SPRING & SUMMER 2024

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY PRESS
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Dear friends of the Press,

The thought of spring brings to mind flowers blooming and sunny days, but it also brings new opportunities and discoveries. We are excited to share our spring catalog that is full of wonderful new books from us and our partner presses, The University of Delaware Press, Bucknell University Press, and backlist titles from the Templeton Press, who joined our list last year. From books covering film, comics, regional interests, music, and translation, our new list has something for every reader. We are proud to share with you *Funny Boy: The Richard Hunt Biography*, about one of the original five performers in the Muppet troupe and the first book about the beloved performer who brought to life early versions of Miss Piggy, Elmo, and Scooter, among others. For fans of Bruce Springsteen, our list continues to grow with the third edition of Jim Cullen’s *Born in the U.S.A: Bruce Springsteen in American Life*. And we are honored to add beautiful biographies and memoirs to our catalog of books, including *Frankly Speaking: The Extraordinary Life of Senator Frank R. Lautenberg*, written by his widow Bonnie Lautenberg, *Locker Room Talk: A Woman’s Struggle to Get Inside*—which chronicles the 1970s court case of Ludke v. Kuhn that changed the world of sports journalism for women everywhere—and *Surviving Alex: A Mother’s Story of Love, Loss, and Addiction* by Patricia Roos, who tragically lost her son to addiction. And our list of titles from the Northeast United States is also growing this season with titles that celebrate the geographic wonders of New York, New Jersey, and gardening in the region. We hope that our books—and those from our partner presses—teach, entertain, and inspire you. And, as always, happy reading.

—Micah Kleit, Director

**Recent Highlights**

**Ideal Beauty: The Life and Times of Greta Garbo** by Lois W. Banner

- *Vanity Fair* released an exclusive excerpt of *Ideal Beauty: The Life and Times of Greta Garbo* by Lois W. Banner.
- *Library Journal* gave *Ideal Beauty* a starred review: “Preceded by innumerable contributions to the study of Garbo, including Robert Gottlieb’s *Garbo* and Robert Dance’s *The Savvy Sphinx*, this book presents a truly different approach for both lay and academic readers. It expertly offers an understanding of an elusive figure within the context of the film industry.”
- *Air Mail* chose *Ideal Beauty* in their Editor’s Picks: “What makes Lois W. Banner’s book different and highly worthwhile is her focus not so much on the films of Greta Gustafsson (a Swedish director persuaded her to change her last name to Garbo before she went to Hollywood, in 1925) as on the person herself: her insecurities, her religiosity, and her persistent health problems (perhaps even including gonorrhea). She captures well the milieu in which Garbo became a star, but, more to the point, places her in the context of what beauty meant in the era in which Garbo thrived.”
- *Entertainment Weekly* featured *Ideal Beauty* in the list “The 14 fall 2023 pop culture memoirs and biographies we’re most excited to read”.

**Bridge and Tunnel Boys: Bruce Springsteen, Billy Joel, and the Metropolitan Sound of An American Century** by Jim Cullen

- *Publishers Weekly* reviewed *Bridge and Tunnel Boys*: “This is an engrossing take on two music legends who documented the glory and melancholy of ‘ordinary American life.’”
- *Newsday* featured *Bridge and Tunnel Boys* in the article “*Bridge and Tunnel Boys* examines connections between Billy Joel, Bruce Springsteen”.
- *Time* published an article written by author Jim Cullen: “How the American Suburbs Created Bruce Springsteen and Billy Joel”.
- *Library Journal* reviewed *Bridge and Tunnel Boys*: “Fans will appreciate Cullen’s insight and respect for Springsten’s and Joel’s music in this highly entertaining book.”

**On the Turtle’s Back: Stories the Lenape Told Their Grandchildren** by Camilla Townsend and Nicky Kay Michael

- *WNYC’s All of It* with Alison Stewart, syndicated on National Public Radio, interviewed the authors.
- *Philly Voice* featured *On the Turtle’s Back* in the article “New book explores folklore from the Delaware Valley’s first people”.

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Cover image:
Richard Hunt on the Sesame Street set, mid-1970s.
Courtesy of the Hunt family.
Funny Boy
The Richard Hunt Biography

JESSICA MAX STEIN

“I met Richard Hunt while touring the Muppet Show and we became instant friends for life. Everything about him was larger than life: His personality, his humor, his energy, his talent and his great big heart. My family never knew when he might show up in his big black Checker cab, but we did know we were in for another wonderful adventure with the guy my kids call ‘Uncle Richard’ to this very day. To know him was to love him, and we do.”

—Mark Hamill, actor

“Jessica Max Stein’s biography of performer and puppeteer Richard Hunt is humorous, touching, and engagingly written. Funny Boy illuminates Hunt’s life as a stunning example of how to live and die with community, frivolity, dignity, and purpose.”

—Theodore (Ted) Kerr, coauthor of We Are Having This Conversation Now: The Times of AIDS Cultural Production

“I worked with Richard Hunt for 18 years, but there was a lot I didn’t know. Jessica Max Stein’s powerful biography of Hunt is a great read. Stein spent years meticulously researching Hunt’s intensely public and fiercely private life. Here is the authentic story of Hunt’s journey to the top of his field, but more importantly, his quest for self-knowledge and finally, self-acceptance. I know Richard better now.”

—Dave Goelz, Muppet performer for 50-plus years

Funny Boy: The Richard Hunt Biography tells the life story of a gifted performer whose gleeful irreverence, sharp wit, and generous spirit inspired millions. Richard Hunt was one of the original five main performers in the Muppet troupe. He brought to life an impressive range of characters on The Muppet Show, Sesame Street, Fraggle Rock, and various Muppet movies, everyone from eager gofer Scooter to elderly heckler Statler, groovy girl Janice to freaked-out lab helper Beaker, even early versions of Miss Piggy and Elmo. Hunt also acted, directed, and mentored the next generation of performers.

Richard Hunt was just eighteen years old when he joined Jim Henson’s company, where his edgy humor quickly helped launch the Muppets into international stardom. Hunt lived large, savoring life’s delights, amassing a vivid, disparate community of friends. Even when the AIDS epidemic wrought its devastation, claiming the love of Hunt’s life and threatening his own life, he showed an extraordinary sense of resilience, openness, and joy. Hunt’s story exemplifies how to follow your passion, foster your talents, adapt to life’s surprises, genuinely connect with everyone from glitzy celebrities to gruff cab drivers—and have a hell of a lot of fun along the way.

JESSICA MAX STEIN teaches writing and literature at Hunter College of the City University of New York. Her writing has garnered accolades from Poets and Writers Magazine’s Amy Award and the Independent Press Association’s Ippie Award and was shortlisted for the Hazel Rowley Prize from the Biographers International Organization. She is a former editor of the New York newspaper The Indypendent, for which she still writes.
Born in the U.S.A.
Bruce Springsteen in American Life
3rd edition, Revised and Expanded

JIM CULLEN

“Marshals impressive scholarship to assimilate the Boss into the main currents of American thought.”

“Jim Cullen writes with authority and empathy about the blue-collar roots that shaped Bruce Springsteen and gave rise to his music of rebellion. This is a provocative look at one of America’s cultural icons.”
—Eleanor Clift, Newsweek

“Cullen’s line-by-line analysis of Bruce’s songs crackles with insight.”
—New York Daily News

Pioneering the field of Springsteen scholarship when it first appeared in 1997, Born in the U.S.A. remains one of the definitive studies of Springsteen’s work and its impact on American culture. Moving beyond journalistic and biographical approaches, Jim Cullen situates the artist in a wider historical canvas that stretches from the Puritans to Barack Obama, showing how he has absorbed, refracted, and revitalized American mythology, including the American Dream, the work ethic, and the long quest for racial justice. Exploring difficult questions about Springsteen’s politics, he finds a man committed to both Democratic and Republican principles, as well as a patriot dedicated to revealing the lapses of a country he loves.

This third edition of Born in the U.S.A. is fully revised and updated, incorporating discussion of Springsteen’s wide output in the twenty-first century. While addressing Springsteen’s responses to events like 9/11, it also considers the evolution of his attitudes towards religion, masculinity, and his relationship with his audience. Whether you are a serious Springsteen fan or simply an observer of American popular culture, Born in the U.S.A. will give you a new appreciation for The Boss.

JIM CULLEN teaches at the recently founded upper division of Greenwich Country Day School. His many books include The American Dream: A Short History of an Idea That Shaped a Nation as well as Those Were the Days: Why “All in the Family” Still Matters, and Bridge and Tunnel Boys: Bruce Springsteen, Billy Joel, and the Metropolitan Sound of the American Century, both from Rutgers University Press.
Meltdown Expected
Crisis, Disorder, and Upheaval at the End of the 1970s

AARON J. LEONARD

“Historians correctly remind us that, in the 1960s, America experienced cultural and political turmoil that still resonates nearly six decades later. But in Meltdown Expected, Aaron J. Leonard proves the overlooked point that events during the last years of the 1970s were just as crucial, from Jonestown to Three Mile Island, from the rise of the Religious Right to the growing threat of violence both at home and abroad. I frankly cannot conceive of a more important book for readers who want to truly understand not only how we have gotten to where we are today, but why.”
— Jeff Guinn, author of The Road to Jonestown: Jim Jones and Peoples Temple

“Aaron J. Leonard has produced a fascinating account of an era that is growing quickly away from contemporary public attention. He shows that the world we live in today had not yet taken definitive shape, that the fluidity of social movements still alive from the 1960s, in some ways still growing, had the capacity to enhance democracy but fell toward failure. The power on the other side proved too great. Still, the details offer important clues for what may yet become the dynamos of tomorrow's American promise.”
—Paul Buhle, co-editor with Mari Jo Buhle of the Encyclopedia of the American Left

Meltdown Expected: Crisis, Disorder, and Upheaval at the End of the 1970s tells the story of how the “Me Decade” transformed into the final phase of the Cold War. Starting in the final months of 1978 and extending throughout 1979, the period of torpor, malaise, and polyester was replaced by revolution in Iran, near meltdown at Three Mile Island, tectonic shifts in China, the reworking of the intelligence authority, and the onset of a proxy war between the U.S. and USSR in Afghanistan. Through prodigious research, including material obtained through the author's Freedom of Information Act requests, this is a story of how the seventies ended before the decade was over.

AARON J. LEONARD is a writer and historian with a particular focus on the history of radicalism and state suppression. He is the author of Heavy Radicals: The FBI's Secret War on America's Maoists and The Folk Singers and the Bureau and coauthor of A Threat of the First Magnitude: FBI Counterintelligence and Infiltration. He lives in Los Angeles.
To Keep the Republic
Thinking, Talking, and Acting Like a Democratic Citizen

ELIZABETH C. MATTO

American democracy is in crisis. In the midst of multiple attacks on human rights, voting rights, and the U.S. Capitol itself, many Americans feel powerless to save their nation’s democratic institutions from the forces seeking to dismantle them. Yet, as founders like Benjamin Franklin knew from the start, the health of America’s democracy depends on the actions its citizens are willing to take to preserve it.

To Keep the Republic is a wake-up call about the responsibilities that come with being a citizen in a participatory democracy. It describes the many ways that individuals can make a difference on both local and national levels—and explains why they matter. Political scientist Elizabeth C. Matto highlights the multiple facets of democratic citizenship, identifies American democracy’s sometimes competing values and ideals, and explains how civic engagement can take various forms, including political conversation. Combining political philosophy with concrete suggestions for how to become a more engaged citizen, To Keep the Republic reminds us that democracy is not a spectator sport; it only works when we get off the sidelines and enter the political arena to make our voices heard.

ELIZABETH C. MATTO is a research professor and director of Rutgers University’s Eagleton Institute of Politics. Matto was lead editor for Teaching Civic Engagement across the Disciplines (2017) and Teaching Civic Engagement Globally and author of Citizen Now: Engaging in Politics and Democracy.
Frankly Speaking
The Extraordinary Life of Senator Frank R. Lautenberg

BONNIE LAUTENBERG
WITH DIRK OLIN
FOREWORD BY HILLARY CLINTON
AFTERWORD BY JOE BIDEN

“Frank had great character, exceptional character. We saw that not only in how he lived his life, but how he died: serving the people of New Jersey till the very end.”
—Joseph R. Biden, 46th President of the United States of America

Frankly Speaking is the Horatio Alger story of Frank R. Lautenberg, who rose from the streets of Paterson, New Jersey, to become a Fortune 500 CEO and then the longest-serving senator in the history of New Jersey. Told as only his widow can, the book focuses on his history in Congress, from his underdog election in 1982 until his death in 2013 at age eighty-nine. The book reveals the senator’s innovative political philosophy, which was centered on seemingly minor, unglamorous reforms that actually resulted in life-changing new realities for U.S. citizens: from his epic victories over the corporate powers of alcohol, tobacco, and firearms to his championship of the rights of women and the LGBTQ community, his unflinching campaigns to force the chemical industry to reveal its secrets, and his fervent opposition to the Iraq War and the military-industrial complex. The cast of characters includes Joe Biden, Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama, and Ted Kennedy.

BONNIE ENGLEBARDT LAUTENBERG is a photographer and conceptual artist who has been exhibiting her work for almost twenty years in galleries and art fairs around the country, including the African American Museum of History and Culture, the Boca Raton Museum, and the New York Historical Society. Her photography collection “How They Changed Our Lives: Senators as Working People” is exhibited online in the Library of Congress.

DIRK OLIN is the editor and publisher of Corporate Responsibility Magazine. Formerly the director of the Institute for Judicial Studies and the national editor of The American Lawyer magazine, Olin has written for The New York Times op-ed pages and The New York Times Magazine, The New Republic, and Slate, among others. He is a fellow with the Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System and a former visiting scholar at UC Berkeley’s Institute of Governmental Studies.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN is the forty-sixth president of the United States of America.

HILLARY CLINTON served as the sixty-seventh United States secretary of state from 2009 to 2013, as a U.S. senator representing New York State from 2001 to 2009, and as the first lady of the United States from 1993 to 2001.

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Chapter 9: Toxic Politics — One of Frank’s greatest concerns was corporate pollution. Here, he forges consensus on a right-to-know bill and even ends up legislating from the Great Beyond.
Chapter 10: Sick Transit — Passionate about infrastructure in a way few of his colleagues were, Frank’s focus on transportation provides a view with ongoing news relevance.
AFTERWORD BY JOE BIDEN from his memorial service remarks
Coda by Dan Katz: Joe Biden, the Senator from South Jersey

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Biography • Political Science

“Frank Lautenberg was such a leader. He dared greatly, and he led boldly, and we are safer, stronger, and more prosperous because he did.”
—Hillary Clinton, 67th United States secretary of state from 2009 to 2013
Surviving Alex
A Mother’s Story of Love, Loss, and Addiction

PATRICIA A. ROOS

“Patricia Roos’s harrowing story of her beloved son’s struggles with mental health and addiction—intertwined with her courageous but doomed fight to save his life—dishes out near relentless heartache. But she persists, revealing the systems that failed her family and inspiring us to join her fight for desperately needed reform.”
—Jessie Dunleavy, activist and author of Cover My Dreams in Ink: A Son’s Unbearable Solitude, a Mother’s Unending Quest

“An intensely personal and painfully honest story of the loss of a son, the cruelties of American drug and healthcare policies, and the hope that harm reduction can bring. Both a memorial and a sociological analysis, Surviving Alex shows us that addiction is indeed something to fear, but not for the reasons many of us assume.”
—David Herzberg, author of White Market Drugs: Big Pharma and the Hidden History of Addiction in America

In 2015, Patricia Roos was a professor of sociology at Rutgers University when her twenty-five-year-old son Alex died of a heroin overdose. Drawing from her academic training as a sociologist, she began to research the factors that lead to substance use and overdose. Instead of focusing on individual-level choice and brain disease arguments, she found that a complex web of social factors and institutional failures contribute to addiction.

Weaving together a personal narrative and a sociological perspective, Surviving Alex movingly describes how even children from “good families” can fall prey to addiction and recounts the hellish toll it takes on the whole family. Drawing from interviews with Alex’s friends, family members, therapists, teachers, and police officers, as well as files from his stays in hospitals, rehab facilities, and jails, she draws a compelling portrait of a young man whose life veered between happiness, anxiety, success, and despair. As she explores how a punitive system failed Alex, Roos outlines a more compassionate approach that would provide proper care for substance users and reduce addiction. She hopes to inspire a moral community of action that will realign public health policy to address the overdose crisis.

PATRICIA ROOS is a professor emerita of sociology at Rutgers University. Among her many publications are the books Job Queues, Gender Queues: Explaining Women’s Inroads into Male Occupations (coauthored with Barbara Reskin) and Gender and Work: A Comparative Analysis of Industrial Societies. After her son’s death, she realigned her research and advocacy interests to explore mental health and substance use disorders, turning her grief into activism.
In September 1978, Manhattan’s Southern District Court Judge Constance Baker Motley, the nation’s first Black woman on the federal bench, ordered Major League Baseball commissioner Bowie Kuhn to provide equal access to all journalists to interview baseball players. Motley’s judicial order in this well-known gender discrimination case, *Ludtke v. Kuhn*, applied only to Yankee Stadium, but her ruling’s impact was far-reaching. Young women flocked to sports writing and broadcasting at the same time that girls and women began competing more widely in sports due to passage of Title IX.

Though Motley’s order and Title IX regulations boosted opportunities for girls and women in sports, it has required decades of advocacy and court battles to advance their fair, just, civil, and equal treatment—and these fights for equality continue today. The plaintiff in this groundbreaking case was Melissa Ludtke, a *Sports Illustrated* baseball reporter who had been banned by Kuhn from the team’s locker room during the 1977 World Series, effectively barring her from doing her job as a journalist.

In *Locker Room Talk: A Woman’s Struggle to Get Inside*, Ludtke tells what it was like to be publicly ridiculed as a twenty-six-year-old woman for her provocative role in this sensationalized, headline-grabbing, groundbreaking case. After describing how she became the plaintiff in this case, she reveals the tactics that sportswriters and professional baseball men used to malign her when she was the only woman covering baseball nationally. By spotlighting the legal sparring in Judge Motley’s courtroom, she invites readers to watch Judge Motley weigh each side’s argument, question the lawyers, and determine her ruling. Outside of the courtroom, cultural bellwethers, such as Johnny Carson, the cast of *Saturday Night Live*, and even cartoonist Charles M. Schulz, spoofed her fight for equality.

Ludtke’s legal victory mattered then, and it still does. *Ludtke v. Kuhn* eroded conventional gender barriers in sports media, but patriarchal attitudes remain pervasive in sports culture. *Locker Room Talk: A Woman’s Struggle to Get Inside* resurfaces her game-changing legal case at a time when its gender lessons align with significant issues revolving around women and sports.

**MElISSA LUDTKE** is an award-winning journalist who worked at *Sports Illustrated*, *Time*, *CBS News*, and the Nieman Foundation for Journalism at Harvard University, where she edited *Nieman Reports*. In 1977–1978, as a baseball reporter for *Sports Illustrated*, she was the plaintiff in *Ludtke v. Kuhn*, the federal legal case that opened doors for women sportswriters by enabling equal access to talk with the players. She is a recipient of the Yankee Quill Award for lifetime achievement as a journalist and was nominated by the New York University Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute as one of the “100 Outstanding Journalists in the United States in the Last 100 Years.” As a reporter for *Sports Illustrated*, she won a Front Page Award from the Newswomen’s Club of New York (1979).
Cruel Destiny and The White Negress
Two Novels by Cléante Desgraves Valcin

CLÉANTE D. VALCIN
EDITED BY JEANNE JÉGOUSSO AND ADAM NEMMERS
TRANSLATED BY JEANNE JÉGOUSSO
FOREWORD BY MYRIAM J. A. CHANCY

Cléante Desgraves Valcin (1891-1956) was a poet, writer, and feminist—most prominently Haiti’s first published female novelist, who employed her sentimental fiction to explore matters of race, gender, nationalism, and sovereignty. A contemporary of Harlem Renaissance writers such as Nella Larsen and Zora Neale Hurston, Valcin emerged as an influential writer and political figure among the Black Atlantic diaspora. Now, for the first time, her two acclaimed novels are available in English translation.

Cruel Destiny (1929) tells the tragic love story of Armand and Adeline, drawn together by a magnetic attraction, yet kept apart by a dark family secret. Depicting the heavy expectations placed upon women in Haiti’s elite society, it also explores the troubled and twisted relationships between the Haitians and their former colonial masters, the French.

In The White Negress (1934), a Frenchwoman moves to Haiti and is torn between two very different men, a Black Haitian lawyer, and a white American carpetbagger. Putting a fresh spin on the tired tragic mulatta trope, Valcin reveals the racial prejudices, class tensions, and anti-colonial resentments of an island under American occupation.

Together, these two novels expand our understanding of Caribbean literature, as well as the political struggles and artistic triumphs of Black women in the Americas.

CLÉANTE DESGRAVES VALCIN (1891–1956) was a Haitian feminist, activist, and writer.

JEANNE JÉGOUSSO is an assistant professor of French at Hollins University in Roanoke, Virginia. She is the coeditor of Teaching, Reading, and Theorizing Caribbean Texts.

ADAM NEMMERS is an associate professor of English at Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas. He is the author of American Modern(ist) Epic: Novels to Refound a Nation and the coeditor of Yours in Filial Regards: The Civil War Letters of a Texan Family.

MYRIAM J. A. CHANCY is a Guggenheim Fellow and HBA Chair of the Humanities at Scripps College in Claremont, California. She is the author of multiple academic works and novels, including Framing Silence: Revolutionary Novels by Haitian Women (Rutgers University Press), From Sugar to Revolution: Women’s Visions from Haiti, Cuba, and the Dominican Republic, and What Storm, What Thunder.
Glory
The Gospel of Judas, A Novel
GIUSEPPE BERTO
FOREWORD BY ALESSANDRO VETTORI
TRANSLATED BY GREGORY CONTI

“Giuseppe Berto’s last novel is an original, relentless, and profound monologue, in which Judas Iscariot tells the story of Jesus and explains his own betrayal. Artfully translated by Gregory Conti, it folds past and present together and explores timeless themes of innocence, responsibility, sacrifice, and love.”
—Francesca Parmeggiani, professor of Italian and comparative literature at Fordham University

Glory (La gloria) is Giuseppe Berto’s testamentary novel. The first-person narration of the gospel in the voice of Judas Iscariot constitutes Berto’s closing argument in a lifelong debate with Christianity. His interpretation of the gospel story is certainly unconventional, even oppositional. Rather than the novel being a rejection of the Christian faith in which he was raised and educated, however, Berto fashions an alternative account to the four canonical gospels that ultimately constructs a competing view of the human condition and of humanity’s prospects for redemption.

In Berto’s parodic rendition of the Christian gospel, Judas, after a lifetime of tormented interrogation, decides to embrace the ambiguity of the human condition, which is, as he describes it, a liminal existence played out over a long and trying transition of unknown and unknowable duration, between the original paradise of the Garden of Eden and the final redemption at the end of days—a period otherwise known as history.

This book was translated thanks to a grant awarded by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

GIUSEPPE BERTO (1914–1978) was born in a small town in Veneto, Italy, and went on to author numerous screenplays, short stories, and novels, including The Sky Is Red, written during his time as a POW in Texas. A controversial author in postwar Italy, Berto was nevertheless the recipient of the Viareggio Prize and the Campiello Prize, and his work has drawn more critical attention in recent years. He is the author of Oh, Serafina! (Rutgers University Press).

GREGORY CONTI has over twenty-five published translations, including works by Emilio Lussu, Rosetta Loy, and Paolo Rumiz. His most recent translations include novels by Giuseppe Berto (Oh, Serafina! A Fable of Ecology, Lunacy, and Love, Rutgers University Press) and Edoardo Nesi (My Shadow Is Yours). He has lived in Perugia, Italy, since 1985.

ALESSANDRO VETTORI is a professor of Italian and comparative literature at Rutgers University–New Brunswick. He is the author of several books, including Giuseppe Berto: La passione della scrittura, and is a coeditor of the Other Voices of Italy series at Rutgers University Press.

Other Voices of Italy
Life, Brazen and Garish
A Tale of Three Women
DACIA MARAINI
FOREWORD BY SARA TEARDO
TRANSLATED BY ELVIRA G. DI FABIO

“This novel by the acclaimed, bestselling author Dacia Maraini weaves together the competing perspectives and distinct voices of a daughter, mother, and grandmother who live together in contemporary Rome. Elvira Di Fabio’s translation captures the rhythm, style and pace of each woman’s voice beautifully. A fast and entertaining read!”
—Tommasina Gabriele, author of Dacia Maraini’s Narratives of Survival: (Re)Constructed

“Brilliantly translated by Elvira Di Fabio, and eloquently introduced by Sara Teardo, Life, Brazen and Garish: A Tale of Three Women is a riveting medley of epistolary and diaristic women’s voices. Dacia Maraini’s polyphonic narrative mesmerizes and implicates us in its woman-centered family drama. The quotidian explodes—and we run for cover.”
—Edvige Giunta, coeditor of Talking to the Girls: Intimate and Political Essays on the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire

Three generations of women live together under the same roof. Though they are united by blood, each of the Cascadei women has a very different personality and way of expressing herself. Teenage daughter Lori scribbles impulsively in her diary, so eager to speed off on her moped that she rarely bothers with punctuation. Mother Maria, a professional translator, writes detailed and observant letters yet doesn’t see what is happening right in front of her. And grandmother Gesuina, a former stage actress, speaks into an audio recorder, giving a provocative and brutally candid performance for an imagined audience that might never listen.

Life, Brazen and Garish offers a fresh take on the epistolary novel, telling the story of a family through the fragmented and disparate perspectives of daughter, mother, and grandmother. Yet even as each woman endures her private struggles with love and betrayal, youth and maturity, knowledge and ignorance, reality and illusion, the Cascadeis forge a solidarity that transcends generations. In turns heartbreaking and laugh-out-loud funny, this novel is a triumph of narrative voice and literary style from one of Italy’s most renowned writers.

DACIA MARAINI is one of Italy’s most preeminent and beloved writers. In 1973, she founded the Teatro delle Maddalene, dedicated to works by women; she has written over thirty plays, as well as such novels as Voci (Voices) and the international bestseller La Lunga Vita di Marianna Ucrìa (The Silent Duchess).

ELVIRA G. DI FABIO holds a PhD from Harvard University, where she directed the Italian program and taught literary translation. Among her many published works are translations of Dacia Maraini’s plays The Gecko and Bakunin: The Lion and the Crocodile.

Other Voices of Italy
The Caravaggio Syndrome
A Novel

ALESSANDRO GIARDINO
TRANSLATED BY JOYCE MYERSON

“In a genre-bending triptych that is both expansive and intimate, Alessandro Giardino paints a vibrant tableau vivant that is a bold yet graceful study of life, love, and art. Smart and sexy, the ambitious work is vividly imaginative and ornate, offering the reader a literary tour of Naples, Paris, and New York, and reminding us about the important lessons we can learn when we look to the past. A talent to watch!”
—Christopher DiRaddo, author of The Geography of Pluto: A Novel

“A luminous and very powerful story.”
—Elena Favilli, coauthor of Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls: 100 Tales of Extraordinary Women

“While looking to the past, Alessandro Giardino’s inventive mash-up of art history and speculative fiction has a lot to say about our present moment.”
—Pedro Ponce, author of The Devil and the Dairy Princess: Stories

Leyla is a headstrong Brooklyn-born art historian at a prestigious upstate New York college. When she meets feckless young computer technician Pablo at a party, she quickly becomes pregnant with his child. There’s only one problem: she can’t stand him. And one more problem: her student Michael wants Pablo for himself.

Amid this love triangle, the objects of Leyla and Michael’s study take on a life of their own. Trying to learn more about Caravaggio’s masterpiece The Seven Works of Mercy, they pore over the journal and prison writings of maverick seventeenth-century utopian philosopher Tommaso Campanella, which, as if by enchantment, transport them back four centuries to Naples. And while the past and present miraculously converge, Leyla, Michael, and Tommaso embark on a voyage of self-discovery in search of a new life.

In this fusion of historical, queer, and speculative fiction, Alessandro Giardino combines the intellectual playfulness of Umberto Eco with the psychological finesse of Michael Cunningham.

ALESSANDRO GIARDINO is chair and associate professor of Italian and Francophone literature at Saint Lawrence University. Born in Naples, he studied at the University of Bologna, UC Berkeley, and McGill University. He has written extensively about Caravaggio’s cultural circles, as well as Italian and French literature.

JOYCE MYERSON has had an extensive career in academic and literary translation. She is the translator of numerous books, including the award-winning The Big Score by Irene Grazzini.

Other Voices of Italy

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Literature
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Criminalized Lives
HIV and Legal Violence

ALEXANDER McCLELLAND
ILLUSTRATED BY ERIC KOSTIUK WILLIAMS
FOREWORD BY ROBERT SUTTLE

Canada has been known as a hot spot for HIV criminalization where the act of not disclosing one’s HIV-positive status to sex partners has historically been regarded as a serious criminal offence. Criminalized Lives describes how this approach has disproportionately harmed the poor, Black and Indigenous people, gay men, and women in Canada. In this book, people who have been criminally accused of not disclosing their HIV-positive status detail the many complexities of disclosure and the violence that results from being criminalized.

Accompanied by portraits from artist Eric Kostiuk Williams, the profiles examine whether the criminal legal system is really prepared to handle the nuances and ethical dilemmas faced every day by people living with HIV. By offering personal stories of people who have faced criminalization firsthand, Alexander McClelland questions common assumptions about HIV, the role of punishment, and violence that results from the criminal legal system’s legacy of categorizing people as either victims or perpetrators.

ALEXANDER McCLELLAND is an assistant professor at the Institute of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada. He is also a member of the Canadian Coalition to Reform HIV Criminalization.

ERIC KOSTIUK WILLIAMS is a cartoonist and illustrator based in Toronto, Canada. He has several comics publications, including 2AM Eternal and Our Wretched Town Hall.

ROBERT SUTTLE is the chair of the Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation Council of Justice Leaders, cofounded the Sero Project, and was recognized as a 2021 POZ 100 Honoree.

Q+ Public
My Race Is My Gender
Portraits of Nonbinary People of Color

EDITED BY STEPHANIE HSU AND KA-MAN TSE

Genderqueer and nonbinary people of color often experience increased marginalization, belonging to an ethnic group that seldom recognizes their gender identity and a queer community that subscribes to white norms. Yet for this very reason, they have a lot to teach about how racial, sexual, and gender identities intersect. Their experiences of challenging social boundaries demonstrate how queer communities can become more inclusive and how the recognition of nonbinary genders can be an anti-racist practice.

My Race is My Gender is the first anthology by nonbinary writers of color to include photography and visual portraits, centering their everyday experiences of negotiating intersectional identities. While informed by queer theory and critical race theory, the authors share their personal stories in accessible language. Bringing together Black, Indigenous, Latine, and Asian perspectives, its six contributors present an intergenerational look at what it means to belong to marginalized queer communities in the U.S. and feel solidarity with a global majority at the same time. They also provide useful insights into how genderqueer and nonbinary activism can both energize and be fueled by such racial justice movements as Black Lives Matter.

STEPHANIE HSU is an associate professor of English at Pace University in New York, a recipient of the 2020 Community Catalyst Award from the National Queer Asian/Pacific Islander Alliance, and an editorial collective member for the Q+ Public book series.

KA-MAN TSE is an artist and educator. Awards include Anonymous Was a Woman, Aaron Siskind Fellowship, Robert Giard Fellowship, and the Aperture Portfolio Prize. Her monograph, narrow distances, was published in 2018 by Candor Arts. Her work is in collections at the San Francisco Museum of Art, Harvard Art Museums, and Library of Congress.

Q+ Public
Q+ Public


Q+ Public is a series of curated volumes that follow in the tradition of the seminal journal OUT/LOOK: National Lesbian and Gay Quarterly. OUT/LOOK was a political and cultural quarterly published out of San Francisco from 1988 to 1992. It was the first publication to bring together lesbians and gay men after a decade or more of political and cultural separatism. It was consciously multi-gender and racially inclusive, addressed politics and culture, wrested with controversial topics, and emphasized visual material along with scholarly and creative writing. OUT/LOOK built a bridge between academic inquiry and the broader community. Q+Public promises to bring OUT/LOOK’s political and cultural agenda into the 21st century, to revitalize a queer public sphere, and to bring together intellectuals, activists and artists to explore questions that urgently concern all LGBTQ+ communities.

A Pill for Promiscuity
Gay Sex in an Age of Pharmaceuticals
EDITED BY ANDREW R. SPIELDENNER AND JEFFREY ESCOFFIER
142 pp 18 color images 5 x 8
978-1-9788-2455-3 paper $22.95T
978-1-9788-2456-0 cloth $62.95SU

Matchmaking in the Archive
19 Conversations with the Dead and 3 Encounters with Ghosts
E.G. CRICHTON
228 pp 24 color images 5 x 8
978-1-9788-2313-6 paper $27.95T
978-1-9788-2314-3 cloth $82.95SU

Unsafe Words
Queering Consent in the #MeToo Era
EDITED BY SHANTEL GABRIEAL BUGGS AND TREVOR HOPPE
180 pp 12 color images 5 x 8
978-1-9788-2540-6 paper $22.95T
978-1-9788-2541-3 cloth $67.95SU
Christianity and Comics
Stories We Tell about Heaven and Hell

BLAIR DAVIS

“Christianity and Comics is an impressively encyclopedic overview of how U.S. comics have engaged with Christianity over the course of eight decades. Davis writes in a lucid and welcoming style, showing us how comics have promoted Christianity, have critiqued it, and have fused Christian motifs and themes into the larger tapestry of comics storytelling.”
—Lee Konstantinou, author of The Last Samurai Reread

Christianity and Comics offers readers an eighty-year history of how comic book creators have used the Bible since the early 1940s. It examines overtly religious comic books like Picture Stories from the Bible and Catholic Comics, kids’ comics like Archie and Hot Stuff, superhero comics from Marvel and DC starring Daredevil, Ghost Rider, and Batman, as well as more recent titles like The Sandman, Preacher, and Hellboy offering more challenging approaches to Christian themes, tropes, and images. Early publishers used Christianity for both educational and entertainment purposes, while new generations of creators reimagined these aspects in later decades as changes in where comics were sold and who read them affected what kinds of stories could be told. Because stories shape how our culture is developed and transformed, the evolution of how comic books have represented Christianity demonstrates the visible changes in religion’s role within both society and popular culture.

BLAIR DAVIS is a professor in the College of Communication at DePaul University in Chicago. His books include Comic Book Women, Comic Book Movies (Rutgers University Press), Movie Comics: Page to Screen/Screen to Page (Rutgers University Press) and The Battle for the Bs (Rutgers University Press).

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Creating the Hudson River Park
Environmental and Community Activism, Politics, and Greed

TOM FOX

The four-mile-long, 550-acre Hudson River Park is nearing completion and is the largest park built in Manhattan since Central Park opened more than 150 years ago. It has transformed a derelict waterfront, protected the Hudson River estuary, preserved commercial maritime activities, created new recreational opportunities for millions of New Yorkers, enhanced tourism, stimulated redevelopment in adjacent neighborhoods, and set a precedent for waterfront redevelopment. The park attracts seventeen million visitors annually. Creating the Hudson River Park is a first-person story of how this park came to be. Working together over three decades, community groups, civic and environmental organizations, labor, the real estate and business community, government agencies, and elected officials won a historic victory for environmental preservation, the use and enjoyment of the Hudson River, and urban redevelopment. However, the park is also the embodiment of a troubling trend toward the commercialization of America’s public parks.

After the defeat of the $2.4 billion Westway plan to fill 234 acres of the Hudson in 1985, the stage was set for the revitalization of Manhattan’s West Side waterfront. Between 1986 and 1998, the process focused on the basics like designing an appropriate roadway, removing noncompliant municipal and commercial activities from the waterfront, implementing temporary improvements, developing the park’s first revenue-producing commercial area at Chelsea Piers, completing the public planning and environmental review processes, and negotiating the 1998 Hudson River Park Act that officially created the park. From 1999 to 2009, planning and construction were funded with public money and focused on creating active and passive recreation opportunities on the Tribeca, Greenwich Village, Chelsea, and Hell’s Kitchen waterfronts.

However, initial recommendations to secure long-term financial support for the park from the increase in adjacent real estate values that resulted from the park’s creation were ignored. City and state politicians had other priorities, and public funding for the park dwindled. The recent phase of the project, from 2010 to 2021, focused on “development” both in and adjacent to the park. Fox’s first-person perspective helps to document the history of the Hudson River Park, recognizes those who made it happen and those who made it difficult, and provides lessons that may help private citizens and public servants expand and protect the public parks and natural systems that are so critical to urban well-being.

TOM FOX was an original member of the Green Guerillas, president of the Hudson River Park Conservancy, and co-chair of the Brooklyn Bridge Park Coalition, which created the forty-mile Brooklyn/Queens Greenway. He has served on nonprofit and corporate boards, while receiving numerous awards from environmental and civic organizations.
Beaches, Bays, and Barrens
A Natural History of the Jersey Shore

ERIC G. BOLEN

The Jersey Shore attracts millions of visitors each year, drawn to its sandy beaches. Yet New Jersey’s coastline contains a richer array of biodiverse habitats than most tourists realize, from seagrass meadows to salt marshes to cranberry bogs.

*Beaches, Bays, and Barrens* introduces readers to the natural wonders of the Jersey Shore, revealing its unique ecology and fascinating history. The journey begins with the contributions and discoveries of early naturalists who visited the region and an overview of endangered species and natural history, followed by chapters that explore different facets of the shore’s environments. These start with sandy beaches and dunes and culminate in the engaging Pine Barrens, the vital watershed for much of the state’s varied coastline. Along the way, readers will also learn about whaling, decoy carvers, an extinct duck, and the cultivation of wild blueberries.

Including over seventy color photographs, the book also features twenty-three infoboxes that go deep into areas of ecological or historical interest, such as the Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge or the Jaws-like shark attacks of 1916. From Cape May to Sandy Hook, biologist Eric G. Bolen takes you on a guided tour of the Jersey Shore’s rich ecological heritage.

ERIC G. BOLEN has authored or coauthored more than two hundred publications, including several books about ecology, natural history, and wildlife ecology and management, most recently *An Abundance of Curiosities: The Natural History of North Carolina’s Coastal Plain*.
American beachgrass, essential for forming and maintaining the structure of dune systems in New Jersey, must be protected from human disturbances lest the dunes erode.

Barrier beaches parallel most of New Jersey’s coastline. These include both islands and peninsulas that irregularly transform from one to the other in keeping with the effects of storms that fill-in existing inlets or cut new ones. Shown here is the peninsula—once an island—occupied by Island Beach State Park. Barnegat Bay and the mainland shore appear in the upper left corner; the town of Seaside Park appears where the vegetation abruptly ends at the top center of the photo.

The wintertime occurrence of snowy owls along the Jersey Shore provides birders with unique opportunities to see and photograph avian visitors from the far north.

Barrier beaches parallel most of New Jersey’s coastline. These include both islands and peninsulas that irregularly transform from one to the other in keeping with the effects of storms that fill-in existing inlets or cut new ones. Shown here is the peninsula—once an island—occupied by Island Beach State Park. Barnegat Bay and the mainland shore appear in the upper left corner; the town of Seaside Park appears where the vegetation abruptly ends at the top center of the photo.

Photo credits: Pernille Ruhalter; Jay Kelly, Raritan Valley Community College; Kevin Knutsen.
At the Glacier’s Edge
A Natural History of Long Island from the Narrows to Montauk Point

BETSY McCULLY

Vast salt marshes, ancient grasslands, lush forests, pristine beaches and dunes, and copious inland waters, all surrounded by a teeming sea. These are probably not the first things you imagine when you think of Long Island, but just beyond its highways and housing developments lies a stunning landscape full of diverse plant and animal life.

Combining science writing, environmental history, and first-hand accounts from a longtime resident, At the Glacier’s Edge offers a unique narrative natural history of Long Island. Betsy McCully tells the story of how the island was formed at the end of the last ice age, how its habitats evolved, and how humans in the last few hundred years have radically altered and degraded its landscape. Yet as she personally recounts the habitat losses and species declines she has witnessed over the past few decades, she describes the vital efforts that environmental activists are making to restore and reclaim this land—from replanting salt marshes, to preserving remaining grasslands and forests, to cleaning up the waters. At the Glacier’s Edge provides an in-depth look at the flora, fauna and geology that make Long Island so special.

BETSY McCULLY has frequently written and lectured about New York’s natural and environmental history, from its ancient geological origins to its human developments. She is the author of City at the Water’s Edge: A Natural History of New York (Rutgers University Press).
A grasshopper sparrow shows himself atop a wildflower stalk. This once common grassland bird is declining because of loss of habitat.

Photo by author.

A salt marsh on the Great South Bay in winter. The dormant grasses wear a golden hue; by summer, they will become a green sea of grass.

Photo by author.

Designing Gardens with Flora of the American East

Revised and Expanded

CAROLYN SUMMERS AND KATE BRITTENHAM

As recent years have seen alarming declines of insect and bird populations in many states, more gardeners have discovered the importance of including native plants in order to nurture these pollinators and sustain local ecosystems. But when so many popular landscaping designs involve exotic cultivars and invasive plant species, how can you create a garden that is both aesthetically pleasing and ecologically responsible?

In this fully revised second edition of the classic guide Designing Gardens with Flora of the American East, gardening expert Carolyn Summers draws on the most recent research on sustainable landscaping. She is joined in this edition by her daughter, landscape designer Kate Brittenham, offering an intergenerational dialogue about the importance of using indigenous plants that preserve insect and bird habitats. The practical information they provide is equally useful for home gardeners and professionals, including detailed descriptions of keystone trees, shrubs, perennials, vines, and grasses that are native to the eastern United States. Accompanied by entirely new illustrations and updated plant lists, they offer chic yet eco-friendly landscape designs fully customized for different settings, from suburban yards to corporate office parks.

The states covered in this book are CT, DE, IA, IL, IN, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, NC, NH, NJ, NY, OH, PA, RI, TN, VA, VT, WI, and WV, as well as southern Quebec and Ontario.

CAROLYN SUMMERS is an adjunct professor for continuing education at Westchester Community College, where she provides technical assistance to the Native Plant Center. She created and maintains the nonprofit Flying Trillium Gardens and Preserve and has over thirty years of experience in the environmental and landscape design field.

KATE BRITTENHAM is a landscape designer specializing in indigenous plant species. She is the founder of Front Stoop Gardens, LLC—an ecological landscape design and gardening company in Troy, New York. An environmental studies graduate of Skidmore College, she has also worked with the Native Plant Trust and the New York Botanical Garden.
"Designing Gardens with Flora of the American East is a long overdue, in-depth look at the paucity of indigenous American plants in gardens in the United States, and the importance of correcting this situation. It is an explicit guidebook for garden professionals to enable them to help sustain our wild floral heritage rather than allowing its not-so-slow destruction."
—Ruth Rogers Clausen, coauthor of Perennials for American Gardens

"Beautifully illustrated, Designing Gardens with Flora of the American East approaches landscape design from an ecological perspective, encouraging professional designers and backyard enthusiasts alike to intensify their use of indigenous or native plants. Emphasizing the importance of indigenous plant gardening and landscape design, Summers provides guidelines for beginning gardeners as well as experienced designers."
—New York Flora Association Newsletter

"Chock full of interesting facts and figures, Summers approaches design through the lens of ecology making the book unique in its approach and very relevant to anyone creating native gardens for a living."
—Ecological Landscaping Association Newsletter

“This book is a must-have for anyone interested in the natural history of eastern native plants and their use in gardens. The author combines thorough research with a clear, thoughtful viewpoint gleaned from her own personal experience. Very well written, it is an enjoyable read as well as a valuable tool for garden designers."
—Darrin Duling, director, the Native Plant Center
The Other Jersey Shore
Life on the Delaware River

MICHAEL AARON ROCKLAND
FOREWORD BY MAYA K. VAN ROSSUM

“The Other Jersey Shore is Michael Rockland’s poetic love letter to the Delaware River. As he has done in previous books on the New Jersey Turnpike and the George Washington Bridge, Rockland sheds ample light on an essential, if often overlooked, element of life in the Garden State. Exhaustively researched and endearingly written, The Other Jersey Shore will remind even New Jersey natives that the Delaware and its New Jersey shore should be held in the same high esteem as the state’s beloved Atlantic coastline.”
—Christopher Hann, Executive Editor, River Towns magazine

“Michael Aaron Rockland has brought to life the Delaware River as he discusses its bridges, towns, and islands. We so enjoyed the descriptions of George Washington’s four crossings (not one) and of the life of Joseph Bonaparte, former King of Spain and Napoleon’s brother, during the many years he lived on a bluff overlooking the Delaware. We also enjoyed his discussions of New Jersey’s two canals and their relationship to the river, the wonders of their civil engineering and bucolic beauty, not to mention the port towns that, to this day, mark their way.”
—Linda Barth, author, and Bob Barth, Canal Society of New Jersey

While New Jersey is well known for its Shore, it is its other “shore” that is the subject of this book—the lovely New Jersey side of the Delaware River. The Delaware River, at 331 miles, is the longest river in the eastern United States: longer than both the Hudson and the Susquehanna. In The Other Jersey Shore, intrepid New Jersey scholar Michael Aaron Rockland focuses on the civilization lining the banks of the Delaware in New Jersey, from the New York border down to and through the Delaware Bay.

Starting in the extreme northwestern part of the state, Rockland guides the reader downstream to the Delaware Bay, stopping at historic riverside villages like Lambertville, Stockton, Raven Rock, and Frenchtown along the way. The Other Jersey Shore is not a guidebook for tourists with details about canoe rentals but rather a cultural handbook to this lesser-known but beautiful region of the state written by one of the preeminent authorities on New Jersey history and culture. New Jersey, Rockland notes, has not one but two shores, one of which has for too long been largely ignored. There is, Rockland shows, much beauty and adventure to be found there.

MICHAEL AARON ROCKLAND is a professor of American studies at Rutgers–New Brunswick. He is the author or coauthor of many books, including Looking for America on the New Jersey Turnpike (Rutgers University Press), listed by the State Library as one of the ten best books ever written about New Jersey, and the novel A Bliss Case, a New York Times Notable Book of the Year. Rockland is also a regular contributor to New Jersey Monthly magazine.
NEW IN PAPERBACK

Cinema ‘62
The Greatest Year at the Movies

STEPHEN FARBER AND MICHAEL McCLELLAN
FOREWORD BY BILL CONDON

“I wouldn’t have pointed to 1962 as a landmark year for movies, but Stephen Farber and Michael McClellan have proven me wrong. Their knowledgeable and persuasive book spotlights diverse films from the U.S. and abroad that put today’s mainstream releases to shame. Can you imagine a menu of superior movies like Lolita, The Manchurian Candidate, Ride the High Country, Days of Wine and Roses and The Music Man all coming out in one twelve-month period? The authors provide valuable context for this lineup, a treasure trove well worth celebrating.”
—Leonard Maltin, film critic and historian

Most conventional film histories dismiss the early 1960s as a pallid era, a downtime between the heights of the classic studio system and the rise of New Hollywood directors like Scorsese and Altman in the 1970s. It seemed to be a moment when the movie industry was floundering as the popularity of television caused a downturn in cinema attendance. Cinema ‘62 challenges these assumptions by making the bold claim that 1962 was a peak year for film, with a high standard of quality that has not been equaled since.

Stephen Farber and Michael McClellan show how 1962 saw great late-period work by classic Hollywood directors like John Ford, Howard Hawks, and John Huston, as well as stars like Bette Davis, James Stewart, Katharine Hepburn, and Barbara Stanwyck. Yet it was also a seminal year for talented young directors like Sidney Lumet, Sam Peckinpah, and Stanley Kubrick, not to mention rising stars like Warren Beatty, Jane Fonda, Robert Redford, Peter O’Toole, and Omar Sharif. Above all, 1962—the year of To Kill a Mockingbird and The Manchurian Candidate—gave cinema attendees the kinds of adult, artistic, and uncompromising visions they would never see on television, including classics from Fellini, Bergman, and Kurosawa. Culminating in an analysis of the year’s Best Picture winner and top-grossing film, Lawrence of Arabia, and the factors that made that magnificent epic possible, Cinema ‘62 makes a strong case that the movies peaked in the Kennedy era.

STEPHEN FARBER was president of the Los Angeles Film Critics Association from 2012 to 2016 and currently serves as a faculty member at UCLA, teaching film criticism.

MICHAEL McCLELLAN is the former senior vice president/head film buyer for Landmark Theatres and served on the board of appeals of the Classification and Ratings Administration of the MPAA. He currently coproduces a classic film series in Los Angeles.

BILL CONDON won an Academy Award for his screenplay of Gods and Monsters in 1996. He received a screenwriting nomination for the Oscar-winning best picture of 2002, Chicago. His other credits as director include Kinsey, Dreamgirls, Mr. Holmes, Beauty and the Beast, and The Good Liar.
NEW IN PAPERBACK WITH A NEW INTRODUCTION

Crash Course
From the Good War to the Forever War

H. BRUCE FRANKLIN

“It’s especially stunning for me personally, to read Franklin’s gripping account of the era we both lived through—three years apart in age—and to realize that we followed the same unusual trajectory in beliefs and attitudes: Both committed Cold Warriors at the outset—my service in the Marine Corps and working on nuclear war plans in the Pentagon overlapping his active service in the Strategic Air Command rehearsing the catastrophic enactment of such plans—his disillusion with the Vietnam war and his turn to active resistance shortly preceding my own. Readers of any age will find this an exciting and startlingly self-aware memoir of a life transformed in our dangerous epoch, and most will find it in radically new perspectives on these perilous times, up to the present mind-boggling moment. A terrific book!”

—Daniel Ellsberg, author of The Doomsday Machine: Confessions of a Nuclear War Planner

Growing up during the Second World War, H. Bruce Franklin believed what he was told: that America’s victory would lead to a new era of world peace. Like most Americans, he was soon led to believe in a worldwide Communist conspiracy that menaced the United States, forcing the nation into a disastrous war in Korea. But once he joined the U.S. Air Force and began flying top-secret missions as a navigator and intelligence officer, what he learned was eye-opening. He saw that even as the U.S. preached about peace and freedom, it was engaging in an endless cycle of warfare, bringing devastation and oppression to fledgling democracies across the globe.

Now, after fifty years as a renowned cultural historian, Franklin offers a set of hard-learned lessons about modern American history. Crash Course is essential reading for anyone who wonders how America ended up where it is today: with a deeply divided and disillusioned populace, led by a dysfunctional government, and mired in unwinnable wars. It also finds startling parallels between America’s foreign military exploits and the equally brutal tactics used on the home front to crush organized labor, antiwar, and civil rights movements.

More than just a memoir or a history book, Crash Course gives readers a unique firsthand look at the building of the American empire and the damage it has wrought. It exposes the endless deception of the American public and reveals from inside how and why many millions of Americans have been struggling for decades against our own government in a fight for peace and justice.

H. BRUCE FRANKLIN is a former Air Force navigator and intelligence officer, a progressive activist, and the John Cotton Dana Professor of English and American Studies, emeritus at Rutgers University in Newark, New Jersey. He is the author or editor of nineteen books.
The United States and the Armenian Genocide

History, Memory, Politics

JULIEN ZARIFIAN

“Julien Zarifian has produced a masterful account of the domestic and international ‘politicking’ that led to the decades’-long delay in America’s recognizing as genocide the mass killings of Armenians by the Ottoman Empire, perpetrated during the era of the First World War. His skillful assessment of the cross-cutting pressures that were brought to bear upon Washington decisionmakers from both foreign and domestic sources establishes The United States and the Armenian Genocide as the definitive work on the topic.”
—David G. Haglund, Professor of Political Studies, Queen’s University (Canada)

During the first World War, over a million Armenians were killed as Ottoman Turks embarked on a bloody campaign of ethnic cleansing. Scholars have long described these massacres as genocide, one of Hitler’s prime inspirations for the Holocaust, yet the United States did not officially recognize the Armenian Genocide until 2021.

This is the first book to examine how and why the United States refused to acknowledge the Armenian Genocide until the early 2020s. Although the American government expressed sympathy towards the plight of the Armenians in the 1910s and 1920s, historian Julien Zarifian explores how, from the 1960s, a set of geopolitical and institutional factors soon led the United States to adopt a policy of genocide non-recognition which it would cling to for over fifty years, through Republican and Democratic administrations alike. He describes the forces on each side of this issue: activists from the U.S. Armenian diaspora and their allies, challenging Cold War statesmen worried about alienating NATO ally Turkey and dealing with a widespread American reluctance to directly confront the horrors of the past. Drawing from congressional records, rare newspapers, and interviews with lobbyists and decision-makers, he reveals how genocide recognition became such a complex, politically sensitive issue.

JULIEN ZARIFIAN is professor of U.S. history and civilization at the University of Poitiers, France.

Genocide, Political Violence, Human Rights

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Feeling Democracy
Emotional Politics in the New Millennium

EDITED BY ARLENE STEIN AND SARAH TOBIAS

"Feeling Democracy sounds like a paradoxical practice as the normative foundation of liberal democracy is rationality. This book gives profound arguments and examples to disentangle the emotional power dynamics in democracies from a global feminist and intersectional perspective. Feeling Democracy is especially important in times of right-wing challenges to liberal democracy and right-wing antagonistic affective mobilization across the globe."

—Birgit Sauer, coauthor of Governing Affects: Neoliberalism, Neo-Bureaucracies, and Service Work

Cultural critic Lauren Berlant wrote that "politics is always emotional," and her words hold especially true for politics in the twenty-first century. From Obama to Trump, from Black Lives Matter to the anti-abortion movement, politicians and activists appeal to hope, fear, anger, and pity, all amplified by social media.

The essays in Feeling Democracy examine how both reactionary and progressive politics are driven largely by emotional appeals to the public. The contributors in this collection cover everything from immigrants' rights movements to white nationalist rallies to show how solidarities forged around gender, race, and sexuality become catalysts for a passionate democratic politics. Some essays draw parallels between today's activist strategies and the use of emotion in women-led radical movements from the 1960s and 1970s, while others expand the geographic scope of the collection by considering Asian decolonial politics and Egyptian pro-democracy protests.

Incorporating scholarship from fields as varied as law, political science, philosophy, psychoanalysis, and history, Feeling Democracy considers how emotional rhetoric in politics can be a double-edged sword—often wielded by authoritarian populists who seek to undermine democracy but sometimes helping to bring about a genuine renewal of participatory democracy.

SARAH TOBIAS is the executive director of the Institute for Research on Women at Rutgers University and affiliate faculty in the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies department. She is the coeditor of Trans Studies: The Challenge to Hetero/Homo Normativities (Rutgers University Press) and, with Arlene Stein, The Perils of Populism (Rutgers University Press).

ARLENE STEIN is a distinguished professor of sociology at Rutgers University. She is the author or editor of nine books, including Unbound: Transgender Men and the Remaking of Identity.

The Feminist Bookshelf: Ideas for the 21st Century
American Anti-Pastoral
Brookside, New Jersey and the Garden State of Philip Roth

THOMAS GUSTAFSON

“Thomas Gustafson’s American Anti-Pastoral, a study of Philip Roth’s literature through the prism of Brookside, New Jersey, is a well-written, intriguing, and accessible work of literary criticism. It is both an excellent contribution to ‘Roth Studies’ and at the same time something much more than that, a literary excursus into the relationship between place, myth-making, and literary creativity.”
—Michael C. Kimmage, author of In History’s Grip: Philip Roth’s Newark Trilogy

One of the best-known novels taking place in New Jersey, Philip Roth’s 1997 American Pastoral uses the fictional hamlet of Old Rimrock, New Jersey as a microcosm for a nation in crisis during the cultural upheavals of the 1960s–1970s. Critics have called Old Rimrock mythic, but it is based on a very real place: the small Morris County town of Brookside, New Jersey.

American Anti-Pastoral reads the events in Roth’s novel in relation to the history of Brookside and its region. While Roth’s protagonist, Seymour “Swede” Levov, initially views Old Rimrock as an idyllic paradise within the Garden State, its real-world counterpart has a more complex past in its origins as a small industrial village, as well as a site for the politics of exclusionary zoning and a 1960s antiwar protest at its celebrated Fourth of July parade. Literary historian and Brookside native Thomas Gustafson casts Roth’s canonical novel in a fresh light as he studies both Old Rimrock in comparison to Brookside and the novel in relationship to New Jersey literature, making a case for it as the Great New Jersey novel. Roth fans and history buffs alike, American Anti-Pastoral peels back the myths about the bucolic Garden State countryside to reveal deep fissures along the fault lines of race and religion in American democracy.

THOMAS GUSTAFSON is an associate professor of English at the University of Southern California and the author of Representative Words: Politics, Literature, and the American Language, 1776–1865. Born and raised in Brookside, he now calls Echo Park in Los Angeles his home.

Ceres: Rutgers Studies in History
The Georgia of the North
Black Women and the Civil Rights Movement in New Jersey

HETTIE V. WILLIAMS

The Georgia of the North is a historical narrative about Black women and the long civil rights movement in New Jersey from the Great Migration to 1954. Specifically, the critical role played by Black women in forging interracial, cross-class, and cross-gender alliances at the local and national level and their role in securing the passage of progressive civil rights legislation in the Garden State are at the core of this book. This narrative is largely defined by a central question: How and why did New Jersey’s Black leaders, community members, and women in particular affect major civil rights legislation, legal equality, and integration a decade before the Brown v. Board of Education, Topeka, Kansas decision? In this analysis, the history of the early Black freedom struggle in New Jersey is predicated on the argument that the civil rights movement began in New Jersey and that Black women were central actors in this struggle.

HETTIE V. WILLIAMS is an associate professor of history at Monmouth University in Long Branch, New Jersey. Her previous books include A Seat at the Table: Black Women Public Intellectuals in U.S. History and Culture; Bury My Heart in a Free Land: Black Women Intellectuals in Modern U.S. History; Race and the Obama Phenomenon: The Vision of a More Perfect Multiracial Union; and We Shall Overcome to We Shall Overrun: The Collapse of the Civil Rights Movement and the Black Power Revolt 1962–1968.

Ceres: Rutgers Studies in History
Alien Soil
Oral Histories of Great Migration Newark

KATIE SINGER

“Alien Soil: Oral Histories of Great Migration Newark constitutes a valuable resource that has both important historical and methodological value. It contributes to scholarly discussions on the history of Newark, the Great Migration, African-American history in New Jersey, and the value of oral and community history for fostering community engagement.”
—Kristin O’Brassill-Kulfan, coordinator of public history at Rutgers University, New Brunswick

“Katie Singer has gleaned a wealth of information from extensive research and informative interviews, which are like jewels on a crown now adeptly arranged for the public to admire.”
—Elizabeth MacGonagle, author of Crafting Identity in Zimbabwe and Mozambique

Alien Soil: Oral Histories of Great Migration Newark explores Newark’s Krueger-Scott African-American Cultural Center collection of over one hundred oral histories. Historian Katie Singer separates these stories into thematic categories of social and political events, including church, work, and activism, in order to paint an intimate portrait of everyday urbanity and the larger Black urban experience in Newark. Through the examination of these Krueger-Scott narratives, Singer challenges historical falsehoods with the lived experiences of Newarkers who traveled north during the Great Migration, as well as established city residents. Alien Soil effectively contextualizes Newark history and reinserts Black voices into historiography traditionally dominated by “outsiders.”

The book begins with the Krueger-Scott Mansion’s deep history, followed by the sequence of events surrounding the proposed Cultural Center. Last owned by African American millionaire and beauty-culture entrepreneur Louise Scott, the Victorian Krueger-Scott Mansion was built by beer baron Gottfried Krueger in 1888. Through the history of the Mansion and the ultimately failed Cultural Center project, one learns about the Newark that African Americans migrated to, what they found when they got there, how living in the city changed them, and how they, individually and collectively, changed Newark.

After the Cultural Center project was officially halted in 2000, the cassette tapes of the oral history interviews were stored away at the Newark Public Library. Ten years later, they were unearthed and ultimately digitized. As of yet, no one has applied these sources directly to their research. Deeply committed to these rich, insightful stories, Singer calls for a more thoughtful consideration of all cities, reminding us that Newark is much more than its 1967 rebellion.

KATIE SINGER holds a PhD in American studies from Rutgers University–Newark and an MFA in creative writing from Fairleigh Dickinson University.

Ceres: Rutgers Studies in History

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U.S. History • African American Studies
Ceres: Rutgers Studies in History

New Jersey holds a unique place in the American story. One of the thirteen colonies in British North America and the original states of the United States, New Jersey plays a central, yet underappreciated, place in America’s economic, political, and social development. New Jersey’s axial position as the nation’s financial, intellectual, and political corridor has become something of a signature, evident in quips about the Turnpike and punchlines that end with its many exits. Yet, New Jersey is more than a crossroad or an interstitial “elsewhere.” Far from being ancillary to the nation, New Jersey is an axis around which America’s story has turned, and within its borders gather a rich collection of ideas, innovations, people, and politics. The region’s historical development makes it a microcosm of the challenges and possibilities of the nation, and it also reflects the complexities of the modern, cosmopolitan world. Yet, far too little of the literature recognizes New Jersey’s significance to the national story, and despite promising scholarship done at the local level, New Jersey history often remains hidden in plain sight.
The Brodsky Center at Rutgers University
Three Decades, 1986–2017
EDITED BY FERRIS OLIN

The Brodsky Center at Rutgers: Three Decades, 1986–2017 chronicles the history and artists involved with an internationally acclaimed print and papermaking studio at Rutgers University. Judith K. Brodsky conceived, founded, and directed the atelier, which, from its onset, provided state-of-the-art technology and expertise for underrepresented contemporary artists — women, Indigenous people, and people from diasporas of the African, eastern European, Latin and Asian communities — to make innovative works on paper. These artistic creations presented new narratives to American and global visual arts from voices previously not heard or seen. Some of the artists featured in the book include Faith Ringgold, Elizabeth Catlett, Jaune Quick-to-See Smith, Miriam Schapiro, Pepón Osorio, Kiki Smith, and Richard Tuttle, among many other talented and influential printmakers and artists.

Published in partnership with the Zimmerli Museum.

FERRIS OLIN is a distinguished professor emerita at Rutgers University and the founding director of the Rutgers Institute for Women and Art.

Intelligent Action
A History of Artistic Research, Aesthetic Experience, and Artists in Academia
TIMOTHY RIDLEN

“Tim Ridlen’s important study examines the broad sweep of art education in the U.S. during the post-WWII period, from MIT, to Rutgers, to Finch College to Cal Arts. This is a groundbreaking work that dramatically expands the new field of research launched by Howard Singerman in Art Subjects almost 25 years ago.”
—Grant Kester, Professor of Art History and founding editor of FIELD: A Journal of Socially Engaged Art Criticism

Through archival research and analysis of artworks by Gyorgy Kepes, Allan Kaprow, Mel Bochner, and Suzanne Lacy, among others, Intelligent Action examines how these artists brought alternatives to dominant conceptions of research and knowledge production. The book is organized around specific institutional formations—artistic research centers, proposals, exhibitions on college campuses, and the establishment of new schools or pedagogic programs. Formal and social analyses demonstrate how artists responded to ideas of research, knowledge production, information, and pedagogy. Works discussed were produced between 1958 and 1975, a moment when boundaries between media were breaking down in response to technological, cultural, and generational change. In the context of academia, these artistic practices have taken up the look, feel, or language of various research and teaching practices. In some cases, artists bent to the demands of the Cold War research university, while in others, artists developed new modes of practice and pedagogy.

TIM RIDLEN is an assistant teaching professor at the University of Tampa in the Department of Film, Animation, and New Media.
Global Film Color: The Monopack Revolution at Midcentury
EDITED BY SARAH STREET AND JOSHUA YUMIBE

Global Film Color: The Monopack Revolution at Midcentury explores color filmmaking in a variety of countries and regions including India, China, Japan, and Russia, and across Europe and Africa. Most previous accounts of color film have concentrated on early 20th century color processes and Technicolor. Far less is known about the introduction and application of color technologies in the period from the mid-1940s to the 1980s, when photochemical, “monopack” color stocks came to dominate global film markets. As Eastmancolor, Agfacolor, Fujicolor and other film stocks became broadly available and affordable, national film industries increasingly converted to color, transforming the look and feel of global cinema. Covering a broad range of perspectives, the chapters explore themes such as transnational flows, knowledge exchange and transfer, the cyclical and asymmetrical circulation of technology in a global context, as well as the accompanying transformation of color film aesthetics in the postwar decades.

SARAH STREET is a professor of film and Foundation Chair of Drama at the University of Bristol in the UK. She has written and coedited several books, including Colour Films in Britain: The Negotiation of Innovation, 1900–1955 and Chromatic Modernity: Color, Cinema, and Media of the 1920s, coauthored with Joshua Yumibe.

JOSHUA YUMIBE is a professor of film studies and English at Michigan State University. He has written, edited, and coedited several books, including Moving Color: Early Film, Mass Culture, Modernism (Rutgers University Press) and Fantasia of Color in Early Cinema, coauthored with Giovanna Fossati, Tom Gunning, and Jonathon Rosen.
Film Noir and the Arts of Lighting

PATRICK KEATING

More than any other set of films from the classical era, the Hollywood film noir is known for its lighting: the cast shadows, the blinking street signs, the eyes sparkling in the darkness. Each effect is rich in symbolism, evoking a world of danger and doppelgangers. But what happens if we set aside the symbolism? This book offers a new account of film noir lighting, grounded in a larger theory of Hollywood cinematography as emotionally engaging storytelling. Above all, noir lighting is dynamic, switching from darkness to brightness and back again as characters change, locations shift, and fates unfold. Richly illustrated, Film Noir and the Arts of Lighting features in-depth analyses of eleven classic movies: The Asphalt Jungle, Sorry, Wrong Number, Odds against Tomorrow, The Letter, I Wake Up Screaming, Phantom Lady, Strangers on a Train, Sweet Smell of Success, Gaslight, Secret beyond the Door, and Touch of Evil.

PATRICK KEATING is a professor in the Department of Communication at Trinity University, Texas. He is the author of The Dynamic Frame: Camera Movement in Classical Hollywood and the editor of Cinematography (Rutgers University Press).

Techniques of the Moving Image

Making History Move

Five Principles of the Historical Film

KIM NELSON

Making History Move: Five Principles of the Historical Film consolidates decades of scholarship investigating history in visual culture in the fields of film and media, cultural studies, and history. The book develops insights across these fields, including philosophical considerations of film and history, to clarify the form and function of history in moving images. It addresses the implications of the historical film on public historical consciousness in a systematic way, presenting criteria for engaging and assessing the truth status of depictions of the past. Its chapters offer a detailed methodology for analyzing history in moving images for the digital age, proposing five principles of analysis to organize past and future scholarship in this vital, interdisciplinary field of study. Including films such as The Birth of a Nation, Gone with the Wind, Lawrence of Arabia, and Saving Private Ryan, the book sets the stage to examine the most influential form of history with the most significant impact on public perceptions of the past.

KIM NELSON is the director of the Humanities Research Group and an associate professor of cinema arts in the School of Creative Arts at the University of Windsor in Canada. Her work has screened at international film festivals and on university campuses across Canada, the U.S., and Europe and has been broadcast nationally on the Canadian Broadcast Corporation (CBC), as well as online with KCET in the U.S.
The Specter and the Speculative: Afterlives and Archives in the African Diaspora

EDITED BY MAE G. HENDERSON, JEANNE SCHEPER, AND GENE MELTON II

The Specter and the Speculative: Afterlives and Archives in the African Diaspora engages in a critical conversation about how historical subjects and historical texts within the African Diaspora are refashioned, reanimated, and rearticulated, as well as parodied, nostalgized, and defamiliarized, to establish an “afterlife” for African Atlantic identities and narratives. These essays focus on transnational, transdisciplinary, and transhistorical sites of memory and haunting—textual, visual, and embodied performances—in order to examine how these “living” archives circulate and imagine anew the meanings of prior narratives liberated from their original context. Individual essays examine how historical and literary performances—in addition to film, drama, music, dance, and material culture—thus revitalized, transcended and speak across temporal and spatial boundaries not only to reinstate traditional meanings but also to motivate fresh commentary and critique. Emergent and established scholars representing diverse disciplines and fields of interest specifically engage underexplored themes related to afterlives, archives, and haunting.

MAE G. HENDERSON is a professor emerita in the Department of English and Comparative Literature at University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

JEANNE SCHEPER is an associate professor of gender and sexuality studies at University of California, Irvine.

GENE MELTON II is a senior lecturer in the Department of English at North Carolina State University, Raleigh.
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Lemko-Ukrainian poet Bohdan Ihor Antonych (1909–1937) is not as well-known as such great Slavic Modernist poets as Mandelstam, Pasternak, and Milosz or their western European counterparts Eliot, Rilke, and Lorca, but in the opinion of many literary critics, he unquestionably should be. Sometimes compared to Walt Whitman and to Dylan Thomas, Antonych, who described himself as “an ecstatic pagan, a poet of the high of spring,” created during his brief lifetime powerful and innovative poetry with astonishing metaphorical constructions. Born in the mountainous Lemko region of Poland, Antonych adopted Ukrainian as his literary language when he moved to Lviv and virtually transformed the Ukrainian poetic landscape. This essential collection introduces Antonych’s work to new audiences and includes many first-time English translations, a biographical sketch by Michael M. Naydan, and a comprehensive introduction by Lidia Stefanowska, one of the world’s leading experts on the work of this remarkable Ukrainian poet.

BOHDAN IHOR ANTONYCH (1909–1937) was born in the mountainous Lemko region of Poland and grew up speaking the Lemko dialect of Ukrainian as well as Polish. After mastering literary Ukrainian during his studies at Lviv University, he began a formidable career as a poet, publishing five books of poetry from 1933 to 1937, before his untimely death at age twenty-eight.

MICHAEL M. NAYDAN is the Woskob Family Professor of Ukrainian Studies at The Pennsylvania State University in State College. He is the translator or co-translator of over forty books, including Zelensky: A Biography, with Alla Perminova.

LIDIA STEFANOWSKA is a professor of Slavic literatures at the University of Warsaw in Poland. She is the author of Antonych, Antynomii (Antonych, Antinomies), a deep analysis of Bohdan Ihor Antonych’s work.
Consuming Anxieties
Alcohol, Tobacco, and Trade in British Satire, 1660–1751
DAYNE C. RILEY

Writers of the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries—a period of vast economic change—recognized the global trade in alcohol and tobacco promised a brighter financial future for England, even as overindulgence at home posed serious moral pitfalls. This engaging and original study explores how literary satirists represented these consumables—and related anxieties about the changing nature of Britishness—in their work. Riley traces the satirical treatment of wine, beer, ale, gin, pipe tobacco, and snuff from the beginning of Charles II’s reign, through the boom in tobacco’s popularity, to the end of the Gin Craze in libertine poems and plays, anonymous verse, ballad operas, and the satire of canonical writers such as Gay, Pope, and Swift. Focusing on consumption and resultant social concerns about class, race, and gender, Consuming Anxieties examines how satirists championed Britain’s economic strength on the world stage while critiquing the effects of these consumable luxuries on the British body and consciousness.

DAYNE C. RILEY is assistant director of the University of Tulsa’s Oklahoma Center for the Humanities.

The Part and the Whole in Early American Literature, Print Culture, and Art

EDITED BY MATTHEW PETHERS AND DANIEL DIEZ COUCH

The essays in this pathbreaking collection consider the significance of varied early American fragmentary genres and practices—from diaries and poetry to almanacs and commonplace books, to sermons and lists, to Indigenous ruins and other material shards and fragments—often overlooked by critics in a scholarly privileging of the "whole." Contributors from literary studies, book history, and visual culture discuss a host of canonical and noncanonical figures, from Edward Taylor and Washington Irving to Mary Rowlandson and Sarah Kemble Knight, offering insight into the many intellectual, ideological, and material variations of “form” that populated the early American cultural landscape. As these essays reveal, the casting of the fragmentary as aesthetically eccentric or incomplete was a way of reckoning with concerns about the related fragmentation of nation, society, and self. For a contemporary audience, they offer new ways to think about the inevitable gaps and absences in our cultural and historical archive.

MATTHEW PETHERS is an associate professor of American intellectual and cultural history at the University of Nottingham in the UK. He is the editor of The Edinburgh Companion to Nineteenth-Century American Letters and Letter-Writing and is currently coediting volume 2 of The Collected Writings of Charles Brockden Brown (Bucknell University Press).


Transits: Literature, Thought and Culture, 1650–1850
Contemporary Francophone African Plays
An Anthology
EDITED BY JUDITH G. MILLER
WITH SYLVIE CHALAYE

Bringing together in English translation eleven Francophone African plays dating from 1970 to 2021, this essential collection includes satirical portraits of colonizers and their collaborators (Bernard Dadié’s Béatrice du Congo; Sony Labou Tansi’s I, Undersigned, Cardiac Case; Sénouvo Agbota Zinsou’s We’re Just Playing) alongside contemporary works questioning diasporic identity and cultural connections (Koffi Kwahulé’s SAMO: A Tribute to Basquiat and Penda Diouf’s Tracks, Trails, and Traces…). The anthology memorializes the Rwandan genocide (Yolande Mukagasana’s testimony from Rwanda 94), questions the status of women in entrenched patriarchy (Werewere Liking’s Singuè Mura: Given That a Woman…), and follows the life of Elizabeth Nietzsche, who perverted her brother’s thought to colonize Paraguay (José Pliya’s The Sister of Zarathustra). Gustave Akakpo’s The True Story of Little Red Riding Hood and Kossi Éfoui’s The Conference of the Dogs offer parables about what makes life livable, while Kangni Alem’s The Landing shows the dangers of believing in a better life, through migration, outside of Africa.

JUDITH G. MILLER is an emerita professor of French at New York University. She has published over thirty translations of plays, essays, and novels, most recently The Théâtre du Soleil, the First Fifty-Five Years by Béatrice Picon-Vallin and And the Whole World Quakes: Chronicle of a Slaughter Foretold, a play by Haitian author Guy Régis Jr.

Science Fusion in Contemporary Mexican Literature

BRIAN T. CHANDLER

Science Fusion draws on new materialist theory to analyze the relationship between science and literature in contemporary works of fiction, poetry, and theater from Mexico. In this deft new study, Brian Chandler examines how a range of contemporary Mexican writers “fuse” science and literature in their work to rethink what it means to be human in an age of climate change, mass extinctions, interpersonal violence, femicide, and social injustice. The authors under consideration here—including Alberto Blanco, Jorge Volpi, Ignacio Padilla, Sabina Berman, Maricela Guerrero, and Elisa Díaz Castelo—challenge traditional divisions that separate human from nonhuman, subject from object, culture from nature. Using science and literature to engage topics in biopolitics, historiography, metaphysics, ethics, and ecological crisis in the age of the Anthropocene, works of science fusion offer fresh perspectives to address present-day sociocultural and environmental issues.

BRIAN T. CHANDLER is a professor of Spanish at the University of North Carolina Wilmington. His work has been published in edited volumes and journals such as Romance Quarterly, Latin American Literary Review, Hispania, and Chasqui.
1650–1850 Ideas, Aesthetics, and Inquiries in the Early Modern Era (Volume 29)

EDITED BY KEVIN L. COPE AND SAMARA ANNE CAHILL

Exploratory, investigative, and energetically analytical, 1650–1850 covers the full expanse of long eighteenth-century thought, writing, and art while delivering abundant revelatory detail. Essays on well-known cultural figures combine with studies of emerging topics to unveil a vivid rendering of a dynamic period, simultaneously committed to singular genius and universal improvement. Welcoming research on all nations and language traditions, 1650–1850 invites readers into a truly global Enlightenment. Topics in volume 29 include Samuel Johnson’s notions about the education of women and a refreshing account of Sir Joseph Banks’s globetrotting. A guest-edited, illustration-rich, interdisciplinary special feature explores the cultural implications of water. As always, 1650–1850 culminates in a bevy of full-length book reviews critiquing the latest scholarship on long-established specialties, unusual subjects, and broad revaluations of the period.

KEVIN L. COPE is the Adams Professor of English Literature at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. The author of Criteria of Certainty, John Locke Revisited, and In and After the Beginning, Cope has prepared numerous essay collections, most recently Hemispheres and Stratospheres: The Idea and Experience of Distance in the International Enlightenment (Bucknell University Press). He is a frequent guest on radio and television programming concerning higher education policy and governance.

SAMARA ANNE CAHILL taught literature, rhetoric, and grant writing at Blinn College, Nanyang Technological University, and the University of Notre Dame before joining Texas A&M University as an editor in the College of Engineering. She is the editor of Studies in Religion and the Enlightenment and author of Intelligent Souls? Feminist Orientalism in Eighteenth-Century English Literature (Bucknell University Press).

1650–1850
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Foreword by U.S. Representative Lisa Blunt Rochester

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A Genealogy of the Gentleman
Women Writers and Masculinity in the Eighteenth Century
MARY BETH HARRIS

A Genealogy of the Gentleman argues that eighteenth-century women writers made key interventions in modern ideals of masculinity and authorship through their narrative constructions of the gentleman. It challenges two latent critical assumptions: first, that the gentleman’s masculinity is normative, private, and therefore oppositional to concepts of performance; and second, that women writers, from their disadvantaged position within a patriarchal society, had no real means of influencing dominant structures of masculinity. By placing writers such as Mary Davys, Eliza Haywood, Charlotte Lennox, Elizabeth Inchbald, and Mary Robinson in dialogue with canonical representatives of the gentleman author—Joseph Addison, Richard Steele, David Hume, Samuel Johnson, and Samuel Richardson—Mary Beth Harris shows how these women carved out a space for their literary authority not by overtly opposing their male critics and society’s patriarchal structure but by rewriting the persona of the gentleman as a figure whose very desirability and appeal were dependent on women’s influence. Ultimately, this project considers the import of these women writers’ legacy, both progressive and conservative, on hegemonic standards of masculinity that persist to this day.

MARY BETH HARRIS is an assistant professor at Bethany College in Lindsborg, Kansas. Her most recent work can be found in Tulsa Studies in Women’s Literature, The Eighteenth-Century, as well as in two edited collections, Castration, Impotence, and Emasculation in the Long Eighteenth-Century and A Spy on Eliza Haywood: Addresses to a Multifarious Writer.

Early Modern Feminisms

Objects of Liberty
British Women Writers and Revolutionary Souvenirs
PAMELA BUCK

Objects of Liberty explores the prevalence of souvenirs in British women’s writing during the French Revolution and Napoleonic era. It argues that women writers employed the material and memorial object of the souvenir to circulate revolutionary ideas and engage in the masculine realm of political debate. While souvenir collecting was a standard practice of privileged men on the eighteenth-century Grand Tour, women began to partake in this endeavor as political events in France heightened interest in travel to the Continent. Looking at travel accounts by Helen Maria Williams, Mary Wollstonecraft, Catherine and Martha Wilmot, Charlotte Eaton, and Mary Shelley, this study reveals how they used souvenirs to affect political thought in Britain and contribute to conversations about individual and national identity. At a time when gendered beliefs precluded women from full citizenship, they used souvenirs to redefine themselves as legitimate political actors. Objects of Liberty is a story about the ways that women established political power and agency through material culture.

PAMELA BUCK is associate professor of English at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Connecticut. Her research focuses primarily on women’s writing and material culture in late eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century British literature.

Early Modern Feminisms
Feminist Comedy
Women Playwrights of London
WILLOW WHITE

Feminist Comedy: Women Playwrights of London identifies the eighteenth-century comedic stage as a key site of feminist critique, practice, and experimentation. While the history of feminism and comedy is undeniably vexed, by focusing on five women playwrights of the latter half of the eighteenth century—Catherine Clive, Frances Brooke, Frances Burney, Hannah Cowley, and Elizabeth Inchbald—this book demonstrates that stage comedy was crucial to these women's professional success in a male-dominated industry and reveals a unifying thread of feminist critique that connects their works. Though male detractors denied women's comic ability throughout the era, eighteenth-century women playwrights were on the cutting edge of comedy, and their work had important feminist influence that can be traced to today's stages and screens.

WILLOW WHITE is assistant professor at the University of Alberta and her research focuses on English theatre and literature of the long eighteenth century with specialization in women writers, literatures of empire, and Indigeneity. She coedited A Narrative of the Life of Mrs. Mary Jemison with Tiffany Potter, and her work has appeared in such journals as Women's Writing and Eighteenth-Century Studies.

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Redreaming the Renaissance
Essays on History and Literature in Honor of Guido Ruggiero
EDITED BY MARY LINDEMANN AND DEANNA SHEMEK

Redreaming the Renaissance seeks to remedy the dearth of conversations between scholars of history and literary studies by building on the pathbreaking work of Guido Ruggiero to explore the cross-fertilization between these two disciplines, using the textual world of the Italian Renaissance as proving ground. In this volume, these disciplines blur, as they did for early moderns, who did not always distinguish between the historical and literary significance of the texts they read and produced. Literature here is broadly conceived to include not only belles lettres but also other forms of artful writing that flourished in the period, including philosophical writings on dreams and prophecy; life-writing; religious debates; menu descriptions and other food writing; diaries, news reports, ballads, and protest songs; and scientific discussions. The twelve essays in this collection examine the role that the volume's dedicatee has played in bringing the disciplines of history and literary studies into provocative conversation, as well as the methodology needed to sustain and enrich this conversation.

MARY LINDEMANN is professor emerita of history, University of Miami. Her most recent books include: Liaisons dangereuses: Sex, Law, and Diplomacy in the Age of Frederick the Great, and Medicine and Society in Early Modern Europe.

DEANNA SHEMEK is professor of Italian and European studies at the University of California, Irvine. She is author of Ladies Errant: Wayward Women and Social Order in Early Modern Italy and of In Continuous Expectation: Isabella d’Este’s Reign of Letters.

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Literary Studies • Italian History
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The Age of Subtlety
Nature and Rhetorical Conceits in Early Modern Europe
JAVIER PATIÑO LOIRA

A craze for intricate metaphors, referred to as “conceits,” permeated all forms of communication in seventeenth-century Italy and Spain, reshaping reality in highly creative ways. The Age of Subtlety: Nature and Rhetorical Conceits in Early Modern Europe situates itself at the crossroads of rhetoric, poetics, and the history of science, analyzing technical writings on conceits by such scholars as Baltasar Gracián, Matteo Peregrini, and Emanuele Tesauro against the background of debates on telescopic and microscopic vision, the generation of living beings, and the boundaries between the natural and the artificial. It contends that in order to understand conceits, we must locate them within the early modern culture of ingenuity that was also responsible for the engineer’s machines, the juggler’s sleight of hand, the wiles of the statesman, and the discovery of truths about nature.

JAVIER PATIÑO LOIRA is an assistant professor of Spanish at UCLA. He is the author of numerous articles and book chapters on early modern Italian and Spanish rhetorical and poetic theory and the formation of libraries, as well as ideas on education and translation.
Rutgers University Press is pleased to announce that the Templeton Press, an independent press founded in 1997 by pioneering investor Sir John Templeton, joins Rutgers University Press’s publishing consortium. Templeton Press will cease signing new books and all books from the Press’s active catalog will be distributed by Rutgers University Press, including new and revised editions.

Templeton Press publishes nonfiction books by data-driven researchers working on topics that Sir John Templeton considered of ultimate concern to human flourishing. These include the preservation of economic and political freedom, the teaching of virtue and character development, the integration of spirituality and health, and the undying scientific quest to investigate the nature of reality. As a catalyst for broadminded cultural discussion, Templeton Press sought multiple perspectives and invited reflection on conventional wisdom, while maintaining a constant attitude of respect and dignity for people everywhere.
Smoothing the Jew

“Abie the Agent” and Ethnic Caricature in the Progressive Era

JEFFREY A. MARX

The turn of the nineteenth century in the United States saw the substantial influx of immigrants and a corresponding increase in anti-immigration and nativist tendencies among longer-settled Americans. Jewish immigrants were often the object of such animosity, being at once the object of admiration and anxiety for their perceived economic and social successes. One result was their frequent depiction in derogatory caricatures on the stage and in print.

Smoothing the Jew investigates how Jewish artists of the time attempted to “smooth over” these demeaning portrayals, by focusing on the first Jewish comic strip published in English, Harry Hershfield’s Abie the Agent. Jeffrey Marx demonstrates how Hershfield created a Jewish protagonist who in part reassured nativists of the Jews’ ability to assimilate into American society while also encouraging immigrants and their children that, over time, they would be able to adopt American customs without losing their distinctly Jewish identity.

JEFFREY A. MARX is an independent scholar, the rabbi emeritus of The Santa Monica Synagogue in California, and a former visiting lecturer at Emeritus College, Hebrew Union College, and Pepperdine University. His publications appear in scholarly journals and in popular media on topics ranging from Jewish studies to New York culture.

Jewish Education

ARI Y. KELMAN

Most writing about Jewish education has been preoccupied with two questions: What ought to be taught? And what is the best way to teach it? Ari Y. Kelman upends these conventional approaches by asking a different question: How do people learn to engage in Jewish life? This book, by centering learning, provides an innovative way of approaching the questions that are central to Jewish education specifically and to religious education more generally.

At the heart of Jewish Education is an innovative alphabetical primer of Jewish educational values, qualities, frameworks, catalysts, and technologies that explores the historical ways in which Jewish communities have produced and transmitted knowledge. The book examines the tension between Jewish education and Jewish studies to argue that shifting the locus of inquiry from “what people ought to know” to “how do people learn” can provide an understanding of Jewish education that both draws on historical precedent and points to the future of Jewish knowledge.

ARI Y. KELMAN is the Jim Joseph Professor of Education and Jewish Studies in the Stanford Graduate School of Education in Stanford, California. He is the author of Station Identification: A Cultural History of Yiddish Radio in the United States and coeditor of Beyond Jewish Identity.

Key Words in Jewish Studies
Soviet-Born
The Afterlives of Migration in Jewish American Fiction
KAROLINA KRASUSKA

In 2010, when The New Yorker published a list of twenty writers under the age of forty who were “key to their generation,” it included five Jewish-identified writers, two of whom—American Gary Shteyngart and Canadian David Bezmozgis—were Soviet-born. This publicity came after nearly a decade of English-language literary output by Soviet-born writers of all genders in North America. Soviet-Born: The Afterlives of Migration in Jewish American Fiction traces the impact of these now numerous authors—Anya Ulinich, Emine Ziyatdinova, Julia Alekseyeva, Sana Krasikov, Nadia Kalman, and Gary Shteyngart among them—on major coordinates of the Jewish-American imaginary.

Entering an immigrant, Soviet-born standpoint creates an alternative and sometimes complementary pattern of how the eastern and central European past and present resonate with American Jewishness. The novels, short stories, and graphic novels considered here often stage strikingly fresh variations on key older themes, including cultural geography, the memory of World War II and the Holocaust, communism, gender and sexuality, genealogy, and finally, migration. Soviet-Born demonstrates how these diasporic writers, with their critical stance toward identity categories, open up the field of what is canonically Jewish-American to broader contemporary debates.

KAROLINA KRASUSKA is an associate professor at the American Studies Center at the University of Warsaw, Poland, and a founding member of its Gender/Sexuality Research Group. She is a coeditor of Women and the Holocaust: New Perspectives and Challenges and the Polish translator of Judith Butler’s Gender Trouble.

Messianic Zionism in the Digital Age
Jews, Noahides, and the Third Temple Imaginary
RACHEL Z. FELDMAN

Judaism in the twenty-first century has seen the rise of the messianic Third Temple movement, as religious activists based in Israel have worked to realize biblical prophecies, including the restoration of a Jewish theocracy and the construction of the third and final Temple on Jerusalem’s Temple Mount. Through groundbreaking ethnographic research, Messianic Zionism in the Digital Age details how Third Temple visions have gained considerable momentum and political support in Israel and abroad.

The role of technology in this movement’s globalization has been critical. Feldman skillfully highlights the ways in which the internet and social media have contributed to the movement’s growth beyond the streets of Jerusalem into communities of former Christians around the world who now identify as the Children of Noah (Bnei Noah). She charts a path for future research while documenting the intimate effects of political theologies in motion and the birth of a new transnational Judaic faith.

RACHEL Z. FELDMAN is an assistant professor of religious studies at Dartmouth College and recipient of the 2023 Jordan Schnitzer First-Book Prize awarded by the Association for Jewish Studies. She is the coeditor of Settler Indigeneity in the West Bank with Ian McGonigle.
Politicizing Islam in Austria
The Far-Right Impact in the Twenty-First Century
FARID HAFEZ AND REINHARD HEINISCH

Among its Continental peers, Austria has stood out for its long-standing state recognition of the Muslim community as early as 1912. A shift has occurred more recently, however, as populist far-right voices within the Austrian government have redirected public discourse and put into question Islam’s previously accepted autonomous status within the country.

Politicizing Islam in Austria examines this anti-Muslim swerve in Austrian politics through a comprehensive analysis of government policies and regulations, as well as party and public discourses. In their innovative study, Hafez and Heinisch show how the far-right Austrian Freedom Party (FPÖ) adapted anti-Muslim discourse to its political purposes and how that discourse was then appropriated by the conservative center-right Austrian People’s Party (ÖVP). This reconfiguration of the political landscape prepared the way for a right-wing coalition government between conservatives and far-right actors that would subsequently institutionalize anti-Muslim political demands and change the shape of the civic conditions and public perceptions of Islam and the Muslim community in the republic.

FARID HAFEZ is the Class of 1955 Distinguished Visiting Professor of International Studies at Williams College in Massachusetts.

REINHARD HEINISCH is a professor of comparative Austrian political science at the University of Salzburg.

A Nation of Family and Friends?
Sport and the Leisure Cultures of British Asian Girls and Women
AARTI RATNA

In A Nation of Family and Friends, sociologist Aarti Ratna examines the complex and dynamic relationships between South Asian women and sporting and leisure cultures. Mining autobiographical insights (as a South Asian scholar living in the UK), she links the chapters of this innovative book using the sociological concepts of family and friends, particularly as they relate to an analysis of wider debates about the complexities of race, gender, and the nation. Ratna underscores the importance of studying informal spaces of sport and leisure as friendly, familial, sociable, and political spaces. She simultaneously highlights the role of earlier sociological research in disseminating myths about South Asian women as too physically weak to play competitive sports, as culturally passive victims of South Asian cultures and religions, and as sexually exotic women requiring saving through colonial and imperial projects led by white men and women.

Ratna also examines two key cultural objects—the popular films Bend It Like Beckham and Dhan Dhana Dhan Goal—to examine in detail the gendered representation of South Asian soccer players’ engagement in amateur and elite levels of the sport. She critiques studies of women’s football fandom and sport that fail to acknowledge social differences relating to race, class, age, disability, and sexuality.

AARTI RATNA teaches and writes about race, gender, and popular culture, focusing on the sport and leisure engagements of British Asian girls and women.

Critical Issues in Sport and Society
Home Is Where Your Politics Are
Queer Activism in the U.S. South and South Africa
JESSICA SCOTT

“For those still wondering about the usefulness of queer studies, Jessica Scott provides a convincing response in this similarity-based, situated, and nuanced analysis of queer injunctions and resilience. In this book, strange bedfellows, South Africa and the South of the United States, transcend the taboos of comparative methodological correctness in economic analysis. Home Is Where Your Politics Are is a trailblazing work of economic freedom worth reading.”
— S. N. Nyeck, author of African(a) Queer Presence: Ethics and Politics of Negotiation

Home Is Where Your Politics Are is a transnational consideration of queer and trans activism in the U.S. South and South Africa. Through ethnographic exploration of queer and trans activist work in both places, Jessica Scott paints a vibrant picture of what life is like in relation to a narrative that says that queer life is harder, if not impossible, in rural areas and on the African continent. The book asks questions like, What do activists in these places care about? and How do stories about where they live get in the way of the life they envision for the queer and trans people for whom they advocate? Answers to these questions provide insight that only these activists have, into the complexity of locally based advocacy strategies in a globalized world.

JESSICA SCOTT is an associate professor of gender studies at West Virginia Wesleyan College in Buckhannon, West Virginia.

Brotherhood University
Black Men’s Friendships and the Transition to Adulthood
BRANDON A. JACKSON

How do young Black men navigate the transition to adulthood in an era of labor market precarity, an increasing emphasis on personal independence, and gendered racism? In Brotherhood University, Brandon A. Jackson utilizes longitudinal qualitative data to examine the role of emotions and social support among a group of young Black men as they navigate a “structural double bind” as college students and into early adulthood. While prevailing stereotypes portray young Black men as emotionally aloof, Jackson finds that the men invested in an emotion culture characterized by vulnerability, loyalty, and trust, which created a system of mutual social support, or brotherhood, among the group as they navigated college, prepared for the labor market, and experienced romantic relationships. Ten years later, as they managed the early stages of their careers and considered marriage and child-rearing, the men continued to depend on the emotional vulnerability and close relationships they forged in their college years.

BRANDON A. JACKSON is an associate professor of sociology at Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana.

The American Campus
Latin* Students in Engineering
An Intentional Focus on a Growing Population
EDITED BY LARA PEREZ-FELKNER, SARAH L. RODRIGUEZ, AND CIERA FLUKER
FOREWORD BY MICHELLE M. CAMACHO

The population of engineering students who identify as Latin* is growing, but Latin* people are still underrepresented in the field of engineering. There is, however, a rising need to train U.S. students in engineering skills to meet the demands of our increasingly technological workforce. Structurally excluding Latinx students hinders their economic and educational opportunities in engineering. *Latin* Students in Engineering* examines the state of Latin* engineering education at present as well as considerations for policy and practice regarding engineering education aimed at enhancing opportunity and better serving Latinx students. The essays in this volume first consider, theoretically and empirically, the experiences of Latin* students in engineering education and then expand beyond the student level to focus on institutional and social structures that challenge Latin* students’ success and retention. Finally, the book illuminates emergent work and considers future research, policy, and practice.

LARA PEREZ-FELKNER is an associate professor of higher education and sociology at Florida State University, Tallahassee.
SARAH L. RODRIGUEZ is an associate professor of engineering education at Virginia Tech University.
CIERA FLUKER is an associate researcher at Florida State University, Tallahassee.

Wake
Why the Battle over Diverse Public Schools Still Matters
KAREY ALISON HARWOOD

The Wake County Public School System was once described as a beacon of hope for American school districts. It was both academically successful and successfully integrated. It accomplished these goals through the hard work of teachers and administrators and through a student assignment policy that made sure no school in the countywide district became a high-poverty school. Although most students attended their closest school, the “diversity policy” modified where some students were assigned to make sure no school had more than 40 percent of its students qualifying for free or reduced-price lunch or more than 25 percent performing below grade level. When the school board election of 2009 swept into office a majority who favored “neighborhood schools,” the diversity policy that had governed student assignment for years was eliminated. *Wake: Why the Battle over Diverse Public Schools Still Matters* tells the story of the aftermath of that election, including the fierce public debate that ensued during school board meetings and in the pages of the local newspaper and the groundswell of community support that voted in a pro-diversity school board in 2011.

KAREY ALISON HARWOOD teaches at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, North Carolina. She is the author of *The Infertility Treadmill: Feminist Ethics, Personal Choice, and the Use of Reproductive Technologies* (2007) and a parent of children who attended Wake County Public Schools.

Critical Issues in American Education
China’s Left-Behind Children
Caretaking, Parenting, and Struggles
XIAOJIN CHEN

“Written with scientific rigor and personal relevance, this insightful book provides us a systematic view of the lives and living spaces of China’s left-behind children and their families. It diversifies and advances our understanding of family structure and parental care beyond the ‘norms’ of two-parent nuclear families. I recommend this book to all family scientists, practitioners, and policymakers.”
—Tong Liu, codirector of Yale-China Program on Child Development at Yale University

“China’s Left-Behind Children provides new insights into the drivers and effects of different childcare arrangements and of long-distance parenting practices on children’s education, behavior and well-being, and ambiguous loss. This superb book appeals not only to scholars in China studies but also to sociologists of childhood, family, migration, and education who will appreciate the fresh take on topics such as digital communications, intimacy, grandparenting, school bonding, delinquency, and gender, and the author’s keen eye to global comparisons.”
—Rachel Murphy, author of The Children of China’s Great Migration

One unintended consequence of the unprecedented rural-to-urban migration in China over the past three decades is the exponentially increased number of “left-behind” children—children whose parents migrated to more developed areas and who live with one parent or other extended family members. This book investigates the role of parental migration and the left-behind status in shaping Chinese family dynamics and children’s general well-being.

XIAOJIN CHEN is an associate professor of sociology at Tulane University in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Rutgers Series in Childhood Studies

Born of War in Colombia
Reproductive Violence and Memories of Absence
TATIANA SANCHEZ PARRA

Born of War in Colombia addresses why people born of conflict-related sexual violence remain unseen within transitional justice agendas. In Colombia, there are generations of children born of conflict-related sexual violence across the country. Whispers of their presence have traveled outside their communities. They also exist within the country’s domestic reparations program, which entitles them to reparations. Drawing on an immersive feminist ethnography with a community that endured a paramilitary confinement, the book reveals how a past-oriented and harm-centered model of transitional justice has converged with a restricted notion of gendered victimhood and the patriarchal politics of reproduction to render the bodies and experiences of people born of conflict-related sexual violence unintelligible to those seeking to understand and address the consequences of war in Colombia.

TATIANA SANCHEZ PARRA is a Marie Sklodowska-Curie Actions Fellow in the School of Social and Political Science at the University of Edinburgh.

Genocide, Political Violence, Human Rights
Governing Maya Communities and Lands in Belize

Indigenous Rights, Markets, and Sovereignties

LAURIE KROSHUS MEDINA

Confronting a debt crisis, the Belizean government has strategized to maximize revenues from lands designated as state property, privatizing lands for cash crop production and granting concessions for timber and oil extraction. Meanwhile, conservation NGOs have lobbied to establish protected areas on these lands to address a global biodiversity crisis. They promoted ecotourism as a market-based mechanism to fund both conservation and debt repayment; ecotourism also became a mechanism for governing lands and people—even state actors themselves—through the market. Mopan and Q’eqchi’ Maya communities, dispossessed of lands and livelihoods through these efforts, pursued claims for Indigenous rights to their traditional lands through Inter-American and Belizean judicial systems. This book examines the interplay of conflicting forms of governance that emerged as these strategies intersected: state performances of sovereignty over lands and people, neoliberal rule through the market, and Indigenous rights-claiming, which challenged both market logics and practices of sovereignty.

LAURIE KROSHUS MEDINA is the director of the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies and an associate professor of anthropology at Michigan State University. She is the author of Negotiating Economic Development: Identity Formation and Collective Action in Belize.

Get Involved!

Stories of Bahamian Civil Society

KIM WILLIAMS-PULFER

Philanthropy is commonly depicted as a universal practice and is either valued for supporting community transformation or criticized for limiting social justice. However, dominant definitions and even popular connotations tend to privilege wealthy Western approaches. Using the Caribbean as a rich site of observance and concentrating on the island nation-state of the Bahamas, Get Involved! uncovers the hidden and underdocumented activities of “philanthropy from below,” revealing a broader conception of philanthropy and civil society, especially within Black and other historically marginalized populations. Kim Williams-Pulfer draws on narrative analysis from enslavement to the current post-postcolonial moment, depicting the repertoires and practices of primarily Afro-Bahamians through the stories emerging from history (including the transnational observations of Zora Neale Hurston, social movements, and political and social institution building), the arts (from Junkanoo, literature, and visual practices), and the lived experiences of contemporary civil society leaders. Get Involved! shows the long history and continued significance of civil society and philanthropic engagement in the Bahamas, the circum-Caribbean, and the wider African Diaspora.

KIM WILLIAMS-PULFER is an independent scholar and the principal consultant of KWP Research Strategies LLC, a research consulting firm focused on community development, the arts, public humanities, and nonprofit and philanthropic management.

Critical Caribbean Studies
An Ordinary Landscape of Violence
Women Loving Women in Guyana
PREITY R. KUMAR

An Ordinary Landscape of Violence: Women Loving Women in Guyana tells a new history of queer women in postcolonial Guyana. While the region has experienced a rise in queer activism, especially toward efforts of human rights, the queer community is also made the victim of extreme violence. This book seeks to ask how a heteropatriarchal state shapes queer and “women-lovin’ women’s” experiences and how such women navigate racialized, sexualized, and homophobic violence. With a unique focus on the lives of queer women in Guyana, it reveals their manifold experiences of violence, regional differences, and complicated understanding of what exactly constitutes “rights” and its limitations in their lives. While the activism against violence is crucial, this book not only addresses the violence against women but also theorizes the intimate partner violence between women and demonstrates the ways in which violence is both racialized and sexualized.

PREITY R. KUMAR is an assistant professor of gender and women’s studies at the University of Rhode Island.

Critical Caribbean Studies

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Recent Highlights

Mary Climbs In: The Journeys of Bruce Springsteen’s Women Fans by Lorraine Mangione and Donna Luff
- The Guardian featured Mary Climbs In in the article “‘His music kindled my agency and hunger for self-definition’: why women adore Bruce Springsteen”.
- The Boston Globe wrote about Mary Climbs In with the article “‘Mary Climbs In’ authors survey the inner landscape of Springsteen’s women fans”.
- Harvard Gazette released an exclusive excerpt of Mary Climbs In.

Zionism: An Emotional State by Derek Penslar
- The Tel Aviv Review interviewed author Derek Penslar about his book Zionism.
- The Atlantic mentioned Zionism: An Emotional State in the article “A Country Shaped by Love and Fear”.

The Internet is for Cats: How Animal Images Shape Our Digital Lives by Jessica Maddox
- The New York Review of Books reviewed The Internet is for Cats: “[The Internet is for Cats]’s major claim is convincing: there is more to cat (and other animal) pics than meets the eye.”

Staging a Comeback: Broadway, Hollywood, and the Disney Renaissance by Peter C. Kunze
- BroadwayWorld included Staging a Comeback in their “21 Theater Books for Your Fall 2023 Reading” list.
- Library Journal reviewed Staging a Comeback: “Kunze paints a fascinating picture of how the Walt Disney Company has become an indelible part of the world.”

The Ultimate Guide to the Jersey Shore: Where to Eat, What to Do, and so Much More by Peter Genovese
- NJ.com excerpted Peter Genovese’s The Ultimate Guide to the Jersey Shore.

Stepping Away: Returning to the Faculty After Senior Academic Leadership by Lisa Jasinski
- The Chronicle of Higher Education featured Stepping Away in Lisa Jasinski’s new column.
- Inside Higher Ed interviewed the author, Lisa Jasinski.

The Round Dance: A Novel by Carmine Abate
- Tor.com featured The Round Dance in their “Can’t Miss Indie Press Speculative Fiction for September and October 2023” list.

Port Newark and the Origins of Container Shipping by Angus Kress Gillespie
- Sea History reviewed Port Newark and the Origin of Container Shipping: “[This book is] an ideal way for novice and insider alike to learn more about the origins of an industry that literally keeps the world economy moving. It’s a very enjoyable read.”

Resilient Kitchens edited by Philip Gleissner and Harry Eli Kashdan
- Migrations: A World on the Move interviewed the editors, Gleissner and Kashdan.
- Columbus Monthly featured Resilient Kitchens in “Chef Sangeeta Lakhani’s Essay Appears in New Book About American Immigrant Cooking”.
- Food Politics reviewed Resilient Kitchens: “Resilient Kitchens collects the deeply personal accounts of immigrant chefs, writers, and scholars of how their experience as ‘other’ informed their use of food and cooking to stay centered during the COVID-19 pandemic. Their stories are vastly different but all bear on why food matters to much to personal identity.”
- Sioux City Journal featured Resilient Kitchens in “DAVID HALAAS: Facing a changed world in the wake of COVID”.
All the cool kids are doing it

According to BookScan, non-fiction posted the largest sales increases in 2017 of any category. Non-fiction outsold Fiction 2 to 1.

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“Jim Cullen writes with authority and empathy about the blue-collar roots that shaped Bruce Springsteen and gave rise to his music of rebellion. This is a provocative look at one of America’s cultural icons.”
—Eleanor Clift, Newsweek

Melissa Ludtke offers a compelling account of her courtroom quest to do what her male sportswriter colleagues took for granted: to talk with players in Major League Baseball’s locker rooms. She reveals how, as a 26-year-old woman, she took MLB Commissioner Bowie Kuhn to federal court—and won.

“Myths of American Exceptionalism is a study of the culture wars that have defined the postwar American Left and Right. In their battle to control the public sphere, cultural revolutionaries have sought to prove that the U.S. is either a ‘Christian nation’ or a ‘secular democracy.’ The question of American exceptionalism is the problem.”
—Janet Abu-Lughod, author of The American Promise

Meltdown Expected tells the story of how, both domestically and internationally, 1978 and 1979 saw a series of catastrophes that shook America’s confidence and hurled the nation into the final phase of the Cold War. Covering everything from the Three Mile Island disaster to the Iran hostage crisis, it is a vivid portrait of a tumultuous time.