivan and embarked on a three-month, twenty-eight state, 14,063-mile road trip in search of America’s identity. After interviewing 150 Americans about contemporary identity issues, they wrote Genus Americanus, which is part oral history, part shoe-leather reporting, part search for America’s future, part memoir, and part travel journal.

On their journey they retraced Mark Twain’s travels across America—from Hannibal, Missouri, to Chicago, New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., New Orleans, Salt Lake City, San Francisco, and Seattle. They hoped Twain’s insights into the late nineteenth-century soul of America would help them understand the America of today and the ways that our cultural fabric has shifted.

Their interviews focused on issues of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, and immigration status. The timely trip occurred as the United States was poised to replace President Barack Obama, an icon of multiculturalism and inclusion, with Donald Trump, whose agenda promoted exclusion and division. What they learned along the way paints an engaging portrait of the country during this crucial moment of ideological and political upheaval.

Loren Ghiglione is a veteran of a half century in journalism and journalism education and professor emeritus of journalism at Northwestern University. He owned and edited the Southbridge Evening News and ran its parent company, Worcester County Newspapers, for twenty-six years. He also served as a four-time Pulitzer Prize juror, guest curator of a 1990 Library of Congress exhibit, and president of the American Society of Newspaper Editors.

Alyssa Karas has served as digital producer for Glamour and as senior digital producer and special projects editor for Vanity Fair.

Dan Tham has served as production assistant, associate producer, and producer at CNN.
A collection of poems that embraces the tension between scientific inquiry and spiritual longing

Fractal Shores
Poems
DIANE LOUIE
SELECTED BY SHEROD SANTOS
| NATIONAL POETRY PRIZE |

“Prose poetry? Organic form? One need only read a page or two to recognize a voice of such originality, such tenderness and compassion, that all the labels are pared away. Fractal Shores is a magnificent achievement, a book to return to when the soul feels small.”—Sherod Santos, author of The Square Inch Hours and The Pilot Star Elegies

Diane Louie was born in Newfoundland and grew up in Connecticut. She earned degrees from Oberlin College and the University of Iowa Writers’ Workshop for both fiction and poetry. Her work has appeared in Epoch, Arts & Letters, FIELD, TriQuarterly, Cloudbank, and other publications. She lives in Paris, France, with her partner, a research scientist.

Carlo Rovelli, Italian physicist, says that “the world is not a collection of things, it is a collection of events.” Poet Diane Louie thinks of prose poems as little events. They are happening and happenings. They draw on experience, image, metaphor, and all the properties of language to create little worlds-in-motion—in motion being the operative words: spinning while orbiting, actively shifting our point of view.

More genus than hybrid species, prose poems can straddle the obvious limits and less-obvious liberties of perception. This active characteristic of spanning and connecting is especially relevant in a time of cultural polarization. Marrying, even uneasily, the inquiries of science and spiritual longing can illuminate what they—and we—have in common: a desire to understand our presence in a universe that does not yield ultimate answers.

“The Mind Is a Cricket” from Fractal Shores

One wing drawn across another in the feather grass of a distant field, you beckon, a bright silence I can barely hear. Wing sotto voce on serrated wing. Courting is loud. Calling is soft. Such weight upon the scapula. Even angels prefer thinking to flight, unwinding the sky from dusk.
Poems that live and vibrate with beauty, tenacity, and tenderness

Semiotics
Poems
CHEKWUBE DANLADI
SELECTED BY EVIE SHOCKLEY
| CAVE CANEM POETRY PRIZE |

"Semiotics is a love letter to language and the body, a record of the erotic charge of both. It is a fire raging through the terrain of the social, burning away the veils that mask power and hide hurt. These poems are restless, mobile, traveling energetically across geographies and forms—from Chicago’s Westside to Accra, from the ghazal to the bop to new structures conjured for the specific truths of a new voice. Let me quote you my favorite lines: turn to page one and read on."—Evie Shockley, author of Semiautomatic

The poems in Chekwube Danladi’s debut collection are attentive to the moments of agency that refute and confront the limits imposed on black femme bodies. As a whole it is preoccupied with utilizing the lessons of lived experience to comment on and engage with larger movements toward expression and liberation for black people across temporal and physical spaces. The collection moves in and out of the material and the spiritual world, in and out of nations and borders. The poems riff off and borrow from varied intellectual and quotidian discourses regarding queerness, Afro-diasporic lives, refugee studies, gender and sexuality, and Global South subjectivity, creating their own transgressive universe of discourse.

Excerpt from “BLACK LAGOON”

I have yet to taste either salt water whole nor inland dry—tongue bleating as horrid as each May’s torrent—nor slum battered, stilt village, sore jointed. Where Portuguese tongues took solace in cuckoldry, one cartography subdued, bubbling beneath another. The Atlantic’s edge drawn in, soft as a negrita’s moan.

Chekwube Danladi is a writer and a reformed punk. She has received support from Callaloo, Kimbilio, Hedgebrook, the Lambda Literary Foundation, the Wisconsin Institute for Creative Writing, and the Vermont Studio Center. Her chapbook, Take Me Back, was published in the series New-Generation African Poets.
Chioma Urama’s poetry and fiction have been published in the Southern Humanities Review, Pleiades, Blackbird, Paper Darts, the Normal School, and Prairie Schooner. She received a Fred Shaw Fiction Prize and is a Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship alumna and a graduate of the University of Miami MFA program, where she was a Michener Fellow. She teaches creative writing and English composition at the University of New Orleans.

Beautiful and lyrical, Chioma Urama’s A Body of Water is a poetic exploration of ancestry in the American South. These poems are the result of a conversation Urama opened with her ancestors, whose documented and oral histories have been fragmented by a history of enslavement. Urama’s examination of generational trauma collapses linear time and posits that the traumas of the past are present within the consciousness of our bodies until we transmute the energy surrounding them.

The work ebbs and flows between paired-down poems where erasure and white space take on substance and roiling lyric essays that fold in divergent voices from historic documents, music, and film. This collection is both vulnerable and political, a meditation on love and grief, an exploration of loss and connectivity. These poems embrace imagination as a tool to emotionally traverse spaces within history that we are told we cannot enter. A Body of Water is an act of remembering, engaging with the idea that “all water has a perfect memory” and nothing is ever truly lost.

“In the Moonlight”

in the moonlight,
your body something borrowed
something blue
blooms
desire now a compass
carrying us
further into dark

“The poems surprise and delight in their style and daring, in their range of modes, sometimes personal, sometimes historical. The strength of the work is the communication that occurs between poems—a constellation slowly emerges where each poem becomes for the reader a different point on a map, a map that marks the distances, the proximities, between historical trauma and its intergenerational effects.” —Magdalena Zurawski, author of The Bruise
A celebration of the Jewish artists and scientists who confronted the war years with exceptional energy

Stargazing in the Atomic Age

Essays

ANNE GOLDMAN

| GEORGIA REVIEW BOOKS |

During World War II, with apocalypse imminent, a group of well-known Jewish artists and scientists sidestepped despair by challenging themselves to solve some of the most difficult questions posed by our age. Many of these people had just fled Europe. Others were born in the United States to immigrants who had escaped Russia’s pogroms. Alternately celebrated as mavericks and dismissed as eccentrics, they trespassed the boundaries of their own disciplines as the entrance to nations slammed shut behind them.

In Stargazing in the Atomic Age, Anne Goldman deftly interweaves personal and intellectual history in lucent essays that throw new light on these figures and their virtuosic thinking. In sentences that mingle learning with self-revelation, juxtaposition becomes an instrument for making the familiar strange, leading us to question our assumptions about who these iconic characters were and where their contributions can lead us. In these pages, Albert Einstein plays Mozart to align mathematical principle with the music of the spheres. Here, too, Grace Paley and Saul Bellow contemplate the dirt and dazzle of the New York and Chicago streets from their walk-ups while dreaming up characters whose bravura equals the panache and twang of vernacular speech. Nearby, Marc Chagall eludes the worst of World War II by painting buoyant scenes on the ceiling of the Paris Opera in brilliant stained glass no less exuberant than the effervescent jazz of George Gershwin’s own Rhapsody in Blue.

In these essays, Goldman reminds readers that Jewish history offers as many illustrations of achievement as of affliction. At the same time, she gestures toward the ways in which invention and art that defy partisanship might offer us inspiration as we enter a newly divisive era.
Zell Miller (1932–2018) was the seventy-ninth governor of Georgia (1991–1999) and a U.S. senator (2000–2005). He was also the author of several books, including *Mountains within Me*, *Great Georgians*, and *A Deficit of Decency*.

In *Corps Values* Miller recounts his life and the simple but powerful lessons he learned in the U.S. Marines: the core values he feels we must embrace if we are to be successful as individuals and as a nation. Only by incorporating such time-honored Marine qualities as pride, discipline, courage, and respect into our personal and professional lives can we meet the challenges that lie ahead. With *Corps Values* Miller urges us all to go back to “basic training” to reinforce the values that ultimately lead to success in any endeavor.
Sudden Spring
Stories of Adaptation in a Climate-Changed South
RICK VAN NOY
“This on-the-ground research lends an exceptional intimacy to the book, bringing the reader close to some of the most fragile portions of the country. . . . The book depoliticizes climate change, considering instead what communities are doing to cope with drastically changing conditions. It still acknowledges the political debate, but larger issues of resilience, adaptation, and survival are at the heart of Sudden Spring, an eloquent narrative about what has become the most important challenge of our time.”—Foreword Reviews

Conscientious Thinking
Making Sense in an Age of Idiot Savants
DAVID BOSWORTH
“David Bosworth is not only one of the sharpest, most perceptive cultural critics around, he has even come up with a way we might think our way out of the mess we are in. His argument is powerful and worth pondering. No one who cares about the condition of our culture can afford to ignore Conscientious Thinking.”—Jackson Lears, editor of Raritan

The Letters of Mark Twain and Joseph Hopkins Twichell
EDITED BY HAROLD K. BUSH, STEVE COURTNEY, AND PETER MESSENT
“For this book, three Twain experts came together to edit and create brief, graceful introductions and sparse footnotes for a set of letters between Twain and his pastor, the Reverend Joe Twichell—letters that illuminate Victorian male friendship as few other books have. The men’s moral strength and open affection for each other is evident, and their letters enfold local, national, and international events, weaving a colorful tapestry of the times and the writers’ expectations and ambitions. Every reader, Twainian or not, will find revelations about the creative chemistry between perfectly attuned spirits, both religious in their own way.”—CHOICE

Red Clay, White Water, and Blues
A History of Columbus, Georgia
VIRGINIA E. CAUSEY
Columbus is the third-largest city in Georgia, and Red Clay, White Water, and Blues is its first comprehensive history. Virginia E. Causey documents the city’s founding in 1828 and brings its story to the present, examining economic, political, social, and cultural changes. Causey focuses on three defining characteristics of the city’s history: the role that geography has played in its evolution; the fact that control of the city’s affairs rested in the hands of a particular business elite; and the endemic presence of violence that left a “bloody trail” throughout local history.
Expanding our sense of self to save the world in which we live

The Human Animal Earthling Identity
Shared Values Unifying Human Rights, Animal Rights, and Environmental Movements
CARRIE P. FREEMAN

With The Human Animal Earthling Identity, Carrie P. Freeman asks us to reconsider the devastating division we have created between the human and animal conditions, leading to mass exploitation, injustice, and extinction. As a remedy, Freeman believes social movements should collectively foster a cultural shift in human identity away from an egoistic anthropocentrism (human-centered outlook) and toward a universal altruism (species-centered ethic) so that people may begin to see themselves more broadly as “human animal earthlings.”

To formulate the basis for this identity shift, Freeman examines overlapping values (supporting life, fairness, responsibility, and unity) that are common in global rights declarations and in the current campaign messages of sixteen global social movement organizations that work on human/civil rights, nonhuman animal protection, and/or environmental issues, such as Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, the Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, the World Wildlife Federation, the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society, the Nature Conservancy, the Rainforest Action Network, and Greenpeace. She also interviews the leaders of these advocacy groups to gain their insights on how human and nonhuman protection causes can become allies by engaging common opponents and activating shared values and goals on issues such as the climate crisis, enslavement, extinction, pollution, inequality, destructive farming and fishing, and threats to democracy.

Ultimately, Freeman uses her findings to recommend a set of universal values around which all social movements’ campaign messages can collectively cultivate respectful relations between “human animal earthlings,” fellow sentient beings, and the natural world we share.
How can we best provide pet care for the underserved communities in America and abroad?

Underdogs
Pets, People, and Poverty
ARNOLD ARLUKE AND ANDREW ROWAN
| ANIMAL VOICES / ANIMAL WORLDS |

Underdogs looks into the rapidly growing initiative to provide veterinary care to underserved communities in such places as North Carolina and Costa Rica and how those living in or near poverty respond to these forms of care. For many years, the primary focus of the humane community in the United States was to control animal overpopulation and alleviate the stray dog problem by euthanizing or sterilizing dogs and cats. These efforts succeeded by the turn of the century, and it appeared as though most pets were being sterilized and given at least basic veterinary care, including vaccinations and treatments for medical problems such as worms or mange. However, in recent years animal activists and veterinarians have acknowledged that these efforts only reached pet owners in advantaged communities, leaving over twenty million pets unsterilized, unvaccinated, and untreated in underserved communities.

The problem of getting basic veterinary services to dogs and cats in low-income communities has suddenly become spotlighted as a major issue facing animal shelters, animal rescue groups, animal control departments, and veterinarians in the United States and abroad. In the past five to ten years, animal protection organizations have launched a new focus trying to deliver basic and even more-advanced veterinary care to the many underserved pets in the United States. Delivering such aid poses a challenge to these organizations as they attempt to help people living in poverty across most of the world who have pets or care for street dogs.

Arnold Arluke is professor emeritus of sociology and anthropology at Northeastern University and senior fellow at the Tufts Center for Animals and Public Policy. He is a cofounding editor of Society and Animals and has published twelve books, including The Sacrifice: How Scientific Experiments Transform Animals and People.

Andrew Rowan founded the Tufts Center for Animals and Public Policy and started the first graduate degree in the world on animals and public policy in 1995. He is the founding editor of Anthrozoos and author and editor of numerous books on human-animal issues, including the four-volume State of the Animals series. He is president of WellBeing International.
A contemporary framework for understanding the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the PPC

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the Poor People’s Campaign of 1968

ROBERT HAMILTON

| THE MOREHOUSE COLLEGE KING COLLECTION SERIES ON CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS |

This book introduces new audiences to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s final initiative, the multiracial Poor People’s Campaign (PPC) of 1968. Robert Hamilton depicts the experiences of poor people who traveled to Washington in May 1968 to dramatize the issue of poverty by building a temporary city, Resurrection City. His narrative allows us to hear their voices and understand the strategies, objectives, and organization of the campaign. In addition, he highlights the campaign’s educational aspect, showing that significant social movements are a means by which societies learn about themselves and framing the PPC as an initiative whose example can teach and inspire current and future generations. The study thus situates Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s legacy and teachings in relation to current events and further solidifies Dr. King’s cultural and sociopolitical relevance.

In the decades since 1968, we have seen increasing global inequality leading to greater social polarization, including in the United States. Hamilton offers the insight that the radical politics of Dr. King—as represented in the civil rights and human rights agendas of the PPC—can help us understand and address the challenges of this polarization. Hamilton highlights Dr. King’s commitment to ending poverty and explains why Dr. King’s ideas on this and related issues should be brought to the attention of a wider public, who often view him almost exclusively as a civil rights, but not a human rights, leader.
SNCC’s Stories
The African American Freedom Movement in the Civil Rights South
SHARON MONTEITH
| PRINT CULTURE IN THE SOUTH |

Formed in 1960 in Raleigh, North Carolina, the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) was a high-profile civil rights collective led by young people. For Howard Zinn in 1964, SNCC members were “new abolitionists,” but SNCC pursued radical initiatives and Black Power politics in addition to reform. It was committed to grassroots organizing in towns and rural communities, facilitating voter registration and direct action through “projects” embedded in Freedom Houses, especially in the South, the setting for most of SNCC’s stories. Over time, it changed from a tight cadre into a disparate group of many constellations but stood out among civil rights organizations for its participatory democracy and emphasis on local people deciding the terms of their battle for social change. Organizers debated their role and grappled with SNCC’s responsibility to communities, to the “walking wounded” damaged by racial terrorism, and to individuals who died pursuing racial justice.

SNCC’s Stories examines the organization’s print and publishing culture, uncovering how fundamental self- and group narration is for the undersung heroes of social movements. The organizer may be SNCC’s dramatis persona, but its writers have been overlooked. In the 1960s it was assumed established literary figures would write about civil rights, and until now, critical attention has centered on the Black Arts Movement, neglecting what SNCC’s writers contributed. Monteith gathers hard-to-find literature where the freedom movement in the civil rights South is analyzed as subjective history and explored imaginatively. SNCC’s print culture consists of field reports, pamphlets, newsletters, fiction, essays, poetry, and plays, which serve as intimate and illuminative sources for understanding political action. SNCC’s literary history contributes to the organization’s legacy.
Gabrielle Owen is an assistant professor of English at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. Her research focuses on children's and young adult literature, histories of childhood and adolescence, queer theory, transgender studies, and ethics. She has published in Nineteenth Century Studies, Children's Literature Association Quarterly, Queer Studies in Media and Popular Culture, and Transgender Studies Quarterly.

Interrogating categories of age allows us to question social hierarchies

A Queer History of Adolescence
Developmental Pasts, Relational Futures
GABRIELLE OWEN

A Queer History of Adolescence reveals categories of age—and adolescence, specifically—as an undeniable and essential mechanism in the production of difference itself. Drawing from a dynamic and varied archive, including British and American newspapers, medical papers and pamphlets, and adolescent and children’s literature circulating on both sides of the Atlantic, Gabrielle Owen argues that adolescence has a logic, a way of thinking, that emerges over the course of the nineteenth century and that survives in various forms to this day. This logic makes the idea of adolescence possible and naturalizes our historically specific ways of conceptualizing time, development, social hierarchy, and the self.

Rich in intersectional analysis, this book offers a multifaceted and historicized theory for categories of age that challenges existing methodologies for studying the people called children and adolescents. Rather than offering critique as an end in and of itself, A Queer History of Adolescence imagines the world-making possibilities that critique enables and, in so doing, shines a necessary light on the question of relationality in the lived world. Owen exposes the profound presence of history in our current moment in order to transform the habits of mind shaping age relations, social hierarchy, and the politics of identity today.
How white sororities promoted conservative and segregationist agendas

Women of Discriminating Taste
White Sororities and the Making of American Ladyhood
MARGARET L. FREEMAN

Women of Discriminating Taste examines the role of historically white sororities in the shaping of white womanhood in the twentieth century. As national women’s organizations, sororities have long held power on college campuses and in American life. Yet the groups also have always been conservative in nature and inherently discriminatory, selecting new members on the basis of social class, religion, race, or physical attractiveness. In the early twentieth century, sororities filled a niche on campuses as they purported to prepare college women for “ladyhood.” Sorority training led members to comport themselves as hyperfeminine, heterosocially inclined, traditionally minded women following a model largely premised on the mythical image of the southern lady. Although many sororities were founded at nonsouthern schools and also maintained membership strongholds in many nonsouthern states, the groups adhered to a decidedly southern aesthetic—a modernized version of Lost Cause ideology—in their social training to deploy a conservative agenda.

Margaret L. Freeman researched sorority archives, sorority-related materials in student organizations, and dean of women’s, student affairs, and president’s office records collections for historical data that show how white southerners repeatedly called on the image of the southern lady to support southern racial hierarchies. Her research also demonstrates how this image could be easily exported for similar uses in other areas of the United States that shared white southerners’ concerns over changing social demographics and racial discord. By revealing national sororities as significant players in the grassroots conservative movement of the twentieth century, Freeman illuminates the history of contemporary sororities’ difficult campus relationships and their continuing legacy of discriminatory behavior and conservative rhetoric.

Margaret L. Freeman is an independent scholar who earned her PhD in American studies from William and Mary. She is a contributor to two edited collections, Rethinking Campus Life: New Perspectives on the History of College Students in the United States and The Right Side of the Sixties: Reexamining Conservatism’s Decade of Transformation. She lives in Portland, Maine.
**How does the memorialization of the Civil War in Atlanta reflect differing views of the war’s meaning?**

**Gone but Not Forgotten**  
*Atlantans Commemorate the Civil War*  
**WENDY HAMAND VENET**

*Gone but Not Forgotten* examines the differing ways that Atlantans have remembered the Civil War since its end in 1865. During the Civil War, Atlanta became the second-most important city in the Confederacy after Richmond, Virginia. Since 1865, Atlanta’s civic and business leaders promoted the city’s image as a “phoenix city” rising from the ashes of General William T. Sherman’s wartime destruction. According to this carefully constructed view, Atlanta honored its Confederate past while moving forward with financial growth and civic progress in the New South. But African Americans challenged this narrative with an alternate one focused on the legacy of slavery, the meaning of freedom, and the pervasive racism of the postwar city. During the civil rights movement in the 1960s, Atlanta’s white and black Civil War narratives collided.

Wendy Hamand Venet examines the memorialization of the Civil War in Atlanta and who benefits from the specific narratives that have been constructed around it. She explores veterans’ reunions, memoirs and novels, and the complex and ever-changing interpretation of commemorative monuments. Despite its economic success since 1865, Atlanta is a city where the meaning of the Civil War and its iconography continue to be debated and contested.

**Wendy Hamand Venet** was a professor of history at Georgia State University. She is the author of *A Changing Wind: Commerce and Conflict in Civil War Atlanta* (Georgia), *A Strong-Minded Woman: The Life of Mary Livermore*, and *Neither Ballots nor Bullets: Women Abolitionists and the Civil War* and the editor of *Sam Richards’s Civil War Diary: A Chronicle of the Atlanta Home Front* (also Georgia).
A look at how medieval modes of thought have become deeply embedded in the American psyche

Medieval America
Feudalism and Liberalism in Nineteenth-Century U.S. Culture
ROBERT YUSEF RABIEE

Medieval America analyzes literary, legal, and historical archives that help tell a new story about the formation of American culture. Against Cold War–era studies of U.S. culture that argued, following political scientist Louis Hartz’s “liberal consensus” model, that the United States emerged from the Revolutionary era free from Europe’s feudal institutions and uninterested in the continuation of its medieval culture productions, Robert Yusef Rabiee contends that feudal law and medieval literature were structural components of the American cultural imaginary in the nineteenth century.

The racial, gender, and class formations that emerged in the first era of U.S. nation building were deeply indebted to medieval social, political, and religious thought—an observation that challenges the liberal consensus model and allows us to better grasp how American social roles developed. Far from casting off feudal tradition, the early United States folded feudalism into its emerging liberal order, creating a knotted system of values and practices that continue to structure the American experience. Sometimes, the feudal residuum contradicted the liberal values of the Unites States. At other times, the feudal residuum bolstered those values, revealing deep sympathies between “modern” and “premodern” political thought. Medieval America thus aims to reorient our discussions about American cultural and political development in terms of the long arc of European history.

Robert Yusef Rabiee is an assistant professor at Temple University, where he teaches general education courses in the humanities, political philosophy, and critical race studies in the Intellectual Heritage Program. His scholarly work has appeared or is forthcoming in J19, Comitatus, ESQ: A Journal of Nineteenth-Century American Literature and Culture, and Emerson Society Papers.
“THE PURPOSE OF ART IS WASHING THE DUST OF DAILY LIFE OFF OUR SOULS”

PICASSO
Emily A. Murphy is a lecturer in children’s literature at Newcastle University. She has published in *Children’s Literature Association Quarterly; the Lion and the Unicorn; and Jeunesse: Young People, Texts, Cultures*. Her essays also appear in *Prizing Children’s Literature: The Cultural Politics of Children’s Book Awards* and *Connecting Childhood and Old Age in Popular Media*.

How the adolescent became a crucial transitional figure on America’s path toward maturity

**Growing Up with America**  
*Youth, Myth, and National Identity, 1945 to Present*  
**EMILY A. MURPHY**

When D. H. Lawrence wrote his classic study of American literature, he claimed that youth was the “true myth” of America. Beginning from this assertion, Emily A. Murphy traces the ways that youth began to embody national hopes and fears at a time when the United States was transitioning to a new position of world power. In the aftermath of World War II, persistent calls for the nation to “grow up” and move beyond innocence became common, and the child that had long served as a symbol of the nation was suddenly discarded in favor of a rebellious adolescent. This era marked the beginning of a crisis of identity, where both literary critics and writers sought to redefine U.S. national identity in light of the nation’s new global position.

The figure of the adolescent is central to an understanding of U.S. national identity, both past and present, and of the cultural forms (e.g., literature) that participate in the ongoing process of representing the diverse experiences of Americans. In tracing the evolution of this youthful figure, Murphy revisits classics of American literature, including J. D. Salinger’s *The Catcher in the Rye* and Vladimir Nabokov’s *Lolita*, alongside contemporary best sellers. The influence of the adolescent on some of America’s greatest writers demonstrates the endurance of the myth that Lawrence first identified in 1923 and signals a powerful link between youth and one of the most persistent questions for the nation: What does it mean to be an American?
Massive Resistance and Southern Womanhood

White Women, Class, and Segregation

REBECCA BRÜCKMANN

| POLITICS AND CULTURE IN THE TWENTIETH-CENTURY SOUTH |

Massive Resistance and Southern Womanhood offers a comparative sociocultural and spatial history of white supremacist women who were active in segregationist grassroots activism in Little Rock, New Orleans, and Charleston from the late 1940s to the late 1960s. Through her examination, Rebecca Brückmann uncovers and evaluates the roles, actions, self-understandings, and media representations of segregationist women in massive resistance in urban and metropolitan settings.

Brückmann argues that white women were motivated by an everyday culture of white supremacy, and they created performative spaces for their segregationist agitation in the public sphere to legitimize their actions. While other studies of mass resistance have focused on maternalism, Brückmann shows that women’s invocation of motherhood was varied and primarily served as a tactical tool to continuously expand these women’s spaces. Through this examination she differentiates the circumstances, tactics, and representations used in the creation of performative spaces by working-class, middle-class, and elite women engaged in massive resistance.

Brückmann focuses on the transgressive “street politics” of working-class female activists in Little Rock and New Orleans that contrasted with the more traditional political actions of segregationist, middle-class, and elite women in Charleston, who aligned white supremacist agitation with long-standing experience in conservative women’s clubs, including the United Daughters of the Confederacy and the Daughters of the American Revolution. Working-class women’s groups chose consciously transgressive strategies, including violence, to elicit shock value and create states of emergency to further legitimize their actions and push for white supremacy.
How ideas about race influenced the governance of plantation colonies

Complexion of Empire in Natchez
Race and Slavery in the Mississippi Borderlands
CHRISTIAN PINNEN
| EARLY AMERICAN PLACES |

In *Complexion of Empire in Natchez*, Christian Pinnen examines slavery in the colonial South, using a variety of legal records and archival documents to investigate how bound labor contributed to the establishment and subsequent control of imperial outposts in colonial North America. He examines the dynamic and multifaceted development of slavery in the colonial South and reconstructs the relationships among aspiring enslavers, natives, struggling colonial administrators, and African laborers, as well as the links between slavery and the westward expansion of the American Republic.

By placing Natchez at the focal point, this book reveals the unexplored tensions among the enslaved, enslavers, and empires across the plantation complex. Most important, *Complexion of Empire in Natchez* highlights the effect that different conceptions of racial complexions had on the establishment of plantations and how competing ideas about race strongly influenced the governance of plantation colonies.

The location of the Natchez District enables a unique study of British, Spanish, and American legal systems, how enslaved people and natives navigated them, and the consequences of imperial shifts in a small liminal space. The differing—and competing—conceptions of racial complexion in the lower Mississippi Valley would strongly influence the governance of plantation colonies and the hierarchies of race in colonial Natchez. *Complexion of Empire in Natchez* thus broadens the historical discourse on slavery’s development by including the lower Mississippi Valley as a site of inquiry.
For the white man’s chance to flourish, the Cherokee Nation had to cease to exist

**Toward Cherokee Removal**

*Land, Violence, and the White Man’s Chance*

**ADAM J. PRATT**

| EARLY AMERICAN PLACES |

Cherokee Removal excited the passions of Americans across the country. Nowhere did those passions have more violent expressions than in Georgia, where white intruders sought to acquire Native land through intimidation and state policies that supported their disorderly conduct. Cherokee Removal and the Trail of Tears, although the direct results of federal policy articulated by Andrew Jackson, were hastened by the state of Georgia. Starting in the 1820s, Georgians flocked onto Cherokee land, stole or destroyed Cherokee property, and generally caused havoc. Although these individuals did not have official license to act in such ways, their behavior proved useful to the state. The state also dispatched paramilitary groups into the Cherokee Nation whose function was to intimidate Native inhabitants and undermine resistance to the state’s policies. The lengthy campaign of violence and intimidation white Georgians engaged in splintered Cherokee political opposition to Removal and convinced many Cherokees that remaining in Georgia was a recipe for annihilation. Although the use of force proved politically controversial, the method worked. By expelling Cherokees, state politicians could declare that they had made the disputed territory safe for settlement and the enjoyment of the white man’s chance.

Adam J. Pratt examines how the process of one state’s expansion fit into a larger, troubling pattern of behavior. Settler societies across the globe relied on legal maneuvers to deprive Native peoples of their land and violent actions that solidified their claims. At stake for Georgia’s leaders was the realization of an idealized society that rested on social order and landownership. To achieve those goals, the state accepted violence and chaos in the short term as a way of ensuring the permanence of a social and political regime that benefitted settlers through the expansion of political rights and the opportunity to own land. To uphold the promise of giving land and opportunity to its own citizens—maintaining what was called the white man’s chance—politics within the state shifted to a more democratic form that used the expansion of land and rights to secure power while taking those same things away from others.
Gardenland
Nature, Fantasy, and Everyday Practice
Jennifer Wren Atkinson

“Jennifer Wren Atkinson looks at the unique role that gardening plays in American culture and history by exploring garden literature over the past one hundred fifty years. She delves into a diverse range of works: down-to-earth manuals and seed catalogs, accounts of enslaved people, literary fiction and nonfiction and even science fiction.”—Smithsonian Magazine

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William D. Bryan

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politics and culture in the twentieth-century south

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What do unbuilt megaprojects tell us about the scientific and political evolution of such grand-scale proposals?

Deep Cut

Science, Power, and the Unbuilt Oceanic Canal

CHRISTINE KEINER

| SINCE 1970: HISTORIES OF CONTEMPORARY AMERICA |

The Atlantic-Pacific Central American sea-level canal is generally regarded as a spectacular failure. However, *Deep Cut* examines the canal in an alternative context, as an anticipated infrastructure project that captured attention from the nineteenth through the late twentieth centuries. Its advocates included naturalist Alexander von Humboldt, physicist Edward Teller, and U.S. presidents John F. Kennedy, Lyndon Johnson, and Jimmy Carter. The waterway did not come to fruition, but as a *proposal* it served important political and scientific purposes during different eras, especially the years spanning the Cold War and the “environmental decade” of the 1970s.

Historian Christine Keiner shows how the evolving plans for the sea-level ship canal performed distinct kinds of work for diverse historical actors in light of shifting scientific, environmental, and diplomatic values. Dismissing it as a failed scheme prevents us from considering the political, cultural, and epistemological processes that went into constructing the seaway as an innovative diplomatic solution to rising U.S.-Panama tensions, an exciting research opportunity for evolutionary biologists, a superior hydrocarbon highway for the oil industry, or a serious ecological threat to marine biodiversity.

Invoking past dreams and nightmares of peaceful nuclear explosives, invasive sea snakes, and the 1970s energy crisis, *Deep Cut* uses the Central American seaway proposal to examine the changing roles of environmental diplomacy and state-sponsored environmental impact assessment. More broadly, Keiner amplifies an emerging conversation around the environmental, scientific, and political histories and legacies of unrealized megaprojects.
How New York City activists mobilized and worked toward sustainable community activism

Loisaida as Urban Laboratory
Puerto Rican Community Activism in New York
TIMO SCHRADER
| GEOGRAPHIES OF JUSTICE AND SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION |

Loisaida as Urban Laboratory is the first in-depth analysis of the network of Puerto Rican community activism in New York City’s Lower East Side from 1964 to 2001. Combining social history, cultural history, Latino studies, ethnic studies, studies of social movements, and urban studies, Timo Schrader uncovers the radical history of the Lower East Side. As little scholarship exists on the roles of institutions and groups in twentieth- and twenty-first-century Puerto Rican community activism, Schrader enriches a growing discussion around alternative urbanisms.

Loisaida was among a growing number of neighborhoods that pioneered a new form of urban living. The term Loisaida was coined, and then widely adopted, by the activist and poet Bittman “Bimbo” Rivas in an unpublished 1974 poem called “Loisaida” to refer to a part of the Lower East Side. Using this Spanglish version instead of other common labels honors the name that the residents chose themselves to counter real estate developers who called the area the East Village or Alphabet City in an attempt to attract more artists and ultimately gentrify the neighborhood.

Since the 1980s, urban planners and scholars have discussed strategies of urban development that revisit the pre–World War II idea of neighborhoods as community-driven and ecologically conscious entities. These “new urbanist” ideals are reflected in Schrader’s rich historical and ethnographic study of activism in Loisaida, telling a vivid story of the Puerto Rican community’s struggles for the right to stay and live with dignity in its home neighborhood.

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**Who were the true fathers of civil law in Louisiana?**

**The Lost Translators of 1808 and the Birth of Civil Law in Louisiana**

**VERNON VALENTINE PALMER**

| SOUTHERN LEGAL STUDIES |

In 1808 the legislature of the Louisiana territory appointed two men to translate the Digest of the Laws in Force in the Territory of Orleans (or, as it was called at the time, simply the Code) from the original French into English. Those officials, however, did not reveal who received the commission, and the translators never identified themselves. Indeed, the “translators of 1808” guarded their secret so well that their identities have remained unknown for more than two hundred years. Their names, personalities, careers, and credentials, indeed everything about them, have been a missing chapter in Louisiana legal history.

In this volume, Vernon Valentine Palmer, through painstaking research, uncovers the identity of the translators, presents their life stories, and evaluates their translation in the context of the birth of civil law in Louisiana. One consequence of the translators’ previous anonymity has been that the translation itself has never been fully examined before this study. To be sure, the translation has been criticized and specific errors have been pointed out, but Palmer’s study is the first general evaluation that considers the translation’s goals, its Louisiana context, its merits and demerits, and its innovations, failures, and successes. It thus allows us to understand how much and in what ways the translators affected the future course of Louisiana law.

**Vernon Valentine Palmer** is the Thomas Pickles Professor of Law at Tulane University and the codirector of the Eason Weinmann Center for International and Comparative Law. He is the author of numerous books, including *The Louisiana Civilian Experience*, *Through the Codes Darkly*, and *Mixed Jurisdictions Worldwide*. 
**What happens to combatants when civil war ends?**

**Repurposed Rebels**

*Postwar Rebel Networks in Liberia*

**MARIAM BJARNESEN**

| STUDIES IN SECURITY AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS |

Despite peace agreements, demobilization, and reintegration processes, the end of war does not automatically or necessarily make combatants abandon their wartime rebel networks. In Liberia such structures have lingered long after the civil war came to an end in 2003. Weak formal security institutions with a history of predatory behavior have contributed to the creation of an environment where informal initiatives for security and protection are called upon. In fragile postwar settings, former soldiers can be used as intimidators but have paradoxically reemerged as security providers, challenging our understanding of both the setting and the actors beyond the sphere of war.

Based on original interview material and findings from fieldwork, *Repurposed Rebels* follows former rebel soldiers from the time of civil war to 2013. These actors have reemerged as “recycled” warriors in times of regional wars and crisis and as vigilantes and informal security providers for economic and political purposes. Through these actors, Mariam Bjarnesen examines the relevance of postwar rebel networks and ex-combatant identity in contemporary Liberia, with an eye to understanding the underlying aims of demobilization when reintegration is challenged. Bjarnesen argues that these ex-combatants have succeeded in integrating themselves due to, not despite, the fact that they have not been truly demobilized.
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