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The MIT Press gratefully acknowledges Books on Books (www.books-on-books.com) for sponsoring the planting of a tree through World Land Trust (www.worldlandtrust.org) in honor of each new book in the Spring 2024 catalog.

Cover art of abstract marble waves in acrylic. Image courtesy of Getty Images, oxygen.

Prices subject to change.
Get Off My Neck
Black Lives, White Justice, and a Former Prosecutor’s Quest for Reform
Debbie Hines

A deeply revealing exposé of the American prosecutorial system and its historic and present racial inequities—and how we can transform the system to one of fairness and justice.

In Get Off My Neck, Debbie Hines draws on her unique perspective as a trial lawyer, former Baltimore prosecutor, and assistant attorney general for the State of Maryland to argue that US prosecutors, as the most powerful players in the criminal justice system, systematically target and criminalize Black people. Hines describes her disillusionment as a young Black woman who initially entered the profession with the goal of helping victims of crimes, only to discover herself aiding and abetting a system that prizes plea bargaining, speedy conviction, and excessive punishment above all else. In this book, she offers concrete, specific, and hopeful solutions for just how we can come together in a common purpose for criminal justice and racial justice reform.

Get Off My Neck explains that the racial inequities in the prosecutorial system are built into our country’s DNA. What’s more, they are the direct result of a history that has conditioned Americans to perceive the Black body as insignificant at best and dangerous at worst. Unlike other books that discuss the prosecutor’s office and change from inside the office, Hines offers a proactive approach to fixing our broken prosecutorial system through a broad-based alliance of reform-minded prosecutors, activists, allies, communities, and racial justice organizations—all working together to end the racist treatment of Black people.

Told intimately through personal, family, and client narratives, Get Off My Neck is not only a deeply sobering account of our criminal justice system and its devastating impact on Black children, youth, and adults but also a practical and inspiring roadmap for how we can start doing better right now.

Former Baltimore prosecutor, Assistant Attorney General for the State of Maryland, and trial attorney Debbie Hines is an advocate for racial equity in the criminal justice system. She maintains a private law practice focused on civil and criminal litigation in Washington, DC. A leading voice in the discourse of criminal justice and race, Hines is often called on by media networks for legal commentary.

criminal justice | political science
March | 6 x 9, 232 pp.
US $27.95 / $36.95 CAN cloth
978-0-262-04891-0
The Curie Society

Eris Eternal

Volume 2

Heather Einhorn, Adam Staffaroni, and Anne Toole

illustrated by Sonia Liao

The plucky young scientist heroes of The Curie Society go toe-to-toe with a powerful and sinister threat in a globe-spanning scientific adventure on the cutting edge of advanced biotech.

Our heroic teen science prodigies are back for a new mission with the Curie Society, an elite secret organization where brilliant women can pursue the furthest reaches of their intellect, and this time they face a threat more serious and more sinister than anything they’ve encountered before!

Maya, Taj, and Simone are supposed to be spending their summer broadening their horizons, but their plans take a strange and puzzling turn when the Curie Society’s original chapter, at the Sorbonne in Paris, calls on them for help. Daksha, a Society alumna, is promoting cutting-edge science and technology startups at a showcase event, but someone has threatened to stop her and the proceedings. When Daksha is poisoned, the team swings into action to investigate.

Along with new friends from the Paris chapter of the Curie Society, the team is thrown into a globe-spanning quest and a dangerous game of cat and mouse with a shadowy villain intent on controlling the world’s wealth through advanced biotech. The Curie Society will need all their specialized science skills to stop this scheme before it’s too late!

Heather Einhorn (co-creator) has worked with Godzilla, Batman, and Superman, and as an executive producer for Einhorn Epic Productions (EEP). She co-created the teen detective scripted podcast series Lethal Lit: A Tig Torres Mystery, the science adventure graphic novel series The Curie Society, and the webcomic/pop music star Free Hexel, among others.

Adam Staffaroni (co-creator) is a lifelong fan of comics, and as an editor he’s worked on books starring Punky Brewster, Care Bears, Peanuts, and many more. Now an executive producer for EEP, Adam creates new worlds for young readers with his creative partner, Heather Einhorn. Writers Guild Award winner Anne Toole currently writes the Horizon Zero Dawn comic from Titan. She was also lead writer on the Curse of the Pharaohs DLC for Assassin’s Creed: Origins, creator of the 100-episode series Alles Liebe, Annette, and writer for the Emmy-winning web series The Lizzy Bennett Diaries. Sonia Liao is an illustrator and comic artist based in Westford, Massachusetts. She graduated with her BFA in Illustration from MICA in 2014 before returning to New England and interning at Fablevision Studios.

March | 6 1/2 x 9 1/4, 168 pp.
US $22.95T/$29.95 CAN paperback
978-0-262-54437-5

“Simone, Maya, and Taj return in this fast-paced sequel to The Curie Society. The mystery seamlessly integrates scientific explanations into a STEM-based adventure you can’t put down!”
—Christine Taylor-Butler, author of The Lost Tribes and Save the... Tigers

“It was a delight to join the young women of the Curie Society on another thrilling adventure as they use science and teamwork to solve problems and protect the world.”
—Shohini Ghose, quantum physicist; author of Her Space, Her Time

“Teens to adults can experience the thrill of science through this lively futuristic adventure story. The book beautifully highlights contemporary projects of female scientists committed to a socially responsible and equitable world!”
—Jane Margolis, coauthor of Power On!
A covert team of young women—members of the Curie society, an elite organization dedicated to women in STEM—undertake high-stakes missions to save the world. A selection of the 2022 Hal Clement Notable Young Adult Books List from the American Library Association.

978-0-262-53994-4

www.thecuriesociety.com

PRAISE FOR VOLUME 1

“Readers eager for greater representation of women in the sciences will cheer...”
—Publishers Weekly

“Deft and snappy... A STEM treat for the curious.”
—Kirkus Reviews

“Budding scientists and fans of exciting graphic novels are in for a rollicking journey.”
—School Library Journal
Inclusion on Purpose
An Intersectional Approach to Creating a Culture of Belonging at Work

Ruchika Tulshyan
foreword by Ijeoma Oluo

How organizations can foster diversity, equity, and inclusion: taking action to address and prevent workplace bias while centering women of color.

Few would disagree that inclusion is both the right thing to do and good for business. Then why are we so terrible at it? If we believe in the morality and the profitability of including people of diverse and underestimated backgrounds in the workplace, why don’t we do it?

Because, explains Ruchika Tulshyan in this eye-opening book, we don’t realize that inclusion takes awareness, intention, and regular practice. Inclusion doesn’t just happen; we have to work at it. Tulshyan presents inclusion best practices, showing how leaders and organizations can meaningfully promote inclusion and diversity.

Tulshyan centers the workplace experience of women of color, who are subject to both gender and racial bias. It is at the intersection of gender and race, she shows, that we discover the kind of inclusion policies that benefit all. Tulshyan debunks the idea of the “level playing field” and explains how leaders and organizations can use their privilege for good by identifying and exposing bias, knowing that they typically have less to lose in speaking up than a woman of color does. She explains why “leaning in” doesn’t work—and dismantling structural bias does; warns against hiring for “culture fit,” arguing for “culture add” instead; and emphasizes the importance of psychological safety in the workplace—you need to know that your organization has your back.

A Next Big Idea Club nominee
Silver Axiom medal, Women / BIPOC in Business category, 2023

Ruchika Tulshyan, an award-winning inclusion strategist and speaker, is CEO and founder of Candour, which works with organizations to create diverse teams and inclusive cultures. A former business journalist, she has reported from four countries and writes regularly on inclusive leadership for the Harvard Business Review. She was named to the Thinkers50 list, a global ranking described by the Financial Times as “the Oscars of management thinking.”

“By centering women of color, workplaces can begin to tangibly accomplish meaningful inclusion for all. Luckily for us, Tulshyan has written this guidebook to help us get started.”—Ms.

“Tulshyan explores how leaders and organizations can meaningfully foster diversity, equity and inclusion by taking action to address and prevent workplace bias, while centering the workplace experience of women of color, who are subject to both gender and racial bias.”—Publishers Weekly

“With this important book, Tulshyan shows us how we can make progress toward inclusion and diversity—and we must start now.”—Porchlight

“Tulshyan masterfully unmasks the context, cultures, and challenges that women of color uniquely face.”—Tsedal Neeley, Professor, Harvard Business School; author of Remote Work Revolution
From Intention to Impact
A Practical Guide to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
Malia C. Lazu

How business leaders can move their DEI efforts from intention to impact through strategy and culture change.

In the aftermath of George Floyd’s murder, corporate America has doubled down on its public intentions to be more inclusive and equitable. Yet beyond the pledges it is difficult to see which system changes make a real difference. In From Intention to Impact, Malia Lazu draws on her background as a community organizer, her corporate career as a bank president, and now her experience as a leading DEI consultant to explain what has been holding organizations back and what they need to do better. First and foremost, she recognizes that truly moving from intention to impact means targeting and changing the traditions and culture that normalize whiteness.

From Intention to Impact shows what organizations, leaders, and people at all levels must do to create more inclusive environments that honor and value diversity. Lazu shares a seven-stage guide through this process as well as a 3L model of listening, learning, and loving that readers can use from the initial excitement of doing “something” to the frustration when the inevitable pushback comes, and finally to the determination to do the hard work despite the challenges—on corporate and political fronts. Most compelling, From Intention to Impact shows that, while commitment from the top is paramount, for DEI to be most effective, it needs to be decentralized—among managers, within teams, and across the organization.

A crucial read for anyone looking to future-proof their company, From Intention to Impact goes beyond the “feel good” PR-centric actions to showcase the real DEI work that must be done to create true and lasting systemic change.

Malia C. Lazu is an award-winning, tenured strategist in diversity and inclusion and a lecturer in the Technological Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Strategic Management group at the MIT Sloan School of Management. She is former EVP and Regional President of Berkshire Bank and the creator of several accelerators designed to support minority-owned businesses in the Boston area, as well as the consultancy the Lazu Group.

“From Intention to Impact is destined to be an important guide to what might be the most pressing conversation of our time.”
—Louis D. Maiuri, President & Head of Investment Services, State Street Corporation

“At a time, when our history is being erased and rewritten by those who will not take accountability, Lazu brings us a personal journey that is a true legacy of the civil rights movement—showing us how to reclaim our story and move forward.”
—Gina Belafonte, Executive Director, Sankofa.org
The Biology of Kindness
Six Daily Choices for Health, Well-Being, and Longevity
Immaculata De Vivo and Daniel Lumera
translated by Fabio De Vivo

How kindness—and other prosocial behaviors toward others—can help us live longer and healthier lives.

The science is in: Being good is good for you. In this bracingly original book, The Biology of Kindness—the first in a trilogy on the topic of daily wellness—the science of mindfulness and the findings of biology come together to show how kindness and optimism improve overall well-being in profound, organic, and demonstrable ways. Daniel Lumera, an expert in meditation and mindfulness, and Immaculata De Vivo, a preeminent researcher in molecular epidemiology, outline a revolutionary approach to health, longevity, and quality of life—and explain the scientific evidence that supports their work.

Identifying five fundamental values—kindness, optimism, forgiveness, gratitude, and happiness—and describing six essential strategies for cultivating these values—relationships, nutrition, physical activity, meditation, music, and connection with nature—De Vivo and Lumera chart a practical course for pursuing a long, healthy, and happy life. Along the way they provide the scientifi c data that reveal the impact such behavior has on biology, particularly on telomeres, the parts of DNA that serve as biomarkers of aging. While DNA is mostly immutable, telomeres are influenced by our choices, and The Biology of Kindness offers incontrovertible evidence that what is commonly ascribed to “spiritual” well-being has a clear and direct impact on physical health, helping to buffer premature aging and decrease the incidence of chronic disease.

At a time when life seems to be ruled by a desire to get “everything and immediately,” Lumera observes, there is a compelling case to be made for the discipline of devotion, dedication, and passion—for the good of the body as well as the soul.

Immaculata De Vivo is Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School and Professor of Epidemiology at the Harvard School of Public Health. Her research focuses on how genetic variants interact with the environment to influence susceptibility to hormonal cancers, especially endometrial cancer.

Daniel Lumera is an expert in the sciences of well-being and quality of life who studied with Anthony Elenj mittam, the direct disciple of Gandhi. He is the bestselling author of The Cure for Forgiveness: A New Way to Happiness and coauthor of Twenty-One Days to Be Reborn and The Way of Lightness.

“A wonderful book full of fascinating scientific insights explained with great clarity, inspiring us to let kindness reign in our hearts and thus accomplish the twofold benefit of others and oneself.”

—Matthieu Ricard, author of Altruism: The Power of Compassion to Transform Ourselves and the World
Gaia’s Web
How Digital Environmentalism Can Combat Climate Change, Restore Biodiversity, Cultivate Empathy, and Regenerate the Earth
Karen Bakker

A riveting exploration of one of the most important dilemmas of our time: will digital technology accelerate environmental degradation, or could it play a role in ecological regeneration?

At the uncanny edge of the scientific frontier, Gaia’s Web explores the promise and pitfalls the Digital Age holds for the future of our planet. Instead of the Internet of Things, environmental scientist and tech entrepreneur Karen Bakker asks, why not consider the Internet of Living Things? At the surprising and inspiring confluence of our digital and ecological futures, Bakker explores how the tools of the Digital Age could be mobilized to address our most pressing environmental challenges, from climate change to biodiversity loss. Interspersed with ten elegiac, enigmatic parables, each of which is based on an existing technology, Gaia’s Web evokes the conundrums we face as the World Wide Web intertwines with the Web of Life.

A new generation of innovators is deploying digital technology to come to the aid of the planet, using spy satellites to track down environmental criminals, inviting animals to the Metaverse, and biohacking Frankenstein-like biobots as environmental sentinels. But will they end up doing more harm than good? In an engaging take on conservation technology, Bakker looks at the digital tech applications to environmental issues from predatory harvesting of environmental data to human bycatch and eco-surveillance capitalism. If we address these issues and mobilize digitally mediated forms of citizen science, she argues, digital tech could help reverse environmental harms and advance environmental sustainability. And in the process, Big Tech might be transformed for the better.

With its uniquely broad scope—combining insights from computer science, ecology, engineering, environmental science, and environmental law—Gaia’s Web introduces profoundly novel ways of addressing our most pressing environmental challenges—mitigating climate change, protecting endangered species—and creating new possibilities for ecological justice by empowering nonhumans to participate in environmental regulation.

Karen Bakker was a Guggenheim Fellow, Professor at the University of British Columbia, and the Matina S. Horner Distinguished Visiting Professor at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard University. She was the author of The Sounds of Life: How Digital Technology Is Bringing Us Closer to the Worlds of Animals and Plants. She passed away in August 2023.
Crowded Out
The True Costs of Crowdfunding Healthcare
Nora Kenworthy

An eye-opening investigation into charitable crowdfunding for health care in the United States—and the consequences of allowing health care access to be decided by the digital crowd.

Over the past decade, charitable crowdfunding has exploded in popularity across the globe. Sites such as GoFundMe, which now boasts a “global community of over 100 million” users, have transformed the ways we seek and offer help. When faced with crises—particularly medical ones—Americans are turning to online platforms that promise to connect them to the charity of the crowd. What does this new phenomenon reveal about the changing ways we seek and provide health care? In Crowded Out, Nora Kenworthy examines how charitable crowdfunding so quickly overtook public life, where it is taking us, and who gets left behind by this new platformed economy.

Although crowdfunding has become ubiquitous in our lives, it is often misunderstood: rather than a friendly free market “powered by the kindness” of strangers, crowdfunding is powerfully reinforcing inequalities and changing the way Americans think about and access health care. Drawing on extensive research and rich storytelling, Crowded Out demonstrates how crowdfunding for health is fueled by—and further reinforces—financial and moral “toxicities” in market-based health care systems. It offers a unique and distressing look beneath the surface of some of the most popular charitable platforms and helps to foster thoughtful discussions of how we can better respond to health care crises both small and large.

Nora Kenworthy is Associate Professor at the University of Washington Bothell. She is the author and editor of several books, and her writing has appeared in the American Journal of Public Health, Social Science and Medicine, PLOS One, Scientific American, the Washington Post, and the Los Angeles Times.

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The Human Disease
How We Create Pandemics, from Our Bodies to Our Beliefs

Sabrina Sholts
foreword by Lonnie G. Bunch III

How the very fact of being human makes us vulnerable to pandemics—and gives us the power to save ourselves.

The COVID-19 pandemic won’t be our last—because what makes us vulnerable to pandemics also makes us human. That is the uncomfortable but all-too-timely message of *The Human Disease*, which travels through history and around the globe to examine how and why pandemics are an inescapable threat of our own making. Drawing on dozens of disciplines—from medicine, epidemiology, and microbiology to anthropology, sociology, ecology, and neuroscience—as well as a unique expertise in public education about pandemic risks, biological anthropologist Sabrina Sholts identifies the human traits and tendencies that double as pandemic liabilities, from the anatomy that defines us to the misperceptions that divide us.

Weaving together a wealth of personal experiences, scientific findings, and historical stories, Sholts brings dramatic and much-needed clarity to one of the most profound challenges we face as a species. Though the COVID-19 pandemic looms large in Sholts’s account, it is, in fact, just one of the many infectious disease events explored in *The Human Disease*. With its expansive, evolutionary perspective, the book explains how humanity will continue to face new pandemics because *humans cause them*, merely by the fact of who we are. By recognizing our risks, Sholts suggests, we can take actions to reduce them. When the next pandemic happens, and how bad it becomes, are largely within our highly capable human hands—and will be determined by what we do with our extraordinary human brains.

Sabrina Sholts is the curator of biological anthropology at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of Natural History, where she developed the major exhibit *Outbreak: Epidemics in a Connected World*. She has also served as a scientific commissioner for a related exhibition at the Musée des Confluences in Lyon, France.

“COVID-19 taught us how the public health impact of pandemics is only a beginning, as they also affect social stability, the security of nations, and a globalized economy. As a distinguished anthropologist, Dr. Sholts provides a unique perspective on how pandemics cause such dramatic shifts in human activity.”

—Peter Hotez, Texas Children’s Hospital and author of *The Deadly Rise of Anti-Science*
The Value of Values
How Leaders Can Grow Their Businesses and Enhance Their Careers by Doing the Right Thing
Daniel Aronson

A compelling case for how moral values and profitable business can go hand in hand.

Acting on values—doing good for the benefit of all—can substantially benefit the bottom line, but many business leaders mistakenly believe that doing the right thing lowers profits. This belief is the greatest barrier holding businesses back from being more financially and competitively successful—and delivering good for the world. Not only can it be a winning business strategy to act on values, as Daniel Aronson suggests in The Value of Values, but it is also a savvy choice, increasing a company’s power, profit, and competitive advantage—in many cases with little additional investment or risk.

It starts with seeing what others miss. Using extensive research and real-world calculations, Aronson demonstrates that the “submerged value” of initiatives such as taking bold action to combat climate change, helping people find jobs, or creating an open, inclusive work environment is normally four to ten times more than initially believed. Calculating and capturing the true business benefit of acting on values provides a much-needed update to the sustainability and responsibility playbook. Even more important, it shows executives how to harness the value of values to improve profitability, acquire customers, and turbocharge their own careers.

Written by a measurement pioneer and one of the world’s foremost experts on making ethical business count, The Value of Values trains leaders to respond smartly and credibly to today’s challenges, transforming how business can and should be done.

Daniel Aronson is the creator of InVEST, which quantifies value from sustainability and responsibility and has helped clients quantify more than $2 billion in sustainability-driven business value. He is also the creator of Impact Science, Customer Science, Stakeholder Science, and True Plastic Impact.

“This amazing book is loaded with lessons and important ideas! Read it, apply it, and let it change your life.”
—Brian Tracy, speaker, consultant, and author of Eat That Frog

“The Value of Values is a game-changing book that disrupts the notion that values are a luxury rather than a necessity in business. This book is a must-read for leaders who want to create a values-driven organization and unlock its full potential.”
—Marshall Goldsmith, Thinkers50 #1 Executive Coach and New York Times bestselling author of The Earned Life, Triggers, and What Got You Here Won’t Get You There
Decisionscape
How Thinking Like an Artist Can Improve Our Decision Making
Elspeth Kirkman

How thinking like an artist can provide the perspective necessary to make better choices.

“Why are so many of our decisions regrettable, and what can we do about it? Decisionscape maps the surprising ways that our decisions are influenced and how thinking like an artist can help us deliberately arrange our perspective to make better choices. Introducing the concept of a “decisionscape,” Elspeth Kirkman blends art and science with insights from moral philosophy, sports, geopolitics, and elsewhere to explore decision making in a refreshingly original way. A broadly appealing and relatable book, Decisionscape asks us to confront the prejudices, blind spots, and hypocrisy in our day-to-day thinking.

When we make choices, Kirkman explains, we act like an artist arranging objects on a canvas, using our system of perspective to compose a mental representation of the world. This decisionscape includes a foreground and background, a frame, a fixed viewpoint, and outside influences. Organized into four parts that unpack a different facet of the book’s organizing principle, Decisionscape shows how psychological distance dictates what we prioritize and diminish, how the big picture can often look different from its parts, how culture and context frame decisions, and how personal worldviews alter how we interpret information. Complex and timely, Decisionscape addresses one of the most fundamental human experiences: making better decisions to live our best life.

Elspeth Kirkman is Chief Programme Officer at the innovation agency Nesta and a Visiting Senior Research Fellow at King’s College London’s Policy School and Exeter University’s Business School. Working at the intersection of design, data, and experimentation, she is the coauthor of Behavioral Insights (MIT Press).
Juice
A History of Female Ejaculation
Stephanie Haerdle
translated by Elisabeth Lauffer

The fascinating, little-known history of female sex fluids through the millennia.

For over 2000 years, vulval sex fluids were understood to be a natural part of female pleasure, only to become disputed or categorically erased in the twentieth century. Today what do we really know about female ejaculation and squirting? What does the research show, and why are so many details unknown? In Juice, Stephanie Haerdle investigates the cultural history of female genital effluence across the globe and searches for answers as to why female ejaculation—which, according to some reports, is experienced by up to 69 percent of all women and those who have vulvas upon climaxing—has been banished to the margins as just another male sex fantasy. Haerdle charts female juices from the earliest explanations in the erotic writings of China and India, to interpretations of the fluids by physicians, philosophers, and poets in the Middle Ages and early modern period, to their denial, contestation, and suppression in late nineteenth-century Europe. As she shows, the history of ejaculation and squirting is a history of women, their desires, and the worship and denigration of the female body, as well as the cultural concepts of pleasure, sexuality, procreation, the body, masculinity, and femininity. By examining the fantasies and fears that have long accompanied them, Juice restores female gushes to their rightful place in our collective understanding so that they can once again be recognized, named, and experienced.


gender studies | sexuality
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Rebel Health
A Field Guide to the Patient-Led Revolution in Medical Care
Susannah Fox

An action-oriented and radically hopeful field guide to the underground, patient-led revolution for better health and health care.

Anyone who has fallen off the conveyor belt of mainstream health care and into the shadowy corners of illness knows what a dark place it is to land. Where is the infrastructure, the information, the guidance? What should you do next? In Rebel Health, Susannah Fox draws on twenty years of tracking the expert networks of patients, survivors, and caregivers who have come of age between the cracks of the health care system to offer a way forward. Covering everything from diabetes to ALS to Moebius Syndrome to chronic disease management, Fox taps into the wisdom of these individuals, learns their ways, and fuels the rebel alliance that is building up our collective capacity for better health.

Rebel Health shows how the next wave of health innovation will come from the front lines of this patient-led revolution. Fox identifies and describes four archetypes of this revolution: seekers, networkers, solvers, and champions. Each chapter includes tips, such as picking a proxy to help you navigate the relevant online communities, or learning how to pitch new ideas to investors and partners or new treatments to the FDA. On a personal level, anyone who wants to navigate the health care maze faster will want to become a health rebel or recruit some to their team. On a systemic level, it is a competitive advantage for businesses, governments, and organizations to understand and leverage the power of connection among patients, survivors, and caregivers.

Proactive, optimistic, and innovative, Rebel Health is a guiding light for anyone who wishes to join the health rebel alliance and become the hero of their own story.

Susannah Fox helps people navigate health and technology. She served as Chief Technology Officer for the US Department of Health and Human Services, where she led an open data and innovation lab. Prior to that, she was the entrepreneur-in-residence at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and directed the health portfolio at the Pew Research Center's Internet Project.

“Navigating the health care system can feel overwhelming for anyone recently diagnosed with a disease as well as for health care professionals trying to give excellent care to their patients. A revolution is brewing, and no one is more qualified than Susannah Fox to lead it. Rebel Health is an inspiring and empowering field guide for transforming American medicine into true health care. Highly recommended!”
—Dean Ornish, M.D., New York Times bestselling author of UnDo It!

health | medicine | business
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The Blind Spot
Why Science Cannot Ignore Human Experience
Adam Frank, Marcelo Gleiser, and Evan Thompson

A compelling argument for including the human perspective within science, and for how human experience makes science possible.

It’s tempting to think that science gives us a God's-eye view of reality. But we neglect the place of human experience at our peril. In *The Blind Spot*, astrophysicist Adam Frank, theoretical physicist Marcelo Gleiser, and philosopher Evan Thompson call for a revolutionary scientific worldview, where science includes—rather than ignores or tries not to see—humanity’s lived experience as an inescapable part of our search for objective truth.

The authors present science not as discovering an absolute reality but rather as a highly refined, constantly evolving form of human experience. They urge practitioners to reframe how science works for the sake of our future in the face of the planetary climate crisis and increasing science denialism.

Since the dawn of the Enlightenment, humanity has looked to science to tell us who we are, where we come from, and where we’re going, but we’ve gotten stuck thinking we can know the universe from outside our position in it. When we try to understand reality only through external physical things imagined from this outside position, we lose sight of the necessity of experience. This is the Blind Spot, which the authors show lies behind our scientific conundrums about time and the origin of the universe, quantum physics, life, AI and the mind, consciousness, and Earth as a planetary system. The authors propose an alternative vision: scientific knowledge is a self-correcting narrative made from the world and our experience of it evolving together. To finally “see” the Blind Spot is to awaken from a delusion of absolute knowledge and to see how reality and experience intertwine.

*The Blind Spot* goes where no science book goes, urging us to create a new scientific culture that views ourselves both as an expression of nature and as a source of nature’s self-understanding, so that humanity can flourish in the new millennium.

Adam Frank is the Helen F. and Fred H. Gowen Professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Rochester and a winner of the Carl Sagan Medal. He is the author of *Light of the Stars*. Marcelo Gleiser is the Appleton Professor of Natural Philosophy at Dartmouth, the 2019 Templeton Prize laureate, and author of seven widely translated books, most recently *The Dawn of a Mindful Universe*. Evan Thompson is Professor of Philosophy at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. He is the author or coauthor of five books in cognitive science and philosophy.

“We are in a crisis that is global and civilizational in scale and existential. A conceptual transformation is needed. *The Blind Spot* shows us why.”
– Stuart A. Kauffman, author of *A World Beyond Physics* and *At Home in the Universe*
The Chinese Computer
A Global History of the Information Age
Thomas S. Mullaney

The fascinating, untold story of how the Chinese language overcame unparalleled challenges and revolutionized the world of computing.

A standard QWERTY keyboard has a few dozen keys. How can Chinese—a language with tens of thousands of characters and no alphabet—be input on such a device? In *The Chinese Computer*, Thomas Mullaney sets out to resolve this paradox, and in doing so, discovers that the key to this seemingly impossible riddle has given rise to a new epoch in the history of writing—a form of writing he calls “hypography.” Based on 15 years of research, this pathbreaking history of the Chinese language charts the beginnings of electronic Chinese technology in the wake of World War II up through to its many iterations in the present day.

Mullaney takes the reader back through the history and evolution of Chinese language computing technology, showing the development of electronic Chinese input methods—software programs that enable Chinese characters to be produced using alphanumeric symbols—and the profound impact they have had on the way Chinese is written. Along the way, Mullaney introduces a cast of brilliant and eccentric personalities drawn from the ranks of IBM, MIT, the CIA, the Pentagon, the Taiwanese military, and the highest rungs of mainland Chinese establishment, to name a few, and the unexpected roles they played in developing Chinese language computing. Finally, he shows how China and the non-Western world—because of the hypographic technologies they had to invent in order to join the personal computing revolution—“saved” the Western computer from its deep biases, enabling it to achieve a meaningful presence in markets outside of the Americas and Europe.

An eminently engaging and artfully told history, *The Chinese Computer* is a must-read for anyone interested in how culture informs computing and how computing, in turn, shapes culture.

**Also available**

*Tom Mullaney* is Professor of Chinese History at Stanford University and a Guggenheim Fellow. He is the author of *The Chinese Typewriter: A History, Where Research Begins*, and *Coming to Terms with the Nation: Ethnic Classification in Modern China*.

*technology*

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Mortevivum
Photography and the Politics of the Visual
Kimberly Juanita Brown

A powerful examination of the unsettling history of photography and its fraught relationship to global antiblackness.

Since photography’s invention, black life has been presented as fraught, short, agonizingly filled with violence, and indifferent to intervention: living death—mortevivum—in a series of still frames that refuse a complex humanity. In *Mortevivum*, Kimberly Juanita Brown shows us how the visual logic of documentary photography and the cultural legacy of empire have come together to produce the understanding that blackness and suffering—and death—are inextricable.

Brown traces this idea from the earliest images of the enslaved to the latest newspaper photographs of black bodies, from the United States and South Africa to Haiti and Rwanda, documenting the enduring, pernicious connection between photography and a global history of antiblackness.

Photography’s history, inextricably linked to colonialism and white supremacy, is a catalog of othering, surveillance, and the violence of objectification. In the genocide in Rwanda, for instance, photographs after the fact tell viewers that blackness comes with a corresponding violence that no human intervention can abate. In Haiti, the first black republic in the Western Hemisphere, photographic “evidence” of its sovereign failure suggests that the formerly enslaved cannot overthrow their masters and survive to tell the tale. And in South Africa and the United States, a loop of racial violence reminds black subjects of their lower-class status mandated via the state. Illustrating the global nature of antiblackness that pervades photographic archives of the present and the past, *Mortevivum* reveals how we live in a repetition of imagery signaling who lives and who dies on a gelatin silver print—on a page in a book, on the cover of newspaper, and in the memory of millions.

Kimberly Juanita Brown is the inaugural director of the Institute for Black Intellectual and Cultural Life at Dartmouth College where she is also Associate Professor of English and creative writing. She is the author of *The Repeating Body: Slavery’s Visual Resonance in the Contemporary*.

“Cogent, beautifully conceived and written, and utterly convincing, *Mortevivum* is an instruction, like the poetry of Clifton and Tretheway, in how one might stay with and make present the black living and the dead. . . . This is the book I have been waiting for.”
—Christina Sharpe, Canada Research Chair in Black Studies in the Humanities at York University, Toronto, and author of *Ordinary Notes*

“*Mortevivum* charts a path for us to read, see, feel, think and look more intelligently—from the slurred violences of the visuality commonly fit to print, to the possibility of blurs that reflect our interior lives while leaving room for the exigencies of movement, stillness, and time.”
—Kevin Quashie, Brown University, author of *Black Aliveness, or a Poetics of Being*
We are so much more than the way we are imagined by others.

There are one million stories for every photograph we have not seen.

Figure 1.2 Gordon Parks, Outside Looking In; Mobile, Alabama, 1956 (printed 2012), High Museum of Art, Atlanta. Courtesy of the Gordon Parks Foundation.

Announcing the new On Seeing series

ON SEEING

In response to the need for diverse perspectives on the growing impact of visual culture, the MIT Press began work on a new book series in 2018. Conceived over several years of research and intensive discussion with international scholars, the On Seeing series emerged with a commitment to increase visual literacy.

In 2022, the MIT Press and Brown University Digital Publications announced a partnership to launch the series with inclusivity and access as driving motivations. Books in the On Seeing visual culture series are published in print and open access, media-rich digital editions to serve the widest possible audience.

Defined by rigorous research, bold positions, and cultural relevance, On Seeing publications shape new conversations about how we see, comprehend, and participate in visual culture, and how we can do so with informed agency. The diverse authors of On Seeing investigate the ways that power relations are inscribed in the visual, and they develop knowledge about how what we see—and what remains hidden from view—is related to justice.

Founding Organizers:
Victoria Hindley, Commissioning Editor, MIT Press
and Allison Levy, Director, Brown University Digital Publications

Editorial Collective:
Shahzad Bashir, Lisa Cartwright, Stefanie Hessler, Trica Keaton
The Secret Life of Data
Navigating Hype and Uncertainty in the Age of Algorithmic Surveillance

Aram Sinnreich and Jesse Gilbert

How data surveillance, digital forensics, and generative AI pose new long-term threats and opportunities—and how we can use them to make better decisions in the face of technological uncertainty.

In *The Secret Life of Data*, Aram Sinnreich and Jesse Gilbert explore the many unpredictable, and often surprising, ways in which data surveillance, AI, and the constant presence of algorithms impact our culture and society in the age of global networks. The authors build on this basic premise: no matter what form data takes, and what purpose we think it’s being used for, data will always have a secret life. How this data will be used, by other people in other times and places, has profound implications for every aspect of our lives—from our intimate relationships to our professional lives to our political systems.

With the secret uses of data in mind, Sinnreich and Gilbert interview dozens of experts to explore a broad range of scenarios and contexts—from the playful to the profound to the problematic. Unlike most books about data and society that focus on the short-term effects of our immense data usage, *The Secret Life of Data* focuses primarily on the long-term consequences of humanity’s recent rush toward digitizing, storing, and analyzing every piece of data about ourselves and the world we live in. The authors advocate for “slow fixes” regarding our relationship to data, such as creating new laws and regulations, ethics and aesthetics, and models of production for our data-fied society.

Cutting through the hype and hopelessness that so often inform discussions of data and society, *The Secret Life of Data* clearly and straightforwardly demonstrates how readers can play an active part in shaping how digital technology influences their lives and the world at large.

Aram Sinnreich is an author, professor, and musician. He is Chair of Communication Studies at American University. His books include *Mashed Up*, *The Piracy Crusade*, *The Essential Guide to Intellectual Property*, and *A Second Chance for Yesterday* (published as R. A. Sinn). Jesse Gilbert is an interdisciplinary artist exploring the intersection of visual art, sound, and software design at his firm Dark Matter Media. He was the founding Chair of the Media Technology department at Woodbury University, and he has taught interactive software design at both CalArts and UC San Diego.

popular science | technology
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Information Society series
Counting Feminicide
Data Feminism in Action
Catherine D'Ignazio

Why grassroots data activists in Latin America count feminicide—and how this vital social justice work challenges mainstream data science.

What isn’t counted doesn’t count. And mainstream institutions systematically fail to account for feminicide, the gender-related killing of women and girls, including cisgender and transgender women. Against this failure, Counting Feminicide brings to the fore the work of data activists across the Americas who are documenting such murders—and challenging the reigning logic of data science by centering care, memory, and justice in their work.

Drawing on Data Against Feminicide, a large-scale collaborative research project, Catherine D’Ignazio describes the creative, intellectual, and emotional labor of feminicide data activists who are at the forefront of a data ethics that rigorously and consistently takes power and people into account.

Individuals, researchers, and journalists—these data activists scour news sources to assemble spreadsheets and databases of women killed by gender-related violence, then circulate those data in a variety of creative and political forms. Their work reveals the potential of restorative transformative data science—the use of systematic information to, first, heal communities from the violence and trauma produced by structural inequality, and second, to envision and work towards the world in which such violence has been eliminated.

Specifically, D’Ignazio explores the possibilities and limitations of counting and quantification—reducing complex social phenomena to convenient, sortable, aggregable forms—when the goal is nothing short of the elimination of gender-related violence.

Counting Feminicide showcases the incredible power of data feminism in practice, in which each murdered woman or girl counts, and, in being counted, joins a collective demand for the restoration of rights and a transformation of the gendered order of the world.

Catherine D'Ignazio is Associate Professor of Urban Science and Planning in the Department of Urban Studies and Planning at MIT. She is the coauthor, with Lauren F. Klein, of Data Feminism (MIT Press).
The Science of Weird Shit
Why Our Minds Conjure the Paranormal

Chris French
foreword by Richard Wiseman

An accessible and satisfying introduction to the world of paranormal beliefs and bizarre experiences.

Ghostly encounters, alien abduction, reincarnation, talking to the dead, UFO sightings, inexplicable coincidences, out-of-body and near-death experiences. Are these legitimate phenomena? If not, then how should we go about understanding them? In this fascinating book, Chris French investigates paranormal claims to discover what lurks behind this “weird shit.” French provides authoritative evidence-based explanations for a wide range of superficially mysterious phenomena, and then goes further to draw out lessons with wider applications to many other aspects of modern society where critical thinking is urgently needed.

Using academic, comprehensive, logical, and, at times, mathematical approaches, *The Science of Weird Shit* convincingly debunks ESP, communicating with the dead, and alien abduction claims, among other phenomena. All the while, however, French maintains that our belief in such phenomena is neither ridiculous nor trivial; if anything, such claims can tell us a great deal about the human mind if we pay them the attention they are due. Filled with light-bulb moments and a healthy dose of levity, *The Science of Weird Shit* is a clever, memorable, and satisfying read you won’t soon forget.

Chris French is Emeritus Professor and Head of the Anomalistic Psychology Research Unit in the Psychology Department at Goldsmiths, University of London. He is a Fellow of the British Psychological Society and of the Committee for Skeptical Inquiry and a Patron of Humanists UK. He is the coauthor of *Anomalistic Psychology: Exploring Paranormal Belief and Experience*.
Psychedelics
A Visual Odyssey
Erika Dyck

A gorgeously illustrated journey through psychedelics and their global history that explores how psychedelic visions have inspired and given meaning to humans throughout time.

Interest in psychedelics has grown considerably in recent years—one might even say psychedelics are experiencing a renaissance. But these mind-altering plants have always been with us. They have a rich and controversial history, in fact: plumbed from the depths of ancient Greek culture, infused with Christian symbols of sacrament, enriched by Buddhist philosophies, protected through Indigenous ceremonies, and, by the latter part of the twentieth century, catapulted into cultural consciousness through science, music, posters, blotter art, and fashion. In Psychedelics: A Visual Odyssey, Erika Dyck takes readers on an epic visual trip through some of the diverse ways that our fascination with psychedelics have been imagined throughout history.

Blending academic rigor with rich imagery from around the globe, Psychedelics goes beyond the expected terrain of describing hallucinations. It reveals not only how psychedelic plants have been illustrated and understood, but also how these plants and chemical synthetics have inspired visual representations of health, fear, peace, colonial resistance, creativity, and more. A stunningly beautiful and comprehensive deep dive into the world of psychedelics, Psychedelics: A Visual Odyssey will inspire everyone from the curious general reader to the seasoned psychonaut.

Erika Dyck is Professor and Canada Research Chair in the History of Health & Social Justice at the University of Saskatchewan. She is the author of Psychedelic Psychiatry and Facing Eugenics; coauthor of Managing Madness, Challenging Choices, and The Acid Room; and coeditor of Psychedelic Prophets, A Culture’s Catalyst, Wonder Drug, and Expanding Mindscapes. She is also a Board Member of Chacruna Institute for Psychedelic Plant Medicines.

“Presented against a backdrop of thrilling, often mind-blowing image and archive curation, Erika Dyck’s streamlined survey of psychedelic history is nuanced, wise and elegantly balanced, illuminating new pathways, fresh perspectives and neglected personalities along what might otherwise have been a familiar journey.”
—Mark Pilkington, author of Mirage Men and editor of Strange Attractor Journal

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The Inhumans and Other Stories
A Selection of Bengali Science Fiction
edited by Bodhisattva Chattopadhyay
translated by Bodhisattva Chattopadhyay

The first English translation of a cult science fiction favorite by Hemendra Kumar Roy, one of the giants of early Bangla literature, and other sf stories from the colonial period in India.

Kalpavigyan—science fiction written to excite Bengali speakers about science, as well as to persuade them to evolve beyond the limitations of religion, caste, and class—became popular in the early years of the twentieth century. Translated into English for the first time, in this collection you’ll discover The Inhumans (1935), Hemendrakumar Roy’s satirical novella about a lost race of Bengali supermen in Uganda. Also included are, Jagadananda Ray’s “Voyage to Venus” (1895), Nanigopal Majumdar’s “The Mystery of the Giant” (1931), and Manoranjan Bhattacharya’s “The Martian Purana” (1931).

Bodhisattva Chattopadhyay is Associate Professor in Global Culture Studies at the University of Oslo. He is the leader of CoFUTURES, an international research group on contemporary futurisms headquartered in Oslo. He is a World Fantasy Award–winning editor, translator, writer, and critic of speculative fiction, and the producer of Kalpavigyan: A Speculative Journey, the first documentary film on Indian science fiction.

Man’s World
Charlotte Haldane
introduction by Philippa Levine

In a eugenics-driven future society, will one young woman’s defiance make a difference?

In the not-too-distant future, England’s population quality and quantity are under scientific control: Only those deemed the fittest are permitted to procreate. Women are groomed to be “vocationa mothers”—or else sterilized and put to other uses. Written by an author married to one of the world’s most prominent eugenics advocates, this ambivalent adventure anticipates both Brave New World and The Handmaid’s Tale. When a young woman rebels against her conditioning, can she break free?

Charlotte Haldane (1894–1969) was a journalist who advocated for divorce reform and married women’s employment... while also idealizing motherhood. In 1926, the year that Man’s World was published, she married the eminent biologist J. B. S. Haldane. Her 1927 book, Motherhood and Its Enemies, made a progressive argument for easier access to contraceptives for women, while enraged feminists by arguing that only after having borne children could a woman be regarded as “normal.” She went on to found the Science News Service, and reported on World War II from the Russian Front.

Covers by Seth

Radium Age Series

Under the direction of Joshua Glenn, the MIT Press’s Radium Age reissues notable proto-science fiction stories from the underappreciated era between 1900 and 1935, with new contributions by historians, science journalists, and science fiction authors.
“Helps to tell a story of Black American literature that reflects the infinite number of ways of being Black in America—and of being in the world.”

— New York Times on Of One Blood

“Lovingly curated… The series’ freedom from genre purism lets us see how a specific set of anxieties—channeled through dystopias, Lovecraftian horror, arch social satire, and adventure tales—spurred literary experimentation and the bending of conventions.”

— Los Angeles Review of Books
A Darwinian Survival Guide
Hope for the Twenty-First Century
Daniel R. Brooks and Salvatore J. Agosta

How humanity brought about the climate crisis by departing from its evolutionary trajectory 15,000 years ago—and how we can use evolutionary principles to save ourselves from the worst outcomes.

Despite efforts to sustain civilization, humanity faces existential threats from overpopulation, globalized trade and travel, urbanization, and global climate change. In *A Darwinian Survival Guide*, Daniel Brooks and Salvatore Agosta offer a novel—and hopeful—perspective on how to meet these tremendous challenges by changing the discourse from sustainability to survival. Darwinian evolution, the world’s only theory of survival, is the means by which the biosphere has persisted and renewed itself following past environmental perturbations, and it has never failed, they explain. Even in the aftermath of mass extinctions, enough survivors remain with the potential to produce a new diversified biosphere.

Drawing on their expertise as field biologists, Brooks and Agosta trace the evolutionary path from the early days of humans through the Late Pleistocene and the beginning of the Anthropocene all the way to the Great Acceleration of technological humanity around 1950, demonstrating how our creative capacities have allowed humanity to survive. However, constant conflict without resolution has made the Anthropocene not only unsustainable, but unsurvivable. Guided by the four laws of biotics, the authors explain how humanity should interact with the rest of the biosphere and with each other in accordance with Darwinian principles. They reveal a middle ground between apocalypse and utopia, with two options: alter our behavior now at great expense and extend civilization or fail to act and rebuild in accordance with those same principles. If we take the latter, then our immediate goal ought to focus on preserving as many of humanity’s positive achievements—from high technology to high art—as possible to shorten the time needed to rebuild.

“"A sweeping retrospective on the evolution of humankind and a manifesto for how we might live in the post-Anthropocene.”
—Marcia Bjornerud, Professor of Geosciences, Lawrence University; author of *Timefulness*

“A wondrously honest, fundamentally optimistic book that shows how, if enough of us adapt, humanity will survive. No book I know has put its case so well and so convincingly.”
—Andrew Sheng, Distinguished Fellow, Asia Global Institute, University of Hong Kong

Daniel R. Brooks is Professor Emeritus, University of Toronto, Senior Research Fellow, H. W. Manter Laboratory of Parasitology, University of Nebraska State Museum, and Fellow of the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study (STIAS). He is the coauthor of *The Stockholm Paradigm* and *The Major Metaphors of Evolution*. Salvatore J. Agosta is Associate Professor at Virginia Commonwealth University and Fellow of the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study. He is the author of more than fifty scientific publications and coauthor of *The Major Metaphors of Evolution: Darwinism Then and Now*. 

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The AI Playbook
Mastering the Rare Art of Machine Learning Deployment
Eric Siegel

In his bestselling first book, Eric Siegel explained how machine learning works. Now, in The AI Playbook, he shows how to capitalize on it.

The greatest tool is the hardest to use. Machine learning is the world’s most important general-purpose technology—but it’s notoriously difficult to launch. Outside Big Tech and a handful of other leading companies, machine learning initiatives routinely fail to deploy, never realizing value. What’s missing? A specialized business practice suitable for wide adoption.

In The AI Playbook, bestselling author Eric Siegel presents the gold-standard, six-step practice for ushering machine learning projects from conception to deployment. He illustrates the practice with stories of success and of failure, including revealing case studies from UPS, FICO, and prominent dot-coms. This disciplined approach serves both sides: It empowers business professionals, and it establishes a sorely needed strategic framework for data professionals.

Beyond detailing the practice, this book also upskills business professionals—painlessly. It delivers a vital yet friendly dose of semi-technical background knowledge that all stakeholders need to lead or participate in machine learning projects, end to end. This puts business and data professionals on the same page so that they can collaborate deeply, jointly establishing precisely what machine learning is called upon to predict, how well it predicts, and how its predictions are acted upon to improve operations. These essentials make or break each initiative—getting them right paves the way for machine learning’s value-driven deployment.

A note from the author:
What kind of AI does this book cover? The buzzword AI can mean many things, but this book is about machine learning, which is a central basis for—and what many mean by—AI. To be specific, this book covers the most vital use cases of machine learning, those designed to improve a wide range of business operations.

Eric Siegel is a leading consultant and former Columbia University and UVA Darden professor. He is the founder of the long-running Machine Learning Week conference series, a frequent keynote speaker, and author of the bestselling Predictive Analytics: The Power to Predict Who Will Click, Buy, Lie, or Die.

“This book is the driver’s manual for machine learning—every business and analytics professional should read it.”
—Morgan Vawter, Global VP Data & Analytics, Unilever

“The ultimate blueprint for tapping machine learning’s full potential.”
—Andy Gray, Data & Tech Advisory Director, Deloitte

“An antidote to today’s relentless AI hype—why some AI initiatives thrive while others fail and what it takes for companies and people to succeed.”
—Charles Duhigg, author of bestsellers The Power of Habit and Smarter Faster Better
Job Crafting
Benjamin Laker, Lebene Soga, Yemisi Bolade-Ogunfodun, and Adeyinka Adewale

A practical and timely guide that shows employees how to craft the jobs they want and managers how to shape their organizations in ways that are conducive to such job crafting. "Job Crafting" is a rigorous, modern take on job redesign that empowers workers to transform the jobs they have into the ones they want. Through the process of job crafting, a worker proactively alters their job to emphasize tasks that better align with their skills or that allow opportunities to learn new skills, with the help of executives who are willing to transform their organizations into supportive work environments. Offering practical guidance grounded in original empirical evidence, British researcher Benjamin Laker and coauthors Lebene Soga, Yemisi Bolade-Ogunfodun, and Adeyinka Adewale describe the steps necessary for businesses and organizations to facilitate that support.

Based on thousands of interviews with staff and leaders at such Fortune 500 firms as Apple and Microsoft, the authors' clear, four-step framework shows managers how to maximize staff engagement and productivity by building the systems, structures, and processes that empower workers to job craft. As new principles of stewardship, authenticity, and empowerment redefine the old command-and-control leadership approach, and generations Y and Z seek autonomy and purpose at work, job crafting offers a potential silver bullet to many workforce problems. Aimed at managers, executives, scholars, and executive education students, "Job Crafting" rejuvenates discussions of job design, leaving readers informed and ready to discuss how to improve their performance and satisfaction in all sectors.

Benjamin Laker is a former government adviser turned scholar who is currently serving as Professor of Leadership at Henley Business School, University of Reading, and Visiting Fellow at Birkbeck, University of London. Lebene Richmond Soga is Professor of Entrepreneurship and Management Practice at Leeds Business School, Leeds Beckett University, a Senior Fellow of the UK Higher Education Academy and a multi-award-winning academic. Yemisi Bolade-Ogunfodun is Associate Professor in Organisational Behaviour at the Global Business School for Health, University College London, as well as a Senior Fellow of the UK Higher Education Academy. Adeyinka Adewale is Associate Professor of Leadership Ethics and Entrepreneurship, and Director of Studies at Henley Business School, University of Reading. He is the founder of Africa Social Innovators' Network.

Rather than passively receive job titles and role descriptions, job crafters harness meaning at work through three primary avenues:

- exercising greater control over tasks,
- determining the way tasks are perceived, and
- shaping social context.

business
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Management on the Cutting Edge series
Leadership as Masterpiece Creation
What Leaders Can Learn from the Humanities
Charles Spinosa, Matthew Hancocks, and Haridimos Tsoukas

How leaders can take the moral risks necessary to create “masterpieces”—admirable, distinctive, and high-achieving businesses that create meaningful lives for customers, employees, and themselves.

In Leadership as Masterpiece Creation, Charles Spinosa, Matthew Hancocks, and Haridimos Tsoukas show how the humanities can help leaders create profitable, masterpiece organizations. Such organizations, they assert, are ones that possess the emotional and moral sensibilities of an artist, the wisdom of a statesperson, and the technical know-how of commerce. The authors draw on the works of Nietzsche, Heidegger, Bernard Williams, Shakespeare, and Machiavelli to conceptualize moral risk-taking, and then on the actions of Churchill, Madam C. J. Walker, Anita Roddick, Jeff Bezos, and others to show how the humanities can help create admirable businesses today.

As management consultants and educators steeped in the humanities themselves, the authors discuss their experiences helping business leaders achieve successful masterpieces that bring good lives to many. After describing our contemporary business environment and examples of leaders who have created masterpiece organizations, the book turns to the basic skills of masterpiece creation: managing moods, building trust, listening for difference, and speaking truth to power. Then come the senior skills: moral risk-taking and creating a masterpiece organizational culture, strategy, and leadership style. Last, the authors explain why their leaders build an economy of gratitude.

A culturally ambitious and refreshing read, Leadership as Masterpiece Creation is an invaluable volume for leaders of every stripe who wish to act daily with moral imagination.

Charles Spinosa is a management consultant with more than 25 years of experience. His consulting portfolio ranges from start-ups to Global 1000 companies. He is coauthor of Disclosing New Worlds (MIT Press). Matthew Hancocks has over 25 years of consulting and coaching experience for growth businesses and market leaders from biotech to wind farms, insurance to logistics, and national heritage to temporary staffing. Haridimos Tsoukas is Columbia Ship Management Professor of Strategic Management, University of Cyprus, and Distinguished Research Environment Professor of Organization Studies at Warwick Business School, University of Warwick. He is the author of Philosophical Organization Theory.
Mysteries of the Deep
How Seafloor Drilling Expeditions Revolutionized Our Understanding of Earth History
James Lawrence Powell

A groundbreaking chronicle of scientific ocean drilling—a crowning achievement of the twentieth century—and how it shaped our knowledge of Earth’s past.

Under the radar—or, rather, sonar—of most people and many scientists, for the last six decades ships have plied the world’s oceans, mining the seafloor for its secrets—and quietly resolving confounding geological mysteries. Continental drift and plate tectonics. The origin of the Hawai’ian Islands. The erstwhile disappearance of the Mediterranean. The mystery of the ice ages. All are part of the story told by deep-sea drilling—and chapters in the history that unfolds in Mysteries of the Deep. In a series of vignettes ranging from the voyage of the HMS Challenger in the 1870s to the adventures of research ship Chikyū in the 2020s, James Powell recounts the surprises the seafloor has yielded to the probing of scientists.

The mysteries uncovered by deep-sea drilling, and covered by Powell in this eye-opening book, are many and various, often surprising and sometimes alarming—consequential not just for the science of the seafloor, but for how we learn about our planet’s past and what we can do about its future.

James Powell is a retired geologist and university administrator. He is the author of several books, including The Inquisition of Climate Science and The 2084 Report: An Oral History of the Great Warming.

With a global, sometimes even extraterrestrial scope and a scientific reach that extends to every corner of geology and astrobiology, Powell’s work recounts how cores extracted from the ocean floor have:

• produced insights into microbial life on Mars and the end of dinosaurs’ tenure on Earth
• demonstrated that astronomical cycles control many geological events, and even human evolution
• used a past episode of global warming to reveal the peril of high temperatures today
• shown that global warming could melt enough Antarctic ice to drown the seacoasts
Splinters of Infinity
Cosmic Rays and the Clash of Two Nobel Prize–Winning Scientists over the Secrets of Creation
Mark Wolverton

The riveting story of a modern age scientific feud between two Nobel Prize-winning scientists over the nature of cosmic rays and the universe.

Set in a revolutionary era of physics and science when a series of rapid-fire discoveries was upending our understanding of the universe, Splinters of Infinity by Mark Wolverton tells a little-known story: the tale of two of America’s foremost physicists, Robert Millikan (1868–1953) and Arthur Compton (1892–1962), who found themselves locked in an intense, often deeply personal, conflict about cosmic rays. Confirmed in 1912, cosmic rays—enigmatic forms of penetrating radiation—seemed to raise all new questions about the origins of the universe, but they also offered the potential to explain everything—or reveal the existence of God.

In engaging, accessible prose, Wolverton takes the reader through the twists and turns of the Millikan-Compton debate, one of the first major public examples of how heated the controversies among scientists could become—and the lengths that scientists would go to settle their disputes. What set them apart, at least in most cases, Wolverton shows, was their ability to concentrate finally on what mattered: the science. Along the way, Wolverton probes the forever elusive question, still unanswered today, about where cosmic rays come from and what they reveal about black holes, distant galaxies, the existence of dark matter and dark energy, and the birth of the universe, concluding that these splinters of infinity may not hold the keys to the secret of creation but do bring us ever closer to it.

Mark Wolverton is the author of Nuclear Weapons (MIT Press); Burning the Sky: Operation Argus and the Untold Story of the Cold War Nuclear Tests in Outer Space; A Life in Twilight: The Final Years of J. Robert Oppenheimer; The Depths of Space: The Story of the Pioneer Planetary Probes; and The Science of Superman.

physics | astronomy
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Designed for Success
Better Living and Self-Improvement with Midcentury Instructional Records

Janet Borgerson and Jonathan Schroeder

A charmingly illustrated history of midcentury instructional records and their untold contribution to the American narrative of self-improvement, aspiration, and success.

For the midcentury Americans who wished to better their golf game through hypnosis, teach their parakeet to talk, or achieve sexual harmony in their marriage, the answers lay no further than the record player. In Designed for Success, Janet Borgerson and Jonathan Schroeder shed light on these endeareingly earnest albums that contributed to a powerful American vision of personal success. Rescued from charity shops, record store cast-off bins, or forgotten boxes in attics and basements, these educational records reveal the American consumers’ rich but sometimes surprising relationship to advertising, self-help, identity construction, and even aspects of transcendentalist thought.

Relegated to obscurity and novelty, instructional records such as Secrets of Successful Varmint Calling, You Be a Disc Jockey, and How to Ski (A Living-Room Guide for Beginners) offer distinct insights into midcentury media production and consumption. Tracing the history of instructional records from the inception of the recording industry to the height of their popularity, Borgerson and Schroeder offer close readings of the abundant topics covered by “designed for success” records. Complemented by over a hundred full-color illustrations, Designed for Success is a wonderfully nostalgic tour that showcases the essential role these vinyl records played as an unappreciated precursor to contemporary do-it-yourself culture and modern conceptions of self-improvement.

Janet Borgerson is the Senior Wicklander Fellow at DePaul University. Jonathan Schroeder is the William A. Kern Professor in the School of Communication, Rochester Institute of Technology. Borgerson and Schroeder are coauthors of Designed for Hi-Fi Living: The Vinyl LP in Midcentury America, named a best book of 2017 by the Financial Times and a best music book of 2017 by Vinyl Factory, and Designed for Dancing: How Midcentury Records Taught America to Dance (both MIT Press).

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978-0-262-04883-5
Ridykes’ Cavern of Fine Inverted Wines and Deviant Videos
Nicole Eisenman and A. L. Steiner

The first exhibition catalogue of the acclaimed queer, feminist curatorial initiative Ridykeulous, marking the occasion of their first institutional presentation in Europe at Nottingham Contemporary.

Founded in 2005, Ridykeulous mounts exhibitions and events primarily concerned with queer and feminist art. This publication will be the first exhibition catalogue by Ridykeulous, joined by Sam Roeck, and will accompany the fall 2023 exhibition Ridykes’ Cavern of Fine Inverted Wines and Deviant Videos at Nottingham Contemporary. With newly commissioned texts by writer and performer Laurie Weeks and Alexandro Segade of the artist collective My Barbarian, the catalogue will be complemented by a conversation between Ridykeulous members Nicole Eisenman and A. L. Steiner, providing insights into the collective’s thinking, politics, behind-the-scenes notations, and methods of exploration, as well as an introduction by Nottingham Contemporary's Chief Curator Nicole Yip.

Using humor to critique the art world and heteropatriarchal culture at-large, Ridykeulous often reinvents language to reflect their sensibilities and concerns—composing communiqués, screeds, and diatribes across various media. The exhibition features an intergenerational mix of 30 contemporary visual artists working across film, video installation, sculpture, and performance. Playfully proposing queer fabulosity as a critical intervention in the capitalist spectacle, the exhibition seeks to erode the secondary positioning of LGBTQ+ art and artists as “alternative.” Designed by the Zürich-based Studio Marie Lusa, the publication will evoke the textual feeling of a zine, with over 100 full-color and black-and-white image plates.

Nicole Eisenman is a painter and sculptor. She is a MacArthur Foundation Fellow and was inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Letters in 2018. Her work was included in the 2019 Venice Biennale, 2019 Whitney Biennial, and 2017 Skulptur Projekte Münster. A. L. Steiner is an artist as well as Senior Critic and Director of Galleries and Exhibitions at Yale University’s School of Art. She is featured in permanent collections such as The Museum of Modern Art, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Hammer Museum, among others.

art
February | 9 1/2 x 12, 120 pp. | 150 color illus.
US $39.95T/$53.95 CAN paperback
978-0-262-54747-5
Devotion
Garrett Bradley

A beautifully illustrated book-length publication on the contemporary artist and Academy Award–nominated filmmaker Garrett Bradley, whose quietly devastating work blurs the space between fact and fiction.

Garrett Bradley works across narrative, documentary, and experimental modes of filmmaking to address themes such as race, class, familial relationships, social justice, and cultural histories in the United States. Her collaborative and research-based approach to filmmaking is often inspired by the real-life stories of her protagonists. This book explores the many varied themes of Bradley’s work and features interviews and conversations with, as well as commissioned essays from, Tina Campt, Josie Roland Hodson, Ashley Clark, and Kevin Quashie. This is the first volume in a new series of readers co-published with Lisson Gallery entitled Re:, which will respond or refer back to a number of its artists and themes past and present.

Adopting archival material alongside newly shot footage, Bradley’s films exist simultaneously in the past, present, and future, not only disrupting our perception of time, but also breaking down our preconceived ideas about objectivity, perspective, and truth-telling. These narratives unfold naturally in both feature-length and short form, rather than force themselves into a singular definition or perspective, and consequently reveal the characters’ multifaceted individual and collective stories. Bradley’s rigorous explorations of the social, economic, and racial politics of everyday life—its joys, pleasures, and pains—are lyrically and intimately rendered on screen.

Garrett Bradley is an artist and filmmaker. Her Academy Award–nominated documentary Time (2020) was nominated for over 57 awards and won a Peabody Award as well as Best Director at the 2020 Sundance Film Festival, making her the first Black woman to win Best Director. Her debut feature was included in President Barack Obama’s “Favorite Films list,” as well as Time’s “25 Defining Works of the Black Renaissance” and their annual “Best 100 Films of the Century.”

art | film studies
February | 6 1/4 x 9, 196 pp. | 100 color illus.
US $29.95T/$39.95 CAN cloth
978-0-262-04879-8
A richly illustrated history of a single building, the celebrated and yet enigmatic penthouse of the wealthy playboy Charles de Beistegui, designed by Le Corbusier and Pierre Jeanneret in late 1920s Paris.

What does it take to build not only a house but a machine for amusement? In *Machine à Amuser*, Wim van den Bergh chronicles the genesis of the famous penthouse of French-born Mexican millionaire bachelor Charles de Beistegui. The penthouse was planned and constructed by Le Corbusier & Pierre Jeanneret and built on a rooftop site on the Champs-Élysées between 1929–1932. Retracing the evolution of this icon of modern architecture from the initial competition between Gabriel Guevrekian, André Lurçat, and Le Corbusier & Pierre Jeanneret up to the executed version, van den Bergh tells the story of a client’s ambition to build a house devoted to entertaining on one of the most well-heeled streets of Paris.

*Machine à Amuser* also examines the cultural milieu of artists and patrons that surrounded Beistegui and which ultimately determined the apartment’s conception and use, including its rococo and surrealist-inspired interior decor. Drawing on a panoply of archival material, van den Bergh narrates the tensions that arose between client and architects as each vied for creative control of the project. As the book shows, while Le Corbusier, with his cousin Pierre Jeanneret, remained the official architects of the penthouse, its famed interior was ultimately designed by the client, Charles de Beistegui.

An account of a single building beloved by architects and architectural historians, *Machine à Amuser* tells a story that has never been told before. Van den Bergh redresses this lacuna in rich detail, revealing the history of the Beistegui penthouse, the evolution of the project, and its eventual erasure from the roofscapes of Paris.

Wim van den Bergh is Emeritus Professor of Housing and Design at the RWTH Aachen University, Germany.
Something Completely Different
Architecture in Belgium
Christophe van Gerrewey

How architecture in Belgium, from its very beginnings, has epitomized modernity and singularity.

Since the foundation of the country in 1830, architecture in Belgium has been an expression of the key issues of modern Western societies. In Something Completely Different, Christophe Van Gerrewey uses this small European country as a case study to describe, interpret, and criticize more universal spatial problems and behaviors. In seven wide-ranging essays, he looks at the activities of architects from the past two centuries to better understand political evolutions, social gaps, aesthetic considerations, housing and planning, transport and infrastructure, order and chaos, and culture and ecology. The result is a literary text full of surprises and discoveries, showing both the shortcomings and the merits of what architects do.

Written as a kind of anti-guidebook, Something Completely Different appropriates certain clichés about Belgium (Baudelaire famously called Belgian monuments “counterfeits of France”), eschews the pragmatism of most guidebooks in favor of meditative, essayistic prose, and finally, cunningly, reveals that all along the subject has not been Belgium at all, but rather the nature of architecture.


architecture
July | 6 1/4 x 9 1/2, 320 pp. | 76 color illus., 19 b&w illus.
US $39.95T/$53.95 CAN paperback
978-0-262-54751-2
Double Vision
The Cinema of Robert Beavers
Rebekah Rutkoff

A lavishly illustrated inside account of one of avant-garde film’s most original outsiders, the filmmaker Robert Beavers.

Double Vision is a beautifully written work of biography and criticism that tells the inside story of Robert Beavers (b. 1949), a major American avant-garde filmmaker. Until now, Beavers’s dramatic life of itinerant self-imposed exile and resistance to commercial circulation has obscured his recognition as one of today’s most significant living filmmakers. In Double Vision, Rebekah Rutkoff—the first scholar to have full access to Beavers’s writing archive—pulls back the curtain to shed light on this deeply original underground figure and reveal the way Beavers’s films explore non-optical seeing—awareness itself—as an outcome of cinematic sight.

Born in the United States, Beavers moved to Europe as a teenager with his partner, filmmaker Gregory Markopoulos, in 1967. Over the following decades, he developed a unique cinematic language that fuses spiritual aims with cultural critique and braids domestic and erotic self-portraiture with studies of colored light and his own filmmaking process. Rutkoff uses the concept of “double vision” as a lens to explore the poetic feedback loop between Beavers’s filmmaking and writing practices, examine how his life-story and art are both inextricably bound to and distinct from Markopoulos’s, and demonstrate how his films defy standard art historical genealogies and binary thought. Richly illustrated with compelling film stills, many never before seen, Rutkoff’s definitive account of this outsider artist stands as the most detailed, knowledgeable, and fully researched to date. Double Vision celebrates Beavers’s singular vision and promises to make him known to all those who have not yet encountered his work.

Rebekah Rutkoff is Assistant Professor in the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences at the New Jersey Institute of Technology. A New York–based writer, she is the author of The Irresponsible Magician: Essays and Fictions (Semiotext(e)) and the editor of a collection of essays by and about Robert Beavers.

film studies
7 x 9, 288 pp. | 257 color illus., 28 b&w illus.
US $39.95/$53.95 CAN cloth
978-0-262-04876-7

Forthcoming Fall 2024
Barbarian Architecture
Thorstein Veblen’s Chicago
Joanna Merwood-Salisbury

A richly visual architectural history and theory of modernity that reexamines Thorstein Veblen’s classic text *The Theory of the Leisure Class* through the lens of Chicago in the 1890s.

An important critic of modern culture, American economist Thorstein Veblen is best known for the concept of “conspicuous consumption,” the ostentatious and wasteful display of goods in the service of social status—a term he coined in his 1899 classic *The Theory of the Leisure Class*. In the field of architectural history, scholars have employed Veblen in support of a wide range of arguments about modern architecture, but never has he attracted a comprehensive and critical treatment from the viewpoint of architectural history. In *Barbarian Architecture*, Joanna Merwood-Salisbury corrects this omission by reexamining Veblen’s famous book as an original theory of modernity and situating it in a particular place and time—Chicago in the 1890s.

Merwood-Salisbury takes her title from Veblen’s use of the term “barbarian,” which refers to his belief that Gilded Age American society was a last remnant of a barbarian state of greed and acquisitiveness. Taking an interdisciplinary approach that draws on biography, intellectual history, and historiography, she explores Veblen’s position in relation to debates about industrial reform and aesthetics in Chicago during the period 1890–1906. Bolstered by a strong visual narrative made possible by several of Chicago’s historic photographic collections, *Barbarian Architecture* makes a compelling and original argument for the influence of Veblen’s home city on his work and ideas.

Joanna Merwood-Salisbury is Professor of Architecture at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand. She has held academic positions at Parsons School of Design, Bard College, and the University of Illinois at Chicago. Her publications include *Design for the Crowd*, *After Taste*, coedited with Kent Kleinman and Lois Weinthal, and *Chicago 1890*.

architecture
June | 5 1/2 x 9, 336 pp. | 68 b&w illus.
US $34.95T/$45.95 CAN paperback
978-0-262-54741-3
Wolkenbügel
El Lissitzky as Architect
Richard Anderson

How a visionary, never-realized architectural project, devised by one of the twentieth century’s greatest artists, shaped architectural culture in Europe between the world wars.

After achieving international acclaim as a painter and designer, El Lissitzky set out in 1924 to convince the world—and himself—that he was also an architect. He did this with a project for a “horizontal skyscraper,” which he gave an obscure and untranslatable name: Wolkenbügel. Eight of these buildings, perched atop slender pillars, were intended to stand at major intersections along Moscow’s Boulevard Ring, integrating the flow of tramlines, subways, and elevators. In Wolkenbügel, Richard Anderson explores Lissitzky’s translation of visual and textual media into spatial ideas and offers an in-depth study of the surviving drawings and archival artifacts related to Lissitzky’s most complex architectural proposal.

This book offers a new and definitive account of how Lissitzky expanded the conceptual and representational tools available to the modern architect by drawing on many sources—including photography, typography, exhibition design, and even the elementary forms of the alphabet—to create the Wolkenbügel. Anderson shows how the production and reception of a paper project served to link key ideas and relationships that animated the worlds of art and architecture, offering a new view on received histories of the interwar avant-gardes. By attending to Lissitzky’s singular architectural project, Anderson reveals the dynamics of internationality in the constitution of modern architectural culture in Europe.

Richard Anderson is Professor of Architectural History and Theory at the University of Edinburgh. He is the editor of Ludwig Hilberseimer’s Metropolisarchitecture and Selected Essays and the author of Russia: Modern Architectures in History.

architecture
April | 8 1/2 x 11, 336 pp. | 242 color illus., 10 b&w illus.
US $65.00T/$78.95 CAN cloth
978-0-262-04878-1
Contemporanea
A Glossary for the Twenty-First Century
edited by Michael Marder and Giovanbattista Tusa

A groundbreaking, multidisciplinary collection that rethinks our present moment and anticipates the key concepts that will shape and direct the twenty-first century.

Contemporanea is a nascent lexicon for the twenty-first century edited by seasoned philosophers and authors Michael Marder and Giovanbattista Tusa. The collection showcases perspectives from a range of noteworthy thinkers in philosophy, ecology, and cultural studies, as well as artists, from across the globe, including Slavoj Žižek, Timothy Morton, Denise Ferreira Da Silva, and Vandana Shiva, who each describe what they anticipate will be the concepts shaping the trajectory of this century—everything from the world state to the nuclear taboo, automation to Teslaism, plant sexuality to arachnomancy, and ecotrauma to resonances, to name a few.

This century, as the editors explain, has to date grounded itself in the debris of the preceding century, whose revolutions and struggles failed to transform our time: post-colonialism, post-fascism, and post-liberalism have morphed into neocolonialism, neofascism, and neoliberalism, often combined in a previously unimaginable mix. And, just as the political developments at the beginning of the twenty-first century revived and reshuffled those of the preceding epoch, so too have philosophical trends sought to breathe fresh life into the stillborn -isms of the past—realism, vitalism, logicism, materialism, empiricism, criticism—adding the adjective “new” and sometimes “radical” before them. To articulate a different future, another language is needed. And, to develop another language, one needs to develop fresh concepts, including the concepts proposed in this collection.

Michael Marder is the Ikerbasque Research Professor in the Department of Philosophy at the University of the Basque Country, Vitoria-Gasteiz, Spain. His past books include Plant-Thinking: A Philosophy of Vegetal Life and Philosophy for Passengers (MIT Press). Giovanbattista Tusa is a philosopher and video artist based at the Nova University of Lisbon in Portugal, where he coordinates the research program X-CENTRIC FUTURES. He is a coauthor, with Alain Badiou, of The End.

Contributors

mitpress.mit.edu | Spring 2024

philosophy
March | 6 x 9, 384 pp. | 47 b&w illus.
US $26.95T/$35.95 CAN paperback
978-0-262-54762-8
What’s That Smell?
A Philosophy of the Olfactory
Simon Hajdini

How our sense of smell engages with philosophy, psychoanalysis, and political economy—and how it can help enrich our understanding of the nature of truth, language, economy, and sexuality.

Why is it that, in Indo-European languages at least, we have no language to describe smells, leaving us (and famously Juliet) no choice but to call the scent of a rose simply “sweet”? In What’s That Smell?, a groundbreaking exploration of the intersection between philosophy, psychoanalysis, and the oft-neglected sense of smell, Simon Hajdini sets out to answer this complex question. Through new readings of traditional and modern philosophical texts, Hajdini places smell at the very center of a philosophical critique of the traditional notion of truth, challenging the idea that smell is the antiphilosophical sense par excellence.

Through fresh engagements with fundamental philosophical issues, original analyses of modern literature and film, and the novel use of scientific research into smell within a humanities context, Hajdini situates problems of olfaction at the very point of inception of cultural life. He proposes that ontology, civilization, and capitalist economy alike can be said to amount to “shit management.” And only by following the philosophically most deplorable of the senses, the book argues, can we better understand the central philosophical, psychoanalytical, and political issues of truth, sex, and exploitation.

Simon Hajdini is Senior Research Associate in the Department of Philosophy at the University of Ljubljana. He is the author of two books in Slovene and several research articles in contemporary philosophy, social and political theory, German idealism, and psychoanalysis.
Universal Basic Income
Karl Widerquist

An accessible introduction to the simple (yet radical) premise that a small cash income, sufficient for basic needs, ought to be provided regularly and unconditionally to every citizen.

The growing movement for universal basic income (UBI) has been gaining attention from politics and the media with the audacious idea of a regular, unconditional cash grant for everyone as a right of citizenship. This volume in the Essential Knowledge series presents the first short, solid UBI introduction that is neither academic nor polemic. It takes a position in favor of UBI, but its primary goal remains the provision of essential knowledge by answering the fundamental questions about it: What is UBI? How does it work? What are the arguments for and against it? What is the evidence?

Karl Widerquist discusses how UBI functions, showing how it differs from other redistributional approaches. He summarizes the common arguments for and against UBI and presents the reasons for believing it is a tremendously important reform. The book briefly discusses the likely cost of UBI; options for paying for it; the existing evidence on the probable effects of UBI; and the history of UBI from its inception more than two hundred years ago through the two waves of support it received in the twentieth century to the third and largest wave of support it is experiencing now. Now more than ever, conditions in much of the world are ripe for such enthusiasm to keep growing, and there are good reasons to believe that this current wave of support will eventually lead to the adoption of UBI in several countries around the world—making this volume an especially timely and necessary read.

Karl Widerquist is Professor of Philosophy at Georgetown University-Qatar, specializing in distributive justice. The Atlantic Monthly calls him “a leader of the worldwide basic income movement.”

political science | economics
February | 5 x 7, 264 pp.
US $16.95T/$22.99 CAN paperback
978-0-262-54689-8
The MIT Press Essential Knowledge series

Cyborg
Laura Forlano and Danya Glabau

A concise introduction to cyborg theory that examines the way in which technology is situated, political, and embodied.

This introduction to cyborg theory provides a critical vantage point for analyzing the claims around emerging technologies like automation, robots, and AI. Cyborg analyzes and reframes popular and scholarly conversations about cyborgs from the perspective of feminist cyborg theory. Drawing on their combined decades of training, teaching, and research in the social sciences, design, and engineering education, Laura Forlano and Danya Glabau introduce an approach called critical cyborg literacy. Critical cyborg literacy foregrounds power dynamics and pays attention to the ways that social and cultural factors such as gender, race, and disability shape how technology is imagined, developed, used, and resisted.

Forlano and Glabau offer critical cyborg literacy as a way of thinking through questions about the relationship between humanity and technology in areas such as engineering and computing, art and design, and health care and medicine, as well as the social sciences and humanities. Cyborg examines whether modern technologies make us all cyborgs—if we consider, for instance, the fact that we use daily technologies at work, have technologies embedded into our bodies in health care applications, or use technology to critically explore possibilities as artists, designers, activists, and creators. Lastly, Cyborg offers perspectives from critical race, feminist, and disability thinkers to help chart a path forward for cyborg theory in the twenty-first century.

Laura Forlano is Professor in the College of Arts, Media and Design at Northeastern University. She is a coeditor of three books: digitalSTS, and Bauhaus Futures and From Social Butterfly to Engaged Citizen (both MIT Press). Danya Glabau is Industry Assistant Professor in the Department of Technology, Culture and Society at the Tandon School of Engineering at New York University. She is the author of Food Allergy Advocacy: Parenting and the Politics of Care.

technology
February | 5 x 7, 224 pp.
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The MIT Press Essential Knowledge series
The MIT Press Essential Knowledge series offers accessible, concise, beautifully produced books on topics of current interest. Written by leading thinkers, the books in this series deliver expert overviews of subjects that range from the cultural and the historical to the scientific and the technical.

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J. M. Berger
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The Long Haul
How Long COVID Survivors are Revolutionizing Health Care
Ryan Prior

How survivors of the COVID-19 pandemic battling long-term disabling conditions are fighting for recognition and research—and helping to transform healthcare for many overlooked diseases.

To the world’s public health authorities, COVID-19 would be either a deadly disease for some or a simple respiratory illness for most, its symptoms clearing up in just a matter of weeks. But then tens of millions around the world got sick and stayed sick. With scientists and doctors caught off guard, these long COVID patients often found solace only with one another, organizing support groups across oceans and continents while ill in bed. In The Long Haul, CNN journalist Ryan Prior weaves in his own life, the stories of activist patients, and the latest science into a captivating tale of regular people crying out for care that actually works.

Ryan Prior is Fellow and Journalist-in-Residence at the Century Foundation. He covered the COVID-19 pandemic as a features writer for CNN and writes the Patient Revolution column for Psychology Today. He has also written for USA Today, STAT, the Guardian, and the Nation. He directed the documentary Forgotten Plague, is a board member at the ME Action Network, and was a Stanford Medicine ePatient Scholar.

“For us, to walk through this valley of long COVID was a form of public health reporting,” Prior says. “What we’re missing is this moment of recognition.”

“Long haulers are the heroes of their own story, and this important book beautifully captures their struggle and their courage.”
—Ed Yong, Pulitzer Prize–winning journalist for The Atlantic

health | public affairs
March | 6 x 9. 336 pp.
US $24.95T/$33.95 CAN paperback
978-0-262-54815-1
for sale in North America only
Sentience
The Invention of Consciousness
Nicholas Humphrey

The story of a quest to uncover the evolutionary history of consciousness from a leading theoretical psychologist.

We feel, therefore we are. Conscious sensations ground our sense of self. They are crucial to our idea of ourselves as psychic beings: present, existent, and mattering. But is it only humans who feel this way? Do other animals? Will future machines?

Weaving together intellectual adventure and cutting-edge science, Nicholas Humphrey describes in Sentience his quest for answers: from his discovery of blindsight in monkeys and his pioneering work on social intelligence to breakthroughs in the philosophy of mind.

“Wonderfully approachable . . . with a writing style somewhere between a deep conversation and a thought process.” —Brian Clegg, Popular Science Books

“A stimulating exercise in experiment and speculation… [a] fascinating premise…. Complex and sometimes counterintuitive concepts rendered with admirable skill.” —Kirkus Reviews

“Sentience is full of provocative ideas, as well as lively anecdotes from decades of pondering these issues. Humphrey’s thesis offers a great deal to think about…[h]is book earns its place…and is a vaillant reminder of how much there still is to understand.” —New Scientist

“In his new book, Sentience, a neuropsychologist argues that consciousness evolved to make us feel that life is worth living.” —The New Yorker

Nicholas Humphrey, Emeritus Professor of Psychology at the London School of Economics, is a theoretical psychologist based in Cambridge, who studies the evolution of intelligence and consciousness. He was the first to demonstrate the existence of “blindsight” in monkeys. He has also studied mountain gorillas with Dian Fossey in Rwanda, proposed the celebrated theory of the “social function of intellect,” and investigated the evolutionary background of religion, art, healing, death-awareness, and suicide. His honors include the Martin Luther King Memorial Prize, the Pufendorf Medal, and the International Mind and Brain Prize. His recent books are Seeing Red and Soul Dust.

cognitive science
April | 6 x 9, 256 pp. | 19 b&w illus.
US $24.95T/$33.95 CAN paperback
978-0-262-54831-1

978-0-262-04794-4 cloth
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More than a Glitch
Confronting Race, Gender, and Ability Bias in Tech
Meredith Broussard

When technology reinforces inequality, it’s not just a glitch—it’s a signal that we need to redesign our systems to create a more equitable world.

The word “glitch” implies an incidental error, as easy to patch up as it is to identify. But what if racism, sexism, and ableism aren’t just bugs in mostly functional machinery—what if they’re coded into the system itself? In the vein of heavy hitters such as Safiya Umoja Noble, Cathy O’Neil, and Ruha Benjamin, Meredith Broussard demonstrates in More Than a Glitch how neutrality in tech is a myth and why algorithms need to be held accountable.

“This is essential reading for anyone invested in building a more equitable future.” —The Enterprise Project

“This sobering warning about the dangers of technology alarms and unsettles.” —Publishers Weekly

“With her latest book, Meredith Broussard picks up on the threads of Safiya Noble and Ruha Benjamin as she demonstrates how technology reinforces injustice through its ubiquitous algorithms and questionable human interactions.” —Ms.

“Broussard’s book calls to mind the work of Anna Jean-Baptise, and points to an overall cultural focus on equity and inclusivity.” —Forbes

Included in the FT’s Best summer books of 2023: Technology

Meredith Broussard is Associate Professor at the Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute of New York University and Research Director at the NYU Alliance for Public Interest Technology. She is the author of Artificial Unintelligence: How Computers Misunderstand the World (MIT Press). Her work has been featured in the New Yorker, the New York Times, the Atlantic, BBC, Wired, the Economist, and more. She appears in the 2020 documentary Coded Bias and serves on the advisory board for the Center for Critical Race & Digital Studies. More information at @merbroussard or meredithbroussard.com.

information science
April | 6 x 9, 248 pp. | 9 b&w illus.
US $23.95T/$31.95 CAN paperback
978-0-262-54832-8

978-0-262-04765-4 cloth
Tenacious Beasts
Wildlife Recoveries That Change How We Think about Animals
Christopher J. Preston

An inspiring look at wildlife species that are defying the odds and teaching important lessons about how to share a planet.

The news about wildlife is dire—more than 900 species have been wiped off the planet since industrialization. Against this bleak backdrop, however, there are also glimmers of hope and crucial lessons to be learned from animals that have defied global trends toward extinction: bears in Italy, bison in North America, whales in the Atlantic. These populations are back from the brink, some of them in numbers unimaginable in a century. How has this happened? What shifts in thinking did it demand? In crisp, transporting prose, Christopher Preston reveals the mysteries and challenges at the heart of these resurgences.

“Rare, well-delivered positive news about animals and the natural world.” —Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

“Pragmatic and inspirational, Tenacious Beasts celebrates the species that ‘exist in the same bewildering net of life and time as we do,’ yet are rebounding.” —Foreword Reviews

“The surprisingly intimate accounts of species bouncing back from the brink of extinction serve as glimmers of hope against the backdrop of climate despair. This will hearten nature lovers.” —Publishers Weekly

“Beyond basic good news though, environmental philosopher Christopher J. Preston is after something more profound: the adaptive potential and resiliency of life on Earth. While offering buoying examples of species recovery, Preston unpacks and disavows some of our most common and problematic cultural conceptions of wild animals.” —Sierra

“The outlook for wildlife ‘remains dire,’ writes philosopher Christopher Preston. But he describes signs of hope in his well-travelled, thoughtful study of recoveries.” —Nature

Included in the New Yorker’s “Best Books of 2023, So Far” list.

Christopher Preston’s essays have appeared in Atlantic, Smithsonian, Aeon, and on the BBC website. He teaches environmental philosophy at the University of Montana and lives in Missoula, MT.

Imperfection
A Natural History
Telmo Pievani

In praise of imperfection: how life on our planet is a catalog of imperfections, errors, alternatives, and anomalies.

In the beginning, there was imperfection, which became the source of all things. Anomalies and asymmetries caused planets to take shape from the bubbling void and sent light into darkness. Life on earth is a catalog of accidents, alternatives, and errors that turned out to work quite well. In this book, Telmo Pievani shows that life on our planet has flourished and survived not because of its perfection but despite (and perhaps because of) its imperfection. He begins his story with the disruption-filled birth of the universe and proceeds through the random DNA copying errors that fuel evolution, the transformations of advantages into handicaps by natural selection, the anatomical and functional jumble that is the human brain, and our many bodily mismatches.

“Why were writing and reading developed by us humans, rather than by the formerly dominant dinosaurs? Why is your computer keyboard designed to slow down your typing, not to speed it up? This thought-provoking, beautifully written book, full of surprises, will show you why imperfection is so pervasive.”

—Jared Diamond, Pulitzer Prize–winning author of Guns, Germs, and Steel

“Flipping the picture from a cleanly perfect world to the messy, imperfect condition we find ourselves in, Telmo Pievani gives us hope as we strive to better ourselves. This book is ‘perfect’ for our troubled times!”

—Niles Eldredge, curator emeritus, Paleontology, American Museum of Natural History, and author of Eternal Ephemera

Telmo Pievani is Full Professor in the Department of Biology at the University of Padua, where he covers the first Italian chair of Philosophy of Biological Sciences. A leading science communicator and columnist for Il corriere della sera, he is the author of The Unexpected Life, Creation without God, Serendipity, and other books.

US $22.95T/$29.95 CAN paperback
978-0-262-54835-9

978-0-262-04741-8 cloth
Reimagining Design
Unlocking Strategic Innovation
Kevin G. Bethune
foreword by John Maeda

The power of transformative design, multidisciplinary leaps, and diversity: lessons from a Black professional’s journey through corporate America.

Design offers so much more than an aesthetically pleasing logo or banner; a beautification add-on after the heavy lifting. In *Reimagining Design*, Kevin Bethune shows how design provides a unique angle on problem-solving—how it can be leveraged strategically to cultivate innovation and anchor multidisciplinary teamwork. As he does so, he describes his journey as a Black professional through corporate America, revealing the power of transformative design, multidisciplinary leaps, and diversity. Bethune, who began as an engineer at Westinghouse, moved on to Nike (where he designed Air Jordans), and now works as a sought-after consultant on design and innovation, shows how design can transform both individual lives and organizations.

“At a time of increasing uncertainty, what can we do to solve ever-changing problems? Designer Kevin Bethune takes on that thorny issue in his new book, with a view to diversity and inclusion.” —*Design Week*

“An innovative and deeply personal book that is chock-full of insight and actionable content. Bethune’s emphasis on ‘strategic’ design thinking, combined with his ability to balance his corporate and engineering knowledge with design, will unlock value for many readers, from new grads to the C-suite.” —Annie Jean-Baptiste, author of *Building for Everyone*; founder, Equity Army

“With vulnerability, clarity, and actionable insights, Kevin Bethune answers important questions for increasing diversity and inclusion in design. What does it mean to be a Black man succeeding in design? What can you learn from him to help others succeed?” —Dori Tunstall, Dean of Design, OCAD University

Kevin G. Bethune is Founder and Chief Creative Officer of dreams • design + life, a think tank for design and innovation. Over a career that spans more than twenty years, he has worked in engineering, business, and design.

design | business
February | 5 1/4 x 8, 208 pp. | 30 b&w illus.
US $22.95T/$29.95 CAN paperback
978-0-262-54847-2

Design for a Better World
Meaningful, Sustainable, Humanity Centered
Don Norman

How human behavior brought our world to the brink, and how human behavior can save us.

The world is a mess. Our dire predicament, from collapsing social structures to the climate crisis, has been millennia in the making and can be traced back to the erroneous belief that the earth’s resources are infinite. The key to change, says Don Norman, is human behavior, covered in the book’s three major themes: meaning, sustainability, and humanity-centeredness. Emphasize quality of life, not monetary rewards; restructure how we live to better protect the environment; and focus on all of humanity. *Design for a Better World* presents an eye-opening diagnosis of where we’ve gone wrong and a clear prescription for making things better.

“Don Norman joining the movement for responsible and sustainable design brings considerable heft to the demand for design to transform from a user-centric focus to serving society and the planet as a whole.” —Leyla Acaroglu, UN environmental program “Champion of the Earth” award; Founder and Sustainability lead of Disrupt Design

“Through examples from science, technology, design, philosophy, and human behavior, Norman narrates the current global challenges and shows how design can play an essential role for making the world a better place. Yet another classic!” —Srini Srinivasan, Senator and former President, World Design Organization; Chief Operating Officer, Design Innovation Institute Shanghai

Don Norman is Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Cognitive Science and Psychology and founding director of the Design Lab at the University of California, San Diego. Business Week has named Norman one of the world’s most influential designers. He was an Apple Vice President, has been an advisor and board member for numerous companies, and has three honorary degrees. His numerous books have been translated into over 20 languages, including *The Design of Everyday Things* and *Living with Complexity*, also from the MIT Press.

design
April | 6 x 9, 376 pp. | 8 b&w illus.
US $24.95T/$33.95 CAN paperback
978-0-262-54830-4

978-0-262-04795-1 cloth

simplicity: design, technology, business, life series
How to Stay Smart in a Smart World
Why Human Intelligence Still Beats Algorithms
Gerd Gigerenzer

How to stay in charge in a world populated by algorithms that beat us in chess, find us romantic partners, and tell us to “turn right in 500 yards.”

“Gigerenzer’s book is comforting as it explicitly makes the case that the machines of the future will not be able to do everything better than humans.” — Library Journal

“In clear, unencumbered, and unpretentious prose, Gigerenzer demystifies the logic of our ‘smart’ societies. And despite cataloguing many depressing examples of the ambitions of big tech, the overall message of the book—and indeed the author’s view of human nature—is empowering.” — John Zerilli, University of Oxford, co-author of A Citizen’s Guide to Artificial Intelligence (MIT Press)

“This inspiring book dispels many myths about the predictive power of connectionist AI, describes its failures to tackle uncertain and unstable phenomena, and relaunches the simulationist psychological approach as the best way towards an ethical and human AI.” — Riccardo Viale, Full Professor in Behavioral Sciences and Cognitive Economics, University of Milano Bicocca and Secretary General of Herbert Simon Society

Gerd Gigerenzer is Director of the Harding Center for Risk Literacy at the University of Potsdam, Director Emeritus at the Max Planck Institute for Human Development, and Partner of Simply Rational—the Institute for Decisions. He is the author of Calculated Risks, Gut Feelings, Risk Savvy, and Smart Management (MIT Press).

Psychology | Computer Science
May | 6 x 9, 320 pp. | 30 b& w illus.
US $24.95T/$33.95 CAN paperback
978-0-262-54844-1
978-0-262-04695-4 cloth
For sale in North America only

Cloud Empires
How Digital Platforms Are Overtaking the State and How We Can Regain Control
Vili Lehdonvirta

The rise of the platform economy into statelike dominance over the lives of entrepreneurs, users, and workers.

“Cloud Empires is a terrific book … A strong recommend.” — The Enlightened Economist

“Crucial for understanding today’s debates about the role of tech platforms.” — Juliet Schor, Professor of Sociology, Boston College; author of After the Gig: How the Sharing Economy Got Hijacked and How to Win It Back

Finalist for the PROSE award, Business, Finance, and Management, 2023

Vili Lehdonvirta is Professor of Economic Sociology and Digital Social Research at the Oxford Internet Institute at the University of Oxford. A former software developer, he is the coauthor of Virtual Economies: Design and Analysis (MIT Press).

Business
February | 6 x 9, 296 pp. | 14 b& w illus.
US $24.95T/$33.95 CAN paperback
978-0-262-54838-0
978-0-262-04722-7 cloth

Body Am I
The New Science of Self-Consciousness
Moheb Costandi

How the way we perceive our bodies plays a critical role in the way we perceive ourselves: stories of phantom limbs, rubber hands, anorexia, and other phenomena.

“A deeply enjoyable review of the latest scientific findings that makes you realize that you actually knew nothing before about your own body.” — Frederique de Vignemont, deputy director of the Jean Nicod Institut and author of Mind the Body: An Exploration of Bodily Self-Awareness

Moheb Costandi, trained as a neuroscientist, is a science writer based in London whose work has appeared in publications including Nature, Science, New Scientist, and Scientific American. He is the author of Neuroplasticity (MIT Press) and 50 Human Brain Ideas You Really Need to Know.

Science | Psychology
March | 6 x 9, 216 pp. | 6 b& w illus.
US $24.95T/$33.95 CAN paperback
978-0-262-54836-6
978-0-262-04659-6 cloth
Drugs and the FDA
Safety, Efficacy, and the Public’s Trust
Mikkael A. Sekeres

How the FDA was shaped by public health crises and patient advocacy, told against a background of the contentious hearings on the breast cancer drug Avastin.

“A thought-provoking book that confronts readers with all of these difficult questions while keeping them glued to their seats through Sekeres’s skillful and self-reflective retelling of the Avastin hearings.” —Harvard Law Bill of Health Blog

“In this fast-paced and suspenseful book, Sekeres provides an insider’s view of one of the biggest drug controversies of our time, expertly weaving the history of the FDA with the decisions it makes today.” —Siddhartha Mukherjee, Pulitzer Prize–winning author of The Emperor of All Maladies

Mikkael A. Sekeres is Professor of Medicine and Chief of the Division of Hematology at the Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, and former Chair of the Oncologic Drugs Advisory Committee of the FDA. A regular contributor to the Well section of the New York Times, he is the author of When Blood Breaks Down: Life Lessons from Leukemia (MIT Press).

Tornado of Life
A Doctor’s Journey through Constraints and Creativity in the ER
Jay Baruch

Stories from the ER: a doctor shows how empathy, creativity, and imagination are the cornerstones of clinical care.

“In this collection of brief touching essays, an emergency room doctor presents poignant stories about disease and loneliness and argues that medical professionals are ‘stewards’ of their patients’ stories, morally obligated to look beyond data and tests.” —New York Times Book Review

“A rich collection of stories from years of working as an ER doctor...” —The Christian Century

“Beautifully written with a different take on life.” —Library Journal

Jay Baruch, a practicing emergency room physician, is Professor of Emergency Medicine at Alpert Medical School of Brown University and the author of two award-winning short fiction collections, What’s Left Out and Fourteen Stories: Doctors, Patients, and Other Strangers.

The Exquisite Machine
The New Science of the Heart
Sian E. Harding

How science is opening up the mysteries of the heart, revealing the poetry in motion within the machine.

“How the heart works, how it fails and what can be done about it. A remarkable read from a world-renowned researcher.” —Stephen Westaby, author of the Sunday Times best sellers Fragile Lives and The Knife’s Edge

Sian E. Harding, a recognized authority in cardiac science, is Emeritus Professor of Cardiac Pharmacology in the National Heart and Lung Institute at Imperial College London, where she led the Division of Cardiovascular Sciences and the BHF Centre for Cardiac Regeneration.
The Phantom Scientist
Robin Cousin
translated by Edward Gauvin

A mind-bending graphic novel that teases devious thrills from the mysteries of systems theory.

An isolated institute laid out in a Fibonacci sequence, hidden deep in the forest. Twenty-four labs. Twenty-four researchers. Until one of them disappears . . .

When physicist Stéphane Douasy arrives to occupy the vacant twenty-fourth lab at the Institute for the Study of Complex and Dynamic Systems, an ominous problem rises in his wake: what has happened to his missing neighbor in Building F? When Stéphane’s neighbors, a discouraged linguist and a computer scientist bent on predicting the future, discover that the missing researcher may have solved the P versus NP problem—a coup in computer science with revolutionary implications for everything from mathematics to philosophy—before vanishing, things turn stranger still, and even more menacing. Solving the mystery of the Institute and its devolution into mayhem and violence every seventh year quickly shifts from being an intellectual exercise to a matter of life and death.

Robin Cousin is cofounder of Éditions Les Machines and co-organizer of FOFF, an annual festival of independent micropresses at the Angoulême International Comics Festival. His art and storytelling in The Phantom Scientist are informed by the work done at the National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS) in Paris.

“Cousin’s thick and stylized drawings propel this thriller, involving a scientist who has vanished after claiming to have solved a momentous mathematical problem.”
—The New York Times

“An engaging, dryly funny read for armchair philosophers, disillusioned academics, and the unceasingly curious.”
—Library Journal

“Cousin’s novel is an engaging mix of mystery, science fiction and complexity theory, told through artwork that is simple, uncluttered and easy to follow.”
—Physics World

science fiction | graphic novel
March | 8 1/2 x 11, 128 pp.
US $22.95T/$29.95 CAN paperback
978-0-262-54834-2
978-0-262-04786-9 cloth
A Brief History of Feminism
Patu and Antje Schrupp
translated by Sophie Lewis

An engaging illustrated history of feminism from antiquity through third-wave feminism, featuring Sappho, Mary Magdalene, Mary Wollstonecraft, Sojourner Truth, Simone de Beauvoir, and many others.

The history of feminism? The right to vote, Susan B. Anthony, Gloria Steinem, white pantsuits? Oh, but there’s so much more. And we need to know about it, especially now. In pithy text and pithier comics, A Brief History of Feminism engages us, educates us, angers us, and makes us laugh. It begins with antiquity and the early days of Judeo-Christianity. (Mary Magdalene questions the maleness of Jesus’s inner circle: “People will end up getting the notion you don’t want women to be priests.” Jesus: “Really, Mary, do you always have to be so negative?”) It continues through the Middle Ages, the Early Modern period, and the Enlightenment (“Liberty, equality, fraternity!” “But fraternity means brotherhood!”). It covers the beginnings of an organized women’s movement in the nineteenth century, second-wave Feminism, queer feminism, and third-wave Feminism.

Patu is an artist and cofounder of the artist collective radical jetset, creators of comic books, murals, and installations. Antje Schrupp is a journalist and political scientist living in Frankfurt am Main.

“A great overview of a complicated subject.”
—Publishers Weekly

“A fun, accessible and educational read that will leave readers entertained, angry and with a thirst to learn more.”
—LSE Review of Books

“Patu and Antje Schrupp’s A Brief History of Feminism tells a story spanning some 2,300 years, as women from antiquity through the present attempt to create a more livable world. Laced with polemic, it’s full of little-known facts about feminist thinkers and activists who insist on the universality of female experience. This graphic novel is one of the best guides to world history I’ve seen.”
—Chris Kraus, author of I Love Dick and After Kathy Acker
Yesterday’s Tomorrow
On the Loneliness of Communist Specters and the Reconstruction of the Future
Bini Adamczak
translated by Adrian Nathan West
foreword by Raymond Geuss

How the communist revolution failed, presented in a series of catastrophes.

“In her stupendous Yesterday’s Tomorrow, Bini Adamczak provides nothing less than the definitive account of what one cannot but call the ineradicable, absolutely authentic, Communist desire, the idea of a society that fully overcomes domination... After reading this book and trying to select quotes from it, I was overwhelmed by a weird feeling that the entire book should be quoted.” — Slavoj Zizek, The Philosophical Salon

Bini Adamczak is a Berlin-based social theorist and artist who writes on political theory, queer politics, and the past future of revolutions. She is the author of Communism for Kids (MIT Press).

political science | history
March | 5 1/2 x 8, 184 pp.
US $22.95T/$29.95 CAN paperback | 978-0-262-54861-8
978-0-262-04513-1 cloth

Tales from a Robotic World
How Intelligent Machines Will Shape Our Future
Dario Floreano and Nicola Nosengo

Stories from the future of intelligent machines—from rescue drones to robot spouses—and accounts of cutting-edge research that could make it all possible.

“[A] must read for anyone who is interested in how technologies shape our world.” — BSFA Review (British Science Fiction Association)

Dario Floreano is Director of the Laboratory of Intelligent Systems at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL). He is the coauthor of Evolutionary Robotics and Bio-Inspired Artificial Intelligence (both MIT Press). Nicola Nosengo is a science writer and science communicator at EPFL. His work has appeared in Nature, the Economist, Wired, and other publications, and he is the Chief Editor of Nature Italy.

technology
March | 6 x 9, 280 pp. | 10 b&w illus.
US $24.95T/$33.95 CAN paperback | 978-0-262-54840-3
978-0-262-04744-9 cloth

Extraterrestrial Languages
Daniel Oberhaus
If we send a message into space, will extraterrestrial beings receive it? Will they understand?

“An engaging read...” — Science

“For any one curious about communicating with the unknown, this is a fine book.” — Astronomy Now

Daniel Oberhaus is a science and technology journalist whose work has appeared in Wired, the Atlantic, Popular Mechanics, Slate, the Baffler, Nautilus, Vice, the Awl, and other publications

science, technology, and society studies
May | 5 1/2 x 8, 264 pp. | 8 b&w illus.
US $22.95T/$29.95 CAN paperback | 978-0-262-54864-9
978-0-262-04306-9 cloth

Language vs. Reality
Why Language Is Good for Lawyers and Bad for Scientists
N. J. Enfield

A fascinating examination of how we are both played by language and made by language: the science underlying the bugs and features of humankind’s greatest invention.

“Language often doesn’t quite work, and this book is a master class in why.” — John McWhorter, Associate Professor of Linguistics, Columbia University; host of the podcast Lexicon Valley

“Splendidly written, Language vs. Reality uses the latest research to build a compelling argument and a deeper understanding of human language.” — Hugo Mercier, researcher, Jean Nicod Institute, Paris; author of Not Born Yesterday and The Enigma of Reason (with Dan Sperber)

A Next Big Idea Club nominee

Winner of the PROSE award, Language and Linguistics category, 2023

N. J. Enfield is Professor of Linguistics at the University of Sydney and Director of the Sydney Centre for Language Research. He is the author of The Anatomy of Meaning, The Utility of Meaning, How We Talk, and other books.

linguistics
March | 6 x 9, 312 pp. | 33 b&w illus.
US $26.95T/$35.95 CAN paperback | 978-0-262-54846-5
978-0-262-04661-9 cloth
Long Days, Short Years
A Cultural History of Modern Parenting
Andrew Bomback

How parenting became a verb, from Dr. Spock and June Cleaver to baby whispering and free-range kids.

“This book is enjoyable to read and likely to be validating for many parents of young children.” — Library Journal

Andrew Bomback is Associate Professor of Medicine at Columbia University Irving Medical Center and the author of Doctor. His essays have appeared in the Atlantic, Los Angeles Review of Books, McSweeney’s, and elsewhere.

parenting
May | 5 1/4 x 8, 184 pp. | 1 b&w illus.
US $22.95T/$29.95 CAN paperback | 978-0-262-54843-4
978-0-262-04715-9 cloth

Schools and Screens
A Watchful History
Victoria Cain

Why screens in schools—from film screenings to instructional television to personal computers—did not bring about the educational revolution promised by reformers.

“Anyone who wants to understand the allure of the screen in school—and how it illuminated key ideas of race, citizenship, and education itself—will have to look at this brilliant book.” — Jonathan Zimmerman, Professor of History of Education, University of Pennsylvania; author of The Amateur Hour: A History of College Teaching in America

Finalist, Media Ecology Association Book Awards, 2022

Victoria Cain is Associate Professor of History at Northeastern University and coauthor of Life on Display: Revolutionizing U.S. Museums of Science and Natural History in the Twentieth Century.

education | technology
February | 6 x 9.280 pp.
US $24.95T/$33.95 CAN paperback | 978-0-262-54853-3
978-0-262-04593-3 cloth

Born Knowing
Imprinting and the Origins of Knowledge
Giorgio Vallortigara
illustrated by Claudia Losi

An expert on the brain argues that the mind is not a blank slate and that much early behavior is biologically predisposed rather than learned.

“This book presents fascinating findings and a creative synthesis at the frontier of the study of nature and nurture.” — Steven Pinker, Johnstone Professor of Psychology, Harvard University, and author of How the Mind Works

Giorgio Vallortigara is Professor of Neuroscience and Head of the Animal Brain and Cognition Laboratory at the Centre for Mind/Brain Sciences of the University of Trento, Italy. He is the coauthor of Divided Brains: The Biology and Behaviour of Brain Asymmetries.

psychology
February | 5 1/4 x 8, 192 pp. | 72 b&w illus.
US $22.95T/$29.95 CAN paperback | 978-0-262-54857-1
978-0-262-04594-0 cloth

Bots and Beasts
What Makes Machines, Animals, and People Smart?
Paul Thagard

An expert on the mind considers how animals and smart machines measure up to human intelligence.

“The book’s comprehensive inventory of intelligent features and mechanisms can be used to compare intelligence across humans, animals, and machines.” — Erik T. Mueller, Senior Director of Machine Learning Engineering, Capital One

Paul Thagard, a philosopher and cognitive scientist, is Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Philosophy at the University of Waterloo. He is the author of Brain-Mind, Natural Philosophy, The Cognitive Science of Science, Hot Thought, Mind: Introduction to Cognitive Science (the last three published by the MIT Press), and many other books. He writes a popular blog for Psychology Today and can be found at paulthagard.com.

cognitive science
April | 6 x 9, 312 pp. | 25 b&w illus.
US $24.95T/$33.95 CAN paperback | 978-0-262-54854-0
978-0-262-04594-0 cloth
Craft Weed
Family Farming and the Future of the Marijuana Industry
Ryan Stoa
How the future of post-legalization marijuana farming can be sustainable, local, and artisanal.
"...a smart and level-headed assessment of how cannabis agriculture has been shaped and the endless possibilities that lie ahead..." — Cannabis Now

Ryan Stoa is Associate Professor of Law at the Southern University Law Center. His writing has appeared in legal journals, the Wall Street Journal, The New Republic, and Salon, among others. He lives in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and can be contacted at www.ryanstoa.com.

Digital Lethargy
Dispatches from an Age of Disconnection
Tung-Hui Hu
The exhaustion, disappointment, and listlessness experienced under digital capitalism, explored through works by contemporary artists, writers, and performers.

Tung-Hui Hu is Associate Professor of English at the University of Michigan. A former network engineer and a published poet, he is the author of A Prehistory of the Cloud (MIT Press), praised by the New Yorker as "mesmerizing" and by the Guardian as "witty, sharp and theoretically aware." He was awarded the Rome Prize in Literature in 2022.

The Body Fantastic
Frank Gonzalez-Crussi
foreword by John Banville
The body in dreams, myths, legends, and anecdotes of the fantastic as expressions of human corporeality.
"Playful, erudite, expansive, the book gives one much to chew on, widening our understanding of our corporeal selves, as well as how that understanding has shifted and evolved over time." — Boston Globe

Frank Gonzalez-Crussi is Professor Emeritus of Pathology at Northwestern University’s Feinberg School of Medicine, where he specialized in pediatric pathology. He is the author of 22 books in both English and Spanish, including The Body Fantastic (MIT Press).

How to Grow a Robot
Developing Human-Friendly, Social AI
Mark H. Lee
How to develop robots that will be more like humans and less like computers, more social than machine-like, and more playful and less programmed.
"How to Grow a Robot cuts through the hype and charts a new path forward for robotics and AI. A must-read for anyone who craves a well-balanced understanding of the field" — Kate Darling, author of The New Breed: What Our History with Animals Reveals about Our Future with Machines

Mark H. Lee is Professor of Computer Science at Aberystwyth University, Wales.
Digital Suffragists
Women, the Web, and the Future of Democracy
Marie Tessier
Why women’s voices are outnumbered online and what we can do about it, by a New York Times comment moderator.
‘A lucid and well-informed look at implicit biases in the digital world and the harms they cause.’—Publishers Weekly

“Vividly argued, this book provides a clear and compelling understanding of why threats against women online—treated like issues of private safety—are political threats against civil rights and democracy.”—Soraya Chemaly, activist and author of Rage Becomes Her: The Power of Women’s Anger

Marie Tessier is a journalist and writer who moderates comments to the opinion pages of the New York Times. Her work has appeared on the Women’s eNews and Women’s Media Center websites, in Ms. magazine, the Columbia Journalism Review, the Washington Post, the Chicago Tribune, and elsewhere.

political science | gender studies/technology
February | 6 x 9, 288 pp. | 26 figures
US $24.95T/$33.95 CAN paperback | 978-0-262-54856-4
978-0-262-04601-5 cloth

Discriminating Data
Correlation, Neighborhoods, and the New Politics of Recognition
Wendy Hui Kyong Chun illustrated by Alex Barnett
How big data and machine learning encode discrimination and create agitated clusters of comforting rage.
‘A shattering book! Chun unveils and dispels many lazy ideas that we—data and network scientists—heedlessly adopted.’—Giulio Dalla Riva, Senior Lecturer in Data Science, University of Canterbury

Wendy Hui Kyong Chun is Simon Fraser University’s Canada 150 Research Chair in New Media and Professor of Communication and Director of the SFU Digital Democracies Institute. She is the author of Control and Freedom, Programmed Visions, and Updating to Remain the Same, all published by the MIT Press.
technology
March | 6 x 9, 344 pp. | 69 b&w illus.
US $26.95T/$35.95 CAN paperback | 978-0-262-54852-6
978-0-262-04622-0 cloth

Running with Robots
The American High School’s Third Century
Greg Toppo and Jim Tracy
How the technological changes that are reshaping the future of work will transform the American high school as well.
‘Mixing history with storytelling, prediction with fact, this gem of a book creatively stimulates the reader to think about what an ideal education is going to look like in the years and decades ahead.’—Stephen M. Kosslyn, President, Active Learning Sciences, and Chief Academic Officer, Foundry College; author of Active Learning Online

Greg Toppo, a journalist who has covered education for more than twenty years, is the author of The Game Believes in You: How Digital Play Can Make Our Kids Smarter. Jim Tracy, Ph.D., has been the head of several independent schools as well as the president of a teacher training college founded in collaboration with MIT. He has held many senior advisory positions, including Senior Advisor to the Executive Team at Jobs for the Future, Board Member at LearnLaunch, and member of the MassRobotics Advisory Board.
education | technology
March | 5 1/4 x 8, 288 pp.
US $24.95T/$33.95 CAN paperback | 978-0-262-54858-8
978-0-262-04589-6 cloth
The Digital Multinational
Navigating the New Normal in Global Business
Satish Nambisan and Yadong Luo
foreword by Conny Braams
How multinational companies can use digital technology to compete in a world where business is driven by the forces of both globalization and deglobalization.

“I highly recommend this insightful book to leaders across the globe as they navigate the new normal.”
—Harit Talwar, Chairman of Consumer Business, Goldman Sachs

Gold Axiom medal, International Business / Globalization category, 2023

Satish Nambisan is the Nancy and Joseph Keithley Professor of Technology Management at the Weatherhead School of Management at Case Western Reserve University. He is the author of The Global Brain.

Yadong Luo is the Emery M. Findley Distinguished Chair and Professor of Management at the University of Miami. He is the author of Global Dimensions of Corporate Governance and other books.

Speculative Everything
Design, Fiction, and Social Dreaming
Anthony Dunne and Fiona Raby
How to use design as a tool to create not only things but ideas, to speculate about possible futures.

“Designers are usually seen as problem solvers. Their function is to make a product better or more beautiful, or to make a process more efficient. But what if, instead of solving problems, they posed them? That is the premise behind Speculative Everything, the first book to look in detail at the kinds of results such an approach might throw up.”
—Financial Times

Anthony Dunne and Fiona Raby are University Professors of Design and Social Inquiry at Parsons School of Design, The New School in New York, where they codirect the Designed Realities Studio. They are also partners in the design studio Dunne & Raby.

Sensing Machines
How Sensors Shape Our Everyday Life
Chris Salter
How we are tracked by machines ranging from smart watches and Roombas to immersive art installations.

“Salter explores our desire for control while grounding cybernated machines in the perception devices of the past.”
—Barbara Maria Stafford, author of Ribbon of Darkness

Chris Salter is an artist and Professor of Immersive Arts and Director of the Immersive Arts Space at the Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK). He is the author of Entangled, Alien Agency, and Sensing Machines (all MIT Press).

The Digital Environment
How We Live, Learn, Work, and Play Now
Pablo J. Boczkowski and Eugenia Mitchelstein
Why we should think holistically in terms of a digital environment instead of discrete devices and apps.

“In this beautifully crafted book, Boczkowski and Mitchelstein take us on a fascinating journey into what our lives with digital media are, could be, and should be.”
—Limor Shifman, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem; author of Memes in Digital Culture

Pablo J. Boczkowski is the Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani Professor in the Department of Communication Studies at Northwestern University.

Eugenia Mitchelstein is Associate Professor and Chair of the Social Sciences Department and Director of the Communication Degree at the University of San Andrés in Buenos Aires. She is coauthor (with Pablo J. Boczkowski) of The News Gap: When the Information Preferences of the Media and the Public Diverge (MIT Press).
The New Fire
War, Peace, and Democracy in the Age of AI
Ben Buchanan and Andrew Imbrie
AI is revolutionizing the world. Here’s how democracies can come out on top.

Ben Buchanan is on leave from his professorship at Georgetown University to serve in the Biden-Harris Administration as the Assistant Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. He is the author of The Hacker and the State and The Cybersecurity Dilemma. Andrew Imbrie is a Senior Fellow at CSET. He is currently on leave from Georgetown while serving in the State Department. He is the author of Power on the Precipice.
The views and opinions expressed in this book are the authors’ alone and do not necessarily represent the views of the US government or Department of State. The New Fire was completed prior to their entry into government service.

Inventing Future Cities
Michael Batty
How we can invent—but not predict—the future of cities.
“Mike Batty’s new book is a tour de force meta-narrative of both the trends and components of urbanism at the start of the 21st century and one that should be read by all those with an interest in cities.” — Urban Analytics and City Science

Michael Batty is the Bartlett Professor of Planning at University College London, where he is Chair of the Centre for Advanced Spatial Analysis (CASA) and a Turing Fellow in the Alan Turing Institute. He is the author of Inventing Future Cities, The New Science of Cities, and Cities and Complexity (all MIT Press). He is a Fellow of the British Academy (FBA) and the Royal Society (FRS) and was awarded the CBE in the Queen’s Birthday Honours List in 2004. He was made Fellow of the Geographical Society of China in 2022.

YEAR 1
A Philosophical Recounting
Susan Buck-Morss
A reclamation of the first century as common ground rather than the origin of deeply entrenched differences.
“Year One seeks to remind us that we need not think of the past or the present as ossified. We can discover unexpected worlds in historical archives.” — Nasrin Olla, Radical Philosophy

Susan Buck-Morss is Distinguished Professor of Political Theory at the CUNY Graduate Center and the Jan Rock Zubrow Professor Emerita of Government at Cornell University. She is the author of Dreamworld and Catastrophe: The Passing of Mass Utopia in East and West (MIT Press) and other books.

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Psychoanalytic Politics
Jacques Lacan and Freud’s French Revolution
second edition, with a new preface
Sherry Turkle

An updated edition of the seminal book that explores why the interest in psychoanalysis in France exploded after 1968, and what it says about culture and therapy.

Among Western countries, France may well be the one that resisted Freud the longest. But, in the late 1960s, France was seized by an infatuation with Freudianism. By the end of that decade, France had more than a psychoanalytic movement: it had a widespread and deeply rooted psychoanalytic culture. At the heart of this development was Jacques Lacan’s reconstruction of Freudian theory, a reinvention of psychoanalysis that resonated with French culture in the aftermath of the uprisings of 1968. In Psychoanalytic Politics, the second edition of her groundbreaking work, Sherry Turkle tells the fascinating story of Lacan and why his work so profoundly influenced the French psyche.

While in the United States psychoanalysis is identified with an essentially conservative medical establishment, the French rediscovery of Freud, in a dramatic enactment of Freud’s prophesy, became associated with the most radical elements of French philosophical and political life. In this book, Turkle provides a firsthand account of the psychoanalytic culture that developed in France—as a politicized, Gallicized, and poeticized Freudianism, deeply marked by the work of Jacques Lacan. The clearest introduction in English to Lacan’s teaching, Psychoanalytic Politics explores how cultures appropriate theories of mind and how ideas come to connect with individuals. The book’s final chapter provides a fascinating portrayal of the last years of Lacan’s life—the intrigue and power struggles that resulted in the break-up of the Freudian School he founded and the events that unfolded in the years following his death in 1981.

This edition includes a new preface by the author, reflecting on the origins of the book and its relevance for today: a time when the integration of thought and feeling, politics and self-examination is as urgent an endeavor as ever.

Sherry Turkle is the Abby Rockefeller Mauzé Professor of the Social Studies of Science and Technology at MIT. Her notable books include The Second Self, Life on the Screen, Simulation and Its Discontents, Alone Together, Reclaiming Conversation, and The Empathy Diaries.

psychology | cultural studies | French history
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Fifty Years of Dungeons & Dragons
edited by Premeet Sidhu, Marcus Carter, and José P. Zagal

On the fiftieth anniversary of Dungeons & Dragons, a collection of essays that explores and celebrates the game's legacy and its tremendous impact on gaming and popular culture.

In 2024, the enormously influential tabletop role-playing game Dungeons & Dragons—also known as D&D—celebrates its fiftieth anniversary. To mark the occasion, editors Premeet Sidhu, Marcus Carter, and José Zagal have assembled an edited collection that celebrates and reflects on important parts of the game's past, present, and future. Each chapter in Fifty Years of Dungeons & Dragons explores why the nondigital game is more popular than ever— with sales increasing 33 percent during the COVID-19 pandemic, despite worldwide lockdowns—and offers readers the opportunity to critically reflect on their own experiences, perceptions, and play of D&D.

Fifty Years of Dungeons & Dragons draws on fascinating research and insight from expert scholars in the field, including: Gary Alan Fine, whose 1983 book Shared Fantasy remains a canonical text in game studies; Jon Peterson, celebrated D&D historian; Daniel Justice, Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Literature and Expressive Culture; and numerous leading and emerging scholars from the growing discipline of game studies, including Amanda Cote, Esther MacCallum-Stewart, and Aaron Trammell. The chapters cover a diverse range of topics—from D&D's adoption in local contexts and classrooms and by queer communities to speculative interpretations of what D&D might look like in one hundred years—that aim to deepen readers' understanding of the game.

Premeet Sidhu is an accredited English and History teacher and PhD student at the University of Sydney. Her PhD looks at the modern resurgence and educational application of the tabletop role-playing game Dungeons & Dragons. Marcus Carter is Associate Professor in Digital Cultures at the University of Sydney. With Kelly Bergstrom and Darryl Woodford, he edited Internet Spaceships Are Serious Business: An EVE Online Reader and is the author of Treacherous Play (MIT Press). José P. Zagal is Professor at the University of Utah's Entertainment Arts & Engineering program. He is the author of Ludoliteracy, editor of The Videogame Ethics Reader, and editor-in-chief of Transactions of the Digital Games Research Association. Zagal has been honored as a DiGRA Distinguished Scholar and a Fellow of the Higher-Education Video Game Alliance for his contributions to games research.
Algorithms of Resistance
The Everyday Fight against Platform Power
Tiziano Bonini and Emiliano Treré

How global workers, influencers, and activists develop tactics of algorithmic resistance by appropriating and repurposing the same algorithms that control our lives.

Algorithms are all around us, permeating more and more aspects of our daily lives. While accounts of platform power tend to come across as bleak and monolithic, *Algorithms of Resistance* shows how people can resist algorithms across a variety of domains. Drawing from rich ethnographic materials and perspectives from both the Global North and South, authors Tiziano Bonini and Emiliano Treré explore how people appropriate and reconfigure algorithms to pursue their objectives in three domains of everyday life: gig work, cultural industries, and politics. They reveal how forms of algorithmic agency and resistance are endemic and mundane and how the platform society is a contested battleground of contrasting forces.

Bonini and Treré begin by outlining their key theoretical framework of moral economies. This framework argues that algorithms exist on a continuum. At its two extremes are two competing moral economies: the user moral economy and the platform moral economy. From here, *Algorithms of Resistance* chronicles the various inventive ways that individuals can work to achieve agency and resist the ubiquitous power of algorithms. Casting a wide net with a diverse range of case studies, Bonini and Treré reveal the moral imperative for all of us—from delivery drivers to artists to social movements—to resist algorithms.

Tiziano Bonini is Associate Professor in Sociology of Culture and Communication in the Department of Social, Political and Cognitive Sciences at the University of Siena in Italy. Emiliano Treré is Reader in Data Agency and Media Ecologies at Cardiff University’s School of Journalism, Media and Culture. He is the author of *Hybrid Media Activism*, winner of the Outstanding Book Award of the ICA Interest Group “Activism, Communication and Social Justice.”

Sex and the Planet
What Opt-In Reproduction Could Do for the Globe
Margaret Pabst Battin

What if human reproduction was always elective?
A prominent bioethicist speculates about the possibilities—and the likely consequences.

What would the world be like if all pregnancy was intended, not unintended as it is nearly half the time now? Considerably better, Margaret Pabst Battin suggests in *Sex and the Planet*, a provocative thought experiment with far-reaching real-world implications. Many of the world’s most vexing and seemingly intractable issues begin with sex—when sperm meets egg, as Battin puts it—abortion, adolescent pregnancy, high-risk pregnancy, sexual violence, population growth and decline. Rethinking reproductive rights and exposing our many mistaken assumptions about sex, *Sex and the Planet* offers an optimistic picture of how we might solve these problems—by drastically curtailing unintended pregnancies using currently available methods.

How we see this picture—as recommendation, prediction, utopian fantasy, totalitarian plot, hypothetical conjecture, or realistic solution—depends to a great degree on which of thirteen problematic assumptions we maintain, assumptions Battin works to identify and challenge. Taking on sensitive topics like abortion and rape and religious issues around contraception, she shows how a fully informed, nonideological approach could defuse much of the friction such issues tend to generate. Also, in her attention to male contraception and the asymmetry of female and male reproductive control, she pulls in the 50 percent of the human race—those with Y chromosomes—largely left out of discussions of reproductive health. *Sex and the Planet*, finally, takes a global view, inviting us to consider a possible—even plausible—reproductive future.

Margaret Pabst Battin is Distinguished Professor of Philosophy and Adjunct Professor of Internal Medicine, Center for Health Ethics, Arts, and Humanities, at the University of Utah. She has written, cowritten, edited, or coedited some twenty books, including *The Least Worst Death* and other volumes on end-of-life issues.

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From the Dark Web to the Future of Privacy
Ben Collier

A biography of Tor—a cultural and technological history of power, privacy, and global politics at the internet's core.

Tor, one of the most important and misunderstood technologies of the digital age, is best known as the infrastructure underpinning the so-called Dark Web. But the real “dark web,” when it comes to Tor, is the hidden history brought to light in this book: where this complex and contested infrastructure came from, why it exists, and how it connects with global power in intricate and intimate ways. In Tor: From the Dark Web to the Future of Privacy, Ben Collier has written, in essence, a biography of Tor—a cultural and technological history of power, privacy, politics, and empire in the deepest reaches of the internet.

The story of Tor begins in the 1990s with its creation by the US Navy's Naval Research Lab, from a convergence of different cultural worlds. Drawing on in-depth interviews with designers, developers, activists, and users, along with twenty years of mailing lists, design documents, reporting, and legal papers, Collier traces Tor's evolution from those early days to its current operation on the frontlines of global digital power—including the strange collaboration between US military scientists and a group of freewheeling hackers called the Cypherpunks. As Collier charts the rise and fall of three different cultures in Tor's diverse community—the engineers, the maintainers, and the activists, each with a distinct understanding of and vision for Tor—he reckons with Tor's complicated, changing relationship with contemporary US empire. Ultimately, the book reveals how different groups of users have repurposed Tor and built new technologies and worlds of their own around it, with profound implications for the future of the Internet.

Ben Collier is Lecturer in Digital Methods in the Department of Science, Technology, and Innovation Studies at the School of Social and Political Science, University of Edinburgh.

The Character of Consent

The History of Cookies and the Future of Technology Policy
Meg Leta Jones

The rich, untold origin story of the ubiquitous web cookie—what's wrong with it, why it's being retired, and how we can do better.

Consent pop-ups continually ask us to download cookies to our computers, but is this all-too-familiar form of privacy protection effective? No, Meg Leta Jones explains in The Character of Consent, rather than promote functionality, privacy, and decentralization, cookie technology has instead made the internet invasive, limited, and chunky. Good thing, then, that the cookie is set for retirement in 2024. In this eye-opening book, Jones tells the little-known story of this broken consent arrangement, tracing it back to the major transnational conflicts around digital consent over the last twenty-five years. What she finds is that the policy controversy is not, in fact, an information crisis—it's an identity crisis.

Instead of asking how people consent, Jones asks who exactly is consenting and to what. Packed into those cookie pop-ups, she explains, are three distinct areas of law with three different characters who can consent. Within (mainly European) data protection law, the data subject consents. Within communication privacy law, the user consents. And within consumer protection law, the privacy consumer consents. These areas of law have very different histories, motivations, institutional structures, expertise, and strategies, so consent—and the characters who can consent—plays a unique role in those areas of law. The Character of Consent gives each computer character its due, taking us back to their origin stories within the legal history of computing. By doing so, Jones provides alternative ways of understanding the core issues within the consent dilemma. More importantly, she offers bold new approaches to creating and adopting better tech policies in the future.

Meg Leta Jones is Provost's Distinguished Associate Professor in the Communication, Culture & Technology program at Georgetown University and the author of Ctrl+Z: The Right to Be Forgotten. She is also a core faculty member of the Science, Technology and International Affairs program in Georgetown's School of Foreign Service, a faculty affiliate with the Institute for Technology Law & Policy at Georgetown Law Center, and a faculty fellow at the Georgetown Ethics Lab.
The Creative Brain
Myths and Truths
Anna Abraham

A nuanced, science-based understanding of the creative mind that dispels the pervasive myths we hold about the human brain—but also uncovers the truth at their cores.

What is the relationship between creativity and madness? Creativity and intelligence? Do psychedelics truly enhance creativity? How should we understand the left and right hemispheres of the brain? Is the left brain, in fact, the seat of reasoning and the right brain the seat of creativity? These are just some of the questions Anna Abraham, a renowned expert of human creativity and the imagination, explores in The Creative Brain, a fascinating deep dive into the origins of the seven most common beliefs about the human brain. Rather than endorse or debunk these myths, Abraham traces them back to their origins to explain just how they started and why they spread—and what at their core is the truth.

Drawing on theoretical and empirical work in cognitive psychology and neuroscience, Abraham offers an examination of human creativity that reveals the true complexity underlying our conventional beliefs about the brain. The chapters in the book explore the myth of the right brain as the hemisphere responsible for creativity; the relationship between madness and creativity, psychedelics and creativity, atypical brains and creativity, and intelligence and creativity; the various functions of dopamine; and lastly, the default mode revolution, which theorized that the brain regions most likely to be involved in the creative process are those areas of the brain that are most active during rest or mind-wandering.

An accessible and engaging read, The Creative Brain gets to the heart of how our creative minds work and why some people are more creative than others, offering illuminating insights into what on its surface seems to be an endlessly magical phenomenon.

Anna Abraham is the E. Paul Torrance Professor and Director of the Torrance Center for Creativity and Talent Development at the University of Georgia. She is the author of The Neuroscience of Creativity and the editor of the multidisciplinary volume The Cambridge Handbook of the Imagination.

cognitive science | psychology
April | 5 1/4 x 8, 280 pp.
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The Ghost in the Addict
Shepard Siegel

How withdrawal distress and cravings can haunt current and former addicts, and what they can teach us about addiction and its treatments.

“The dead drug leaves a ghost behind. At certain hours it haunts the house,” Jean Cocteau once wrote. In The Ghost in the Addict, Shepard Siegel offers a Pavlovian analysis of drug use. Chronic drug use, he explains, conditions users to have an anticipatory homeostatic correction, which protects the addict from overdose. This drug-preparatory response, elicited by drug-paired cues, is often mislabeled a “withdrawal response.” The withdrawal response, however, is not due to the baneful effects of previous drug administrations; rather, it is due to the body’s preparation for the next drug administration—a preparatory response that can haunt addicts like a ghost long after they have conquered their usage.

Examining the failure of legislation, the circumstances of overdose, and the cues that promote drug use, Siegel seeks to counter the widespread belief that addiction is evidence of a pathology. Instead, he proposes that the addict has an adaptive, learned response to the physiological changes wrought by drug use. It is only through understanding so-called withdrawal symptoms as a Pavlovian response, he explains, that we can begin to understand why addicts experience cravings long after their last drug use.

“Nobody knows more about what really happens in addiction than Shep Siegel.” — Angela Duckworth, author of Grit

Shepard Siegel is Distinguished University Professor of Psychology, Neuroscience, and Behavior at McMaster University. He has been a Fellow in the American Psychological Association, the Society of Experimental Psychologists, and the Royal Society of Canada. From 2003 to 2008 he was Editor of Learning & Behavior.

psychology
February | 5 1/4 x 8, 192 pp.
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Things That Move
A Hinterland in Architectural History
Tim Anstey
A history of architecture, not as the art of what stays but of what changes and moves.

We tend to think of architecture as a practice in permanence, but what if we inverted the hierarchical relationship between the permanent and the transient that so often underlies architectural discussions? In Things That Move, Tim Anstey does just that; instead of assuming that architecture is, at a certain level, stationary, he considers how architecture moves subjects (referring to its emotive potential in the experience it creates); how it moves objects (referring to how it choreographs bodies in motion), and how it is itself moved (referring to the mixture of materials, laws, affordances, and images that introduce movement into any architectural condition).

Organized in three sections, Things That Move first addresses “Cargoes,” which considers the mobile peripheries of architectural history through the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. These chapters ask what kinds of knowledge can be included under a discussion of something called architecture, noting the interrelation between discourses of the lithe and the technical and those associated with the production of monumental, static compositions. The second section, “Dispatches,” reinterprets early architectural theory by examining the Renaissance ideal of decorum, the nature of the architectural work, and the ways in which architects are constituted as authors. And finally, Anstey considers architecture in terms of “Vehicles,” using two cases from the twentieth century that investigate the relationship between architecture and cultural memory.

Using a broadly forensic approach to connect details in otherwise disparate cases, Things That Move is a breathtakingly capacious architectural account that will change the way readers understand buildings, their becoming, and their significance.

Tim Anstey is Chair of the PhD Programme at the Oslo School of Architecture and Design. He is the author of Architecture and Authorship and the designer and cocurator for the international exhibitions Images of Egypt at the Museum of Cultural History, Oslo, and Warburg Models at the Warburg Haus, Berlin and the Architectural Association, London.

Prior Art
Patents and the Nature of Invention in Architecture
Peter H. Christensen
A groundbreaking text on the history of the use of patents in architecture.

Although patents existed in Renaissance Italy and even in Confucian thought, it was not until the middle third of the nineteenth century that architects embraced the practice of patenting in significant numbers. Patents could ensure, as they did for architects’ engineering brethren, the economic and cultural benefits afforded by exclusive intellectual property rights. But patent culture was never directly translatable to the field of architecture, which tended to negotiate issues of technological innovation in the context of the more abstract issues of artistic influence and formal expression. In Prior Art, scholar Peter Christensen offers the first full-scale monographic treatment of this complex relationship between art and invention.

Christensen’s method, a site-oriented approach steeped in multinational and multilingual archival work, is geared toward unifying fractured global histories of architectural patents through the distinct union of architectural, cultural, and legal history. Prior Art offers a record of the marriage of intellectual property and architectural invention—a momentous, understudied, and still underutilized aspect of architectural culture in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries—and the ways in which it influenced how buildings are conceived, designed, engineered, constructed, and promoted.

Peter Christensen is the Arthur Satz Professor of the Humanities and the Ani and Mark Gabrellian Director of the Humanities Center at the University of Rochester. He is the author of Germany and the Ottoman Railway Network and Precious Metal.

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Art as Demonstration
A Revolutionary Recasting of Knowledge
Sven Spieker

How artists wield demonstration to question the status quo both aesthetically and politically, marshaling art and education as powerful agents of change.

Demonstration, in short, says: See here. It is the practice of pointing to something in order to explain or contest it. As such, Sven Spieker argues that demonstration has helped reshape art from the height of the Cold War to the late twentieth century, reformattting our understanding of how art and political engagement relate to each other. Focusing on Western Europe (especially Germany), Eastern Europe, and the United States, Art as Demonstration expands on contemporary discussions of art-as-protest, activism, and resistance. Spieker shows how a closer, more historical look at art’s connection with demonstration reconnects us with earlier efforts, notably by the early twentieth-century avant-garde, to marshal art for the purpose of instruction and engagement.

“A must-read for anyone who takes efforts to mobilize art for instructional purposes seriously.” —Alexander Alberro

Sven Spieker is the founding editor of ARTMargins print journal and ARTMargins Online and Professor of Comparative Literature at the University of California, Santa Barbara. He is the author of The Big Archive and the editor of Destruction (both MIT Press), and editor of Akusmatik im Labor: Kultur-Kunst-Medien.

Radio-Activities
Architecture and Broadcasting in Cold War Berlin
Alfredo Thiermann Riesco

A historical and theoretical account of the city of Berlin from the intertwined perspectives of architecture, environmental, and media studies.

In 1945, having occupied German territory, Soviet troops made two strategic moves: they dismantled the Deutschlandsender III radio transmission tower, the single tallest structure at the time in Europe, and they seized the Haus des Rundfunks in West Berlin, a monumental building designed by Hans Poelzig. These moves were crucial both symbolically and technically, as together they sparked what would become a veritable radio war between the Eastern and Western blocs during the Cold War. In Radio-Activities, Alfredo Thiermann Riesco investigates this spatial conflict as he interrogates the political, technological, and environmental dimensions of architecture at a time when buildings began to interact with the remote transmission of information.

By its very nature, the medium of radio promised to evaporate the intrinsic material aspect of architecture; in fact, it did no such thing. By way of transccalar analyses, Thiermann Riesco pays particular attention to Berlin’s buildings, walls, transmission towers, factories, research institutions, and territorial organizations during the Cold War period, which enabled the production, reproduction, and transmission of sonic-based content across the divide of the Iron Curtain.

In doing so he reveals underresearched continuities between politics, technology, media, and architecture, in the process reframing notions of national and transnational boundaries. A timely and fascinating study, Radio-Activities brilliantly interrogates the status and agency of buildings during a period—not unlike today’s—of increasingly hyperconnected, ubiquitous, and invisible modes of coexistence.

Alfredo Thiermann Riesco is an architect and Assistant Professor of History and Theory of Architecture at the École Polytechnique Fédérale in Lausanne. His work has been exhibited at the Museum of Modern Art in New York, Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes in Santiago, Istanbul Design Biennial, gta exhibitions in Zurich, and Venice Art Biennale, among other institutions. He is a recipient of the Rome Prize awarded by the German Academy in Rome.

Sven Spieker

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Alfredo Thiermann Riesco

May | 6 3/4 x 9 1/2, 352 pp. | 92 color illus., 125 b&w illus.
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Foundations of Computer Vision
Antonio Torralba, Phillip Isola, and William T. Freeman

An accessible, authoritative, and up-to-date computer vision textbook offering a comprehensive introduction to the foundations of the field that incorporates the latest deep learning advances.

Machine learning has revolutionized computer vision, but the methods of today have deep roots in the history of the field. Providing a much-needed modern treatment, this accessible and up-to-date textbook comprehensively introduces the foundations of computer vision while incorporating the latest deep learning advances. Taking a holistic approach that goes beyond machine learning, it addresses fundamental issues in the task of vision and the relationship of machine vision to human perception. Foundations of Computer Vision covers topics not standard in other texts, including transformers, diffusion models, statistical image models, issues of fairness and ethics, and the research process. To emphasize intuitive learning, concepts are presented in short, lucid chapters alongside extensive illustrations, questions, and examples. Written by leaders in the field and honed by a decade of classroom experience, this engaging and highly teachable book offers an essential next-generation view of computer vision.

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- Accessible approach emphasizes fundamentals and assumes little background knowledge
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- Proven in the classroom
- Instructor resources include slides, solutions, and source code

Antonio Torralba is Professor and Head of the AI+D faculty at the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at MIT, where he is a member of the Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory (CSAIL). Phillip Isola is Associate Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at MIT, where he is a member of the Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory (CSAIL). William T. Freeman is Thomas and Gerd Perkins Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at MIT, where he is a member of the Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory (CSAIL). He is also a research manager at Google Research in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

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Robert Rosenbaum is Associate Professor of Applied and Computational Mathematics and Statistics at the University of Notre Dame. His research in computational neuroscience is focused on using computational models of neural circuits to help understand the dynamics and statistics of neural activity underlying sensory processing and learning.

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Measurements-Based Radar Signature Modeling
An Analysis Framework
Joseph T. Mayhan and John A. Tabaczynski

A high-level text that synthesizes diverse research areas for characterizing objects (targets) from radar data and establishes a novel analysis framework for a class of signal processing techniques useful for high-resolution radar signature modeling.

The only text to integrate a diverse body of work on characterizing objects (targets) from radar data into a common analysis framework, this book brings together the results of research papers and technical reports providing improved resolution and precision in radar target signature modeling and target motion solutions. It offers comprehensive coverage related to basic radar concepts, signal representation, and radar measurements; the development of advanced analysis tools essential for high-resolution signature modeling; the development of novel wideband and narrowband radar imaging techniques; the application of 2D spectral estimation theory to wideband signal processing; ultra-wideband scattering phenomenology and sparse-band sensor data fusion; and the integration of field measurements into the radar signature modeling process.

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Joseph T. Mayhan is a Senior Staff Member at MIT Lincoln Laboratory, where he has worked for fifty years, formerly as Group Leader of the Sensor Systems and Measurements Group. The late John A. Tabaczynski served as Assistant, Associate, and then Leader of the Ballistic Missile Defense Analysis division at MIT Lincoln Laboratory, where he worked for over fifty years.

Artificial Intelligence
A Systems Approach from Architecture Principles to Deployment
David R. Martinez and Bruke Kifle

The first text to take a systems engineering approach to artificial intelligence (AI), from architecture principles to the development and deployment of AI capabilities.

Most books on artificial intelligence (AI) focus on a single functional building block, such as machine learning or human-machine teaming. Artificial Intelligence takes a more holistic approach, addressing AI from the view of systems engineering. The book centers on the people-process-technology triad that is critical to successful development of AI products and services. Development starts with an AI design, based on the AI system architecture, and culminates with successful deployment of the AI capabilities. Directed toward AI developers and operational users, this accessibly written volume of the MIT Lincoln Laboratory Series can also serve as a text for undergraduate seniors and graduate-level students and as a reference book.

• In-depth look at modern computing technologies
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• Tools to develop a strategic roadmap and techniques to foster an innovative team environment
• Multiple use cases that stem from the authors’ MIT classes, as well as from AI practitioners, AI project managers, early-career AI team leaders, technical executives, and entrepreneurs
• Exercises and Jupyter notebook examples

David R. Martinez is a laboratory fellow at the MIT Lincoln Laboratory and the lead instructor for MIT’s “AI Strategies and Roadmap: Systems Engineering Approach to AI Development and Deployment” and “AI and MLOps: Leading Business Growth” courses. Bruke Mesfin Kifle is a management consultant and former AI product manager at Microsoft. He co-instructs MIT’s “AI Strategies and Roadmap” course.

May | 7 x 9, 512 pp. | 168 color illus., 51 b&w illus.
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MIT Lincoln Laboratory Series
Building SimCity
How to Put the World in a Machine
Chaim Gingold

A deep dive into the trailblazing simulation game SimCity, situating it in the history of games, simulation, and computing.

Building SimCity explores the history of computer simulation by chronicling one of the most influential simulation games ever made: SimCity. As author Chaim Gingold explains, Will Wright, the visionary designer behind the urban planning game, created SimCity in part to learn about cities, appropriating ideas from traditions in which computers are used as tools for modeling and thinking about the world as a complex system. As such, SimCity is a microcosm of the histories and cultures of computer simulation that engages with questions, themes, and representational techniques that reach back to the earliest computer simulations.

Gingold uses SimCity to explore a web of interrelated topics in the history of technology, software, and simulation, taking us far and wide—from the dawn of programmable computers to miniature cities made of construction paper to role-play. An unprecedented history of Maxis, the company founded to bring SimCity to market, the book reveals Maxis’s complex relations with venture capitalists, Nintendo, and the Santa Fe Institute, which shaped the evolution of Will Wright’s career; Maxis’s failure to back The Sims to completion; and the company’s sale to Electronic Arts.

A lavishly visual book, Building SimCity boasts a treasure trove of visual matter to help bring its wide-ranging subjects to life, including painstakingly crafted diagrams that explain SimCity’s operation, the Kodachrome photographs taken by Charles Eames of schoolchildren making model cities, and Nintendo’s manga-style “Dr. Wright” character design, just to name a few.

Chaim Gingold is a designer and theorist whose work has been featured in Wired, CNN, and the New York Times. He worked closely with Will Wright on Spore and designed the Spore Creature Creator.

game studies
April | 6 x 9, 480 pp. | 108 color illus.
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Smart Management
How Simple Heuristics Help Leaders Make Good Decisions in an Uncertain World
Jochen Reb, Shenghua Luan, and Gerd Gigerenzer

Why successful leaders must embrace simple strategies in an increasingly uncertain and complex world.

Making decisions is one of the key tasks of managers, leaders, and professionals. In Smart Management, Jochen Reb, Shenghua Luan, and Gerd Gigerenzer demonstrate how business leaders can utilize heuristics—simple decision-making strategies adapted to the task at hand. In a world that has become increasingly volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous (VUCA), the authors make the case against complex analytical methods that quickly reach their limits. This against-the-grain approach leads to decisions that are not only faster but also more accurate, transparent, and easier to learn about, communicate, and teach. Smart Management offers an evidence-based yet practical discussion of how business leaders can use smart heuristics to make good decisions in a VUCA world.

Building on the fast-and-frugal heuristics program, Smart Management demonstrates the efficacy of heuristic decision making in a twofold approach. First, it introduces the concept of ecological rationality, which prescribes the environmental conditions under which specific heuristics work well. Second, the book describes a repertoire of heuristics, referred to as the adaptive toolbox, that leaders, managers, and professionals can develop and rely on to make a variety of decisions, such as on business strategy, negotiation, and personnel selection. The toolbox not only showcases the practical usefulness of these heuristics but also inspires readers to discover and develop their own smart heuristics.

Jochen Reb is Professor of Organizational Behavior and Human Resources and founding Director of the Mindfulness Initiative at the Lee Kong Chian School of Business, Singapore Management University. Shenghua Luan is Professor of Psychology and Principal Investigator of the Risk and Uncertainty Management Lab at the Institute of Psychology, Chinese Academy of Sciences. Gerd Gigerenzer is Director of the Harding Center for Risk Literacy at the University of Potsdam, Director Emeritus at the Max Planck Institute for Human Development, and Partner of Simply Rational—the Institute for Decisions. He is the author of Calculated Risks, Gut Feelings, Risk Savvy, and How to Stay Smart in a Smart World (MIT Press).

cognitive science | management
May | 6 x 9, 272 pp. | 34 b&w illus.
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It Goes without Saying
Taking the Guesswork Out of Your PhD in Engineering

Caroline Boudoux

The definitive toolkit for doctoral students in engineering on thesis—and journal—article preparation, project (and stress) management, IP protection, collaborations, and other aspects of the PhD journey.

It shouldn’t take a PhD to get a PhD, but sometimes the process can seem that confusing—even though, to the mentors and advisors, so obvious that it goes without saying. For doctoral students in engineering confronting this dilemma, Caroline Boudoux, an accomplished researcher and entrepreneur, provides a demystifying guide to the challenges—daunting, seemingly routine, and at times unexpected—of pursuing a PhD in this demanding field. In It Goes without Saying, Boudoux marshals her own considerable experience mentoring graduate students, teaching doctoral workshops, and—not so long ago—earning her own PhD at MIT to give PhD candidates the know-how, and the confidence, to succeed.

From the mundane to the metaphysical, this user-friendly guide gives the doctoral student in engineering the tools to make it from Day 1 to the successful completion of the PhD in a timely, fully informed, and forward-looking manner.

Caroline Boudoux is Professor of Engineering Physics at Polytechnique Montréal and Cofounder and Copresident at Castor Optics. She is on the Board of Meetings for OPTICA, is a Fellow of SPIE, and a Fulbright scholar. Boudoux has authored three textbooks in optics and engineering and contributed to several edited books, publications, and patents.

Among the topics this book takes up are:

- What a PhD is: the journey, the milestones, and the endgame.
- Technical questions about what a doctoral project in engineering is and how to lead one.
- Practical matters including tips on writing, from proposal to dissertation; ethics; and intellectual property.
- Personal concerns, such as dealing with expectations, imposter syndrome, and stress.

US $45.00X/$60.00 CAN paperback
978-0-262-54820-5
Disparate Measures

The Intersectional Economics of Women in STEM Work
Mary A. Armstrong and Susan L. Averett

An exploration of workplace participation and earnings patterns for diverse women in US STEM professions that upends the myth that STEM work benefits women economically.

Seen as part economic driver, part social remedy, STEM work is commonly understood to benefit both the US economy and people—particularly women—from underrepresented groups. But what do diverse women find when they work in US STEM occupations? What do STEM jobs really deliver—and for whom? In *Disparate Measures*, Mary Armstrong and Susan Averett challenge the conventional wisdom that a diverse US STEM workforce will bring about economic abundance for the women who participate in it. Combining intersectionality theory and critical data theory with a feminist economic analysis, the authors explore how different groups of diverse women truly fare in US STEM professions.

Disparate Measures is centered on eight unique, in-depth case studies, each of which provides an intersectional economic analysis (a term coined by the authors) of diverse women working in STEM occupations. Four case studies prioritize women of color and examine the STEM participation and earnings of Black women, American Indian and Alaska Native women, Asian and Pacific Islander women, and Hispanic women/Latinas; four additional case studies illuminate intersections that are frequently neglected by the STEM inclusivity literature: foreign-born women, women with disabilities, Queer women, and mothers. What the authors find in their groundbreaking, detailed analysis is that the promises of STEM are only partly true: when compared to women not working in STEM, most women are indeed economically elevated by STEM occupations—yet when compared to white men in the same STEM occupations, women’s second-class status is usually reaffirmed. The authors conclude by offering seven “big-picture” recommendations for rethinking STEM equity, showing just how we can successfully confront the entrenched patterns of economic disadvantage faced by diverse women in STEM jobs.

Mary A. Armstrong is the Charles A. Dana Professor of Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and English and Chair of the Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program at Lafayette College. Susan L. Averett is the Charles A. Dana Professor of Economics at Lafayette College.

tech | business | gender studies
March | 6 x 9, 376 pp. | 66 graphs
US $60.00X/$79.00 CAN cloth
978-0-262-04886-6

Going Big

A Scientist’s Guide to Large Projects and Collaborations
Christopher W. Stubbs

All the crucial skills scientists need to make a professional transition into large projects and collaborations that require governance and project management.

For centuries humans have undertaken ambitious projects that require extraordinary time, labor, and funds, from the pyramids to road networks. Modern science increasingly tackles ambitious projects whose size and complexity require an equally ambitious coordination of efforts, schedules, and resources. In *Going Big*, Harvard Professor and Dean of Science Christopher Stubbs provides the essential resource for scientists who are ramping up the scale of their scientific enterprises and working within the various hierarchies and sociologies of large scientific teams. An experienced project scientist, Stubbs focuses on technical project management for the construction of large facilities, instruments, and software development, and guides both junior and established scientists on how to work in big, structured collaborations.

Stubbs supplements scientists’ formal training in their fields with the logistical, sociological, and strategic knowledge they need to tackle modern science’s increasingly ambitious projects, from matters of risk, cost, and performance to the issues of budgeting, scheduling, and human relations. Chapters address technical documentation, risk mitigation, tracking progress and milestones, health, safety, and environmental considerations, as well as ways to be an effective team member and defuse interpersonal conflicts. Scaffolded with real-world advice and suggestions for success, *Going Big* covers the lifecycle of large projects to equip scientists worldwide, at every stage of their career.

Christopher W. Stubbs is Professor of Physics and of Astronomy at Harvard University, where he also serves as Dean of Science. His research lies at the interface between gravity, cosmology, and particle physics.

physical sciences
February | 6 x 9, 144 pp. | 14 b&w illus.
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Direct to Open: A bold, innovative model for open access to scholarship and knowledge

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The MIT Press is pleased to announce that the following titles in this catalog are all included in our open access (OA) program.
Critical Perspectives on Ancient DNA
edited by Daniel Strand, Anna Källén, and Charlotte Mulcare

The first comprehensive critical analysis of the practices and consequences of ancient DNA research.

This edited collection, Critical Perspectives on Ancient DNA, presents a critical enquiry into the much-hyped “ancient DNA revolution” in archaeology. Offering the first comprehensive and in-depth scholarly analysis of the practices and effects of archaeogenetics, editors Daniel Strand, Anna Källén, and Charlotte Mulcare, along with other renowned scholars from Europe and the United States, address a host of questions, such as: What happens with our understanding of the past when archaeology is married to genetic science? What cultural forms and historical narratives are generated by ancient DNA (aDNA) research, and what energies could they unleash?

Taking a multidisciplinary and multisite approach to the topic, the essays offer important insights into the epistemological, ethical, and political consequences around and beyond the scientific analysis of aDNA.

Contributors
Ruth Amstutz, Chip Colwell, Magnus Fiskesjö, K. Ann Horsburgh, Anna Källén, Stewart B. Koyiyumptewa, Amade M'charek, Charlotte Mulcare, Andreas Nyblom, Venla Oikkonen, Mélanie Pruvost, Marianne Sommer, Daniel Strand

Daniel Strand has a PhD in History of Ideas from Stockholm University and works at the Living History Forum in Stockholm. He was previously affiliated with the Centre for Multidisciplinary Studies on Racism at Uppsala University and the Committee on Historical Studies at New School for Social Research.

Anna Källén is an archaeologist and Chair Professor of Museology at Umeå University. She was PI of the multidisciplinary project “Code, Narrative, History: Making Sense of Ancient DNA in Contemporary Culture.” Her most recent book is The Trouble with Ancient DNA. Charlotte Mulcare has a PhD in genetics from UCL and works in genetics and scientific communications for commercial, academic, government, and third-sector organizations. She was previously affiliated with Liverpool University as an Honorary Fellow.

anthropology | genetics
July | 6 x 9, 256 pp. | 7 color illus., 10 b&w illus.
US $45.00X/$60.00 CAN paperback
978-0-262-54809-0

Not Found
Guillermo Acosta Navarrete, Gabriel Gutierrez Huerta, and Mari Kroin

How architecture conceals, obscures, or camouflages itself in plain sight, and how such hiding functions as a form of power.

Architecture is the perfect form of camouflage. As buildings recede into the background of everyday life, the myriad forces that shape our natural, social, and political landscapes hide in plain sight. Embedded within the material and spatial organizations of the built environment are ideas of value, hierarchy, and control that tilt the ground and influence perception in the name of endless, competing interests. This issue of Perspecta, considers the complexities and potentialities of architectural concealment, obfuscation, and mimicry—of the power inherent in architecture’s expanding capacity as media.

Guillermo Acosta Navarrete is an architect based in New York and Mexico City and a graduate of the Yale School of Architecture. Gabriel Gutierrez Huerta is an architect and educator based in New York and a graduate of the Yale School of Architecture. Mari Kroin is an architecturally oriented creator and a graduate of the Yale School of Architecture.

architecture
April | 9 x 12, 248 pp. | 180 color illus.
US $35.00X/$48.00 CAN paperback
978-0-262-54781-9
Perspecta

The Future Is Present
Art, Technology, and the Work of Mobile Image
Philip Glahn and Cary Levine

A critical history of the pioneering art and technology group Mobile Image.

In The Future Is Present, Philip Glahn and Cary Levine tell the fascinating history of the visionary art group Mobile Image—founded by Kit Galloway and Sherrie Rabinowitz in 1977—which appropriated emerging technologies, from satellites to electronic message platforms. Based in Los Angeles, this under-studied collective worked amid urban crisis, a techno-boom, consolidating media power, and ascendant neoliberal politics. Mobile Image challenged fundamental conventions of the public sphere, democracy, communication, and political participation, as well as notions of power, representation, and identity.

Philip Glahn is Associate Professor of Critical Studies and Aesthetics at the Tyler School of Art and Architecture at Temple University in Philadelphia. He is the author of Bertolt Brecht. Cary Levine is Associate Professor of Contemporary Art History at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. He is the author of Pay for Your Pleasures: Mike Kelley, Paul McCarthy, Raymond Pettibon.

art
June | 6 x 9, 336 pp. | 34 color illus., 26 b&w illus.
US $45.00X/$60.00 CAN paperback
978-0-262-54807-6
A Leonardo Book
Making Modern Medical Ethics

How African Americans, Anti-Nazis, Bureaucrats, Feminists, Veterans, and Whistleblowing Moralists Created Bioethics

Robert Baker

The little-known stories of the people responsible for what we know today as modern medical ethics.

In *Making Modern Medical Ethics*, Robert Baker tells the counter history of the birth of bioethics, bringing to the fore the stories of the dissenters and whistleblowers who challenged the establishment. Drawing on his earlier work on moral revolutions and the history of medical ethics, Robert Baker traces the history of modern medical ethics and its bioethical turn to the moral insurrections incited by the many unsung dissenters and whistleblowers: African American civil rights leaders, Jewish Americans harboring Holocaust memories, feminists, women, and Anglo-American physicians and healthcare professionals who were veterans of the World Wars, the Cold War, and the Vietnam War.

Robert Baker is the William D. Williams Professor of Philosophy Emeritus at Union College in Schenectady, New York, and Professor of Bioethics and Founding Director (Emeritus) of the Bioethics Program at Clarkson University–Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in New York City. He is the author of *The Structure of Moral Revolutions* (MIT Press) and *Before Bioethics*.

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The Evolution of Techniques

Rigidity and Flexibility in Use, Transmission, and Innovation

*edited by Mathieu Charbonneau*

A novel, interdisciplinary exploration of the relative contributions of rigidity and flexibility in the adoption, maintenance, and evolution of technical traditions.

Techniques can either be used in rigid, stereotypical ways or in flexibly adaptive ways, or in some combination of the two. *The Evolution of Techniques*, edited by Mathieu Charbonneau, addresses the impacts of both flexibility and rigidity on how techniques are used, transformed, and reconstructed, at varying social and temporal scales. The multidisciplinary contributors demonstrate the important role of the varied learning contexts and social configurations involved in the transmission, use, and evolution of techniques. They explore the diversity of cognitive, behavioral, sociocultural, and ecological mechanisms that promote and constrain technical flexibility and rigidity, proposing a deeper picture of the enablers of, and obstacles to, technical transmission and change. The volume closes with a discussion by philosopher Kim Sterelny.

Mathieu Charbonneau is Assistant Professor at the Faculté de Gouvernance, Sciences Economiques et Sociales at the Université Mohammed VI Polytechnique, Morocco.

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Underbelly

Childhood Diarrhea and the Hidden Realities of Global Health

Rachel Hall-Clifford

foreword by Waleska López Canu

afterword by Arthur Kleinman

An unsettling exploration of the hidden power dynamics of global health, seen through the lens of childhood diarrhea and its treatment within the Guatemalan context.

Deaths from childhood diarrhea seem preposterous in high-income countries. Yet, for children under five years old in the rest of the world, diarrhea is the third highest cause of mortality. In *Underbelly*, Rachel Hall-Clifford takes a hard look at the pathways of global health funding and development policies and the outcomes they deliver for recipient individuals and communities.

Rachel Hall-Clifford is Assistant Professor of Human Health and Sociology at the Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Assistant Professor of Global Health at the Emory Rollins School of Public Health, and In-Country Director of the NAPA-OT Field School in Guatemala.
Inducing Immunity?
Justifying Immunization Policies in Times of Vaccine Hesitancy
Roland Pierik and Marcel Verweij

Why immunization must be made mandatory in times of vaccine hesitancy, and how we can design and implement immunization policies in a practical, trustworthy, and democratic way.

We live in perilous times when a significant number of citizens are either defiantly antivaccination or hesitant to accept vaccinations for themselves or for their children. In Inducing Immunity?, legal philosopher Roland Pierik and bioethicist Marcel Verweij, explore ways to regulate collective immunization in as democratic a manner as possible. Approaching the problem as a matter of a conflict between the responsibility of government to protect public health and the basic right to freedom of citizens, Pierik and Verweij argue that John Stuart Mill's harm principle—the idea that individuals should be free to act so long as their actions do not harm others—offers a strong basis for coercive immunization policies.

Covering childhood immunization policies, as well as vaccination programs aimed at adult citizens, the authors argue that a coercive immunization policy in any liberal democracy must first satisfy the principle of proportionality. This leads them to an in-depth exploration of the role of exemptions, the nature of coercion, and the contents of vaccination programs. In the final part of the book, the authors also discuss the importance and scope of freedom of speech, given how the current spread of misinformation has undermined confidence in vaccines.

Offering an in-depth analysis in bioethics and legal philosophy, Inducing Immunity? is a sensible and applicable guide for health professionals, policymakers, and academics alike on how we can—and must—do better with our immunization policies.

Roland Pierik is Professor of Philosophy of Law at the Faculty of Law, Maastricht University, the Netherlands. Pierik was a member of the Health Council of the Netherlands and served in the Health Council’s permanent committee on vaccinations, as well as on the committee for COVID-19

Marcel Verweij is Professor of Philosophical Ethics at Utrecht University. With Angus Dawson, he initiated the journal Public Health Ethics. He has fulfilled advisory roles for public health institutes such as the ECDC, the Health Council of the Netherlands, and the National Institute for Public Health and the Environment and has written discussion papers for the World Health Organization on the ethics of maternal immunization and on pandemic preparedness.

The Brain Abstracted
Simplification in the History and Philosophy of Neuroscience
M. Chirimuuta

An exciting, new framework for interpreting the philosophical significance of neuroscience.

All science needs to simplify, but when the object of research is something as complicated as the brain, this challenge can stretch the limits of scientific possibility. In fact, in The Brain Abstracted, an avowedly “opinionated” history of neuroscience, M. Chirimuuta argues that, due to the brain’s complexity, neuroscientific theories have only captured partial truths—and “neurophilosophy” is unlikely to be achieved. Looking at the theory and practice of neuroscience, both past and present, Chirimuuta shows how the science has been shaped by the problem of brain complexity and the need, in science, to make things as simple as possible. From this history, Chirimuuta draws lessons for debates in philosophy of science over the limits and definition of science and in philosophy of mind over explanations of consciousness and the mind-body problem.

The Brain Abstracted is the product of a historical rupture that has become visible in the twenty-first century, between the “classical” scientific approach, which seeks simple, intelligible principles underlying the manifest complexity of nature, and a data-driven engineering approach, which dispenses with the search for elegant, explanatory laws and models. In the space created by this rupture, Chirimuuta finds grounds for theoretical and practical humility. Her aim in The Brain Abstracted is not to reform neuroscience, or offer advice to neuroscientists, but rather to interpret their work—and to suggest a new framework for interpreting the philosophical significance of neuroscience.

Originally trained in visual neuroscience, M. Chirimuuta writes on the central ideas of the mind/brain sciences. She is Senior Lecturer in Philosophy at the University of Edinburgh and the author of Outside Color (MIT Press).

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The Elephant and the Blind
The Experience of Pure Consciousness: Philosophy, Science, and 500+ Experiential Reports

Thomas Metzinger
An engaging and insightful journey into human consciousness.

What if our goal had not been to land on Mars, but in pure consciousness? The experience of pure consciousness—what does it look like? What is the essence of human consciousness? In *The Elephant and the Blind*, influential philosopher Thomas Metzinger, one of the world’s leading researchers on consciousness, brings together more than 500 experiential reports to offer the world’s first comprehensive account of states of pure consciousness. Drawing on a large psychometric study of meditators in 57 countries, Metzinger focuses on “pure awareness” in meditation—the simplest form of experience there is—to illuminate the most fundamental aspects of how consciousness, the brain, and illusions of self all interact.

“What a magnificent piece of work. When so many consciousness experts said that ‘pure consciousness’ was impossible, Metzinger has not only proved them wrong but with hundreds of accounts and a sympathetic analysis, has laid the groundwork for a new understanding of unusual realms of consciousness.”

—Susan Blackmore, author of *Consciousness*

Thomas Metzinger was Full Professor of Theoretical Philosophy at the Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz. He is the author of *The Ego Tunnel* and *Being No One* (MIT Press), the coeditor of *Open MIND*, and the editor of *Neural Correlates of Consciousness* (both MIT Press).

cognitive science | philosophy
February | 7 x 9, 608 pp. | 6 color illus., 1 b&w illus.
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978-0-262-54710-9

The Cognitive Life of Maps

Roberto Casati
The “mapness of maps”—how maps live in interaction with their users, and what this tells us about what they are and how they work.

In a sense, maps are temporarily alive for those who design, draw, and use them. They have, for the moment, a cognitive life. To grapple with what this means—to ask how maps can be alive, and what kind of life they have—is to explore the core question of what maps are. And this is what Roberto Casati does in *The Cognitive Life of Maps*, in the process assembling the conceptual tools for understanding why maps have the power they have, why they are so widely used, and how we use (and misuse) them.

Roberto Casati is Director of the Jean Nicod Institute and Professor at EHESS (School of Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences) in Paris. He is the coauthor of *The Visual World of Shadows, Parts and Places*, and *Holes and Other Superficialities* (all MIT Press).

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The Open Dynamics of Braitenberg Vehicles

Scott Hotton and Jeff Yoshimi
An introduction to dynamical systems theory, a detailed mathematical analysis of pairs of Braitenberg vehicles, and a look at how these results apply to the study of physical and biological organisms.

Powering the concept of a Braitenberg vehicle, developed in 1984 by the Italian-Austrian cyberneticist Valentino Braitenberg, is the idea that simple systems can produce complex behaviors. A pair of interacting Braitenberg vehicles is simple, but they can meander, wind around, and follow each another in a number of ways. In this book, Scott Hotton and Jeff Yoshimi show how dynamical systems theory—in particular the theory of open dynamic systems—can be used to analyze pairs of these vehicles in great detail. The result of the authors’ long-standing collaboration at the intersection of mathematics, philosophy, cognitive science, and biology, *The Open Dynamics of Braitenberg Vehicles* offers a rigorous mathematical foundation for embodied cognition, especially when it comes to two-way interactions between an agent and its environment.

Scott Hotton is a mathematical biologist at the University of California, Merced. Jeff Yoshimi is Professor and founding faculty member in the Department of Cognitive and Information Sciences at the University of California, Merced.

cognitive science | philosophy
June | 6 x 9, 248 pp. | 15 color illus., 49 b&w illus.
US $50.00X/$66.00 CAN paperback
978-0-262-54819-9
The Science of Sadness
A New Understanding of Emotion
David Huron

An accessible, scientific account of grief, melancholy, and nostalgia in human life and their broader lessons for understanding emotions in general.

The Science of Sadness proposes an original scientific account of grief, melancholy, and nostalgia, advocating a unique ethological approach to these familiar, woeful emotions. One of the leading scholars in the psychology of music and music cognition, David Huron draws on hundreds of studies from physiology, medicine, neuroscience, psychology, anthropology, and the arts to resolve long-standing problems that have stymied modern emotion research. A careful examination of sadness-related behaviors reveals their biological and social functions, which Huron uses to formulate a new theory about how emotions in general are displayed and interpreted.

David Huron is Arts and Humanities Distinguished Professor Emeritus in the School of Music and at the Center for Cognitive and Brain Sciences at the Ohio State University. His previous books include Sweet Anticipation and Voice Leading (both MIT Press).

cognitive science | psychology
May | 6 x 9, 400 pp. | 10 b&w illus.
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The Curious Culture of Economic Theory
Ran Spiegler

An essay collection that explores the professional culture of contemporary economic theory, highlighting key features of successful economic theory from the last quarter century.

When is a theoretical result taken seriously enough for economic application? How do theorists actively try to influence this judgment? What determines whether a new theoretical subfield adopts a “pure” or an “applied” style? How do theorists respond to economists’ penchant for “rational” explanations of human behavior? These are just some of the questions regarding the professional culture of contemporary economic theory that Ran Spiegler attempts to answer in this incisive essay collection, The Curious Culture of Economic Theory. In exploring these questions, Spiegler addresses the norms that economic theorists apply as they produce, evaluate, and disseminate research.

Ran Spiegler is Professor of Economics at Tel Aviv University and University College London, specializing in economic theory. He is the author of four other books, including Monumental Harm: Reckoning with Jim Crow Era Confederate Monuments.

economics | business
April | 6 x 9, 224 pp. | 3 figures
US $45.00X/$60.00 CAN paperback
978-0-262-54822-9

Fulfilling the Pledge
Securing Industrial Democracy for American Workers in a Digital Economy
Roger C. Hartley

An insightful and evidence-based assessment of our urgent need to enact labor law reform—and how to achieve it.

Millions of non-union workers want unionization, but our current labor-management relations law conspires to deny them meaningful opportunities to secure collective workplace representation. The resulting low rates of collective bargaining impose economic, political, and social costs on us all. In Fulfilling the Pledge, Roger Hartley addresses the plight of American workers, who face a grim, uncertain future, as the digital workplace reshapes the hierarchical post–World War II industrial relations system that once gave workers a voice. Through empirical evidence and the lens of law and policy, Hartley examines what industrial sociologists call the chronic “representation gap” and clarifies how a wide-ranging movement could build a vocal constituency for the congressional enactment of labor law reform.

The pledge made in the 1935 National Labor Relations Act to encourage establishment of industrial democracy—where workers possess a voice in their places of work—remains unfulfilled. Speaking to policymakers, scholars, historians, and the average citizen, Fulfilling the Pledge makes a compelling case for collective workplace representation that serves the greater good, even as American labor relations law continues to undermine collective bargaining by workers and becomes an increasingly significant political and social issue.

Roger C. Hartley is Professor of Law at The Catholic University of America and an award-winning teacher of constitutional law and labor law. He is the author of four other books, including Monumental Harm: Reckoning with Jim Crow Era Confederate Monuments.

law | economics
February | 6 x 9, 306 pp.
US $45.00X/$60.00 CAN paperback
978-0-262-54713-0
The Left Hand of Data
Designing Education Data for Justice
Matthew Berland and Antero Garcia

A speculative framework that imagines how we can use education data to promote play, creativity, and social justice over normativity and conformity.

Educational analytics tend toward aggregation, asking what a “normative” learner does. In The Left Hand of Data, educational researchers Matthew Berland and Antero Garcia start from a different assumption—that outliers are, and must be treated as, valued individuals. Berland and Garcia argue that the aim of analytics should not be about enforcing and entrenching norms but about using data science to break new ground and enable play and creativity. From this speculative vantage point, they ask how we can go about living alongside data in a better way, in a more just way, while also building on the existing technologies and our knowledge of the present.

Antero Garcia is Associate Professor in the Graduate School of Education at Stanford University. He has authored or edited more than a dozen books about the possibilities of literacies, play, and civics in transforming schooling in America. Matthew Berland is Professor of Design, Informal, and Creative Education in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction and Affiliate Faculty in Information Studies, Computer Sciences, Educational Psychology, and Science/Technology Studies at University of Wisconsin–Madison.

education

April | 6 x 9, 208 pp. | 5 b&w illus.
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Undeclared
A Philosophy of Formative Higher Education
Chris Higgins

An imaginative tour of the contemporary university as it could be: a place to discover self-knowledge, meaning, and purpose.

What if college were not just a means of acquiring credentials, but a place to pursue our formation as whole persons striving to lead lives of meaning and purpose? In Undeclared, Chris Higgins confronts the contemporary university in a bid to reclaim a formative mission for higher education. In a series of searching essays and pointed interludes, Higgins challenges us to acknowledge how far our practices have drifted from our ideals, asking: What would it look like to build a college from the ground up to support self-discovery and personal integration? What does it mean to be a public university, and are there any left? How can the humanities help the job-lifted university begin to take vocation seriously?

Chris Higgins is Associate Professor and Chair in the Department of Formative Education in Boston College’s Lynch School of Education and Human Development, where he directs the Transformative Educational Studies program. He is the author of The Good Life of Teaching.

education

April | 6 x 9, 400 pp. | 1 b&w illus.
US $50.00X/$66.00 CAN paperback
978-0-262-54749-9

Computational Thinking Curricula in K–12
International Implementations
edited by Harold Abelson and Siu-Cheung Kong

An international overview of how policy makers, curriculum developers, and school practitioners can integrate computational thinking into K–12 curricula.

In today’s digital society, computational thinking (CT) is a critical component of all children’s education. In Computational Thinking Curricula in K–12, editors Harold Abelson and Siu-Cheung Kong present a range of professional perspectives on the most effective ways to integrate CT into school curricula. Their edited volume, which offers an overview of educational policy, curriculum development, school implementation, and classroom practice, will appeal especially to policy makers, curriculum developers, school practitioners, and educational researchers. The essays cover twelve countries and regions across three continents: Australia, China, Finland, Hong Kong, India, Israel, New Zealand, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, Taiwan, and the United Kingdom, with a particular emphasis on Asia.

A companion to the editors’ earlier Computational Thinking Education in K–12, this book consists of two sections: 1) educational policy and curriculum development and 2) school implementation and classroom practice. The authors delve into issues of regional history; governmental planning; official initiatives; leadership commitment; curriculum design; pedagogical implementation; equity, diversity, and inclusion; assessment, including longitudinal assessment across age groups; formal and informal learning approaches to CT; and teacher development. Specific topics include core competencies and CT education, robotics education and CT, AI and CT, and game-based platforms for computational problem-solving. The varying ways that CT is being integrated into the early grades, in particular, presents an interesting case study in international comparative education.

Harold Abelson is Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at MIT. Siu-Cheung Kong is Research Chair Professor of e-Learning and Digital Competency at the Education University of Hong Kong. Together they are the editors of Computational Thinking Education in K–12 (MIT Press).

education

May | 6 x 9, 336 pp. | 73 b&w illus.
US $60.00X/$79.00 CAN paperback
978-0-262-54805-2
Voices on the Margins
Inclusive Education at the Intersection of Language, Literacy, and Technology
Yenda Prado and Mark Warschauer
A rich view of inclusive education at the intersection of language, literacy, and technology—drawing on case study research in a diverse full-inclusion US school before, during, and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

Despite advancing efforts at integration, the segregation of students with disabilities from their nondisabled peers persists. In the United States, 34 percent of all students with disabilities spend at least 20 percent of their instructional time in segregated classrooms. For students with intellectual or multiple disabilities, segregated placement soars to 80 percent. In *Voices on the Margins*, Yenda Prado and Mark Warschauer provide an ethnography of an extraordinary full-inclusion public charter school in the western United States—Future Visions Academy. And they ask: What does it mean to be inclusive in today’s schools with their increasingly pervasive use of digital technologies?

*Voices on the Margins* examines the ways digital technologies support inclusion and language and literacy practices for culturally and linguistically diverse children with and without disabilities. A wide range of qualitative data collected in the case study illuminates three central themes: (1) the kinds of social organization that allow a fully inclusive environment for children with disabilities to thrive, (2) the ways that digital technologies can be used to help students express their voice and agency, while developing language and literacy skills, and (3) the ways that digital technologies can be used to foster stronger networks and connections between students, teachers, staff, and parents.

Yenda Prado has advised and written about emerging technologies and trends in inclusive education for the US Department of Education, PBS KIDS, the University of California, and the American Educational Research Association. Mark Warschauer is Professor of Education and Informatics at the University of California, Irvine, where he directs the Digital Learning Lab.

Hedgehogs, Killing, and Kindness
The Contradictions of Care in Conservation Practice
Laura McLauchlan
How our understanding of and relationship to hedgehogs reveals the complex interactions between culture, technology, bodies, conservation, and care for animals.

Across the globe, the bumbling hedgehog has been framed in a variety of ways throughout history—as an animal of both good and bad luck, of transformation, of vengeance, and of wit and reincarnation. In recent years, it has also, in different parts of the world, been viewed as a pest for their predation on ground-nesting birds and has thus become a target for culling. In *Hedgehogs, Killing, and Kindness*, Laura McLauchlan explores how human actors have interacted with hedgehogs and other species through time and attends to the questions these interactions raise when it comes to ending and preserving life in the name of species conservation and wildlife rehabilitation.

Laura McLauchlan is an anthropologist with expertise in both ethnographic illustration and more-than-human approaches. She is currently a postdoctoral fellow in anthropology at Macquarie University.

The Green Power of Socialism
Wood, Forest, and the Making of Soviet Industrially Embedded Ecology
Elena Kochetkova
How the Soviet forestry industry developed a unique form of industrial ecology—a commonsense approach toward natural resources for the economy and society.

In *The Green Power of Socialism*, Elena Kochetkova examines the relationship between nature and humans under state socialism by looking at the industrial role of Soviet forests. The book explores evolving Soviet policies of wood consumption, discussing how professionals working in the forestry industry of the Soviet state viewed the present and future of forests by considering them both a natural resource and a trove of industrial material. When faced with the prospect of wood shortages, these specialists came to develop new industry-ecology paradigms. Kochetkova looks at the materiality of Soviet industry through forests and wood to show how, paradoxically, industrial ecology emerged and developed as a by-product of the Soviet industrialization project.

Elena Kochetkova is Associate Professor in Modern European Economic History at the Department of Archeology, History, Cultural Studies and Religion at the University of Bergen. She served as a Secretary of the European Society of Environmental History from 2019 to 2021.
Transforming School Food Politics around the World

*edited by Jennifer E. Gaddis and Sarah A. Robert*

*foreword by Silvia Federici*

How to successfully challenge and transform public school-food programs to emphasize care, justice, and sustainability, with insights from eight countries across the Global North and South.

*Transforming School Food Politics around the World* illustrates how everyday people from a diverse range of global contexts have successfully challenged and changed school food programs that fall short of these ideals. Editors Jennifer Gaddis and Sarah A. Robert highlight the importance of global and local struggles to argue that the transformative potential of school food hinges on valuing the gendered labor that goes into caring for, feeding, and educating children.

*Jennifer E. Gaddis* is Associate Professor of Civil Society and Community Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the author of *The Labor of Lunch*. She is an advisory board member of the National Farm to School Network. *Sarah A. Robert* is Associate Professor at the University at Buffalo’s Graduate School of Education. She is the author of *Neoliberal Education Reform; Neoliberalism, Gender, and Education Work; and School Food Politics*. She is an Associate Editor for *Gender, Work, and Organizations*.

*Food studies and education*

June | 6 x 9, 384 pp. | 17 b&w illus.

US $50.00X/$66.00 CAN paperback

978-0-262-54811-3

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The Computable City

*Histories, Technologies, Stories, Predictions*

*Michael Batty*

*How computers simulate cities and how they are also being embedded in cities, changing our behavior and the way in which cities evolve.*

At every stage in the history of computers and communications, it is safe to say we have been unable to predict what happens next. When computers first appeared nearly 75 years ago, primitive computer models were used to help understand and plan cities, but as computers became faster, smaller, more powerful, and ever more ubiquitous, cities themselves began to embrace them. As a result, the smart city emerged. In *The Computable City*, Michael Batty investigates the circularity of this peculiar evolution: how computers and communications changed the very nature of our city models, which, in turn, are used to simulate systems composed of those same computers.

*Michael Batty* is Bartlett Professor of Planning at University College London, where he is Chair of the Centre for Advanced Spatial Analysis (CASA) and a Turing Fellow in the Alan Turing Institute. He is the author of *Inventing Future Cities, The New Science of Cities, and Cities and Complexity* (all MIT Press).

*environmental science | history of technology*

March | 6 x 9, 536 pp. | 48 b&w illus.

US $45.00X/$60.00 CAN paperback

978-0-262-54757-4

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Navigating the Polycrisis

*Mapping the Futures of Capitalism and the Earth*

*Michael J. Albert*

*An innovative work of realism and utopianism that analyzes the possible futures of the world-system and helps us imagine how we might transition beyond capitalism.*

The world-system of which we are all a part faces multiple calamities: climate change and mass extinction, energy supply shocks, the economic and existential threat of AI, the chilling rise of far-right populism, and ratcheting geopolitical tensions, to name only a few. In *Navigating the Polycrisis*, Michael Albert seeks to illuminate how the “planetary polycrisis” will disrupt the global community in the coming decades and how we can best meet these challenges. Albert argues that we must devote more attention to the study of possible futures and adopt transdisciplinary approaches to do so. To provide a new form of critical futures analysis, he offers a theoretical framework—planetary systems thinking—that is informed by complexity theory, world-systems theory, and ecological Marxism.

*Michael J. Albert* is Lecturer in Global Environmental Politics at the University of Edinburgh.

*environmental science | international relations*

April | 6 x 9, 304 pp. | 2 b&w illus.

US $45.00X/$60.00 CAN paperback

978-0-262-54775-8
The Rule Book
The Building Blocks of Games
Jaakko Stenros and Markus Montola

How games are built on the foundations of rules, and how rules—of which there are only five kinds—really work.

Board games to sports, digital games to party games, gambling to role-playing games. They all share one thing in common: rules. Indeed, rules are the one and only thing game scholars agree is central to games. But what, in fact, are rules? In The Rule Book, Jaakko Stenros and Markus Montola explore how different kinds of rules work as building blocks of games. Rules are constraints placed on us while we play, carving a limited possibility space for us. They also inject meaning into our play: without rules there is no queen in chess, no ball in Pong, and no hole in one in golf.

By considering the similarities and differences of wildly different games and rules within a shared theoretical framework, The Rule Book renders all games more legible.

Jaakko Stenros is University Lecturer in Game Studies working at the Centre of Excellence in Game Culture Studies at Tampere University. He has published ten books and over a hundred articles and reports on games and play and heads the international Master’s Programme in Game Studies. Markus Montola has published several books on role-playing, pervasive games, and larp, and has worked as a lead designer on mobile games such as Shadow Cities, The Walking Dead: Our World, and most recently Friends & Dragons. He is a cofounder of the mobile game studio Playsome.

Run and Jump
The Meaning of the 2D Platformer
Peter McDonald

How abstract design decisions in 2D platform games create rich worlds of meaning for players.

Since the 1980s, 2D platform games have captivated their audiences. Whether the player scrambles up the ladders in Donkey Kong or leaps atop an impossibly tall pipe in Super Mario Bros., this deceptively simple visual language has persisted in our cultural imagination of video games. In Run and Jump, Peter McDonald surveys the legacy of 2D platform games and examines how abstract and formal design choices have kept players playing.

Peter McDonald is Assistant Professor of Design, Creative, and Informal Education in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction at the University of Wisconsin–Madison.

Seeing Red
Nintendo’s Virtual Boy
José P. Zagal and Benj Edwards

The curious history, technology, and technocultural context of Nintendo’s short-lived stereoscopic gaming console, the Virtual Boy.

The console was red. The (revolutionary!) stereoscopic 3D graphics were red. And shortly after its vaunted release in 1995, Nintendo’s balance sheet was in the red. Of all the failures the games industry has witnessed over the years, perhaps the most famous—or infamous—was the Virtual Boy. Why the Virtual Boy failed is one question José Zagal and Benj Edwards explore in Seeing Red, but even more interesting to the authors is what the platform was: what it promised, how it worked, and where it fit into the evolving story of gaming.

Offering rare insight into how we think about video game platforms, Seeing Red illustrates where perception and context come, quite literally, into play.

José P. Zagal is Professor at the University of Utah’s Entertainment Arts & Engineering program. He is the author of Ludoliteracy, editor of The Videogame Ethics Reader, and Editor-in-Chief of Transactions of the Digital Games Research Association. Benj Edwards is a tech historian and journalist. He is currently the AI and Machine Learning reporter for Ars Technica and a tech journalist for publications such as The Atlantic, Wired, Macworld, PCWorld, Fast Company, and other publications.
**Cats, Carpenters, and Accountants**
Bibliographical Foundations of Information Science
Wayne de Fremery

An expansive case for bibliography as infrastructure in information science.

*Cats, Carpenters, and Accountants* argues that bibliography serves a foundational role within information science as infrastructure, and like all infrastructures, it needs and deserves attention. Wayne de Fremery's thoughtful provocation positions bibliography as a means to serve the many ends pursued by information scientists. He explains that bibliographic practices, such as enumeration and description, lie at the heart of knowledge practices and cultural endeavors, but these kinds of infrastructures are difficult to see. In this book, he reveals them and the ways that they formulate information and meaning, artificial intelligence, and human knowledge.

Wayne de Fremery is Professor of Information Science and Entrepreneurship at Dominican University of California, where he also directs the Françoise O. Lepage Center for Global Innovation.

**Optimizing Play**
Why Theorycrafting Breaks Games and How to Fix It
Christopher A. Paul

An unexpected take on how games work, what the stakes are for them, and how game designers can avoid the traps of optimization.

The process of optimization in games seems like a good thing— who wouldn’t want to find the most efficient way to play and win? As Christopher Paul argues in *Optimizing Play*, however, optimization can sometimes risk a tragedy of the commons, where actions that are good for individuals jeopardize the overall state of the game for everyone else. As he explains, players inadvertently limit play as they theorycraft, seeking optimal choices. The process of developing a meta, or the most effective tactic available, structures decision making, causing play to stagnate. A “stale” meta then creates a perception that a game is solved and may lead players to turn away from the game.

Christopher A. Paul is Professor of Communication and Media at Seattle University. He is the author of *Free-to-Play* and coauthor, with Mia Consalvo, of *Real Games* (both MIT Press). He is also the author of *The Toxic Meritocracy of Video Games* and *Wordplay and the Discourse of Video Games*.

**Living Surfaces**
Images, Plants, and Environments of Media
Abelardo Gil-Fournier and Jussi Parikka

An investigation of aesthetics and visualizations of planetary surfaces from an experimental media theory perspective.

What if every vista, every island—indeed, every geographical feature on Earth—could be viewed as an art object? In *Living Surfaces*, Abelardo Gil-Fournier and Jussi Parikka explore how the surface of the Earth has, over the last two centuries, become known and perceived as an environment of images. *Living Surfaces* features a range of case studies from eighteenth-century experiments with and observations of vegetal matter, photosynthesis, and plant physiology to twenty-first-century machine vision and AI techniques of calculating agricultural and other landscape surfaces. Mapping these different scales of vegetal images, Gil-Fournier and Parikka help us understand core questions that pertain to the artistic and architectural reference points for the Anthropocene.

Abelardo Gil-Fournier is an artist and researcher. Initially trained in physics, he holds a PhD in Arts from the Winchester School of Art. His work has been shown and discussed in international venues and exhibitions. Jussi Parikka is Professor of Digital Aesthetics and Culture at Aarhus University and Visiting Professor at the Film and TV School of the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague as well as the Winchester School of Art. He is the author of *Insect Media*, *A Geology of Media*, *What is Media Archaeology?*, and *Operational Images* and a coauthor of *The Lab Book*.

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Enacting Platforms

Feminist Technoscience and the Unreal Engine

James Malazita

An analysis of the game engine Unreal through feminist, race, and queer theories of technology and media, as well as a critique of the platform studies framework itself.

In this first scholarly book on the Unreal game engine, *Enacting Platforms*, James Malazita explores one of the major contemporary game development platforms through feminist, race, and queer theories of technology and media, revealing how Unreal produces, and is produced by, broader intersections of power. Taking a novel critical platform studies approach, he also raises deeper questions: what are the material and cultural limits of platforms themselves? What is the relationship between the analyst and the platform of study, and how does that relationship in part determine what “counts” as the platform itself? Malazita also offers a forward-looking critique of the platform studies framework itself.

The Unreal platform serves as a kind of technical and political archive of the games industry, highlighting how the techniques and concerns of games have shifted and accreted over the past 30 years. Today, Unreal is also used in contexts far beyond games, including in public communication, biomedical research, civil engineering, and military simulation and training. The author’s depth of technical analysis, combined with new archival findings, contributes to discussions of topics rarely covered in games studies (such as the politics of graphical rendering algorithms), as well as new readings of previously “closed” case studies (such as the engine’s entanglement with the US military and American masculinity in America’s Army). Culture, Malazita writes, is not “built into” software but emerges through human practices with code.

James Malazita is Assistant Professor of Science and Technology Studies and Associate Director of the Games and Simulation Arts and Sciences Program at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

platform studies
July | 6 x 9, 256 pp. | 18 b&w illus.
US $40.00X/$54.00 CAN paperback
978-0-262-54824-3
Platform Studies

Imagining Transmedia

edited by Ed Finn, Bob Beard, Joey Eschrich, and Ruth Wylie

How the blurring of media forms—transmedia—became the default for how we experience narratives, and how that cultural transformation has redefined the worlds of education, entertainment, and our increasingly polarized public discourse.

Ed Finn is Founding Director of the Center for Science and the Imagination and Associate Professor in the School for the Future of Innovation in Society and the School of Arts, Media, and Engineering at Arizona State University. Bob Beard is Public Engagement Strategist for the Center for Science and the Imagination at Arizona State University. Joey Eschrich is Managing Editor for the Center for Science and the Imagination at Arizona State University and Assistant Director of Future Tense, a partnership of Slate, New America, and Arizona State University. Ruth Wylie is Assistant Director of the Center for Science and the Imagination and Associate Research Professor in the Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College at Arizona State University.

platform studies
April | 6 x 9, 480 pp. | 36 b&w illus.
US $65.00X/$86.00 CAN paperback
978-0-262-54743-7

War and Aesthetics

Art, Technology, and the Futures of Warfare
edited by Jens Bjering, Anders Engberg-Pedersen, Solveig Gade, and Christine Strandmose Toft

A provocative edited collection that takes an original approach toward the black box of military technology, surveillance, and AI—and reveals the aesthetic dimension of warfare.

Jens Bjering earned his PhD at the University of Copenhagen with a thesis on post-9/11 US torture and is now a consultant at the Royal Danish Defence College. Anders Engberg-Pedersen is Professor of Comparative Literature at the University of Southern Denmark, Chair of Humanities at the Danish Institute for Advanced Studies, and series editor of Prisms: Humanities and War (MIT Press). He is the author of Martial Aesthetics: How War Became an Art Form. Solveig Gade is Associate Professor of Theatre and Performance Studies in the Department of Arts and Cultural Studies at the University of Copenhagen and coeditor of W/Archives: Archival Imaginaries, War, and Contemporary Art. Christine Strandmose Toft holds a PhD in Comparative Literature. She earned her degree at the Department for the Study of Culture, University of Southern Denmark, with a thesis on the representations of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan in fiction.

political science
May | 7 x 9, 344 pp. | 29 color illus., 19 b&w illus.
US $40.00X/$54.00 CAN cloth
978-0-262-04873-6
Migration Stigma
Understanding Prejudice, Discrimination, and Exclusion
edited by Lawrence H. Yang, Maureen A. Eger, and Bruce G. Link

An introduction to the concept of “migration stigma,” along with new analytical frameworks to deepen understanding of the experiences of immigrants, their descendants, and native-born residents in immigrant-receiving societies.

Lawrence H. Yang is Professor of Social and Behavioral Sciences and Interim Chair of the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences at New York University, where he is also Founding Director of the Global Mental Health and Stigma Program. Maureen A. Eger is Associate Professor of Sociology at Umeå University. Bruce G. Link is Distinguished Professor of Public Policy and Sociology at the University of California Riverside where he serves as Co-PI of the Health Disparities Research Center.

Data Rules
Reinventing the Market Economy
Cristina Alaimo and Jannis Kallinikos
foreground by Michael Power

A new social science framework for studying the unprecedented social and economic restructuring driven by digital data.

Digital data have become the critical frontier where emerging economic practices and organizational forms confront the traditional economic order and its institutions. In Data Rules, Cristina Alaimo and Jannis Kallinikos establish a social science framework for analyzing the unprecedented social and economic restructuring brought about by data. Working at the intersection of information systems and organizational studies, they draw extensively on intellectual currents in sociology, semiotics, cognitive science and technology, and social theory. Making the case for turning “data-making” into an area of inquiry of its own, the authors uncover how data are deeply implicated in rewiring the institutions of the market economy.

The authors associate digital data with the decentering of organizations. As they point out, centered systems make sense only when firms (and formal organizations more broadly) can keep the external world at arm’s length and maintain a relative operation independence from it. These patterns no longer hold. Data transform the production of goods and services to an endless series of exchanges and interactions that defeat the functional logics of markets and organizations. The diffusion of platforms and ecosystems is indicative of these broader transformations. Rather than viewing data as simply a force of surveillance and control, the authors place the transformative potential of data at the center of an emerging socioeconomic order that restructures society and its institutions.

Cristina Alaimo is Assistant Professor (Research) of Digital Economy and Society at LUISS University, Rome. Jannis Kallinikos is Full Professor of Organization Studies and the CISCO Chair in Digital Transformation and Data Driven Innovation at LUISS University, Rome.

Weapons in Space
Technology, Politics, and the Rise and Fall of the Strategic Defense Initiative
Aaron Bateman

A new and provocative take on the formerly classified history of accelerating superpower military competition in space in the late Cold War and beyond.

Aaron Bateman is Assistant Professor of History and International Affairs at George Washington University and a member of the Space Policy Institute. He has published widely on intelligence, transatlantic relations, and the military use of space during the Cold War and beyond. Prior to academia, he served as a US Air Force Intelligence officer.
Cracking the Bro Code

Coleen Carrigan

Why dominant racial and gender groups have preferential access to jobs in computing, and how feminist labor activism in computing culture can transform the field into a force that serves democracy and social justice.

Cracking the Bro Code is a bold ethnographic study of sexism and racism in contemporary computing cultures theorized through the analytical frame of the “Bro code.” Drawing from feminist anthropology and STS, Coleen Carrigan shares in this book the direct experiences of women, nonbinary individuals, and people of color, including her own experiences in tech, to show that computing has a serious cultural problem. From senior leaders in the field to undergraduates in their first year of college, participants consistently report how sexism and harassment manifest themselves in computing via values, norms, behaviors, evaluations, and policies. While other STEM fields are making strides in recruiting, retaining, and respecting women workers, computing fails year after year to do so.

Carrigan connects altruism, computing, race, and gender to advance the theory that social purpose is an important factor to consider in working toward gender equity in computing. Further, she argues that transforming computing culture from hostile to welcoming has the potential to change not only who produces computing technology but also the core values of its production, with possible impacts on social applications. Cracking the Bro Code explains how digital bosses have come to operate imperiously in our society, dodging taxes and oversight, and how some programmers who look like them are enchanted with a sense of divine right. In the context of computing’s powerful influence on the world, Carrigan speculates on how the cultural mechanisms sustaining sexism, harassment, and technocracy in computing workspaces impact both those harmed by such violence as well as society at large.

Coleen Carrigan is Associate Professor of Anthropology and Science, Technology and Society (STS) at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. She is a recipient of a five-year National Science Foundation Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Award for her research into the intersections of gender, race, and social values in computing.

Cultures of Prediction

How Engineering and Science Evolve with Mathematical Tools

Ann Johnson and Johannes Lenhard

A probing examination of the dynamic history of predictive methods and values in science and engineering that helps us better understand today’s cultures of prediction.

The ability to make reliable predictions based on robust and replicable methods is a defining feature of the scientific endeavor, allowing engineers to determine whether a building will stand up or where a cannonball will strike. Cultures of Prediction, which bridges history and philosophy, uncovers the dynamic history of prediction in science and engineering over four centuries. Ann Johnson and Johannes Lenhard identify four different cultures, or modes, of prediction in the history of science and engineering: rational, empirical, iterative-numerical, and exploratory-iterative. They show how all four develop together and interact with one another while emphasizing that mathematization is not a single unitary process, but one that has many forms.

Ann Johnson (1965–2016) was Associate Professor of Science and Technology Studies at Cornell University. Johannes Lenhard holds the Heisenberg Professorship in Philosophy in Science and Engineering at Rhineland-Palatinate Technical University Kaiserslautern-Landau.

Ann Johnson and Johannes Lenhard

May | 6 x 9, 288 pp. | 26 b&w illus.

US $45.00X/$60.00 CAN paperback

978-0-262-54823-6

Engineering Studies series
The Nature and Dynamics of Collaboration
edited by Paul F.M.J. Verschure

A multidisciplinary examination of the phenomenon of collaboration to expand knowledge and inform future activities.

Human existence depends critically on how well diverse social-cultural-political groups can collaborate. Yet the phenomenon of collaboration itself is ill-defined, badly understood, and there is no straightforward formula for its successful realization. In *The Nature and Dynamics of Collaboration*, edited by Paul F.M.J. Verschure et al., experts from wide-ranging disciplines examine how human collaboration arises, breaks down, and potentially recovers. They explore the different contexts, boundary conditions, and drivers of collaboration to expand understanding of the underlying dynamic, multiscale processes, in an effort to increase chances for ethical, sustainable, and productive collaboration in the future.

This volume is accompanied by twenty-four podcasts, which provide insights from real-world examples.

Paul F.M.J. Verschure is Professor of Neuroengineering and Director of the Neurotechnology Laboratory at the Donders Centre of Neuroscience, Radboud University Nijmegen, The Netherlands.


Psychoacoustic Foundations of Major-Minor Tonality
Richard Parncutt

A fascinating interdisciplinary approach to how everyday Western music works, and why the tones, melodies, and chords combine as they do.

Despite the cultural diversity of our globalized world, most Western music is still structured around major and minor scales and chords. Countless thinkers and scientists of the past have struggled to explain the nature and origin of musical structures. In *Psychoacoustic Foundations of Major-Minor Tonality*, music psychologist Richard Parncutt offers a fresh take, combining music theory—Rameau’s fundamental bass, Riemann’s harmonic function, Schenker’s hierarchic analysis, Forte’s pitch-class set theory—with psychology—Bregman’s auditory scene, Terhardt’s virtual pitch, Krumhansl’s tonal hierarchy. Drawing on statistical analyses of notated music corpora, Parncutt charts a middle path between cultural relativism and scientific positivism to bring music theory into meaningful discourse with empirical research.

Our musical subjectivity, Parncutt explains, depends on our past musical experience and hence on music history and its social contexts. It also depends on physical sound properties, as investigated in psychoacoustics with auditory experiments and mathematical models. Parncutt’s evidence-based theory of major-minor tonality draws on his interdisciplinary background to present a theory that is comprehensive, creative, and critical. Examining concepts of interval, consonance, chord root, leading tone, harmonic progression, and modulation, he asks:

- Why are some scale tones and chord progressions more common than others?
- What aspects of major-minor tonality are based on human biology or general perceptual principles? What aspects are culturally arbitrary? And what about colonial history?

Original and provocative, *Psychoacoustic Foundations of Major-Minor Tonality* promises to become a foundational text in both music theory and music cognition.

Richard Parncutt is Professor of Systematic Musicology at the University of Graz, Austria.


Visions of a Digital Nation
Market and Monopoly in British Telecommunications
Jacob Ward

Why the privatization of British Telecom signaled a pivotal moment in the rise of neoliberalism, and how it was shaped by the longer development and digitalization of Britain’s telecommunications infrastructure.

When Margaret Thatcher sold British Telecom for £3.6 billion in 1984, it became not only, at the time, the largest stock flotation in history, but also a watershed moment in the rise of neoliberalism and deregulation. In *Visions of a Digital Nation*, Jacob Ward offers an incisive interdisciplinary perspective on how technology prefigured this pivot. Giving due consideration to the politicians, engineers, and managers who paved the way for this historic moment, Ward illustrates how the decision validated the privatization of public utilities and tied digital technology to free market rationales.

Jacob Ward is Assistant Professor in the History Department and Science, Technology and Society Studies Research Program at the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at Maastricht University. He is coeditor of *Histories of Technology, the Environment and Modern Britain*.
Digital Ethology
Human Behavior in Geospatial Context
edited by Tomáš Paus and Hye-Chung Kum

An edited collection that looks deeply at how humans transform their environments and how these environments, in turn, shape humans.

Countless permutations of physical, built, and social environments surround us in space and time, influencing the air we breathe, how hot or cold we are, how many steps we take, and with whom we interact as we go about our daily lives. Assessing the dynamic processes that play out between humans and the environment is challenging. Digital Ethology, edited by Tomáš Paus and Hye-Chung Kum, explores how aggregate area-level data, produced at multiple locations and points in time, can reveal bidirectional—and iterative—relationships between human behavior and the environment through their digital footprints.

Experts from geospatial and data science, behavioral and brain science, epidemiology and public health, ethics, and law, as well as urban planning consider how humans transform their environments and how environments shape human behavior.

Tomáš Paus is Professor in the Departments of Psychiatry and Neuroscience, Faculty of Medicine, and Scientist at the Centre Hospitalier Universitaire Sainte-Justine, University of Montreal, Quebec, Canada. Hye-Chung Kum is Professor in the Department of Health Policy and Management with joint appointments in the Departments of Computer Science & Engineering and Industrial Systems & Engineering at Texas A&M University, where she is the founding director of the Population Informatics Lab.
Adrian Piper

Funk Lessons

Elvan Zabunyan

On Adrian Piper’s radical pedagogy of transgression and the importance of soul and funk music in the African American struggle for emancipation.

From 1982 to 1984, Adrian Piper staged a number of audience-interactive performances in universities or museum settings, under the title Funk Lessons. Using the didactic format of a “lesson” (including characteristic paraphernalia such as blackboards), Piper endeavored to teach the basic moves of funk dance to a mostly white, college-educated audience. Filmed by Sam Samore in 1983, one of the piece’s more successful iterations lives on as a videotape, and in Piper’s own written reflections, “Notes on Funk.”

Considering Piper’s broader conceptual-political practice and her long-standing interest in dance, Elvan Zabunyan reveals how Funk Lessons troubles conceptions of knowledge and pedagogy rooted in white, “high culture” through their subtle mimetic subversion. The study foregrounds the key political significance of funk and soul music as the soundtrack of the civil rights movement. By teaching to transgress essentialist categories of race and class through knowledge embodied in dance and music, Funk Lessons opens up new paths for sensory identification and self-transcendence.

Elvan Zabunyan is a contemporary art historian, art critic, and professor at University of Rennes. She works across issues of race and feminism, as well as on the political and cultural history of the United States in relationship to artistic practices since the 1960s. She is the author of Black Is A Color: A History of African American Contemporary Art (winner of the 2005 SAES/AFEA research prize) and Theresa Hak Kyung Cha–Berkeley–1968.

art

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This Is Not a Science Fiction Textbook
edited by Mark Bould and Steven Shaviro

Science fiction as a vital bridge between technoscience and culture, an early warning system, a method for imagining differently.

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This Is Not a Science Fiction Textbook brings together leading sf scholars, including some of the most exciting new critical voices, to introduce the genre for the general reader. Its first part outlines some key ideas used to think about sf, such as Estrangement, Extrapolation, and Alterity. Its second part maps some of the genre’s global history, from the Enlightenment and European colonialism to Indigenous and African Futurisms. Its third part surveys sf at the turn of the 2020s, organized by concepts, movements, and new academic disciplines, from Afrofuturism and Animal Studies to Queer Theory and the Weird—and each chapter, whether it is on Climate Fiction or Neurodiversity, is accompanied by an introduction to a major contemporary novel and film.

Mark Bould is Professor of Film and Literature at UWE Bristol. Founding editor of the Science Fiction Film and Television journal and the Studies in Global Science Fiction monograph series, he is a recipient of the Science Fiction Research Association’s Lifetime Achievement Award and the International Association of the Fantastic in the Arts Distinguished Scholarship Award. His most recent books are M. John Harrison: Critical Essays and The Anthropocene Unconscious: Climate Catastrophe Culture.

Steven Shaviro is DeRoy Professor of English at Wayne State University Department of English. He has published 11 previous books, including Without Criteria: Kant, Whitehead, Deleuze, and Aesthetics (MIT Press), and numerous stories and articles. He was awarded the Science Fiction and Technoculture Studies Book Award in 2017 for his book Discognition.

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Little Sisters and Other Stories
Vonda N. McIntyre

Selected short stories by one of the most acclaimed voices in post-war US American science fiction.

This volume presents a selection of short fiction by Vonda Neel McIntyre (1948–2019), one of the most acclaimed writers of post-war US American science fiction, and the winner of multiple awards for both novels and short fiction.

These stories, which span the whole of McIntyre’s career, show the broad range of her interests and her voice, taking us from bleak dystopian worlds on the verge of environmental collapse to baroque intergalactic civilizations populated by genetically modified humans, from cries for freedom to sharp-eyed satire to meditations on aging. Throughout run her distinctive themes of gender and power dynamics, human and species diversity, and a pragmatic utopianism that emphasizes our mutual dependency.

Vonda Neel McIntyre (1948–2019) was one of the most acclaimed voices in US American science fiction from the 1960s onwards. A novelist, short story writer, essayist, and critic, she won her first Hugo Award in 1973 for her novella “Of Mist, and Grass, and Sand.” This formed part of her groundbreaking feminist novel Dreamsnake (1978), which won both the Hugo and the Nebula Award. A later novel, The Moon and the Sun, won the Nebula in 1997. McIntyre contributed extensively to debates within the US sf community over the role of women in science fiction, and was instrumental in founding the Clarion West Writers Workshop for novice sf writers. A final novel, The Curve of the World, was completed shortly before her death.

Merchant
Alexandra Grunberg

A post-apocalyptic retelling of William Shakespeare’s The Merchant of Venice.

Who will survive when the world is destroyed? Can stories from the distant past teach us how to change a dismal present? Merchant shifts perspective between three survivors of a flooded world as they try to navigate the threat of mass starvation; Jessica, a patrilineal Jew from Venice (named after the Italian city but located on the mountain K2) who has memorized the complete works of Shakespeare; Cem, an orphan of Venice; and Shinobu, an advisor to the empress Ama in Fuji. Ama has been gifting edible algae blocks to nations worldwide, but Jessica’s arrival in Fuji to beg for more food for Venice upsets the delicate international balance Shinobu has been maintaining. As a series of buried secrets and miscommunications carry consequences of potential global destruction, everyone must determine what they are willing to do to survive in a hopeless world.

Born and raised in Vermont, Alexandra Grunberg attended New York University’s Tisch School of the Arts earning a BFA in Theatre. She earned her MLitt and DFA in Creative Writing at The University of Glasgow. Grunberg presented her research at various academic conferences in the UK including “Once and Future Fantasies” at the University of Glasgow, “CRSF 2021 10th Anniversary Conference—Speculative Futures & Survival” by the University of Liverpool, “Beast Modernisms Conference 2019” at The University of Glasgow, “Creative Writing: Processes, Theory, and Influences” at The University of Edinburgh, and “The Literary Self: From Antiquity to the Digital Age” at The University of Edinburgh.
From Magic and Myth-Work to Care and Repair

Simon O'Sullivan

The practices of magic and contemporary myth-making in relation to landscape, performance, and writing.

From Magic and Myth-Work to Care and Repair is a two-part book, broadly concerned with the “fiction of the self” and with practices and explorations beyond that fiction. Each part approaches this thematic from a different angle. The first part, “On Magic and Myth-Work,” deals with practices of magic (although not always named as such) and with contemporary myth-making in relation to landscape, performance, and writing. The second part “On Care and Repair” gathers together essays that are more personal, but that also look to various technologies (or devices) of self-care alongside ideas of collaboration and the collective.

Crucial in this exploration is our relation to one another and to the larger non-human world. All the essays were prompted by teaching students—undergraduates and postgraduates—during the initial Covid years, specifically on two courses at Goldsmiths: Occulture and Art Writing to Theory Fiction. The important themes in both these courses were all constellated around magic, myth-work, care, and repair, especially as these intersected with questions of agency and self-narration. On those courses—and throughout the book—these themes are connected to larger issues of historical trauma, neoliberalism, and ecological crisis. The essays reference many other texts and fellow travelers, but also draw on the author’s own experiences within various art and theory worlds, as well as with performance art, magical practices, gaming, and Buddhism.

Simon O’Sullivan is Professor of Art Theory and Practice, Department of Visual Cultures, Goldsmiths. He is also part of the collaborative “performance fiction” Plastique Fantastique with David Burrows, Alex Marzeta, and Vanessa Page. This practice-based research involves an investigation into aesthetics, subjectivity, the sacred, popular culture, and politics produced through performance, film and sound work, comics, text, installations, and assemblages. Plastique Fantastique have performed and exhibited widely in the UK and abroad and are represented by IMT Gallery in London.

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Building a Voice

Sound, Surface, Skin

Zeynep Bulut

On the emergence, embodiment, and mediation of voice as skin.

How do we build a voice, instead of giving a voice to something or someone, or being given a voice? Can we imagine the voices we make in the form of a skin, a multi-sensory interface that behaves as both boundary and contact? What does such a voice capacitate in times of crises and uncertainties?

In Building a Voice: Sound, Surface, Skin, Zeynep Bulut explores these questions. She examines multi-sensory and collective forms of voice making in experimental music, sound, and media art in conversation with the use of voice in creative interventions for environmental crisis, experiences of voice hearing, and digital technologies of artificial and tactile speech. Through this conversation, she points to two key terms: plasticity of voice, and non-dialogue. Plasticity of voice indicates both malleable and resistant aspects of voice. Non-dialogue refers to cross-sensory, non-dyadic, and distributed modes of interaction across both humans and nonhumans. The plasticity of voice and non-dialogue, Bulut argues, encourages us to think about voice in the form of a skin, a surface that both connects and differentiates, without being limited to human body or labels of verbal language.

Building a voice as skin, in effect, prompts us to reflect on both individual and collective, concrete and emergent, and uncertain and shared aspects of voice and speech, as well as to pace and revisit our conceptions of communication, intersubjectivity, connectivity, understanding and empathy.

Zeynep Bulut is a Lecturer in Music at Queen’s University Belfast. She is project lead for Music, Arts, Health, and Environment, and for the collaborative research initiative “Map A Voice,” devised in collaboration with King’s College London’s Department of Music and Department of Media and Computing & Rapid-Mix at Goldsmiths, University of London, supported by the Cultural Institute at King’s as part of the Early Career Researchers scheme. She has also exhibited sound works, composed, and performed vocal pieces for concert, video, and theater, and released two singles. Her composer profile has been featured by British Music Collection. She is a certified practitioner of Deep Listening.

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Sonics Series
Goldsmiths Press
Ruins and Resilience
The Longevity of Experimental Film
Karel Doing

Experimental film practice from an international and transdisciplinary perspective.

Karel Doing is an experimental filmmaker and researcher who has worked across the globe with fellow artists and filmmakers, creating a body of work that is difficult to pinpoint with a simple catchphrase. In Ruins and Resilience he weaves autobiographical elements and critical reviews together with his wide ranging interdisciplinary approach, reflecting on his own practice by positioning key works within the context of a vibrant experimental film scene in Europe, North and South America, and Asia. Doing demonstrates how experimental filmmakers have continued to renew their practice despite the almost total demise of analog motion picture film and the constant neglect of this art form by institutions and critics. Written in a fluent and accessible style, the book looks into the connections between the work of groundbreaking artists within the field and subjects such as transgression, improvisation, collectivity, materiality, phenomenology, and perception. Specifically, intersections with music and sound are investigated, appealing to the idea of the cross-modal brain, the ability to perceive sounds and images in an integrated way. Instead of looking again at the “golden era” of experimental film, the book starts in the 1980s, showing how this art form has never ceased to surprise and inspire. The author’s hands-on engagement with the medium is formational for his more theoretical approach and writing, making the book a highly original contribution in the field that is informative and inspiring for academic and practitioners alike.

Karel Doing is an independent artist, filmmaker, and researcher whose practice investigates the relationship between culture and nature by means of analogue and organic process, experiment, and co-creation. His work has been shown worldwide at festivals, in cinemas, on stage, and in galleries. In 2012 he received a FOCAL award for his film Liquidator. He regularly gives workshops in analogue film practice and is currently lecturer in contextual studies at Ravensbourne University London. He has published several articles and produced a number of films by fellow artists such as Barbara Meter and Marco Pando.

Take This Hammer
Work, Song, and Crisis
Paul Rekret

A study of contemporary music in light of transformations to work and social life.

The emergence of the popular music industry in the early twentieth century not only drove a wedge between music production and consumption, it also underscored a wider separation of labor from leisure and of the workplace from the domestic sphere. These were changes characteristic of an industrial society where pleasure was to be sought outside of work, but these categories have grown increasingly porous today. As the working day extends into the home or becomes indistinguishable from leisure time, so the role and meaning of music in everyday life changes too. In arguing that the experience of popular music is partly conditioned by its segregation from work and its restriction to the time and space of leisure—the evening, the weekend, the dancehall—Take This Hammer shows how changes to work as it grows increasingly precarious, part-time, and temporary in recent decades, are related to transformations in popular music.

From online streaming and the extension of the working day to gentrification, unemployment and the emergence of trap rap, from ecological crisis and field recording to automation and trends in dance music, by exploring the intersections of work and song in the current era, not only do we gain a new understanding of contemporary musical culture, we also see how music might gesture towards a horizon beyond the alienating experience of work in capitalism itself.

Paul Rekret is the author of Down With Childhood: Pop Music and the Crisis of Innocence and Derrida and Foucault: Philosophy, Politics, Polemics, editor of George Caffentzis’ Clipped Coins. Abused Words & Civil Government (2021), and has published on political and cultural theory in journals such as Theory, Culture & Society, Constellations, and South Atlantic Quarterly. His writing appears in Frieze, The Wire, Art Monthly, The New Inquiry, and elsewhere. He is a member of Le Mardi Gras Listening Collective and works on sound and ecological crisis as part of Amplification/Annihilation. He teaches political theory at Richmond International University in London.
Exit Interview
Benjamin Buchloh in conversation with Hal Foster
Benjamin H. D. Buchloh and Hal Foster

Two of the most important voices in art history discuss their intellectual foundations, the changing role of criticism, and the possibilities for artistic practice today.

In Exit Interview, the prominent art critics and historians Hal Foster and Benjamin Buchloh discuss their intellectual foundations and the projects they’ve worked on together, from October magazine to Art Since 1900. Through three engaging conversations, Foster engages Buchloh on his early influences and aspirations, his formative years in Berlin, London, and Dusseldorf, and his career in North America, while exploring the impact of other art historians and critics. Buchloh candidly addresses his successes, critical significance, and unexplored avenues in art history, providing a unique window into his motivations and experiences. With a powerful postface by Buchloh, Exit Interview builds from biography and anecdote to important reflection on one’s critical life as a whole.


The New Television
edited by Rachel Churner, Rebecca Cleman, and Tyler Maxin

On the rich history of video art and its enduring relevance to today’s artistic and critical practices.

The New Television delves into the rich history of video art, reexamining the pivotal Open Circuits conference held at MoMA in 1974 and exploring its enduring relevance to today’s artistic and critical practices. Open Circuits was an important event in establishing video art in American museums and articulated a range of conflicting teloses for the medium, some of which materialized (like local cable television) and others that remain unrealized. The conference proceedings were published in 1977 as The New Television: A Public/Private Art, and the radical design of the book reflected the conference’s utopian aims.

This two-part publication includes a facsimile of the long-out-of-print conference proceedings and new essays and discussions by over a dozen scholars and artists. The new scholarly texts and previously unpublished archival documents in The New Television illuminate the network of institutional histories of video art, consider global televisual contexts and alternative critical approaches, and examine contemporary video art and its continued relevance from new perspectives.

Rachel Churner is the director of the Carolee Schneemann Foundation. She is also an art critic and editor, whose writings have appeared in Artforum and October magazine, among other publications. Churner is a faculty member at Eugene Lang College at The New School, New York. Rebecca Cleman is Executive Director of Electronic Arts Intermix (EAI) and a writer. She has programmed screenings and special projects for such venues as the International House Philadelphia, the Museum of Art and Design, Anthology Film Archives, and Andrea Rosen Gallery, New York City; and the Julia Stoschek Collection, Germany. Tyler Maxin is curator at Blank Forms. He was previously the Communications and Special Projects Associate at Electronic Arts Intermix (EAI). His writing has appeared in publications including Artforum, BOMB, and Film Comment.
SLUTS
An Anthology
edited by Michelle Tea

What it means to be sexually promiscuous in contemporary American culture, edited by cult-favorite author Michelle Tea.

SLUTS, the first publication from vulgarian queer publisher DOPAMINE BOOKS, is an exploration of what it means to be sexually promiscuous in contemporary American culture. Featuring personal essays, spilled secrets, fiction, memoir, and experimental works, SLUTS asks writers and readers to investigate the many ways the notion of the slut impacts our inner and outer lives, as a threat or an identity, a punishment or an aspiration, a lifestyle, an aesthetic, a philosophy, or a rallying cry. From hideous and terrifying first encounters to postapocalyptic polyamory, from unionizing sex workers to backstage tableaux of sex and drugs and rock and roll, SLUTS’s stories probe the liberating highs and abject lows of physical abandon. Featuring work from performer Miguel Gutierrez, hailed by the New York Times as “an artist of ordered excess”; former Nylon magazine editor-in-chief Gabrielle Korn; award-winning author Brontez Purnell; Whore of New York author Liara Roux; National Book Critics Circle Award winner Jeremy Atherton Lin; and a host of additional artists and writers, SLUTS reveals the knowledges provoked by a dalliance with desire.

Michelle Tea is the author of over 20 books of fiction, memoir, poetry, and children’s literature. Her autofiction, Valencia, a cult classic, won the Lambda Literary Award for Best Fiction. Her essay collection Against Memoir was awarded the PEN/America Diamonstein-Spielvogel Award for the Art of the Essay. Tea is also the recipient of awards from The Rona Jaffe Foundation, as well as the Guggenheim Foundation. The founder of Drag Queen Story Hour, she has received honors from the American Library Association and Logo Television. Tea also curated the Sister Spit Books series at City Lights Publisher and founded the ongoing imprint Amethyst Edition at The Feminist Press.

With work by

Semiotexte
Playboy
Constance Debré
translated by Holly James

The prequel to Love Me Tender, narrating Debré’s transformation from affluent career woman to broke single lesbian and writer.

I see all her beauty, I see the beauty of women. I see my own body, new. I tell myself there are so many things that are possible.

First published in France in 2018, Playboy is the first volume of Constance Debré’s renowned autobiographical trilogy that describes her decision, at age forty-three, to abandon her marriage, her legal career, and her bourgeois Parisian life to become a lesbian and a writer.

The novel unfolds in a series of short, sharp vignettes. The narrator’s descriptions of her first female lovers—a married woman fifteen years older than her, a model ten years her junior—are punctuated by encounters with her ex-husband, her father, and her son.

As Debré recently told Granta: “It was a bit like Saint Augustine and his conversion. In the same week, I had sex with a girl and I had the feeling that I could write. I had this incredible feeling that I could catch things, that life was there to be caught.”

Looking at the world through fresh eyes, the narrator of Playboy questions everything that once lay beneath the surface of her well-managed life. Laconic, aggressive, and radically truthful, she examines gender and marriage, selfishness and sacrifice, money and family, even the privilege inherent in her downward mobility.

Writing her way toward her own liberation, Debré chronicles the process that made her one of the most brilliant, important French writers today.

Constance Debré left her career as a lawyer to become a writer. Her other novels include Un peu la, beaucoup ailleurs (winner of the 2005 Prix Contrepoint), and Manuel pratique de l’idéal Abécédaire de survie.
Life of the Party
Harmony Holiday

An archive and annotation of Black music-performance culture, produced alongside Harmony Holiday’s first solo museum exhibition, Black Backstage.

Life of the Party is an archive and annotation of Black music-performance culture—its poetics and its realities and its ruins, both seen and unseen. Produced concurrent with Black Backstage, Harmony Holiday’s first solo museum exhibition, the book acts as a blueprint, a script, and a ledger for this exhibition as well as a stand-alone record of the territory it covers. Holiday assembles artifacts from this tradition, especially found photographs taken of artists backstage, to tell the story of the culture within the culture, retrieving a secret history of the gestures, murmurs, shouts, and reversals that occur offstage and off the record. Colliding image, text, and even audio (in an album accompaniment to the book that Holiday will also produce as part of this series of works), Life of the Party reveals the backstage as by turns mundane, vulgar, and glorious: a site of sacred ritual behind the spectacle of performance.

Harmony Holiday is a writer, dancer, archivist, filmmaker, and the author of five collections of poetry including Hollywood Forever and Maafa. She curates a standing archive space for griot poetics and a related performance and events series at LA’s music and archive venue 2220arts. She has received the Motherwell Prize from Fence Books, a Ruth Lilly Fellowship, a Schomburg Fellowship, a California Book Award, a research fellowship from Harvard, and a teaching fellowship from UC Berkeley.

Notice
Heather Lewis

introduction by Melissa Febos

A classic queer text of trauma, written by one of the most talented novelists of her generation.

The reason it’s never just once is the same reason money’s only a part of it. Most anyone can take or leave that, though they don’t think they can. The cover story of all time, that’s what money is. The excuse of excuses no one will question because they so much need to use it themselves.

Published by Doubleday in 1994, Heather Lewis’s chilling debut novel took place on the northeastern equestrian show-riding circuit, to which Lewis herself belonged in her teens. Expelled from boarding school, its fifteen-year-old narrator moves numbly through a world of motel rooms, heroin, dyke love, and doped horses.

Kirkus Reviews found it “brutal, sensual, honest, seductive … a powerful debut.”

Almost immediately, Lewis began writing Notice, a novel that moves even further into dark territory. The teenaged narrator Nina begins turning tricks in the parking lot of the train station near the Westchester County home of her absent parents. She soon falls into a sadomasochistic relationship with a couple. Arrested, she’s saved by a counselor and admitted to a psychiatric facility. But these soft forms of control turn out to be even worse. Writing in the register of an emotional fugue state, Notice’s helpless but all-knowing narrator is as smooth and sharp as a knife.

Rejected by every publisher who read it during Lewis’s life, Notice was eventually published by Serpent’s Tail in 2004, two years after her death. The book, long out of print, emerged as a classic queer text of trauma, written by one of the most talented novelists of her generation.

“Notice is an irreducible text, unforgettable, nearly unbearable, but never unbelievable.”—Dale Peck, The Believer

Heather Lewis was born in 1962 and attended Sarah Lawrence College. She was the author of House Rules and The Second Suspect and contributed to several anthologies. She ended her life in 2002.

mitpress.mit.edu | Spring 2024
Stubble Archipelago
Wayne Koestenbaum

Wild new adventures in word-infatuated flânerie from a celebrated literary provocateur.

This book of 36 poetic bulletins by the humiliation-advice-giver Wayne Koestenbaum will teach you how to cruise, how to dream, how to decode a crowded consciousness, how to find nuggets of satisfaction in unaccustomed corners, and how to sew a language glove roomy enough to contain materials gathered while meandering. Koestenbaum wrote many of these poems while walking around New York City. He’d jot down phrases in a notebook or dictate them into his phone. At home, he’d incorporate these fragmented gleanings into overflowing quasi sonnets; therefore, each poem functions as a coded diary entry, including specific references to sidewalk events and peripatetic perceptions. Flirting, remembering, eavesdropping, gazing, squeezing, sequestering: Koestenbaum invents a novel way to cram dirty liberty into the tight yet commodious space of the sonnet, a fourteen-lined cruise ship that contains ample suites for behavior modification, libidinal experiment, aura-filled memory orgies, psychedelic Bildungsromane, lap dissolves, archival plunges, and other mental saunterings that conjure the unlikely marriage of Kenneth Anger and Marianne Moore. These engorged lyrics don’t rhyme; and though each builds on a carapace of fourteen lines, many of the lines spawn additional, indented tributaries, like hoop earrings dangling from the stanzas’ lobes. Koestenbaum’s poems are comic, ribald, compressed, symphonic. They take liberties with ordinary language and open up new pockets for sensation in the sorrowing overcoat of the “now.”

Wayne Koestenbaum — poet, critic, fiction writer, artist, filmmaker, performer — has published 22 books, including Ultramarine, The Cheerful Scapegoat, Figure It Out, Camp Marmalade, My 1980s & Other Essays, The Anatomy of Harpo Marx, Humiliation, Hotel Theory, Circus, Andy Warhol, Jackie under My Skin, and The Queen’s Throat (nominated for a National Book Critics Circle Award). His first feature-length film, The Collective, premiered at UnionDocs (New York) in 2021. In 2020 he received an American Academy of Arts and Letters Award in Literature. He is a distinguished professor of English, French, and comparative literature at the City University of New York Graduate Center.

Prometheus’s Remorse
From the Gift of Fire to Global Arson
Peter Sloterdijk
translated by Hunter Bolin

The stirring speech given by Peter Sloterdijk in Lucerne in October 2022.

From time immemorial, humanity has had to organize their “metabolism with nature.” For Marx, the most important factor in this process was labor. When Prometheus, according to the myth, brought fire to earth, another crucial input was added. Fire has been used to cook food and harden tools for hundreds of thousands of years. In this sense, it can be said that all history implies the history of the uses of fire.

But whereas trees could only be burnt once, labor and fire shifted with the discovery of underground deposits of coal and oil. Modern humanity, according to Peter Sloterdijk, can be considered a collective of arsonists who set fire to the underground forests and moors. If Prometheus were to return to earth today, he might regret his gift; after all, what looms is nothing less than Ekpyrosis, the demise of the world in fire. And only a new, energetic pacifism can prevent this catastrophe.

Peter Sloterdijk (b. 1947) is one of the best known and widely read German intellectuals writing today. His 1983 publication of Critique of Cynical Reason, published in English in 1988, became the best-selling German book of philosophy since World War II. He became president of the State Academy of Design at the Center for Art and Media in Karlsruhe in 2001. He has been a cohost of a discussion program, Das Philosophische Quartett (Philosophical Quartet) on German television since 2002.

philosophy
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Intervention Series
Semiotext(e)
Heroines
new edition
Kate Zambreno
introduction by Jamie Hood

A manifesto reclaiming the wives and mistresses of literary modernism that inspired a generation of writers and scholars, reissued after more than a decade.

On the last day of December 2009, Kate Zambreno, then an unpublished writer, began a blog called “Frances Farmer Is My Sister,” arising from her obsession with literary modernism and her recent transplantation to Akron, Ohio, where her partner held a university job. Widely reposted, Zambreno’s blog became an outlet for her highly informed and passionate rants and melancholy portraits of the fates of the modernist “wives and mistresses,” reclaiming the traditionally pathologized biographies of Vivienne Eliot, Jane Bowles, Jean Rhys, and Zelda Fitzgerald: writers and artists themselves who served as male writers’ muses only to end their lives silenced, erased, and institutionalized.

In Heroines, Zambreno extends the polemic begun on her blog into a dazzling, original work of literary scholarship. Combining theories that have dictated what literature should be and who is allowed to write it—she traces the genesis of a cultural template that consistently exiles feminine experience to the realm of the “minor,” and diagnoses women for transgressing social bounds. “ANXIETY: When she experiences it, it’s pathological,” writes Zambreno. “When he does, it’s existential.” With Heroines, Zambreno provided a model for a newly subjectivized criticism, prefiguring many group biographies and forms of autotheory and hybrid memoirs that were to come in the years to follow. A book that has become its own canon, Heroines was named one of the “50 Books that define the past 5 Years in Literature” by Flavorwire, an “Essential Feminist Manifesto” by Dazed, and one of the “50 Greatest Books by Women” in Buzzfeed.

“If you thought you knew a lot about the ‘wives of modernism and the various forms of silencing they suffered, Kate Zambreno’s Heroines will teach you more; if you didn’t know much, your mouth will fall open in enraged amazement.” —Maggie Nelson

Kate Zambreno is the author of nine books, including Heroines, Book of Mutter, and Appendix Project (all Semiotext(e)). She teaches graduate nonfiction at Columbia University and is the Strachan Donnelley Chair in Environmental Writing at Sarah Lawrence College.

literature | women's studies
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Active Agents series
Semiotext(e)

If You’re a Girl
revised and expanded edition
Ann Rower
introduction by Sheila Heti

The trailblazing book that influenced a generation of writers and proves that mature reflection needn’t be lacking in attitude.

In the beginning when everything was very sexual we talked about our fantasies. She thought about having a guy for some of it. She thought about having a gun. I had gone through a lot to get away from guys so I admit that the thought of going back to them, even for a little adventure, was surprising and disconcerting…


Rower was 53 years old at the time. Her stories—urtexts of female autofiction—had long been circulating within the poetry and postpunk music scenes. They were unlike anyone else’s: disarming, embarrassing, pseudo-confessional tales of everyday life dizzily told and laced with dry humor. In If You’re a Girl, she recounts her adventures as Timothy Leary’s babysitter, her artistic romance with actor Ron Vawter, and her attempts to evade a schizophrenic stalker.

Rower went on to publish two novels: Armed Response (1995) and Lee & Elaine (2002). After the 2002 suicide of her partner, the writer Heather Lewis, Rower stopped writing for almost two decades. And then she picked up where If You’re a Girl left off. No longer a girl, she produced dozens of stories from her life in New York as an octogenarian.

This new, expanded edition includes most of the original book, together with selections from both her novels and her recent writings. If You’re a Girl is a trailblazing book that manifests Rower’s influence on a generation of writers, and proves that mature reflection needn’t be lacking in attitude.


literature
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Native Agents series
Semiotext(e)
Maybe it’s time to see how the sausage is made.

Many of us have grown accustomed to an era in which a global logistical orchestra serves our needs and whims, bringing food to our mouths with surgical precision. Especially for cosmopolitan urbanites used to traveling, sampling exotic cuisine, or spending money freely, these delivery mechanisms may appear to have created the ultimate hostage situation. Is it time to bite the invisible hand that feeds us? This fragile political ecosystem has something in common with the fragility of the natural ecosystem when forced to supply illusions of abundance. Maybe it’s time to see how the sausage is made.

In e-flux Food and Agriculture Reader, authors from around the world reflect on food and agriculture as foundational expressions of life—as sociality, history, and entanglement. By attending closely to something that is the bedrock of security and survival, a world emerges where power over production and consumption can be organized less like a hegemonic system and more like a daily routine. Attending more closely to systems of survival opens the door to another kind of abundance, one that always evades scarcity. Food is absolutely political, but food is also fundamentally pleasurable and social. Hannah Arendt allegedly asked her students about the difference between love and desire. She then answered her own question: If you desire strawberries, you eat them. If you love strawberries, you grow them yourself.

Julieta Aranda is a conceptual artist living in Berlin and New York City. Her explorations span installation, video, and print media, with a special interest in the creation and manipulation of artistic exchange and the subversion of traditional notions of commerce through art making. Kaye Cain-Nielsen is editor-in-chief of e-flux journal. Previously, she was managing and special issues editor for Guernica—A Global Magazine of Art & Politics, among other publications. Brian Kuan Wood is a writer and editor based in New York. In 2008 he started e-flux journal with Anton Vidokle and Julieta Aranda, along with a series of readers in collaboration with Sternberg Press. His writing has appeared in Bidoun, CAC Interviu, Paletten, e-flux journal, and other artist-initiated platforms and publications. Anton Vidokle is an artist and filmmaker. He is a founding editor of e-flux journal. His films have been presented at museums, festivals, and events worldwide.
MAGIC FECES
or Cream Psychosis
Mary Walling Blackburn

Over a decade’s worth of essays: movies of America in parallax view.

When an empire is lurching to a halt at its very end, it might be the moment when it begins, or is forced, to reimagine its relationship to a national insanity.

The lumpen and the miscreant walk a long, long way together into a bar. That bar is a landmass, an empire, an institution, a painter, insistent laughter through death. Deep gallows built for survival.

For years, artist Mary Walling Blackburn has given name, shape, and complication to this lumpy lineage from whence she comes. This book of essays, written between the 2010s and the present, moves with near psychedelic precision across American time and its surrounding spaces.

It begins near the annals of the Arkansas Lunatic Asylum, March 1883. In the 1990s, a scholarship kid meanders with inescapable difficulty through Northeastern boarding schools. Conspiring sugar planters, descendants of missionaries, overthrow indigenous Hawai‘i in 1893. A child learns how to split screens: hardcore film, documentary, destruction, and queer care in Times Square and in SROs in 1970s Salt Lake City.

Archeological digs, nuclear plants, and horrors of predation collide. California crumbles through the decades into the smog and sea. In 2020, all over, protestors meet BORTAC-trained soldiers under skies choked with propellors and noxious propellants.

Facing a dying nation, Blackburn insists on showing volumes of teeming, vibrant, miscreant life. The essays and works collected here are movies of America in parallax view. A deep bucket list for surviving the lumbering empires and their long-range off-gasses. Reading the texts inside can be a wide-awake, meditative, sometimes gruesome trip. Existing alongside them is also outrageously enjoyable. No reader will be left unscathed.

Mary Walling Blackburn was born in Orange, California. Her work engages a wide spectrum of materials that probe and intensify the historic, ecological, and class-born brutalities of North American life. She is the author of Quaestiones Perversas, cowritten with Beatriz E. Balanta.

People of the Universe
Charles Mudede

How we have evolved within the globalized market economy that has reigned triumphant in the decades since the 1999 Battle of Seattle.

Commentating, illustrating
Description giving, adjective expert
Analyzing, surmising, musical
Myth-seeking people of the universe, this is yours!”

— T La Rock, “It’s Yours

What are people like now? How have we, in a cultural sense, evolved within the globalized market economy that has reigned triumphant in the decades since the 1999 Battle of Seattle?

In People of the Universe, Charles Mudede begins with the distinction between the cultural and the social. The former emerges from the latter, which defines the kind of animal we are universally. Sociobiological universality is stretched to the cultural with political consequences whose temporality is not directly biotic (the social) but historical. The historical specificity of a collective experience is defined by the principles of a culture determined by the distributional logic of the market system. We do not experience abstract time, which is the time of always. We experience market-time, which is not transhistorical.

People of the Universe is infused with a futurism that is not without its problems. A number of its essays examine the limits not only of a futurism directed by an unthinking reverence of progress that has its origins in the Victorian cultural world, but, more specifically, Afrofuturism. Other essays scan the horizon with a third conceptual tool, taken from world-systems thinking, which, in essence, organizes the history of capitalist accumulation into four state forms.

Charles Tonderai Mudede is a Zimbabwean-born cultural critic, urbanist, filmmaker, college lecturer, and writer. He is Senior Staff Writer of The Stranger and a lecturer at Cornish College of the Arts, and has collaborated with director Robinson Devor on three films, two of which, Police Beat and Zoo, premiered at Sundance, and one of which, Zoo, screened at Cannes. Mudede’s first film as director, Thin Skin, was released by Mutiny Pictures in fall of 2022. He has also written for the New York Times, Cinema Scope, Tank Magazine, e-flux journal, LA Weekly, Nest Magazine, and C Theory.

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Citizens of the Cosmos
Anton Vidokle
edited by Miguel Amado

On the films of Anton Vidokle, exploring themes of technological immortality and resurrection informed by Cosmist philosophy.

Citizens of the Cosmos examines the artist Anton Vidokle’s films and the Cosmist philosophy underpinning it. It features essays and conversations with Vidokle by seminal contemporary theorists, curators, and artists, and is the first book to survey Vidokle’s Cosmism-related filmic output, begun in 2014.

The book’s contributors speculate on Vidokle’s Cosmist conceptions of technological immortality, utopian resurrection, museology, and space travel, grappling with how these ideas embroil or crystallize with contemporary theories, practices, and technologies: atmospheric manipulation, cryonics, biopolitics, extraplanetary prospecting, geo-engineering, transhumanism, genetics. Franco “Bifo” Berardi disagrees with the Cosmist conjecture of death as a flaw in the conception of the human being. Elizabeth Povinelli digests the life-nonlife mattering of dust through relationships to and from the human and more-than-human ancestors to come. Boris Groys contemplates the gravitational forces between Cosmism and communism according to cosmic and social orders, grounded as they are in the laws of both physics and socialist politics. Keti Chukhrov considers the formation of thinking through madness, dying, and reasoning according to Cosmist philosophical and religious debates and beliefs. Raqs Media Collective and Anton Vidokle discuss different cultures of death, finitude, and rituals. Miguel Amado and Georgia Perkins examine the in-betweenness of the categories of life and death through the designs of terraforming vehicles navigating interplanetary space travel. Daniel Muzyczuk investigates Vidokle’s interests in the context of the history of the collection at the Muzeum Sztuki in Łódź. Liam Gillick and Anton Vidokle converse about filmmaking references and methods, from voiceover narrative to editing processes.

Anton Vidokle is an artist and filmmaker. He is a founding editor of e-flux journal. His films have been presented at museums, festivals, and events worldwide. Miguel Amado is a curator and critic, and Director of Sirius Arts Centre, Cobh, County Cork, Ireland.

A Moratorium on New Construction
Charlotte Malterre-Barthes

A massive value shift for existing buildings, infrastructure, materials, unbuilt land, earth, and the labor that holds our world together.

To build is to destroy, writes Charlotte Malterre-Barthes. From steel bolts to concrete blocks to wood flooring to polyester insulation panels, every single component of the built environment is the product of extractive processes. Driven by greedy economies, the global enterprise of space production expands, impacting climate, earth, water, humans, and non-humans everywhere. However, housing is both a human right and the mandate of design disciplines: How do we reconcile the need for housing against the destructive practice of construction?

To pause new construction, even if momentarily, requires a radical rethinking of the current regime of space production and its suspect growth imperative. Engaging with unsettling questions, A Moratorium on New Construction envisions a massive value shift for our existing stock. From housing redistribution to reinviting value generation, from anti-extractive measures to profound structural changes, from curricula reforms to purging the exploitative culture of the office, an entire rewiring of design processes and construction lies ahead. Somewhere between a thought experiment and a call to action, A Moratorium on New Construction is a leap of faith that envisions a less extractive future made of what we have—not demolishing, not building new, but building less, building with what exists, inhabiting it differently, and caring for it.

Charlotte Malterre-Barthes is Assistant Professor of Architectural and Urban Design at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne where she leads the laboratory RIOT. She has also taught at the Harvard Graduate School of Design.

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Sternberg
Simone Fattal
Hans-Ulrich Obrist
afterword by Rasha Salti

A deeply personal look at trailblazing artist, publisher, and philosopher Simone Fattal.

Simone Fattal (b. 1942, Damascus) was raised in Lebanon, where she studied philosophy at the École des Lettres in Beirut. She moved to Paris in the early 1960s, where she continued her philosophical pursuits at the Sorbonne.

In 1969, she returned to Beirut and began working as a visual artist, primarily a painter, exhibiting her works throughout the Middle East and North Africa until the start of the Lebanese Civil War.

In 1980, she settled in California with her partner, the late artist and poet, Etel Adnan, where she founded Post-Apollo Press, a publishing house dedicated to innovative and experimental literary work.

In 1988, she enrolled to study at the San Francisco Art Institute, which prompted a return to her artistic practice and a newfound dedication to making sculpture and ceramics. In the intervening years she has come to global renown as one of the most significant artists of her generation with solo exhibitions at Whitechapel Gallery, London; MoMA PS1; and the Sharjah Art Foundation, UAE.

In this volume, close friend, confidante, and curator Hans Ulrich Obrist delves into the artist’s past—unearthing stories from her personal archives, and memory. An essay by curator Omar Kholeif situates Fattal’s early artistic practice in the broader schema of art to emerge from the “Arab world,” and an afterword by author and filmmaker Rasha Salti delves into the mythological aspects of Fattal’s artmaking.

Hans Ulrich Obrist is Artistic Director of the Serpentine in London and Senior Advisor at LUMA Arles. Prior to this, he was the Curator of the Musée d’Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris. Since his first show “World Soup (The Kitchen Show)” in 1991, he has curated more than 350 exhibitions. His recent publications include Maria Lassnig: Letters, Entrevistas Brasileiras: Volume 2, An Exhibition Always Hides Another Exhibition, The Extreme Self: Age of You, and 140 Ideas for Planet Earth.

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Imagine Otherwise
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The world of Magda Stawarska, who for two decades has pushed the boundaries of sound, performance, moving image, and print culture, through her practice of “inner listening.”

Magda Stawarska

Omar Kholeif

afterword by Lubaina Himid

For nearly two decades, Polish-born, UK-based artist Magda Stawarska has explored the threshold of memory, the sanctioned shape of history, and the active experience of listening. Through sound and performance, moving image, photography, painting, and printmaking, the artist unfolds overlooked and contested narratives of the past through her practice of “inner listening.”

Stawarska’s distinct approach to artmaking often begins with explorations of cities. Traversing self-directed routes, the artist has often been compared to a flâneur—moving through each site, cultivating a rhythmic score that reveals a densely layered urban topography. The artist and her carefully chosen collaborators unbuckle the seams of the aural landscape, using personal reflection and language, which the artist uses to create installations that constellate active feelings.

These processes evolve, layer upon layer, in the studio and in the public realm, illuminating a palimpsest of dissonance: A discordant score that pierces the very concept of time. In this book, author and curator Omar Kholeif offers an introductory field guide to the artist’s practice. Structured as a travelogue through Stawarska’s various journeys, readers will venture from the streets of Istanbul to the canal sides of Venice to the waters of Zanzibar.

With an afterword by Turner Prize–winning artist, Lubaina Himid CBE RA.

Omar Kholeif is an author, curator, broadcaster, cultural historian, and Director of Collections and Senior Curator at Sharjah Art Foundation, UAE. They have curated more than 70 exhibitions and authored or coauthored more than 40 books on contemporary art.

Lalitha Lajmi

Skye Arundhati-Thomas

The first critical biography on Lalitha Lajmi’s distinct form of autoethnographic painting, which is fueled by psychoanalysis.

Lalitha Lajmi was born in 1932 in Kolkata, India and died in India on 13 February 2023 soon after her first museum survey exhibition at The National Gallery of Modern Art, Mumbai. Born into a family with a keen interest in the creative arts and cinema, Lajmi’s fervor for the creative arts would be limited by circumstance, and recognition would not begin to materialize until the very end of her life. A single mother, Lajmi set up her first studio in the garage area of her home, working on her multivalent practice—primarily painting—long into night. Her initial investigations began with realism moved into expressions of Tantrism and the concept of the Bindu.

In this book, the first critical volume and biography on the artist by Skye Arundhati-Thomas, the author delves into the artist’s archives, papers, letters, and sketchbooks in pursuit of clues to the artist’s character. Arundhati-Thomas reveals the critical role that psychoanalysis played in the evolution of Lajmi’s art into the realm of the conceptual, and specifically, a distinctly situated form of autoethnography. Studying her concerted relationship with her psychoanalyst, the author reveals how these sessions fueled a practice of self-portraiture that formed the bedrock of the artist’s practice until the end of her life.

Skye Arundhati Thomas is an award-winning writer and editor based in Goa. They write for The London Review of Books, Artforum, Frieze, and numerous other outlets. They are co-editor of The White Review. Their first book, Remember the Details, on viral images, courtrooms, and a brief history of a protest movement, was published in 2021. Their second, cowritten with Izabella Scott, on constitutional law, military occupation, and communications blackouts is forthcoming in 2023.
A Strange Adventure
Eva Forest
translated by Robin Myers

Oral history as theater—the theater of memory, trauma, and torture.

Multivocal and anonymous, A Strange Adventure is oral history as theater—the theater of memory, trauma, and torture. A play with neither named characters nor stage directions, it is a reckoning with the immediate past: a group of women recount ten days of torture in Madrid’s Yeserías prison, in 1974, just after the Spanish state rounded up Basque nationalists and other activists it could conveniently incarcerate.

This stuttering yet lucid text—written by Eva Forest, who was imprisoned in Yeserías from 1974 to 1977 without trial—is as urgent today as ever, transcending its context of Basque struggle and Francoist fascism. Emerging from a space and time that many prefer to forget and suppress, A Strange Adventure is testimony to the resilience, humility, and power of individuals who refuse repression, who find life in collectivity, who speak in echoes, silences, and screams.

Eva Forest (1928–2007) was an activist, writer, politician, publisher, and psychiatrist. Born to anarchist parents in Barcelona, she studied medicine in Madrid. After living in exile in Paris, Forest returned to Francoist Spain in 1962, where she was arrested and imprisoned for organizing women for the Asturias miners’ strike. Forest spent time in Cuba, forming solidarity groups and writing on the socialist cause. In the 1970s, her militant commitment to the Basque people and their cause solidified. After her three-year-long imprisonment in Yeserias, she, along with her husband, Alfonso Sastre, and their three children, moved to Hondarribia in Basque Country, where they founded the publishing house Hiru. It wasn’t until 2007, the year she died, that Una Extraña Aventura was published.

Provoking Freeport Magic
Art Assemblage in Late Capitalism
Jessica Inez Backsell

How practices that enact the art of constructing open secrets in markets can be mobilized to unfold magic making.

How is it that we come to not know things? Oftentimes, it has to do with that meticulous work that has been mobilized to keep us ignorant. It is therefore intimately linked to the act of keeping secrets. In this book, Jessica Inez Backsell explores a very particular form of secret keeping which paradoxically does not require non-knowledge to be produced. Instead, the author looks at a secret whose power resides in its exposure and the fact that it is, to some extent, known. What Backsell alludes to is the open secret. These are secrets which have a rather special connection to cognitive judgment. They require us to see while we do not see or perhaps even better—to notice but not openly acknowledge. They, in other words, hover as forms of semi-knowledge, never fully recinded yet neither completely present.

To explore this idea, Backsell turns to a contemporary setting that is very apt for studying practices that produce semi-knowledge—the so-called Luxury Freeport. Simply put, the luxury freeport is a warehouse where collectibles, such as art, are safely stored in a legal threshold which makes them non-susceptible to tax liabilities. It is also widely known for being shrouded in a clandestine fog. Backsell argues that this is a status that is enacted through the construction of boundaries that, on the one hand, sparks frustration yet paradoxically also kindles curiosity. More specifically, it actualizes the effects of withdrawal and displays what practices can be mobilized to produce mysteries from the openly contested. Such practice therefore also reverberates into the broader context of the art market as they presuppose its “myth-making” to unfold.

Jessica Inez Backsell is a PhD candidate at Stockholm School of Economics, where she also teaches spatial and legal construction of markets. She explores the organization of markets from a practice perspective, drawing upon theories from both classical anthropology and postmodern philosophy. She also takes part in spurring dialogues between artists and intellectuals through her engagement in SSE Art Initiative.

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**The Complex Answer**

On Art as a Non-Binary Intelligence

Chus Martínez

Essays on the question of how art embodies an intelligence capable of serving the erasure of the culture/nature distinction.

*The Complex Answer: On Art as a Non-Binary Intelligence* presents a series of entangled essays on the question of how art—and contemporary art practices in particular—embodies an intelligence capable of serving the erasure of the culture/nature distinction. The book is conceived in four parts and each not only introduces a slightly different writing on the subject matter, but also refers to concrete questions that affect the practice of art, the exercise of exhibiting, the duty of reflecting and the institutional forms that define our present but may radically change in a near future.

*The Complex Answer* imagines art and contemporary art as an organ—an organ that produces an experience of inexpressible reality that is fundamental to understanding life and its processes. Stem cells exist, first, without a purpose, and it is up to the whole organism to decide if such cells will become part of an auditory nerve or the brain or the cornea of an eye. This adding to an organ is how Chus Martínez understands the intelligence of art. Poets and artists have claimed to understand the language of birds and flowers. We speak now of multi-species communication without a trace of metaphorical language. The experience of nature has evolved inside artistic practice. One could claim that the very fact that we talk about artificial intelligence is a merit of the arts. To transfer technical knowledge. These are just jests on the part of the sciences, developments of the sciences, systems is a bold move that took centuries to create. Art has been essential in getting our senses and our arguments ready to accept this reality. The same with animal language, the synchronized reactions of a rainforest, and the transformative way fish have been discovered as able to recognize their own image in a mirror. This adding to an organ is how Chus Martínez understands the intelligence of art. Poets and artists have claimed to understand the language of birds and flowers. We speak now of multi-species communication without a trace of metaphorical language. The experience of nature has evolved inside artistic practice. One could claim that the very fact that we talk about artificial intelligence is a merit of the arts. To transfer technical knowledge. These are just jests on the part of the sciences, developments of the sciences, systems is a bold move that took centuries to create. Art has been essential in getting our senses and our arguments ready to accept this reality. The same with animal language, the synchronized reactions of a rainforest, and the transformative way fish have been discovered as able to recognize their own image in a mirror. These are just jests on the part of the sciences, developments of technical knowledge.

Born in Spain, Chus Martínez is Head of the Institute of Art of the FHNW Academy of Arts and Design in Basel and Associate Curator of Ocean Space, Venice, and curator at large at The Vuslat Foundation, Istanbul.

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**The Monadic Age**

Notes on the Coming Social Order

Ingo Niermann

How the paradigm of self-sufficiency is about to overturn the individualist era.

Our world is marked by deepening conflicts—between democracies and autarchies, woke and populist identity politics, the rich and the poor, continued environmental exploitation and harsh complications like climate change. *The Monadic Age* argues that these manifold crises are about to culminate in a new paradigm of self-sufficiency—monadism—that overturns the individualist era and forces a reinvention of all social parameters.

Today, two major post-liberal dispositions are unfolding. On the one side, people envision a harmonious community of all human- and non-human beings (multi-species kinship, rainbow of identities). On the other side, people isolate themselves within their own identities and belongings (filter bubbles, safe spaces, gated communities, charter cities, prepping). Monadism recognizes that these two seemingly contradictory dispositions stem from a similar understanding of the world: One is more optimistic, the other more pessimistic, but ultimately, they are interdependent. Before seeking harmony, we humans, a highly dominant species, must first restrain ourselves from coercive interactions with our environment. And to protect ourselves sufficiently from our environment, we must minimize its abuse.

*The Monadic Age* unfolds in 33 autonomous—monadic—essays on topics as diverse as environmentalism, terrorism, geopolitics, housing, metaverse, non-binarism, language, charity, euthanasia, identity politics, tattoos, ableism, AI, birthrates, war, religion, sex, and art.

Ingo Niermann is a speculative writer and the editor of the Solutions Series at Sternberg Press. Recent books include Solution 295–304: Mare Amoris, Burial of the White Man (with Erik Niedling), and Solution 275–294: Communists Anonymous (edited with Joshua Simon). Based on his novel *Solution 257: Complete Love* (2016), Niermann initiated the Army of Love, a project that tests and promotes a need-oriented redistribution of sensual love. His work has been featured at Berlin Biennale, Istanbul Biennale, documenta, La Biennale di Venezia, ZKM, and Guggenheim New York.

Niermann is a lecturer at Institute Art Gender Nature in Basel.

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Sternberg
Helen Khal
Gallery One and Beirut in the 1960s
edited by Carla Chammas, Rachel Dedman, and Omar Kholeif
foreword by Christine Tohmé

The story of Helen Khal and the artists who altered the course of modern and contemporary art in the Middle East and beyond.

Helen Khal: Gallery One and Beirut in the 1960s is a reflective exhibition catalog, part archive, as well as a living testament to the late Helen Khal (1923–2009). A polymath, artist, educator, and writer, Khal was also the cofounder of Gallery One, the first modern art gallery in Lebanon, which opened its doors to the public in Beirut in 1963.

This catalogue details Helen’s life and practice as a catalytic lens through which to explore the work of a group of artists whom she was close to, in life and in art, including Chafic Abboud, Yvette Achkar, Etel Adnan, Huguette Caland, Simone Fattal, Farid Haddad, Helen Khal, Saloua Raouda Choucair, Aref El Rayess, and Dorothy Salhab-Kazemi.

From here, the publication seeks to address the exhibition’s themes of love, sex, and motherhood, the relationship between visual art and the literary landscape of 1960s and 1970s Beirut, and the galleries and studios in which public collaborations and private kinships were forged. Taking an intimate approach to a fabled period, Helen Khal unfolds a rich picture of the friendships, connections, modes of exchange, common concerns, and differing approaches of some of the best-known and least-remembered artists of the mid-twentieth century in Lebanon.

Copublished by artPost21

Omar Kholeif is an author, curator, broadcaster, cultural historian, and Director of Collections and Senior Curator at Sharjah Art Foundation, UAE. They have curated more than 70 exhibitions and authored or coauthored more than 40 books on contemporary art. Carla Chammas is an independent curator and advisor. She cofounded the CRG Gallery, New York in 1991 with Richard DesRoche and Glenn McMillan, hosting prominent artists from the Middle East to South America for 27 years. Rachel Dedman is a curator and writer based between Lebanon and the UK.

Sahara
A Thousand Paths into the Future
edited by Kateryna Botanova, Yarri Kamara, and Quinn Latimer

An anthology that accompanies Culturescapes 2023 Sahara, the 17th edition of the Swiss multidisciplinary festival.

Sahara: A Thousand Paths into the Future is devoted to the ideas, images, poetics, politics, fictions, and movements of this vast desert and its myriad voices. Focused on the cultural productions, lines of political and aesthetic thought, and multiple epistemologies and cosmologies of the Sahara, and the accompanying Sahel, this book understands the region as both an ancient space of connection and circulation—from its northern to southern shores, its dunes and volcanic mountains, to its lusher savannahs—and as a contemporary site of exchange between strikingly singular societies and communities on all sides of the desert. If the Sahara is habitually narrated as a space of radical heat and intense light, and of barren emptiness, this anthology approaches the region with a decolonial lens that privileges the Saharan communities and nonhuman entities who live within all aspects of its circadian rhythms, including the constructive opacity of the desert night.

Copublished with Culturescapes

Quinn Latimer is a poet and critic from California. Her writings and readings have been featured widely, including at Chisenhale Gallery, London; REDCAT, Los Angeles; and Qalandiya International, Ramallah/ Jerusalem. Latimer is editor-in-chief of publications for documenta 14. Kateryna Botanova is a Basel-based cultural critic, curator, and writer. She curates the multidisciplinary biennial Culturescapes and co-edits its anthologies. Yarri Kamara is a writer, translator, and policy researcher. She is a member of UNESCO’s 2005 Convention Expert Facility, which provides cultural policy support to developing countries.

art | cultural studies
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Sternberg
BURN & GLOOM! GLOW & MOON!
Thousand Years of Troubled Genders
edited by Katrina Daschner
foreword by Övül Ö. Durmuşoğlu
A journey through over two decades of intersectional and queering practices in film, performance, sculpture, community work, and textiles.

BURN & GLOOM! GLOW & MOON! Thousand Years of Troubled Genders was the most comprehensive exhibition to date of Vienna-based artist and filmmaker Katrina Daschner and encompassed works from the 1990s to the present, ranging from sculptures, textiles, music, performance, community-based work, and, most prominently, film, which sits at the heart of Katrina Daschner’s practice.

With stylized performances and video works, Daschner plays with the boundaries of what is human and non-human, and what is socially defined as the norm, exposing the artificiality of the gendered binary—the dualism of men* and womxn—and the prejudices it generates. In doing so, the stage becomes the setting for a precarious desire for visibility and, at the same time, an endless yearning for rebirth. These artistic acts generate their own community in the making; everyone participating contributes to the stories in the making. In Daschner’s textile-based works, threads are minimal yet highly visible, akin to the pinch needed to wake up from a dream. These works—as well as her collages—merge with her confrontational yet inviting image politics: she cuts and pastes stories of love and pleasure, violence and resilience, death and rebirth.

The written contributions reflect how Katrina Daschner has been a part of a hardworking generation of queer artists and makers who have been responding to the major conceptual shifts and gender upheavals happening in contemporary art since the 1990s, especially in New York and London.

Copublished by Kunsthalle Wien

Katrina Daschner grew up in Hamburg. From 2005 to 2010, she taught at the Academy of Fine Arts, Vienna. In 2010, she was awarded the Otto Mauer Prize, and in 2017, the Diagonale Prize for Innovative Cinema. In 2018, she was awarded the Outstanding Artist Award for Experimental Film by the Federal Chancellery of Austria.

Trevor Paglen
Adversarially Evolved Hallucinations
Trevor Paglen
edited by Anthony Downey
How machine and computer vision produce contemporary images.

How do machines look at images? To ask such a question is to observe the degree to which images today are increasingly produced by machines for machines. Symbolically, these images are void of an aesthetic context. They are not propagandistic (they do not try to convince us), nor are they instructive (they are not interested in directing our attention). They exist as abstract binary code rather than pictograms and are not, crucially, content-based. Made by machines for machines, they make things happen in our world. However, void of anthropological or aesthetic intention, the functionality of such images anticipates the obsolescence of “perception” as a human-defined activity and, in turn, the ascendancy of “machine vision.” We cannot see how they make things happen in our world, in short. All of which leaves us with a question: in the absence of being able to perceive such images, how do we think about their impact on societies more broadly? Taking Trevor Paglen’s series “Adversarially Evolved Hallucinations” as a starting point for an analysis of these and other questions, this volume explores the role of algorithms and Artificial Intelligence (AI) in these processes. More specifically, it examines Paglen’s research methods and the extent to which they encourage the viewer to think from within such apparatuses rather than merely reflect upon them.

Trevor Paglen is an artist and geographer who explores and documents invisible infrastructures, ranging from secret corporate and government sites to networks known through technologies of nonhuman, machine vision. Anthony Downey is Professor of Visual Culture in the Middle East and North Africa within the Faculty of Arts, Design, and Media at Birmingham City University.

art | gender studies
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Research/Practice

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Distributed by the MIT Press
A Variability Quantifier

Liam Gillick

edited by Josée Drouin Brisebois, Liam Gillick, Nicolaus Schafhausen, and Claire Shea

Liam Gillick’s process in building a functioning weather station for Fogo Island, Newfoundland as part of the World Weather Network.

In 2022 Liam Gillick installed A Variability Quantifier (The Fogo Island Red Weather Station) on Fogo Island, Newfoundland. An artwork intended to function as an operational weather station, it gathers local weather data and is a place for education, reflection, and discussion. The site and work are open, and people are encouraged to visit. In 2023, Liam Gillick returned to Fogo to make a documentary film about his work and interview islanders on all aspects of how the climate emergency affects their lives. A Variability Quantifier is a record of the documentary and includes a fully illustrated account of the working process and the discussions that took place. Gillick’s project is to collect data to feed into the global system. As with earlier projects, it is the math and science that he attempts to elevate.

Copublished by Fogo Island Arts and National Gallery of Canada.

Liam Gillick is a New York–based British born artist known for his contributions in architecture, sculpture, video, and word art. His work focuses on expanding ideas of labor, time, and color through his distinctive conception of exhibition as a medium.

Josée Drouin Brisebois is Producer and Senior Manager of National Outreach at the National Gallery of Canada, where she was formerly Senior Curator of Contemporary Art. Nicolaus Schafhausen is a curator, director, author, and editor of numerous publications on contemporary art. Since 2011 he has been the Strategic Director of Fogo Island Arts, Canada, an initiative of Shorefast, a charitable foundation dedicated to finding alternative solutions for the revitalization of areas prone to emigration.

Claire Shea is Director at Fogo Island Arts, Canada, an initiative of Shorefast, a charitable foundation dedicated to finding alternative solutions for the revitalization of areas prone to emigration.

art | architecture
June | 7 1/2 x 9 1/2, 200 pp. | 100 color illus.
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Ines Doujak. Twisted Language

edited by Ines Doujak

foreword by What, How & for Whom/WHW

A close examination of the realities of the current economic, microbiological, and ecological crises through political and aesthetic strategies.

In the context of Ines Doujak’s exhibition Geistervölker, Kunsthalle Wien and Sternberg Press have published a book that looks deeply into the artist’s practice. In the exhibition, curated by What, How & for Whom / WHW, the artist traced, in fragments, the origins of pandemics throughout history and linked them to a global economy that is based on logics of extraction facilitated by colonial legal mechanisms and late capitalism.

These subjects have always been present in Doujak’s works. Therefore, it felt crucial to have a book that allows several writers, theoreticians, and poets from different geographies to reflect on the political and aesthetic strategies that Doujak has been using during these past thirty years. The book is not a monograph nor a catalogue but rather a mosaic of texts in dialogue with Ines Doujak’s Oeuvre, which engage with urgent topics such as how we relate to the world around us and to each other.

Contributors
John Barker, Maria Berrios, Alice Creischer, T. J. Demos, Danny Hayward, Patricia Highsmith, Matthew Hyland, Ernst Jandl, Pablo Lafuente, Pedro G. Romero, Grace Samboh, Klaus Speidel, Markus Wörgötter.

Ines Doujak is an Austrian artist, researcher, and writer, working in the field of visual culture and material aesthetics with a queer-feminist, anti-racist, anti-colonial focus. Her research investigates how global histories are characterized by cultural, class, and gender conflict. She has presented internationally at Kunsthalle Wien, Liverpool Biennial, NTU Centre for Contemporary Art Singapore, Bergen Assembly, steirischer herbst, Belvedere, Dhaka Art Summit, Para Site, Bunkier Sztuki Gallery of Contemporary Art, MACBA, São Paulo Biennial, Royal College of Art London, Busan Biennale, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, and documenta 12.

art | politics
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Sternberg

Distributed by the MIT Press
She Mad
Martine Syms
A source book documenting five episodes of Martine Syms’s seminal imagined television series, She Mad.

Sternberg

My Sweet Little Lamb (Everything We See Could Also Be Otherwise)
edited by Emily Pethick, Kathrin Rhomberg, What, How & for Whom/WHW, and Jill Winder
On the legacy of the Eastern European neo-avant-garde and the work of artist Mladen Stilinović.

Emily Pethick has been the director of the Rijksakademie van beeldende kunsten, Amsterdam since 2018. Her writings have appeared in magazines such as Artforum, Afterall, The Exhibitionist, and Frieze, and she has coedited or edited numerous books, including Artistic Ecologies: New Compasses and Tools, Wendelen van Oldenborgh’s monograph Amateur, and Cluster. Dialektiz. Kathrin Rhomberg is a curator based in Vienna. Since 2014 she has been chairwoman and artistic director of the Kontakt Collection, Vienna. She has co-curated, among other exhibitions: “Edi Hila: Painter of Transformation,” “Projekt Migration,” and Manifesta 3, Ljubljana. What, How & for Whom/WHW (established in Zagreb in 1999) is a curatorial collective based in Berlin, Vienna, and Zagreb, whose members are Ivet Curić, Ana Dević, Nataša Ilić, and Sabina Sabolović, along with designer and publicist Dejan Krsić. Since 2003 WHW has been running the program of Gallery Nova, a city-owned gallery in Zagreb. In 2018 it launched an international study program for emerging artists called WHW Akademija, based in Zagreb. Jill Winder is a writer and editor with a background in political theory and curatorial studies whose editorial practice is concerned with publishing contemporary art spanning the fields of print and online.

Sternberg

Thus Waves Come in Pairs
Thinking with the Mediterraneans
edited by Barbara Casavecchia
Reflections on the Mediterraneans, their interconnected cultures and bodies of sweet and salty water, and the possibilities of narrating their current transformations.

Barbara Casavecchia is a writer, curator, and educator based in Venice and Milan. She has taught at the Department of Visual Cultures and Curatorial Practices of the Brera Academy since 2011, and currently teaches on the art & ecology master’s at NABA, Milan. A contributing editor of Frieze magazine, she has been published in art-agenda, Artreview, La Repubblica, Flash Art, Mousse, Nero, South, Spike, and in several artist publications. In 2018, she curated the solo exhibition “Susan Hiller, Social Facts” at OGR, Turin. In 2020, Casavecchia was a mentor on the Ocean Fellowship Program offered by TBA21—Academy at Ocean Space in Venice. In 2021—2023, she will lead the third cycle of TBA21—Academy’s flagship program The Current.

Sternberg

YKSIHW KCALB
Dexter Sinister
The 15-year history of the production of a “German scotch” Black Whisky.

Dexter Sinister is the compound working name of Stuart Bertolotti-Bailey and David Reinfurt. In 2000 David formed the design studio O-R-G and Stuart cofounded the arts journal Dot Dot Dot. In 2006 they jointly established Dexter Sinister as a “just-in-time workshop and occasional bookstore” on New York City’s Lower East Side. Art | design | April | 4 1/4 by 6 1/2, 256 pp. | 66 color illus.

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Sternberg
A Walking Flame
Selected Magical Writings of Ithell Colquhoun
Ithell Colquhoun
edited by Amy Hale

Nearly 40 nearly forgotten essays on magic and esotericism by Ithell Colquhoun.

Writer, artist, and willfully dissident surrealist Ithell Colquhoun (1906–1988) invested her unique works with magical learning, esoteric lore, and a palpable sense of mystery. Despite having published widely on esoteric and occult topics during her lifetime, Colquhoun was never to produce a single book-length edition of her magical writings. As a result, many of her essays were lost or neglected.

A Walking Flame: Selected Magical Writings Of Ithell Colquhoun gathers nearly 40 texts by this unique artist and magical practitioner, and displays cohesively, and for the first time, the impressive breadth of Colquhoun’s magical interests and expertise. Ranging from early encounters with the Kabbalah and esoteric color theory, to Celtic mysticism and alchemy, this volume, edited by Colquhoun scholar and folklorist Amy Hale, promises to shed a necessary light on an integral body of Colquhoun’s thought that has remained occluded for too long.

Amy Hale is a folklorist and anthropologist specializing in modern Cornwall and contemporary esoteric history and culture. She has published widely on topics such as modern Druidry, Cornish ethnonationalism, Arthurian lore, color theory, occult aesthetics, and extremist politics in modern Paganism. She is the author of Ithell Colquhoun: Genius Of The Fern Loved Gully.

Also available

978-1-907222-86-3

Strange Attractor
Lost Envoy
The Tarot Deck of Austin Osman Spare
revised and expanded edition
edited by Jonathan Allen
foreword by Mark Pilkington

A new high-quality paperback edition, reproducing in its entirety the English mystic and artist’s seventy-nine-card, hand-painted tarot deck alongside contemporary essays and archival material.

A new high quality paperback edition of Lost Envoy: The Tarot Deck Of Austin Osman Spare, reproducing in its entirety this seventy-nine-card, hand-painted tarot deck created c.1906 by the English mystic and artist, alongside contemporary essays and archival material.

Austin Spare’s lifelong interest in cartomancy is well documented, yet very few of his own fortune-telling cards were thought to have survived. This compelling new example of the artist’s early work demonstrates his precocious involvement with the currents that shaped the British Occult Revival at the beginning of the twentieth century, and his interactions with some of the period’s artistic and political protagonists including Aleister Crowley, Arthur Ivey, Sylvia Pankhurst, and Pamela Colman Smith.

Magic Circle Museum curator and artist Jonathan Allen set about tracing the deck’s provenance, its place in the artist’s oeuvre, and within the wider histories of cartomancy, in so doing contributing an unexpected counternarrative to the history of popular Tarot in the early twentieth century. Lost Envoy reproduces Austin Spare’s tarot deck in its entirety for the first time, alongside new written and visual contributions from Jonathan Allen, Phil Baker, Helen Farley, Alan Moore, Kevin O’Neill, Sally O’Reilly, and Gavin Semple.

This new edition contains a substantial amount of new and revised material, including a major new discovery about Spare’s sources for the attributions on his deck, hitherto unknown.

Jonathan Allen (b. 1966) is a London-based artist, writer, and educator whose work has been featured in many exhibitions and publications in the UK and internationally since the early 1990s. He is a curator at London’s Magic Circle Museum, and in 2009, he initiated and cocurated the Hayward Gallery touring exhibition Magic Show.

Sonic Faction
Audio Essay as Medium and Method
edited by Justin Barton, Steve Goodman, and Maya B. Kronic

Explorations of the audio essay as medium and method.

With contributors including Justin Barton, Angus Carlyle, Kodwo Eshun, Steve Goodman, Robin Mackay, Paul Nataraj, and Iain Sinclair, Sonic Faction presents extended lines of thought prompted by two Urbanomic events which explored the ways in which sound and voice can produce new sensory terrains and provoke speculative thought.

Three recent pieces provide the catalyst for a discussion of the potential of the “audio essay” as medium and method, a machine for intensifying listening and unsettling the boundaries between existing forms: documentary, music, ambient sound, audiobook, field recording, and radio play.

Kode9’s Astro-Darien (2022) is a sonic fiction about simulation, presenting an alternative history of the Scottish Space Program, haunted by the ghosts of the British Empire. Justin Barton and Mark Fisher’s On Vanishing Land (2006) is a dreamlike account of a coastal walk that expands into questions of modernity, capitalism, fiction, and the micropolitics of escape. Robin Mackay’s By the North Sea (2021) is a meditation on time, disappearance, and loss as heard through the fictions of Lovecraft, Ccru, and the specter of Dunwich, the city that vanished beneath the waves.

Alongside photographic documentation of the events and edited transcripts of the artists’ discussions, Sonic Faction brings together contributors with diverse perspectives to address the question of the audio essay and to imagine its future.

Justin Barton is a philosopher and writer. He is the author of Hidden Valleys: Haunted by the Future. Steve Goodman is Lecturer in Music Culture at the School of Sciences, Media, and Cultural Studies at the University of East London, a member of the CCRU (Cybernetic Culture Research Unit), and the founder of the record label Hyperdub and the sub label Flatlines, which focus on audio essays and sonic fiction. Maya B. Kronic is the agent, patient, and product of an ongoing research project on hyperstition, gender accelerationism, and cuteness. They are currently codirector of research and development at Urbanomic.
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William Shutkin, Editor in Chief

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CRCJ is an open access journal with no author publishing fees, made possible through the generous support of the Nell Newman Foundation, the Dean Witter Foundation, and the Masters of the Environment program (MENV) at the University of Colorado Boulder. Published by the MIT Press in partnership with MENV.

A social entrepreneur, attorney and educator, William Shutkin has been at the forefront of the sustainability field for over 25 years. He has been called “an environmental visionary creating solutions to today’s problems with a passion that would make John Muir and Martin Luther King equally proud” by David Brower, the father of the modern environmental movement."
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Douglas Keislar, editor
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CriticalProductive Journal is an independent, peer-reviewed academic journal / magazine. It is a space in which cultural theorists, designers, architects, urbanists, artists, humanists, and activists can reflect on contemporary culture and experiment with provocative ideas, such as how to disrupt normative paradigms, how to activate and catalyze new potentials, and how best to utilize technology, data, and moving image to convey information.

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2021 Impact Factor: 1.778
2022 Google Scholar h5-index: 29
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2022 Impact Factor: 2.6
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