The Rediscovery of America
Native Peoples and the Unmaking of U.S. History
Ned Blackhawk

Summary
A sweeping and overdue retelling of U.S. history that recognizes that Native Americans are essential to understanding the evolution of modern America.

“In accounts of American history, Indigenous peoples are often treated as largely incidental—either obstacles to be overcome or part of a narrative separate from the arc of nation-building. Blackhawk . . . [shows] that Native communities have, instead, been inseparable from the American story all along.”—Washington Post Book World, “Books to Read in 2023”

The most enduring feature of U.S. history is the presence of Native Americans, yet most histories focus on Europeans and their descendants. This long practice of ignoring Indigenous history is changing, however, with a new generation of scholars insists that any full American history address the struggle, survival, and resurgence of American Indian nations. Indigenous history is essential to understanding the evolution of modern America.

Ned Blackhawk interweaves five centuries of Native and non-Native histories, from Spanish colonial exploration to the rise of Native American self-determination in the late twentieth century. In this transformative synthesis he shows that

- European colonization in the 1600s was never a predetermined success;
- Native nations helped shape England’s crisis of empire;
- the first shots of the American Revolution were prompted by Indian affairs in the interior;
- California Indians targeted by federally funded militias were among the first casualties of the Civil War;
- the Union victory forever recalibrated Native communities across the West;
- twentieth-century reservation activists refashioned American law and policy.

Blackhawk’s retelling of U.S. history acknowledges the enduring power, agency, and survival of Indigenous peoples, yielding a truer account of the United States and revealing anew the varied meanings of America.

Contributor Bio
Ned Blackhawk (Western Shoshone) is the Howard R. Lamar Professor of History and American Studies at Yale University, where he is the faculty coordinator for the Yale Group for the Study of Native America. He is the author of Violence over the Land: Indians and Empires in the Early American West. He lives in New Haven, CT.
Look at the Lights, My Love
Annie Ernaux, Alison L. Strayer

Summary
A revelatory meditation on class and consumer culture, from 2022 Nobel laureate Annie Ernaux

“A dryly charming look at the way the French live now, through the sharp eyes of its most acclaimed chronicler.”—Kirkus Reviews

For half a century, the French writer Annie Ernaux has transgressed the boundaries of what stories are considered worth telling, what subjects worth exploring. In this probing meditation, Ernaux turns her attention to the phenomenon of the big-box superstore, a ubiquitous feature of modern life that has received scant attention in literature.

Recording her visits to a store near Paris for over a year, she captures the world that exists within its massive walls. Through Ernaux’s eyes, the superstore emerges as “a great human meeting place, a spectacle”—a flashy, technologically advanced incarnation of the ancient marketplace where capitalism, cultural production, and class converge, dictating our rhythms of desire. With her relentless powers of observation, Ernaux takes the measure of a place we thought we knew, calling us to question the experiences we overlook and to gaze more deeply into ordinary life.

Contributor Bio
Annie Ernaux is the winner of the 2022 Nobel Prize for Literature. She is the author of more than twenty books, including The Years, A Woman’s Story, A Man’s Place, Shame, and Simple Passion. Alison L. Strayer is an award-winning writer and translator.
Mixed Signals
How Incentives Really Work
Uri Gneezy

Summary
An informative and entertaining account of how actions send signals that shape behaviors and how to design better incentives for better results in our life, our work, and our world.

Incentives send powerful signals that aim to influence behavior. But often there is a conflict between what we say and what we do in response to these incentives. The result: mixed signals.

Consider the CEO who urges teamwork but designs incentives for individual success, who invites innovation but punishes failure, who emphasizes quality but pays for quantity. Employing real-world scenarios just like this to illustrate this everyday phenomenon, behavioral economist Uri Gneezy explains why incentives often fail and demonstrates how the right incentives can change behavior by aligning with signals for better results.

Drawing on behavioral economics, game theory, psychology, and fieldwork, Gneezy outlines how to be incentive smart, designing rewards that are simple and effective. He highlights how the right combination of economic and psychological incentives can encourage people to drive more fuel-efficient cars, be more innovative at work, and even get to the gym. "Incentives send a signal," Gneezy writes, "and your objective is to make sure this signal is aligned with your goals."

Contributor Bio
Uri Gneezy is the Epstein/Atkinson Endowed Chair in Behavioral Economics and professor of economics and strategic management at the Rady School of Management at the University of California, San Diego. He is the coauthor of The Why Axis: Hidden Motives and the Undiscovered Economics of Everyday Life.
Homelands
A Personal History of Europe
Timothy Garton Ash

Summary
Drawing on half a century of firsthand experience and exemplary scholarship, Timothy Garton Ash tells the story of postwar Europe’s triumphs and tragedies

“Is Europe a real entity or a mere wishful-thinking construct? This closely observed book explores both possibilities.”—Kirkus Reviews

Timothy Garton Ash, Europe’s “historian of the present,” has been “breathing Europe” for the last half century. In Homelands he embarks on a journey in time and space around the postwar continent, drawing on his own notes from many great events, giving vivid firsthand accounts of its leading actors, revisiting the places where its history was made, and recalling its triumphs and tragedies through their imprint on the present.

Garton Ash offers an account of events as seen from the ground—history illustrated by memoir. He describes how Europe emerged from wartime devastation to rebuild, to triumph with the fall of the Berlin Wall, to democratize and unite. And then to falter. It is a singular history of a period of unprecedented progress along with a clear-eyed account of how so much went wrong, from the financial crisis of 2008 to the war in Ukraine. From the pen of someone who, in spite of Brexit, emphatically describes himself as an English European, this is both a tour d’horizon and a tour de force.

Contributor Bio
Timothy Garton Ash is professor of European studies at the University of Oxford and senior fellow at the Hoover Institution, Stanford University. His books include The Magic Lantern, his eyewitness account of the revolutions of 1989; The File: A Personal History, based on reading his own Stasi file; and History of the Present. He lives in Oxford, England.
Sky Above Kharkiv
Dispatches from the Ukrainian Front
Serhiy Zhadan, Reilly Costigan-Humes, Isaac Stackhouse Wheeler

Summary
From Ukraine’s leading writer-activist comes an intimate account of resistance and survival in the earliest months of the Russian-Ukrainian war.

“A vivid, in-the-trenches report from a Ukrainian city and its ‘injured, yet unbreakable’ citizens.”—Kirkus Reviews

When Russia invaded Ukraine on February 24, 2022, Serhiy Zhadan took to social media to coordinate a network of resistance workers and send messages of courage to his fellow Ukrainians. What began as a local organizing effort exploded onto the international stage as readers around the globe looked to Zhadan as a key eyewitness documenting Russian atrocities.

In this powerful record of the war’s harrowing first four months, Zhadan works day and night in Kharkiv to evacuate children and the elderly from suburbs that have come under fire. He sends lists of life-saving medications to the West in the hopes of procuring them for civilians, coordinates food deliveries, collects money for military equipment, and organizes concerts. He shares photographs of the open sky—grateful for every pause in the shelling—and captures images of beloved institutions reduced to rubble. We’ll restore everything. We’ll rebuild everything, he writes.

As the days pass, the city empties. Friends are killed. And when images of the Bucha massacre are released, Zhadan’s own voice falters: I’m speechless. Hang in there, my friends. Tomorrow, we’ll wake up one day closer to our victory. An intimate work of witness literature, this book is at once the testimony of one man entering a new reality and the story of a society fighting for the right to exist.

Contributor Bio
Serhiy Zhadan is Ukraine’s beloved literary and activist voice. He has received the Hannah Arendt Prize for Political Thought, the German Peace Prize, and several international literature prizes. His previous books include Mesopotamia; The Orphanage; and What We Live For, What We Die For: Selected Poems. He lives in Kharkiv. Reilly Costigan-Humes and Isaac Stackhouse Wheeler translate contemporary Ukrainian literature.
Ramesses the Great
Egypt's King of Kings
Toby Wilkinson

Summary
The life, dramatic reign, and enduring legacy of the pharaoh Ramesses the Great, with lessons for the present, from internationally acclaimed Egyptologist Toby Wilkinson

Ramesses II ruled the Nile Valley and the wider Egyptian empire from 1279 to 1213 B.C., one of the longest reigns in pharaonic history. He was a cultural innovator, a relentless self-promoter, and an astute diplomat—the peace treaty signed after the Battle of Kadesh was the first in recorded history. He outbuilt every other Egyptian pharaoh, leaving behind the temples of Abu Simbel; the great hypostyle hall of Karnak; the tomb for his wife Nefertari; and his own memorial, the Ramesseum.

His reputation eclipsed that of all other pharaohs as well: he was decried in the Bible as a despot, famed in literature as Ozymandias, and lauded by early antiquarians as the Younger Memnon. His rule coincided with the peak of ancient Egypt’s power and prosperity, the New Kingdom (1539–1069 B.C.).

In this authoritative biography, Toby Wilkinson considers Ramesses’ preoccupations and preferences, uncovering the methods and motivations of a megalomaniac ruler, with lessons for our own time.

Contributor Bio
Toby Wilkinson is a prizewinning Egyptologist and the author of Tutankhamun’s Trumpet: Ancient Egypt in 100 Objects from the Boy King’s Tomb, A World Beneath the Sands: The Golden Age of Egyptology, and the New York Times best seller The Rise and Fall of Ancient Egypt. He lives in Suffolk, UK.
A Little History of Music
Robert Philip

Summary
A lively, engaging guide to music around the world, from prehistory to the present

Human beings have always made music. Music can move us and tell stories of faith, struggle, or love. It is common to all cultures across the world. But how has it changed over the millennia?

Robert Philip explores the extraordinary history of music in all its forms, from our earliest ancestors to today’s mass-produced songs. This is a truly global story. Looking to Europe, South America, Asia, Africa, and beyond, Philip reveals how musicians have been brought together by trade and migration and examines the vast impact of colonialism. From Hildegard von Bingen and Clara Schumann to Bob Dylan and Aretha Franklin, great performers and composers have profoundly shaped music as we know it.

Covering a remarkable range of genres, including medieval chant, classical opera, jazz, and hip hop, this Little History shines a light on the wonder of music—and why it is treasured across the world.

Contributor Bio
Robert Philip was formerly a senior lecturer in music at the Open University and is a well-known presenter on BBC Radio. He is the author of The Classical Music Lover’s Companion to Orchestral Music and the award-winning Performing Music in the Age of Recording.
Samuel Ringgold Ward
A Life of Struggle
R. J. M. Blackett

Summary
The rediscovery of a pivotal figure in Black history and his importance and influence in the struggle against slavery and discrimination

Born on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, Samuel Ringgold Ward (1817–c. 1869) escaped enslavement and would become a leading figure in the struggle for Black freedom, citizenship, and equality. He was extolled by his contemporary Frederick Douglass for his “depth of thought, fluency of speech, readiness of wit, logical exactness.” Until now, his story has been largely untold.

Ward, a newspaper editor, Congregational minister, and advocate for the temperance movement, was considered one of the leading orators of his time. After the passage of the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850 he fled to Canada, where he lectured widely to improve conditions for formerly enslaved people who had settled there. Ward then went to Britain as an agent of the Canadian Antislavery Society and published his influential book *Autobiography of a Fugitive Negro*. He never returned to the United States, and he died in obscurity in Jamaica.

Despite Ward’s prominent role in the abolitionist movement, his story has been lost because of the decades he spent in exile. In this book, R. J. M. Blackett brings light to Ward’s life and his important role in the struggle against slavery and discrimination, and to the personal price he paid for confronting oppression.

Contributor Bio
R. J. M. Blackett is a historian of the abolitionist movement whose books include *The Captive’s Quest for Freedom: Fugitive Slaves, the 1850 Fugitive Slave Law, and the Politics of Slavery* and *Making Freedom: The Underground Railroad and the Politics of Slavery*. He is Andrew Jackson Professor of History emeritus at Vanderbilt University and lives in Nashville, TN.
Isaac Murphy
The Rise and Fall of a Black Jockey
Katherine C. Mooney

Summary
The rise and fall of one of America’s first Black sports celebrities

Isaac Murphy, born enslaved in 1861, still reigns as one of the greatest jockeys in American history. Black jockeys like Murphy were at the top of the most popular sport in America at the end of the nineteenth century. They were internationally famous, the first African American superstar athletes—and with wins in three Kentucky Derbies and countless other prestigious races, Murphy was the greatest of them all.

At the same time, he lived through the seismic events of Emancipation and Reconstruction and formative conflicts over freedom and equality in the United States. And inevitably he was drawn into those conflicts, with devastating consequences.

Katherine C. Mooney uncovers the history of Murphy’s troubled life, his death in 1896 at age thirty-five, and his afterlife. In recounting Murphy’s personal story, she also tells two of the great stories of change in nineteenth-century America: the debates over what a multiracial democracy might look like and the battles over who was to hold power in an economy that increasingly resembled the corporate, wealth-polarized world we know today.

Contributor Bio
Katherine C. Mooney is James P. Jones Associate Professor of History at Florida State University. She is the author of Race Horse Men: How Slavery and Freedom Were Made at the Racetrack. She lives in Tallahassee, FL.
A Translation
David Bentley Hart

Summary
The second edition of David Bentley Hart’s critically acclaimed New Testament translation

David Bentley Hart’s translation of the New Testament, first published in 2017, was hailed as a “remarkable feat” and as a “strange, disconcerting, radical version of a strange, disconcerting manifesto of profoundly radical values.” In this second edition, which includes a powerful new preface and more than a thousand changes to the text, Hart’s purpose remains the same: to render the original Greek texts faithfully, free of doctrine and theology, awakening readers to the uncanniness that often lies hidden beneath doctrinal layers.

Through his startling translation, with its raw, unfinished quality, Hart reveals a world conceptually quite unlike our own. “It was a world,” he writes, “in which the heavens above were occupied by celestial spiritual potentates of questionable character, in which angels ruled the nations of the earth as local gods, in which demons prowled the empty places, . . . and in which the entire cosmos was for many an eternal divine order and for many others a darkened prison house.” He challenges readers to imagine it anew: a God who reigned on high, appearing in the form of a slave and dying as a criminal, only then to be raised up and revealed as the Lord of all things.

Contributor Bio
David Bentley Hart, an Eastern Orthodox scholar of religion, is a philosopher, writer, and cultural commentator. His books include The Experience of God: Being, Consciousness, Bliss and That All Shall Be Saved: Heaven, Hell, and Universal Salvation. He lives in South Bend, IN.
The Seven Measures of the World
Piero Martin, Gregory Conti

Summary
The fascinating stories behind the essential seven units of measurement that allow us to understand the physical world

“Entertaining popular science and a literate tale of why things are as they are.”—Kirkus Reviews

From the beginning of history, measurement has been interwoven into the human experience, shaping our understanding of nature, personal relationships, and the supernatural. We measure the world to know our past, comprehend the present, and plan the future.

Renowned physicist Piero Martin explores how scientific knowledge is built around seven key pillars of measurement: the meter for length; the second for time; the kilogram for mass; the kelvin for temperature; the ampere for electricity; the mole for quantity of substance; and the candela for luminous intensity. Martin examines the history and function of these units and illustrates their applications in rich vignettes on a range of topics—from quarks to black holes, from a glass of wine to space exploration. He delves into not only the all-important numbers but also anecdotes that underline each unit’s special quality. At the same time, he explains how each unit contributes to important aspects of science, from classical physics to quantum mechanics, from relativity to chemistry, from cosmology to elementary particle physics, and from medicine to modern technology. Martin eloquently shows how the entire universe can be measured and understood using just seven units.

Contributor Bio
Piero Martin is professor of experimental physics at the University of Padua and a science writer. He carries out research on thermonuclear fusion and is chief physicist of the international DTT fusion experiment. He lives in Venice, Italy. Gregory Conti has translated over twenty-five books of fiction, nonfiction, and poetry. He lives in Perugia, Italy.
Roe
The History of a National Obsession
Mary Ziegler

Summary
The leading U.S. expert on abortion law charts the many meanings associated with Roe v. Wade during its fifty-year history

“Ziegler sets a brisk pace but delivers substantial depth. . . . A must-read for those seeking to understand what comes next.”—Publishers Weekly

What explains the insistent pull of Roe v. Wade? Abortion law expert Mary Ziegler argues that the U.S. Supreme Court decision, which decriminalized abortion in 1973 and was overturned in 2022, had a hold on us that was not simply the result of polarized abortion politics. Rather, Roe took on meanings far beyond its original purpose of protecting the privacy of the doctor-patient relationship. It forced us to confront questions about sexual violence, judicial activism and restraint, racial justice, religious liberty, the role of science in politics, and much more.

In this history of what the Supreme Court’s best-known decision has meant, Ziegler identifies the inconsistencies and unsettled issues in our abortion politics. She urges us to rediscover the nuance that has long resided where we would least expect to find it—in the meaning of Roe itself.

Contributor Bio
Mary Ziegler is the Martin Luther King Jr. Professor of Law at the University of California, Davis, and author of six books on the law, history, and politics of abortion and American conservatism. She lives in Sausalito, CA.
California, a Slave State
The Forgotten History of Slavery and Slave Revolts in California
Jean Pfaelzer

Summary
The untold history of slavery and resistance in California, from the Spanish missions, indentured Native American ranch hands, Indian boarding schools, Black miners, kidnapped Chinese prostitutes, and convict laborers to victims of modern trafficking

California owes its origins and sunny prosperity to slavery. Spanish invaders captured Indigenous people to build the chain of Catholic missions. Russian otter hunters shipped Alaska Natives—the first slaves transported into California—and launched a Pacific slave triangle to China. Plantation slaves were marched across the plains for the Gold Rush. San Quentin Prison incubated California’s carceral state. Kidnapped Chinese girls were sold in caged brothels in early San Francisco. Indian boarding schools supplied new farms and hotels with unfree child workers.

By looking west to California, Jean Pfaelzer upends our understanding of slavery as a North-South struggle and reveals how the enslaved in California fought, fled, and resisted human bondage. In unyielding research and vivid interviews, Pfaelzer exposes how California gorged on slavery, an appetite that persists today in a global trade in human beings lured by promises of jobs but who instead are imprisoned in sweatshops and remote marijuana grows, or sold as nannies and sex workers.

Slavery shreds California’s utopian brand, rewrites our understanding of the West, and redefines America’s uneasy paths to freedom.

Contributor Bio
Jean Pfaelzer is a public historian, commentator, and professor of American studies at the University of Delaware. Her books include Driven Out: The Forgotten War Against Chinese Americans; Rebecca Harding Davis: Origins of Social Realism; and The Utopian Novel in America. She lives in Washington, DC.
**American Slavers**

*Merchants, Mariners, and the Transatlantic Commerce in Captives, 1644-1865*

Sean M. Kelley

**Summary**

The first telling of the unknown story of America’s two-hundred-year history as a slave-trading nation

A total of 305,000 enslaved Africans arrived in the New World aboard American vessels over a span of two hundred years as American merchants and mariners sailed to Africa and to the Caribbean to acquire and sell captives. Using exhaustive archival research, including many collections that have never been used before, historian Sean M. Kelley argues that slave trading needs to be seen as integral to the larger story of American slavery.

Engaging with both African and American history and addressing the trade over time, Kelley examines the experience of captivity, drawing on more than a hundred African narratives to offer a portrait of enslavement in the regions of Africa frequented by American ships. Kelley also provides a social history of the two American ports where slave trading was most intensive, Newport and Bristol, Rhode Island.

In telling this tragic, brutal, and largely unknown story, Kelley corrects many misconceptions while leaving no doubt that Americans were a nation of slave traders.

**Contributor Bio**

Sean M. Kelley is professor of history at the University of Essex. He is the author of *The Voyage of the Slave Ship Hare: A Journey into Captivity from Sierra Leone to South Carolina* and *Los Brazos de Dios: A Plantation Society in the Texas Borderlands, 1821–1865*. He lives in Colchester, UK.
Victorious in Defeat
The Life and Times of Chiang Kai-shek, China, 1887-1975
Alexander V. Pantsov, Steven I. Levine

Summary
An extensively researched, comprehensive biography of Chinese Nationalist leader Chiang Kai-shek, one of the twentieth century’s most powerful and controversial figures

Chiang Kai-shek (1887–1975) led the Republic of China for almost fifty years, starting in 1926. He was the architect of a new, republican China, a hero of the Second World War, and a faithful ally of the United States. Simultaneously a Christian and a Confucian, Chiang dreamed of universal equality yet was a perfidious and cunning dictator responsible for the deaths of over 1.5 million innocent people.

This critical biography is based on Chiang Kai-shek’s unpublished diaries, his extensive personal files from the Russian archives, and the Russian files of his relatives, associates, and foes. Alexander V. Pantsov sheds new light on the role played by the Russians in Chiang’s rise to power in the 1920s and throughout his political career—and indeed the Russian influence on the Chinese revolutionary movement as a whole—as well as on Chiang’s complex relationship with top officials of the United States. It is a detailed portrait of a man who ranks with Stalin, Roosevelt, Hitler, Churchill, and Gandhi as leaders who shaped our world.

Contributor Bio
Alexander V. Pantsov is a professor of history and holds the Edward and Mary Catharine Gerhold Chair in the Humanities at Capital University. He lives in Westerville, OH.
The Wounded Storyteller
The Traumatic Tales of E. T. A. Hoffmann
E. T. A. Hoffmann, Natalie Frank, Jack Zipes, Karen Russell

Summary
E. T. A. Hoffmann’s classic tales of Gothic horror and fantasy are presented in a new translation accompanying the beguiling drawings of Natalie Frank

E. T. A. Hoffmann (1776–1822) was one of the greatest German Romantic authors of fantasy and a pioneer in the genre we now call Gothic horror. His innovative stories explore ideas of madness, genius, doppelgängers, artificial intelligence, and the boundaries between realities and dreams. Artist Natalie Frank and leading fairy-tale scholar Jack Zipes have joined forces in this lavishly illustrated volume of five of Hoffmann’s most influential tales: The Golden Pot, The Sandman, The Nutcracker and the Mouse King, The Mystifying Child, and The Mines of Falun. In addition to offering fresh translations, Zipes introduces the project and sheds light on how Hoffmann’s lifetime of personal traumas shaped his writing. Frank’s richly rendered gouache and chalk pastels reveal Hoffmann’s worlds in full-page drawings and marginalia. Pivotal scenes of transformation, courage, love, desire, and betrayal are illustrated through a feminist lens, focusing on strong, self-aware female characters. A foreword by novelist Karen Russell delves into the influence the tales had on her own literary career and the ways in which she emulates Hoffmann today. The Wounded Storyteller will introduce Hoffmann’s timeless work to a new generation of readers.

Contributor Bio
E. T. A. Hoffmann was a German Romantic author of fantasy and horror, as well as a lawyer, composer, music critic, and artist. Jack Zipes is professor emeritus of German and comparative literature at the University of Minnesota and an esteemed scholar of fairy tales. Natalie Frank is an acclaimed artist known for her previous books of fairy tales, including Tales of the Brothers Grimm. Karen Russell is an American fiction writer whose work includes the story collections Orange World and Vampires in the Lemon Grove and the novel Swamplandia!
These Trees Tell a Story
The Art of Reading Landscapes
Noah Charney

Summary
A deeply personal master class on how to read a natural landscape and unravel the clues to its unique ecological history

Structured as a series of interactive field walks through ten New England ecosystems, this book challenges readers to see the world through the eyes of a trained naturalist. With guided questions, immersive photography, and a narrative approach, each chapter adds layers of complexity to a single scene, revealing the millions of years of forces at play. Tying together geology, forest ecology, wildlife biology, soil processes, evolution, conservation, and more, Noah Charney shows how and why landscapes appear in their current forms.

Charney’s stories and lessons will provide anyone with the necessary investigative skills to look at a landscape, interpret it, and tell its story—from its start as rock or soil to the plants and animals that live on it. Ultimately, Charney argues, by critically engaging with the landscape we will become better at connecting with nature and ourselves.

Contributor Bio
Noah Charney is assistant professor of conservation biology at the University of Maine and coauthor of the award-winning Tracks and Sign of Insects and Other Invertebrates: A Guide to North American Species. He lives in Orono, ME.
The Age of Guilt
The Super-Ego in the Online World
Mark Edmundson

Summary
How Freud’s concept of the super-ego can help us to understand the harsh cultural climate of the digital age

Cancellation, scapegoating, raving on Twitter. How did the Internet, which began as a place for open thought and exchange, become a forum for cruelty and judgment? Can a whole culture become mentally ill? How do we understand and respond to this problem?

Mark Edmundson views contemporary culture and discourse through Freud’s concept of the super-ego, the moralistic and frequently irrational inner judge. The poet William Blake was attuned to this “dark pressure of self-condemnation,” and Nietzsche knew its power as well. One way to mitigate (temporarily) the self-judgment of the super-ego is to aim it outward instead, judging and even punishing others for supposed infractions. Naturally these targets fight back, resulting in a cascade of bitterness and even hatred. Edmundson traces the destructive passion of the super-ego on politics, race, gender, class, education, and more, drawing on psychological studies, classroom experience, and the work of Adam Phillips and Slavoj Žižek. Edmundson proposes ways to manage the super-ego and even to transform it into an affirmative power.

In *The Age of Guilt*, Edmundson renews the promise of Freudian theory as he explores our unique social moment with psychological insight, humanity, and erudition.

Contributor Bio
Mark Edmundson is University Professor of Humanities at the University of Virginia. He is the author of numerous works of cultural criticism, including fourteen books. He lives in Batesville, VA.
**Enheduana**
*The Complete Poems of the World’s First Author*
Sophus Helle

**Summary**
*The complete poems of the priestess Enheduana, the world’s first known author, newly translated from the original Sumerian*

Enheduana was a high priestess and royal princess who lived in Ur, in what is now southern Iraq, about 2300 BCE. Not only does Enheduana have the distinction of being the first author whose name we know, but the poems attributed to her are hymns of great power. They are a rare flash of the female voice in the often male-dominated ancient world, treating themes that are as relevant today as they were four thousand years ago: exile, social disruption, the power of storytelling, gender-bending identities, the devastation of war, and the terrifying forces of nature.

This book is the first complete translation of her poems from the original Sumerian. Sophus Helle’s translations replicate the intensity and imagery of the original hymns—literary time bombs that have lain buried for millennia. In addition to his translations, Helle provides background on the historical context in which Enheduana’s poems were composed and circulated, the works’ literary structure and themes, and their reception in both the ancient and the modern world.

Unjustly forgotten for millennia, Enheduana’s poems are essential reading for anyone interested in the literary history of women, religion, the environment, gender, motherhood, authorship, and empire.

**Contributor Bio**

Sophus Helle is a writer, translator, and cultural historian. He lives in Berlin.
On Parchment
Animals, Archives, and the Making of Culture from Herodotus to the Digital Age
Bruce Holsinger

Summary
A sweeping exploration of the shaping role of animal skins in written culture and human imagination over three millennia

“Richly detailed and illustrated. . . . An engaging exploration of book history.” —Kirkus Reviews

For centuries, premodern societies recorded and preserved much of their written cultures on parchment: the rendered skins of sheep, cows, goats, camels, deer, gazelles, and other creatures. These remains make up a significant portion of the era’s surviving historical record. In a study spanning three millennia and twenty languages, Bruce Holsinger explores this animal archive as it shaped the inheritance of the Euro-Mediterranean world, from the leather rolls of ancient Egypt to the Acts of Parliament in the United Kingdom.

Holsinger discusses the making of parchment past and present, the nature of the medium as a biomolecular record of faunal life and environmental history, the knotty question of “uterine vellum,” and the imaginative role of parchment in the works of St. Augustine, William Shakespeare, and a range of Jewish rabbinic writers of the medieval era. Closely informed by the handicraft of contemporary makers, painters, and sculptors, the book draws on a vast array of sources—codices and scrolls, documents and ephemera, works of craft and art—that speak to the vitality of parchment across epochs and continents. At the center of On Parchment is the vexed relationship of human beings to the myriad slaughtered beasts whose remains make up this vast record: a relationship of dominion and compassion, of brutality and empathy.

Contributor Bio
Bruce Holsinger is Linden Kent Memorial Professor at the University of Virginia, editor of New Literary History, and an award-winning author. He lives in Charlottesville, VA.
Seven Crashes
The Economic Crises That Shaped Globalization
Harold James

Summary
A leading economic historian presents a new history of financial crises, showing how some led to greater globalization while others kept nations apart.

The eminent economic historian Harold James presents a new perspective on financial crises, dividing them into “good” crises, which ultimately expand markets and globalization, and “bad” crises, which result in a smaller, less prosperous world. Examining seven turning points in financial history—from the depression of the 1840s through the Great Depression of the 1930s to the Covid-19 crisis—James shows how crashes prompted by a lack of supply, like the oil shortages of the 1970s, lead to greater globalization as markets expand and producers innovate to increase supply. By contrast, crises triggered by a lack of demand—such as the Global Financial Crisis of 2007–2008—result in less globalization as markets contract, austerity measures are imposed, and skepticism of government grows.

By considering not only the times but also the observers who shaped our understanding of each crisis—from Karl Marx to John Maynard Keynes to Larry Summers—James shows how the uneven course of globalization has led to new economic thinking, and how understanding this history can help us better prepare for the future.

Contributor Bio
Harold James is the Claude and Lore Kelly Professor in European Studies and professor of history and international affairs at Princeton University. He is the author of numerous books, including The War of Words: A Glossary of Globalization. He lives in Princeton, NJ.
China and Russia
Four Centuries of Conflict and Concord
Philip Snow

Summary
A compelling, expansive history of the relationship between China and Russia, from the seventeenth century to the present

Russia and China, the largest and most populous countries in the world, respectively, have maintained a delicate relationship for four centuries. In addition to a four-thousand-kilometer border, they have periodically shared a common outlook on political and economic affairs. But they are, in essence, profoundly different polities and cultures, and their intermittent alliances have proven difficult and at times even volatile.

Philip Snow provides a full account of the relationship between these two global giants. Looking at politics, religion, economics, and culture, Snow uncovers the deep roots of the two nations’ alignment. We see the shifts in the balance of power, from the wealth and strength of early Qing China to the Tsarist and Soviet ascendants, and episodes of intense conflict followed by harmony. He looks too at the experiences and opinions of ordinary people, which often vastly differed from those of their governments, and considers how long the countries’ current amicable relationship might endure.

Contributor Bio
Philip Snow has travelled extensively in Russia and China since the 1960s and has lived in Hong Kong since 1994. An expert in China’s international relations, he is the author of The Star Raft: China’s Encounter with Africa and The Fall of Hong Kong.
We Need to Talk About Inflation
14 Urgent Lessons from the Last 2,000 Years
Stephen D. King

Summary

A FINANCIAL TIMES 'BOOK TO READ IN 2023'

"Everything you wanted to know about inflation but were afraid to ask."—Mervyn King

"King's lessons command our attention."—Lawrence H. Summers

"Maybe you don’t think inflation is back for good. That is your right. But you’d be advised to read this book first."—Stephanie Flanders

From investors and monetary authorities to governments and policy makers, almost everyone had assumed inflation was dead and buried. But now people the world over are confronting a poisonous new economic reality and, with it, the prospect of vast and increasing wealth inequality.

How have we arrived in this situation? And what, if anything, can we do about it?

Celebrated economist Stephen D. King—one of the few to warn ahead of time about the latest inflationary upheaval—identifies key lessons from the history of inflation that policy makers chose not to heed. From ancient Rome through the American Civil War and up to the asset bubbles of today, inflation stems from policy error, sovereign greed, and a collective loss of faith in currencies.

We Need to Talk About Inflation cuts through centuries of bad judgment and misunderstanding, offering a means to intervene now—so we can begin to tackle the political and social upheaval unleashed by inflation.

Contributor Bio

Stephen D. King is senior economic adviser at HSBC, is a columnist for the Evening Standard, and has also been a specialist adviser to the House of Commons Treasury Committee. He is the author of Losing Control, When the Money Runs Out, and Grave New World.
The Private Is Political
Networked Privacy and Social Media
Alice E. Marwick

Summary
A compelling firsthand investigation of how social media and big data have amplified the close relationship between privacy and inequality

Online privacy is under constant attack by social media and big data technologies. But we cannot rely on individual actions to remedy this—it is a matter of social justice. Alice E. Marwick offers a new way of understanding how privacy is jeopardized, particularly for marginalized and disadvantaged communities—including immigrants, the poor, people of color, LGBTQ+ populations, and victims of online harassment.

Marwick shows that few resources or regulations for preventing personal information from spreading on the internet. Through a new theory of “networked privacy,” she reveals how current legal and technological frameworks are woefully inadequate in addressing issues of privacy—often by design. Drawing from interviews and focus groups encompassing a diverse group of Americans, Marwick shows that even heavy social media users care deeply about privacy and engage in extensive “privacy work” to protect it. But people are up against the violation machine of the modern internet. Safeguarding privacy must happen at the collective level.

Contributor Bio
Alice E. Marwick is associate professor in the Department of Communication and principal researcher at the Center for Information, Technology, and Public Life at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She splits her time between Chapel Hill and New York City.
The Return of the Taliban
Afghanistan after the Americans Left
Hassan Abbas

Summary
The first account of the new Taliban—showing who they are, what they want, and how they differ from their predecessors

Since the fall of Kabul in 2021, the Taliban have effective control of Afghanistan—a scenario few Western commentators anticipated. But after a twenty-year-long bitter war against the Republic of Afghanistan, reestablishing control is a complex procedure. What is the Taliban’s strategy now that they’ve returned to power?

In this groundbreaking new account, Hassan Abbas examines the resurgent Taliban as ruptures between moderates and the hardliners in power continue to widen. The group is now facing debilitating threats—from humanitarian crises to the Islamic State in Khorasan—but also engaging on the world stage, particularly with China and central Asian states. Making considered use of sources and contacts in the region, and offering profiles of major Taliban leaders, Return of the Taliban is the essential account of the movement as it develops and consolidates its grasp on Afghanistan.

Contributor Bio
Hassan Abbas is Distinguished Professor of International Relations at the Near East South Asia Strategic Studies Center, National Defense University, in Washington, DC. He is the author of numerous books, including The Taliban Revival and The Prophet’s Heir.
Invisibility
The History and Science of How Not to Be Seen
Gregory J. Gbur

Summary
A lively exploration of how invisibility has gone from science fiction to fact

Is it possible for something or someone to be made invisible? This question, which has intrigued authors of science fiction for over a century, has become a headline-grabbing topic of scientific research.

In this book, science writer and optical physicist Gregory J. Gbur traces the science of invisibility from its sci-fi origins in the nineteenth-century writings of authors such as H. G. Wells and Fitz James O’Brien to modern stealth technology, invisibility cloaks, and metamaterials. He explores the history of invisibility and its science and technology connections, including the discovery of the electromagnetic spectrum, the development of the atomic model, and quantum theory. He shows how invisibility has moved from fiction to reality, and he questions the hidden paths that lie ahead for researchers.

This is not only the story of invisibility but also the story of humankind’s understanding of the nature of light itself, and of the many fascinating figures whose discoveries advanced this knowledge.

Contributor Bio
Gregory J. Gbur is professor of physics and optical science at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. He is the author of Falling Felines and Fundamental Physics, and he writes two blogs on horror fiction, physics, and nature. He lives in Charlotte, NC.
The Origins of Victory
How Disruptive Military Innovation Determines the Fates of Great Powers
Andrew F. Krepinevich

Summary
How the character of war is changing and how militaries can successfully adapt to meet the challenge

This book by military strategist Andrew F. Krepinevich, Jr., is the definitive take on the race for military dominance in the twenty-first century. It shows how militaries that successfully pursue disruptive innovation can gain a major advantage over their rivals, while those that fail to do so risk exposing their countries to great danger.

The Precision Warfare Revolution introduced by the U.S. military in the First Gulf War found the United States enjoying a near monopoly in this form of warfare for several decades. But now other powers have these capabilities. The U.S. military also confronts an emerging military revolution driven by advances across a wide range of technologies—from artificial intelligence and synthetic biology to quantum computing and additive manufacturing.

To stay competitive, the U.S. military must pursue disruptive innovation in a race with other militaries to exploit war’s changing character. Clues exist as to the winner’s identity. They are revealed by militaries that went beyond the bounds of mere innovation to overturn the existing forms of warfare, changing the course of history and the fate of nations. Through exploring their experiences, Krepinevich shows how the U.S. military can win the race to identify and exploit the “next big thing” in warfare.

Contributor Bio
Andrew F. Krepinevich, Jr., is a West Point and Harvard graduate, award-winning author, and prominent military strategist. His books on military strategy and history include The Last Warrior, Seven Deadly Scenarios, and The Army and Vietnam. He lives in Leesburg, VA.
What the Greeks Did for Us
Tony Spawforth

Summary
An enjoyable, accessible exploration of the legacy of ancient Greece today, across our daily lives and all forms of popular culture

Our contemporary world is inescapably Greek. Whether in a word like “pandemic,” a Freudian state of mind like the “Oedipus complex,” or a replica of the Parthenon in a Chinese theme park, ancient Greek culture shapes the contours of our lives. Ever since the first Roman imitators, we have been continually falling under the Greeks’ spell.

But how did ancient Greece spread its influence so far and wide? And how has this influence changed us?

Tony Spawforth explores our classical heritage, wherever it’s to be found. He reveals its legacy in everything from religion to popular culture, and unearths the darker side of Greek influence—from the Nazis’ obsession with Spartan “racial purity” to the elitism of classical education. Paying attention to the huge breadth and variety of Hellenic influence, this book paints an essential portrait of the ancient world’s living legacy—considering to whom it matters, and why.

Contributor Bio
Tony Spawforth is emeritus professor of ancient history at Newcastle University. As well as leading cultural tours in Greece, he has presented eight documentaries for the BBC and has published thirteen books, including The Story of Greece and Rome.
Always Reaching
The Selected Writings of Anne Truitt
Anne Truitt, Alexandra Truitt, Miguel De Baca

Summary
An expansive collection of texts providing insight into the inner life, creativity, and practice of the innovative American artist Anne Truitt

Spanning more than fifty years, this comprehensive volume collects the letters, journal entries, interviews, lectures, reviews, and remembrances of the groundbreaking twentieth-century artist Anne Truitt (1921–2004). Alexandra Truitt, the artist’s daughter and a leading expert on her work, has carefully selected these writings, most of which are previously unpublished, from the artist’s papers at Bryn Mawr College as well as private holdings.

Revelations about the artist’s life abound. Among Truitt’s earliest writings are excerpts from journals written more than a decade before her first artistic breakthrough, in which she establishes themes that would occupy her for decades. In later texts she shares uncommon insights into the practices of other artists and writers, both predecessors and peers. Like Truitt’s published journals, these writings offer a compelling narrative of her development as an artist and efforts to find her voice as a writer. They show that Truitt’s creative impulse to translate the inner workings of her mind into a symbolic language, so important to understanding her sculpture, predates her art.

Contributor Bio
Anne Truitt was an American artist often associated with minimalism. She was the author of four journal-based books, including Daybook (1982) and Yield (Yale, 2022). Alexandra Truitt manages her mother’s estate and is a leading expert on her work. Miguel de Baca is author of Memory Work: Anne Truitt and Sculpture.
**Into the World’s Great Heart**
Selected Letters of Edna St. Vincent Millay
Edna St. Vincent Millay, Timothy F. Jackson, Holly Peppe

**Summary**
An annotated selection of the letters of the Pulitzer Prize–winning poet and playwright Edna St. Vincent Millay, from childhood through the last year of her life

Throughout her life, Edna St. Vincent Millay wrote hundreds of letters, which together create a colorful tapestry of her inner life. This selection, based on archival research, represents Millay's correspondence from 1900, when she was eight, until 1950, the last year of her life. Through her letters, readers encounter the vast range of Millay’s interests, including world literature, music, and horse racing, as well as her commitment to gender equality and social justice.

This collection, edited by Timothy F. Jackson, includes previously unpublished correspondence, as well as letters containing early versions of poems, revealing new dimensions in Millay’s creative process and influences. It is enriched by Jackson’s thoughtful introduction and notes, plus a foreword by Millay’s literary executor, Holly Peppe.

Millay’s observations on her inner life and the world around her—which speak to contemporary concerns as well—add to our understanding of American literature in the first half of the twentieth century.

**Contributor Bio**

**Edna St. Vincent Millay** (1892–1950) was a poet and playwright. Her poems include the iconic “Renascence” and the Pulitzer Prize–winning “The Ballad of the Harp-Weaver.” **Timothy F. Jackson** is associate professor of English at Rosemont College and editor of *Selected Poems of Edna St. Vincent Millay: An Annotated Edition*. **Holly Peppe**, Millay’s literary executor and editor of the Penguin Classics edition of *Millay’s Early Poems*, has written and lectured widely about the poet’s life and work.
**Psychonauts**

**Drugs and the Making of the Modern Mind**

Mike Jay

**Summary**

A provocative and original history of the scientists and writers, artists and philosophers who took drugs to explore the hidden regions of the mind

“Captivating. . . A welcome reconsideration of the role drugs play in life, medicine, and science.”—Publishers Weekly

Until the twentieth century, scientists investigating the effects of drugs on the mind did so by experimenting on themselves. Vivid descriptions of drug experiences sparked insights across the mind sciences, pharmacology, medicine, and philosophy. Accounts in journals and literary fiction inspired a fascinated public to make their own experiments—in scientific demonstrations, on exotic travels, at literary salons, and in occult rituals.

But after 1900 drugs were increasingly viewed as a social problem, and the long tradition of self-experimentation began to disappear.

From Sigmund Freud’s experiments with cocaine to William James’s epiphany on nitrous oxide, Mike Jay brilliantly recovers a lost intellectual tradition of drug-taking that fed the birth of psychology, the discovery of the unconscious, and the emergence of modernism. Today, as we embrace novel cognitive enhancers and psychedelics, the experiments of the original psychonauts reveal the deep influence of mind-altering drugs on Western science, philosophy, and culture.

**Contributor Bio**

**Mike Jay** has written extensively on scientific and medical history and contributes regularly to the *London Review of Books* and the *Wall Street Journal*. His previous books on the history of drugs include *Mescaline*, *High Society*, and *The Atmosphere of Heaven*.
Korea
A New History of South and North
Victor Cha, Ramon Pacheco Pardo

Summary
A major new history of North and South Korea, from the late nineteenth century to the present day

Korea has a long, riveting history—it is also a divided nation. South Korea is a vibrant democracy, the tenth largest economy, and is home to a world-renowned culture. North Korea is ruled by the most authoritarian regime in the world, a poor country in a rich region, and is best known for the cult of personality surrounding the ruling Kim family. But both Koreas share a unique common history.

Victor Cha and Ramon Pacheco Pardo draw on decades of research to explore the history of modern Korea, from the late nineteenth century, Japanese occupation, and Cold War division to the present day. A small country caught amongst the world’s largest powers—including China, Japan, Russia, and the United States—Korea’s fate has been closely connected to its geography and the strength of its leadership and society. This comprehensive history sheds light on the evolving identities of the two Koreas, explaining the sharp differences between North and South, and prospects for unification.

Contributor Bio
Victor Cha is professor of government at Georgetown University and holds the Korea Chair at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, D.C. He is a former director for Asian Affairs at the White House National Security Council. Ramon Pacheco Pardo is professor of international relations at King’s College London and the KF-VUB Korea Chair at Free University of Brussels.
In Search of the River Jordan
A Story of Palestine, Israel and the Struggle for Water
James Fergusson

Summary
A writer’s travels along the legendary yet contested Jordan River—exploring the long conflict over water supply

Access to water has played a pivotal role in the Israel-Palestine dispute. Israel has diverted the River Jordan via pipes and canals to build a successful modern state. But this has been at the expense of the region’s cohabitants. Gaza is now so water-stressed that the United Nations has warned it could soon become uninhabitable; its traditional water source has been ruined by years of over-extraction and mismanagement, the effects exacerbated by years of crippling blockade.

Award-winning author and journalist James Fergusson travels to every corner of Israel and Palestine telling the story of the River Jordan and the fierce competition for water. Along the way, he meets farmers, officials, soldiers, refugees, settlers, rioting youth, religious zealots, water experts, and engineers on both sides of the Green Line. Fergusson gives voice to the fears and aspirations of the region’s inhabitants and highlights the centrality of water in negotiating future peace.

Contributor Bio
James Fergusson is a freelance journalist and foreign correspondent who has written for many publications, including The Independent, The Times, the Daily Telegraph, the Daily Mail, and The Economist. He is the author of seven books, including the award-winning A Million Bullets.
Spain
The Trials and Triumphs of a Modern European Country
Michael Reid

Summary
An incisive account of modern Spain, from the death of Franco to the Catalan referendum and beyond

Spain's transition to democracy after Franco’s long dictatorship was widely hailed as a success, ushering in three decades of unprecedented progress and prosperity. Yet over the past decade its political consensus has been under severe strain. A stable two-party system has splintered, with disruptive new parties on the far left and far right. No government has had a majority since 2015.

Michael Reid overturns the stereotypical view of Spain as a country haunted by its Francoist past. From Catalan separatism and the indignados movement to the Spanish economy’s overdependence on tourism and small business, Spain’s challenges can often seem unique. But Reid is careful to emphasize the many pressures it faces in common with its European neighbors—such as austerity, populism, and increasing polarization. The result is a penetrating yet rounded portrait of a vibrant country—one that is more often visited than understood.

Contributor Bio
Michael Reid is a senior editor at The Economist. He was the magazine’s Spain correspondent between 2016 and 2021. He is the author of Brazil: The Troubled Rise of a Global Power and Forgotten Continent. He lives in Madrid.
Mass for Shut-Ins
Mary-Alice Daniel, Rae Armantrout

Summary
The 117th volume of the Yale Series of Younger Poets, in which Mary-Alice Daniel confronts tricontinental culture shock and her curious placement within many worlds

“Against humans creating hell on earth, Daniel draws on animistic, Islamic, and syncretic Christian traditions from her native Nigeria to unleash potent incantations, rituals and spells, electric as St. Elmo’s fire. Buckle up.”—Rae Armantrout, judge

In Mass for Shut-Ins, African and Western mythic systems and modern rituals originate an ill-omened universe. Here, it is always night, grim night, under absurd moons. Venturing through dreamscapes, hellscapes, and lurid landscapes, poems map speculative fields of spiritual warfare. This collection is controlled chaos powered by nightmare fuel. It animates an utterly odd organism: a cosmology cobbled with scripture, superstition, mass media, mad science. Horrid, holy, unholy—these pages overrun with the unhinged, intrusive thoughts that obsess us all late into nighttime.

Contributor Bio
Mary-Alice Daniel was born in northern Nigeria and raised in England and Tennessee. She holds a PhD from the University of Southern California. She is the author of A Coastline Is an Immeasurable Thing: A Memoir Across Three Continents. Rae Armantrout is the award-winning author of eighteen books of poetry, most recently Finalists, Conjure, and Wobble.
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Elie Wiesel
Confronting the Silence
Joseph Berger

Summary
An intimate look at Elie Wiesel, author of the seminal Holocaust memoir *Night* and recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize

As an orphaned survivor and witness to the horrors of Auschwitz, Elie Wiesel (1928–2016) compelled the world to confront the Holocaust with his searing memoir *Night*. How did this soft-spoken man from a small Carpathian town become such an influential figure on the world stage? Drawing on Wiesel’s prodigious literary output and interviews with his family, friends, scholars, and critics, Joseph Berger seeks to answer this question.

Berger explores Wiesel’s Hasidic childhood in Sighet, his postwar years spent rebuilding his life from the ashes in France, his transformation into a Parisian intellectual, his failed attempts at romance, his years scraping together a living in America as a journalist, his decision to marry and have a child, his emergence as a spokesperson for Holocaust survivors and persecuted peoples throughout the world, his lifelong devotion to the state of Israel, and his difficult final years. Through this penetrating portrait we come to know intimately the man the Norwegian Nobel Committee called “a messenger to mankind.”

Contributor Bio
Joseph Berger was a *New York Times* reporter, columnist, and editor for thirty years, and he continues to contribute periodically. He has taught urban affairs at the City University of New York’s Macaulay Honors College. He is the author of *Displaced Persons: Growing Up American After the Holocaust* and lives in New York City.
Mel Brooks
Disobedient Jew
Jeremy Dauber

Summary
A spirited dive into the life and career of a performer, writer, and director who dominated twentieth-century American comedy

Mel Brooks, born Melvin Kaminsky in Brooklyn in 1926, is one of the great comic voices of the twentieth century. Having won almost every entertainment award there is, Brooks has straddled the line between outsider and insider, obedient and rebellious, throughout his career, making out-of-bounds comedy the American mainstream.

Jeremy Dauber argues that throughout Brooks’s extensive body of work—from Your Show of Shows to Blazing Saddles to Young Frankenstein to Spaceballs—the comedian has seen the most success when he found a balance between his unflagging, subversive, manic energy and the constraints imposed by comedic partners, the Hollywood system, and American cultural mores. Dauber also explores how Brooks’s American Jewish humor went from being solely for niche audiences to an essential part of the American mainstream, paving the way for generations of Jewish (and other) comedians to come.

Contributor Bio
Jeremy Dauber is a professor of Jewish literature and American studies at Columbia University. His books include Jewish Comedy and The Worlds of Sholem Aleichem, both finalists for the National Jewish Book Award, and, most recently, American Comics: A History. He lives in New York City.
Maimonides
Faith in Reason
Alberto Manguel

Summary
An exploration of Maimonides, the medieval philosopher, physician, and religious thinker, author of The Guide of the Perplexed, from one of the world’s foremost bibliophiles

Moses ben Maimon, or Maimonides (1138–1204), was born in Córdoba, Spain. The gifted son of a judge and mathematician, Maimonides fled Córdoba with his family when he was thirteen due to Almohad persecution of all non-Islamic faiths. Forced into a long exile, the family spent a decade in Spain before settling in Morocco. From there, Maimonides traveled to Palestine and Egypt, where he died at Saladin’s court.

As a scholar of Jewish law, a physician, and a philosopher, Maimonides was a singular figure. His work in extracting all the commanding precepts of Jewish law from the Hebrew Bible and the Talmud, interpreting and commenting on them, and translating them into terms that would allow students to lead sound Jewish lives became the model for translating God’s word into a language comprehensible by all. His work in medicine—which brought him such fame that he became Saladin’s personal physician—was driven almost entirely by reason and observation.

In this biography, Alberto Manguel examines the question of Maimonides’ universal appeal—he was celebrated by Jews, Arabs, and Christians alike. In our time, when the need for rationality and recognition of the truth is more vital than ever, Maimonides can help us find strategies to survive with dignity in an uncertain world.

Contributor Bio
Alberto Manguel is an internationally acclaimed reader, writer, and interpreter of a broad array of texts. From 2015 to 2018 he was the director of the National Library of Argentina. His books include The Library at Night and Fabulous Monsters. He lives in Lisbon.
Tales of Tangier
The Complete Short Stories of Mohamed Choukri
Mohamed Choukri, Jonas Elbousty, Roger Allen

Summary
The complete short stories of acclaimed Moroccan author Mohamed Choukri, translated into English and collected in one volume for the first time

Mohamed Choukri’s vivid stories invite the reader to wander the streets of Tangier, the ancient coastal crossroads between Europe and Africa, and to meet its denizens at markets, beaches, cafés, and brothels. Choukri’s Tangier is a place where newborns are for sale, swindlers hawk the Prophet’s shoes, and boys collect trash to sell for food.

Choukri says that “writing is a protest, not a parade.” And in these thirty-one stories he privileges the voices of those ignored by society: the abused, the abandoned, the addicted. The tales are at once vibrant local vignettes and profound reflections on the lives, sufferings, and hopes of Choukri’s fellow Tangerines.

Contributor Bio
Mohamed Choukri (1935–2003), who did not learn to read or write until the age of twenty, is a key contrarian voice in twentieth-century Arabic literature and the author of the controversial memoir For Bread Alone. Jonas Elbousty is director of undergraduate studies at the Council on Middle East Studies at Yale University. He lives in New Haven, CT. Roger Allen is Professor Emeritus of Arabic and Comparative Literature at the University of Pennsylvania.
By the Rivers of Babylon
Antonio Lobo Antunes, Margaret Jull Costa

Summary
A profound and genre-defying work of literature about love, death, and illness from one of Portugal’s most celebrated writers

“Little prepares one for this extraordinary book, in which each chapter, covering a single day, and lasting a single sentence, offers a teeming stream of consciousness. . . . Even pain is alive, and alive is the word for this book, alive and enduring.”— Michael Autrey, Booklist

Incapacitated after the removal of a malignant tumor, the narrator, António, spends his days in a Lisbon hospital enduring the humiliations of severe illness. As he drifts in and out of consciousness, he revisits fragments of his life and the people who passed through it. He recalls the village where he lived as a child near the Mondego River amid the eucalyptus and pines, his parents and grandparents and their tight-knit community of potato farmers and tungsten miners, and the woman he loved—an unexpected polyphony of voices and places sounding in sharp counterpoint to debilitating pain.

By the Rivers of Babylon conjures the past and the present all at once, revealing the power of memory to embolden us in the face of extraordinary suffering. This is António Lobo Antunes’s homage to the beauty of a cherished life in its confrontation with imminent death.

Contributor Bio
António Lobo Antunes, born in Lisbon and trained as a psychiatrist, is the author of more than thirty books. He lives in Portugal. Margaret Jull Costa has been a literary translator for over thirty years. She lives in Leicester, UK.
Karl Lagerfeld
A Line of Beauty
Andrew Bolton, Tadao Ando, Amanda Harlech, Mellissa Huber, Kai Marcel, Loic Prigent

Summary
A compelling look at the aesthetic and historical significance of Lagerfeld’s work—from his elegantly tailored pieces for Chanel to the witty, playful ensembles that came to define the Lagerfeld brand

This publication is the first to present an insightful overview of Karl Lagerfeld’s (1933–2019) artistry across his extraordinary 65-year career as a fashion designer and creative visionary—from early work for Balmain and Patou in the 1950s and designs for Chloé and Fendi in the 1960s and 1970s, to his celebrated leadership in the 1980s and beyond at Chanel and with his own label. Inspired by the “line of beauty” theorized by the eighteenth-century English painter William Hogarth, this dazzling publication pursues four “lines”—straight, serpentine, satirical, and explosive—as a means of defining Lagerfeld’s unique creative process. An introductory text uses these concepts to explore such topics as the masculine-perceived art of tailoring, the traditionally feminine art of dressmaking, Lagerfeld’s use of irony and parody, and the way these three modes converge in surprising, disruptive, and innovative ways. Thematic chapters illustrating the dualities in Lagerfeld’s work, an illustrated timeline of his career, and reminiscences from the designer’s friends and colleagues accompany new photography of 155 garments, as well as Lagerfeld’s illustrations, material samples, personal photographs, and drawings, many never before published.

Published by The Metropolitan Museum of Art/Distributed by Yale University Press

Exhibition Schedule:
The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York
(May 5–July 16, 2023)

Contributor Bio
Andrew Bolton is the Wendy Yu Curator in Charge of the Costume Institute at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York.
The World Atlas of Street Art and Graffiti (Revised)
Rafael Schacter, Lachlan MacDowall, John Fekner

Summary
Bursting with color and energy, this revised edition of the definitive guide to street art and graffiti covers the world’s most significant artists, styles, and the urban landscapes that form their canvas

Ten years after its original publication, The World Atlas of Street Art and Graffiti is recognized as the definitive guide to the most significant artists and styles of street art and graffiti around the world. This revised edition brings the content up to our present moment, expanding its geographic breadth to six continents. Featuring more than 700 full-color photographs of raw, energetic, whimsical, and eye-catching art, the book is visually exciting as well as an essential survey of the urban art of our time.

Organized geographically by country and city, the publication profiles more than 100 of today’s most important street artists—Espo in New York, Merlot in Seattle, Os Gêmeos in São Paulo, Michael Pederson in Sydney, Essu in Tokyo, Lady K in Paris, Milu Correch in Buenos Aires, and Nardstar in Cape Town—alongside key examples of their work. With contributions by the foremost authorities on street art and graffiti, this landmark publication continues to provide a nuanced understanding of a global contemporary art practice.

Contributor Bio
Rafael Schacter is an associate professor in anthropology and material culture at University College, London. Lachlan MacDowall is an associate professor and director of the MIECAT Institute in Melbourne who has published widely on graffiti and street art. John Fekner is a street and multimedia artist.
The Art of Colour
The History of Art in 39 Pigments
Kelly Grovier

Summary
A captivating new history of art told through the storied biographies of colors and pigments

In this refreshing approach to the history of color, Kelly Grovier takes readers on an exciting search for the intriguing and unusual. In Grovier’s telling, a color’s connotations are never fixed but are endlessly evolving. Knowledge of a pigment and its history can unlock meaning in the works that feature it. Grovier employs the term “artymology” to suggest that color is a linguistic device, where pigments stand in for syllables in art’s language. Color is the site of invigorating conflict—a battleground where past and present, influence and originality, and superstition and science merge into meanings that complicate and intensify our appreciation of a given work. How might it change our understanding of a well-known masterpiece like Vincent van Gogh’s Starry Night to know that the intense yellow moon in that painting was sculpted from clumps of dehydrated urine from cows that were fed nothing but mango leaves? Or that the cobalt blue pigment in Van Gogh’s sky shares a material bloodline with the glaze of Ming Dynasty porcelain? Consisting of ten chapters, each presenting a biography of a family of colors, this volume mines a rich vein of pigmentation from prehistoric cave painting to art of the present day. The book also includes beautifully designed features exploring important milestones in the history of color theory from the Enlightenment to the twentieth century.

Contributor Bio
Kelly Grovier is an acclaimed poet, columnist, and feature writer for BBC Culture. He is the author of several books, including A New Way of Seeing: The History of Art in 57 Works.
Jaune Quick-to-See Smith

Memory Map

Laura Phipps, Neal Ambrose-Smith, Andrea Carlson, Lou Cornum, Alicia Harris, Richard William Hill, Candice Hopkins, Josie M Lopez, Larry McNeil Xhe Dhê Tee Harbor Jackson, Larissa Nez, Patricia Marroquin Norby

Summary

Five decades of work by groundbreaking Indigenous artist Jaune Quick-to-See Smith

Throughout her career as artist, activist, and educator, Jaune Quick-to-See Smith (b. 1940) has forged a personal yet accessible visual language she uses to address environmental destruction, war, genocide, and the misreading of the past. An enrolled Salish member of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Nation, Smith cleverly deploys elements of abstraction, neo-expressionism, and pop, fusing them with Indigenous artistic traditions to upend commonly held conceptions of historical narratives and illuminate absurdities in the formation of dominant culture. Her drawings, prints, paintings, and sculptures blur categories and question why certain visual languages attain recognition, historical privilege, and value, reflecting her belief that her “life’s work involves examining contemporary life in America and interpreting it through Native ideology.” Also central to Smith’s work and thinking is the land and she emphasizes that Native people have always been part of the land: “These are my stories, every picture, every drawing is telling a story. I create memory maps.” The publication illustrates nearly five decades of Smith’s work in all media, accompanied by essays and short texts by contemporary Indigenous artists and scholars on each of Smith’s major bodies of work.

Distributed for Whitney Museum of American Art

Exhibition Schedule:

Whitney Museum of American Art, New York
April 19–August 13, 2023

Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth
October 15, 2023–January 7, 2024

Seattle Art Museum
February 15–May 12, 2024

Contributor Bio

Laura Phipps is assistant curator at the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York.
**Summary**

Andy Warhol (1928–1987), a giant of twentieth century art, is known to most people for his iconic images of soup cans, Coke bottles, and Marilyn Monroe. Before his meteoric rise to fame in the early 1960s as a Pop Art superstar, Warhol was a highly successful commercial artist in New York.

The late Matt Wrbican, former chief archivist of the Warhol Museum in Pittsburgh, once said “there are very few stories left to tell about Warhol, but textiles is one of them”. This is the first book devoted to the commercial textile designs of this leading figure in the history of art. With stunning new photography throughout, including unpublished images of newly discovered textiles, the book sheds new light on a previously undocumented but important aspect of Warhol’s oeuvre.

Featuring over 30 different textiles, from ice cream sundaes to acrobatic clowns, *Warhol: The Textiles* offers a unique record of the beginnings of one of the twentieth century’s greatest artists.

Published in association with the Fashion and Textile Museum

**Exhibition Schedule:**

**Fashion and Textile Museum, London**  
(March 31–September 10, 2023)

**Contributor Bio**

*Geoffrey Rayner* and *Richard Chamberlain* are independent gallery owners, researchers, curators, and authors.
The Art of Walking
A History in 100 Images
William Chapman Sharpe

Summary
A lively and thought-provoking tour of the intertwined histories of art and walking

What does a walk look like? In the first book to trace the history of walking images from cave art to contemporary performance, William Chapman Sharpe reveals that a depicted walk is always more than a matter of simple steps. Whether sculpted in stone, painted on a wall, or captured on film, each detail of gait and dress, each stride and gesture has a story to tell, for every aspect of walking is shaped by social practices and environmental conditions.

From classical statues to the origins of cinema, from medieval pilgrimages to public parks and the first footsteps on the moon, walking has engendered a vast visual legacy intertwined with the path of Western art. The path includes Romantic nature-walkers and urban flâneurs, as well as protest marchers and cell-phone zombies. It features works by artists such as Botticelli, Raphael, Claude Monet, Norman Rockwell, Agnès Varda, Maya Lin, and Pope.L. In 100 chronologically arranged images, this book shows how new ways of walking have spurred new means of representation, and how walking has permeated our visual culture ever since humans began to depict themselves in art.

Contributor Bio
William Chapman Sharpe is professor of English at Barnard College.
A Dark, A Light, A Bright
The Designs of Dorothy Liebes
Alexa Griffith Winton, Susan Brown, Leigh Wishner, Erica Warren, John Stuart Gordon, Monica Penick, Emily M Orr

Summary
The first major publication devoted to weaver and designer Dorothy Liebes, reinstating her as one of the most influential American designers of the twentieth century

At the time of her death, Dorothy Liebes (1897–1972) was called “the greatest modern weaver and the mother of the twentieth-century palette.” As a weaver, she developed a distinctive combination of unusual materials, lavish textures, and brilliant colors that came to be known as the “Liebes Look.” Yet despite her prolific career and recognition during her lifetime, Liebes is today considerably less well known than the men with whom she often collaborated, including Frank Lloyd Wright, Henry Dreyfuss, and Edward Durrell Stone. Her legacy also suffered due to the inability of the black-and-white photography of the period to represent her richly colored and textured works.

Extensively researched and illustrated with full-color, accurate reproductions, this important publication examines Liebes’s widespread impact on twentieth-century design. Essays explore major milestones of her career, including her close collaborations with major interior designers and architects to create custom textiles, the innovative and experimental design studio where she explored new and unusual materials, her use of fabrics to enhance interior lighting, and her collaborations with fashion designers, including Clare Potter and Bonnie Cashin. Ultimately, this book reinstates Liebes at the pinnacle of modern textile design alongside such recognized figures as Anni Albers and Florence Knoll.

Published in association with Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum

Exhibition Schedule:
Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum
(July 7, 2023–February 4, 2024)

Contributor Bio
Susan Brown is associate curator and acting head of textiles at Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian American Design Museum. Alexa Griffith Winton, manager of content and curriculum at Cooper Hewitt, is a design historian and leading Liebes scholar.
About Architecture
An Essential Guide in 55 Buildings
Hugh Pearman

Summary

About Architecture is an engaging introduction to architecture, exploring the ways in which we construct our built environment, and why. Hugh Pearman guides us through the architecture that shapes our lives—from how our towns and cities are organized, to where we live, learn and work, and how we get around, interact with others, and relax. Organized by type—from civic spaces, to homes, offices, and museums—the clear and straightforward structure demystifies the many styles and functions of architecture. Pearman explores how architecture responds to our changing lifestyles and how some buildings evolve or find new uses. He demonstrates that while there is endless variety within each building type, the essence of architecture—the way buildings serve their users—remains surprisingly constant.

Through 55 fascinating international examples, from antiquity to the present day, About Architecture reveals the intriguing stories of the buildings that explain our world.

Contributor Bio

Hugh Pearman is a writer, architecture critic, and editor. Previously architecture and design critic of The Sunday Times and editor of the RIBA Journal, he also contributes to many other media including RA Magazine, Architectural Record, and the BBC.
Van Gogh and the Avant-Garde
Along the Seine
Bregje Gerritse, Jacquelyn N Coutre, Jena K Carvana, Charlotte Hellman, Joost van der Hoeven, Francois Lespinasse, Teio Meedendorp, Richard Thomson

Summary
An examination of the innovative portrayals of industry and leisure created by five avant-garde artists working at Asnières in the late nineteenth century

From 1881 to 1890, Vincent van Gogh, Georges Seurat, Paul Signac, Emile Bernard, and Charles Angrand chose Asnières, a suburb of Paris, as a site of artistic experimentation. Located on the Seine, Asnières became a popular destination for Parisians thanks to aquatic sports and festivals starting in the 1850s, facilitated by the arrival of new train stations and bridges earlier in the century. This convenient new transportation system had beckoned Parisians to more distant destinations like Argenteuil and Bougival, resulting in the river scenes depicted by Impressionists like Monet and Renoir. At the same time, the idyllic landscape of Asnières increasingly contrasted with the factories appearing on the opposite side of the river. Homing in on the tensions between leisure and work, the avant-garde artists at Asnières sought to capture the feeling of this starkly modern landscape by developing innovative motifs, styles, and techniques that pushed their work in new directions. Offering an unprecedented in-depth look at the work produced by the artists at Asnières, this handsomely illustrated volume includes scholarly essays on each of the artists as well as a map detailing the locations where the artists painted.

Exhibition Schedule:
Art Institute of Chicago
(May 14–September 4, 2023)

Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam
(October 13, 2023–January 14, 2024)

Contributor Bio
Bregje Gerritse is researcher at the Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam. Jacquelyn N. Coutré is Eleanor Wood Prince Associate Curator in Painting and Sculpture of Europe at the Art Institute of Chicago.
Saint Francis of Assisi
Gabriele Finaldi, Joost Joustra, Susanna Avery-Quash, Ayla Lepine, Laura Llewellyn

Summary
Exploring the life, imagery and lasting appeal of Saint Francis of Assisi (1182–1226), this landmark book features a core of important historic paintings representing the saint by Giotto, Sassetta, Caravaggio, Zurbarán and El Greco. From his native Umbria, Saint Francis’s image spread rapidly to become a global phenomenon and a continuous source of artistic fascination. His commitment to the poor, powerful appeals for peace, openness to dialogue with other religions and embryonic environmentalism radically impacted the Church and society of his time, and still hold great interest today.

Spanning seven centuries and ranging from the earliest, relic-like objects to contemporary art in a variety of media, including works by Antony Gormley, Giuseppe Penone and a new commission from Richard Long, Saint Francis of Assisi reflects on the lasting legacy of Saint Francis – an inherently modern figure who retains a universal appeal.

Published by National Gallery Global/Distributed by Yale University Press

Exhibition Schedule:
The National Gallery, London, 6 May–30 July 2023
Van Gogh’s Cypresses
Susan Alyson Stein, Charlotte Hale, Silvia Centeno, Alison Hokanson, Marina Kliger

Summary
The first book to study Vincent van Gogh’s fascination with cypresses, the “tall and dark trees” that feature in some of his most iconic pictures

Vincent van Gogh (1853–1890) immortalized the cypress tree in signature images that have become synonymous with his fiercely original power of expression. This richly illustrated publication illuminates the backstory of his invention for the first time, from his initial investigations of the motif in benchmark drawings from Arles to his realization of their full evocative potential in such iconic canvases as The Starry Night and Wheat Field with Cypresses, painted at the asylum in Saint-Rémy. Susan Alyson Stein retraces the Dutch artist’s inspired response to the flamelike evergreens as they gained ground in his works and artistic thinking over the course of his sojourn in the South of France. The volume provides further insight into Van Gogh’s creative process through a technical study focused on two celebrated works from the artist’s epic painting campaign of June 1889. The visual and literary heritage of the cypresses is featured in a compilation of images and excerpts from nineteenth-century poetry, novels, and travel writing—many translated into English for the first time.

Published by The Metropolitan Museum of Art/Distributed by Yale University Press

Exhibition Schedule:
The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York
(May 22–August 27, 2023)

Contributor Bio
Susan Alyson Stein is Engelhard Curator of Nineteenth-Century European Painting in the Department of European Paintings at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York.
After Impressionism
Inventing Modern Art
Maryanne Stevens, Maria Alambritis, Julien Domercq, Charlotte De Mille, John Milner

Summary
Through the 1880s the very essence of representation, meaning and process in Western art were profoundly interrogated. Plausible representations of the external world were cast aside in favour of non-naturalism expressed in varying degrees, from modest distortions of reality to pure abstraction.

The decades that followed, up to the outbreak of the First World War in 1914, were a complex, vibrant period of artistic questioning, searching, risk-taking and innovation. Concentrating on this period of great upheaval, this book will explore the constructive dialogue between painting and sculpture, and the influential roles played by three giants of the era, Paul Cézanne, Paul Gauguin and Vincent van Gogh, across European art as a whole. While acknowledging the centrality of Paris as a cultural capital, it will also uniquely highlight other centres of artistic ferment in Europe, from Brussels and Barcelona to Berlin and Vienna, and track the variety of routes into modernism in the early twentieth century.

This fully illustrated catalogue will contain four essays, introductions to each city of ferment and biographies of the artists.

Published by National Gallery Global/Distributed by Yale University Press

Exhibition Schedule:
The National Gallery, London 25 March–13 August 2023
Cecily Brown
Death and the Maid
Ian Alteveer, Adam Eaker

Summary
An intimate survey of Cecily Brown’s paintings, drawings, and prints, providing a meditation on the intertwined themes of still life, memento mori, and vanitas in her work

Cecily Brown (b. 1969) transfixes viewers with sumptuous color, bravura brushwork, and complex narratives that relate to some of European painting’s grandest and most time-honored themes, including still life motifs and meditations on mortality through vanitas. This intimate survey of the acclaimed British painter reexamines the work of an artist whose influential output references both modern heavyweights, such as Willem de Kooning, Philip Guston, and Joan Mitchell, and Old Masters like Goya, Hogarth, Manet, and Rubens. The book features 21 paintings and 26 works on paper—drawings, watercolors, sketchbooks, and monotypes—that span the three decades of Brown’s career to date, including recently completed and never-before published works. A conversation with the artist provides insight into her process and sources, while an insightful essay situates Brown in the lineage of the great artists of the last five hundred years.

Published by The Metropolitan Museum of Art/Distributed by Yale University Press

Exhibition Schedule:
The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York
(April 4–December 3, 2023)

Contributor Bio
Ian Alteveer is the Aaron I. Fleischman Curator in the Department of Modern and Contemporary Art, and Adam Eaker is associate curator in the Department of European Paintings, both at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York.
Oceania
The Shape of Time
Maia Nuku

Summary
Offering a fresh look at Oceania that incorporates new scholarship and perspectives from Indigenous voices, this book uses art to explore histories of expression and aesthetic innovation that epitomize this vast and expansive region.

The visual arts of Oceania tell a wealth of dynamic stories about origins, ancestral power, performance, and initiation. This publication explores the deeply rooted connections between Austronesian-speaking peoples, whose ancestral homelands span Island Southeast Asia, Australia, Papua New Guinea, and the island archipelagoes of the northern and eastern Pacific. Unlike previous books, it foregrounds Indigenous perspectives, alongside multidisciplinary research in art history, ethnography, and archaeology, to provide an intimate look at Oceania, its art, and its culture. Stunning new photography highlights more than 130 magnificent objects, ranging from elaborately carved ancestral figures in ceremonial houses, towering slit drums, and dazzling turtle-shell masks to polished whale ivory breastplates. Underscoring the powerful interplay between the ocean and its islands, and the ongoing connection with spiritual and ancestral realms, Oceania: The Shape of Time presents an art-focused approach to life and culture while guiding readers through the artistic achievements of Islanders across millennia.

Published by The Metropolitan Museum of Art/Distributed by Yale University Press

Exhibition Schedule:

Museum of Art Pudong, Shanghai
June 1–August 20, 2023

National Museum of Qatar, Doha
October 16, 2023–January 15, 2024

Accompanies the reopening of The Michael C. Rockefeller Wing at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, in Spring 2025
Louise Nevelson's Sculpture
Drag, Color, Join, Face
Julia Bryan-Wilson

Summary
A daring reassessment of Louise Nevelson, an icon of twentieth-century art whose innovative procedures relate to gendered, classed, and racialized forms of making

In this radical rethinking of the art of Louise Nevelson (1899–1988), Julia Bryan-Wilson provides a long-overdue critical account of a signature figure in postwar sculpture. A Ukraine-born Jewish immigrant, Nevelson persevered in the male-dominated New York art world. Nonetheless, her careful procedures of construction—in which she assembled found pieces of wood into elaborate structures, usually painted black—have been little studied.

Organized around a series of key operations in Nevelson’s own process (dragging, coloring, joining, and facing), the book comprises four slipcased, individually bound volumes that can be read in any order. Both form and content thus echo Nevelson's own modular sculptures, the gridded boxes of which the artist herself rearranged. Exploring how Nevelson’s making relates to domesticity, racialized matter, gendered labor, and the environment, Bryan-Wilson offers a sustained examination of the social and political implications of Nevelson’s art. The author also approaches Nevelson’s sculptures from her own embodied subjectivity as a queer feminist scholar. She forges an expansive art history that places Nevelson’s assemblages in dialogue with a wide array of marginalized worldmaking and underlines the artist’s proclamation of allegiance to blackness.

Contributor Bio
The Sassoons
Esther Da Costa Meyer, Claudia J. Nahson

Summary
Tracing the global history of the Sassoon family, entrepreneurs and patrons of remarkable art and architecture, from Baghdad to Mumbai, Shanghai, Hong Kong, and London

The Sassoons were prosperous as bankers and treasurers to the Ottoman sultans in nineteenth-century Baghdad, until they were driven out by religious persecution and economic pressures. Assuming the precarious status of stateless Jews, the family dispersed, establishing businesses in Mumbai, Hong Kong, Shanghai, and London. Their wealth enabled them to collect splendid works of art from the various cultures that welcomed them. This volume tells the sweeping global story of the Sassoon family through the works of art they collected. Lavishly illustrated with paintings, porcelain, manuscripts, Judaica, and architecture, it foregrounds family members who were patrons of art and sponsors of remarkable buildings, highlighting the role of the family’s accomplished women. Rachel Sassoon was editor of both the Times and the Observer newspapers in London at the turn of the twentieth century. The renowned war poet Siegfried Sassoon was a cousin. Victor Sassoon hosted the glitterati of the 1920s and 1930s at his Cathay Hotel in Shanghai. This fascinating and elegant book—with gilt edges and a ribbon bookmark—features a family tree and explores generations of Sassoons for whom art was not only a mark of their arrival in the rarefied world of the upper class but a pleasure in itself.

Published in association with the Jewish Museum, New York

Exhibition Schedule:

Jewish Museum, New York
(March 3–August 13, 2023)

Contributor Bio

Esther da Costa Meyer is professor emerita of modern architecture at Princeton University. Claudia J. Nahson is Morris and Eva Feld Senior Curator at the Jewish Museum, New York.
**Canova**

*Sketching in Clay*

C. D. Dickerson, Emerson Bowyer, Anthony Sigel, Elyse Nelson

**Summary**

The first book-length examination of the clay models and creative process of the preeminent neoclassical sculptor Antonio Canova

The most celebrated sculptor of the neoclassical age, Antonio Canova (1757–1822) established himself as the preeminent artist of his time with his funerary monuments and meticulously carved marbles on classical themes. Although his idealized and sensual sculptures are widely known, this is the first book devoted entirely to the brilliantly expressive clay models that he made in preparation for his marble sculptures. Only sixty-five of his terracotta models survive today. Extraordinarily modern in their boldness, the models retain the touch of the artist’s hand and yield a revelatory glimpse into Canova’s imaginative and technical process.

The authors, with expertise in art history and conservation, examine Canova’s techniques for making terracotta models, including how he used clay to develop full-scale models that his assistants copied in marble, and his practice of gifting his models to friends.

Distributed for the National Gallery of Art, Washington

**Exhibition Schedule:**

**National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC**

(June 11–October 9, 2023)

**Art Institute of Chicago**

(November 19, 2023–March 18, 2024)

**Contributor Bio**

C. D. Dickerson III is senior curator of European and American art at the National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC. Emerson Bowyer is Searle Curator of Painting and Sculpture of Europe at the Art Institute of Chicago.
William Edmondson
James Claiborne, Nancy Ireson, Brendan Fernandes, Leslie King Hammond, Christina Knight

Summary
A reassessment of self-taught artist William Edmondson, exploring the enduring relevance of his work

This richly illustrated volume reintroduces readers to American sculptor William Edmondson (1874–1951) more than 80 years after his historic solo exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art. Edmondson began carving at the onset of the Depression in Tennessee. Initially creating tombstones for his community, over time he expanded his practice to include biblical subjects, the natural world, and recognizable figures including nurses and preachers. This book features new essays that explore Edmondson’s life in the South and his reception on the East Coast in the 1930s. Reading the artist through lenses of African American experience, the authors draw parallels between then and now, highlighting the complex relationship between Black cultural production and the American museum. Countering existing narratives that have viewed Edmondson as a passive actor in an unfolding drama—a self-taught sculptor “discovered” by White patrons and institutions—this book considers how the artist’s identity and position within history influenced his life and work.

Distributed for the Barnes Foundation

Exhibition Schedule:

The Barnes Foundation, Philadelphia
(June 25–September 10, 2023)

Contributor Bio

James Claiborne is curator of public programs and Nancy Ireson is deputy director for collections and exhibitions and Gund Family Chief Curator, both at the Barnes Foundation, Philadelphia.
Juan de Pareja
Afro-Hispanic Painter in the Age of Velázquez
David Pullins, Vanessa K. Valdés, Luis Mendez Rodriguez, Erin Kathleen Rowe

Summary
A provocative study of a freedman painter that recognizes the labor of enslaved artists and artisans in seventeenth-century Spain

Diego Velázquez’s portrait of Juan de Pareja (ca. 1608–1670) has long been a landmark of European art, but this provocative study focuses on its subject: an enslaved man who went on to build his own successful career as an artist. This catalogue—the first scholarly monograph on Pareja—discusses the painter’s ties to the Madrid School of the 1660s and revises our understanding of artistic production during Spain’s Golden Age, with a focus on enslaved artists and artisans. The authors illuminate the highly skilled labor within Seville’s multiracial society; the role of Black saints and confraternities in the promotion of Catholicism among enslaved populations; and early twentieth-century scholar Arturo Schomburg’s project to recover Pareja’s legacy. The book also includes the first illustrated and annotated list of known works attributed to Pareja.

Published by The Metropolitan Museum of Art/Distributed by Yale University Press

Exhibition Schedule:
The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York
(April 3–July 16, 2023)

Contributor Bio
David Pullins is associate curator in the Department of European Paintings at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. Vanessa K. Valdés is associate provost for community engagement at the City University of New York.
**Ellsworth Kelly**  
**Portrait Drawings**  
Kevin Salatino, Emily Vokt Ziemba, Jordan Carter, Richard Meyer, Susan Tallman, Jack Shear

**Summary**  
An eye-opening presentation of largely unknown figurative drawings by a renowned pioneer of abstraction

Featuring one hundred figurative works on paper by Ellsworth Kelly (1923–2015), this volume shows a new side of an artist best known for abstraction. These informal depictions of friends and expressive self-portraits—all rarely or never previously displayed or published—span the entirety of Kelly’s career, from the mid-1940s to the early 2000s. Throughout his life, Kelly made portraits as a means of keeping his hand adept at drawing, which provided a place to test his ideas, refine his bold use of lines, and interrogate the space between naturalism and abstraction. These works also capture his social milieu, which intersected with other creative circles and the queer community. He painstakingly recorded how his own appearance changed over time, and once described some of these sketches by saying, “I use myself in order to draw.” The accompanying critical essays unpack the ways in which such intimate efforts were fundamental to Kelly’s practice and situate this important aspect of his work within the artist’s wider oeuvre.

Distributed for the Art Institute of Chicago

**Exhibition Schedule:**

**Art Institute of Chicago**  
(July 1–October 23, 2023)

**Contributor Bio**

Kevin Salatino is chair and Anne Vogt Fuller and Marion Titus Searle Curator of Prints and Drawings at the Art Institute of Chicago.
Beyond the Light
Identity and Place in Nineteenth-Century Danish Art
Freyda Spira, Stephanie Schrader, Thomas Lederballe, Gry Hedin, Karina Lykke Grand

Summary
Placing artists at the center of nineteenth-century Denmark’s dramatic cultural, political, and philosophical transformation, this publication explores their persistent national pride in a time of turmoil

Though known as the Danish Golden Age, nineteenth-century Denmark was one of the most tumultuous periods in the nation’s history—from the disastrous siege of Copenhagen and the collapse of Denmark’s monarchy to the swelling tide of nationalism that eventually engulfed all of Europe. This volume places artists at the center of Denmark’s dramatic cultural, political, and philosophical transformation by bringing together 90 drawings, paintings, and oil sketches by Christoffer Wilhelm Eckersberg, Christen Købke, Constantin Hansen, Martinus Rørbye, Johan Thomas Lundbye, Vilhelm Hammershøi, and others. Five thematic essays by leading scholars in Denmark and the United States explore the way Danish artists manifested the pride, traditions, and anxieties of their nation; the sea’s ever-changing role as a marker of Danish identity; the evolving nature of portraiture; nostalgia for the Danish landscape and folk traditions; and the influence on Danish artists of their travels throughout Europe.

Published by The Metropolitan Museum of Art/Distributed by Yale University Press

Exhibition Schedule:

The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York
(January 26–April 16, 2023)

The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles
(May 23–August 20, 2023)

Contributor Bio
Freyda Spira is Robert L. Solley Curator of Prints and Drawings at the Yale University Art Gallery. Stephanie Schrader is curator of drawings at J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles. Thomas Lederballe is chief curator and senior researcher at the Statens Museum for Kunst, Copenhagen.
Summary

The first comprehensive look at the nearly seven-decades-long career of contemporary Mexican American artist Virginia Jaramillo

Over the course of her career, Virginia Jaramillo (b. 1939) has forged a pathway to exploring ideas and concepts of space through abstract paintings and handmade paper works influenced by her myriad interests including physics, the cosmos, mythology, ancient cultures, and modernist design philosophies. This beautifully illustrated volume demonstrates that despite having been historically excluded from the canon of American abstraction, Jaramillo has made profound contributions to the field.

*Virginia Jaramillo: Principle of Equivalence* documents more than 60 works including early paintings that pushed the depth of the painted surface to its very limits; her innovations in the centuries-old practice of handmade papermaking; and recent bodies of work, where Jaramillo engages in deep investigations into antiquity and architectural ruin through large-scale paintings. In addition to an overview of Jaramillo’s life and work, this comprehensive catalogue includes in-depth essays on the artist’s formative years in Los Angeles, her forty-year devotion to hand papermaking, and the recent resurgence of her painting practice. An interview with Jaramillo rounds out the volume.

Exhibition Schedule:

**Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City, MO**
(June 1–August 27, 2023)

Contributor Bio

**Erin Dziedzic** is director of curatorial affairs at Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art.
**Reflection on Color**
Carlos Cruz-Diez

**Summary**

*The seminal writing of Carlos Cruz-Diez, best known for his experiential works exploring color and its properties*

Trained as a painter, Carlos Cruz-Diez (1923–2019) developed a conceptual platform for his work based on optical and chromatic phenomena, which led him to take a revolutionary new approach to his work beginning in 1959. Building on the chromatic experiments of figures like Sir Isaac Newton, the impressionists, and Josef Albers, Cruz-Diez explored the perception of color as an autonomous reality evolving in space and time, unaided by form or support, in a perpetual present.

Originally published in Spanish in 1989, *Reflection on Color* details Cruz-Diez’s theories of color and traces the aesthetic and conceptual evolution of his practice. Though the book was translated into English in Cruz-Diez’s lifetime, it never saw broad distribution. In this text, Cruz-Diez explores eight of his major investigations into color phenomena, including his signature *Physichromie* and *Chromosaturation* series. Generously illustrated with examples of Cruz-Diez’s work, this important text introduces Cruz-Diez’s writing and thinking to a new generation of artists and scholars.

Distributed for the Cruz-Diez Foundation

**Contributor Bio**

*Carlos Cruz-Diez* (1923–2019) was a major figure in contemporary art, often associated with the Kinetic and Optical Art movements. His work is housed in major collections around the world, including the Museum of Modern Art, Tate Modern, and Centre Pompidou.
How to Read European Decorative Arts
Daniëlle O. Kisluk-Grosheide

Summary
Illuminating three centuries of European artistry and ingenuity, this volume in The Met’s acclaimed How to Read series provides a wide-ranging exploration of decorative arts from British writing tables to Russian snuffboxes.

Spanning three centuries of creativity, from the High Renaissance to the Industrial Revolution, this volume in The Met’s How to Read series provides a peek into daily lives across Europe—from England, Spain, and France to Germany, Denmark, and Russia. Featuring 40 exemplary objects, including furniture, tableware, utilitarian items, articles of personal adornment, devotional objects, and display pieces, this publication covers many aspects of European society and lifestyles, from the modest to the fabulously wealthy. The book considers the contributions of renowned masters, such as the Dutch cabinetmaker Jan van Mekeren and the Italian goldsmith Andrea Boucheron, as well as talented amateurs, among them the anonymous young Englishwoman who embroidered an enchanting chest with scenes from the Story of Esther. The works selected include both masterpieces and less familiar examples, some of them previously unpublished, and are discussed not only in light of their art-historical importance but also with regard to the social issues relevant to each, such as the impact of colonial slavery or the changing status of women artists.

Published by The Metropolitan Museum of Art/Distributed by Yale University Press

Contributor Bio
Daniëlle Kisluk-Grosheide is Henry R. Kravis Curator in the Department of European Sculpture and Decorative Arts at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York.
Tree and Serpent
Early Buddhist Art in India
John Guy

Summary
With new photography of extraordinarily rare works of art, this pioneering study features discoveries and research essential to understanding the origins and meaning of Buddhist artistic traditions.

Buddhist art originated more than 2,000 years ago, shaping religious practice and artistic motifs as it spread from India throughout South, North, and Southeast Asia. *Tree and Serpent* explores the ways early sculptural works by Buddhist artists, architects, and practitioners were transformed as the religion moved across the continent. World-renowned scholars from India, Europe, and the United States demonstrate how figurative sculpture and the narrative tradition in India were central to the function and meaning of early Buddhist art and architecture. The book’s essays probe such topics as the pre-Buddhist cults of earth, water, and tree spirits; the Buddha’s presence in relics; the influence of Roman bronzes and coins found in India; and the financial life of monks. The catalogue includes a wide range of early Buddhist artworks—from expertly carved stone reliefs to impeccably decorated pieces of jewelry—and features the first publication of sculptures unearthed over the past decade at major monastic sites in South India. With new photography of more than 125 objects from international collections dating from roughly 200 BCE to 450 CE, this ambitious catalogue provides essential new insights into our understanding of ancient Indian art and the origins of Buddhism.

Published by The Metropolitan Museum of Art/Distributed by Yale University Press

Exhibition Schedule:
The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York
(July 17–December 3, 2023)

Contributor Bio
John Guy is Florence and Herbert Irving Curator of the Arts of South and Southeast Asia in the Department of Asian Art at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York.
The Private Universe of James Castle
Drawings from the William Louis-Dreyfus Foundation and the James Castle Collection and Archive
Larry J. Feinberg

Summary
A new approach to the work of self-taught artist James Castle that focuses on how his drawings and practice resonate with earlier masters

Drawing on the collections of the William Louis-Dreyfus Foundation and the James Castle Collection and Archive, this volume features more than 90 of James Castle’s (1899–1977) landscapes and architectural-interior views, including works that have never been published before. Broadening the discussion of Castle’s work beyond the common emphasis on the role of the artist’s deafness and isolation in rural Idaho, Larry J. Feinberg places the self-taught artist in a larger artistic and cultural context and foregrounds Castle’s prowess as a draftsman. He shows how the artist’s evocative and unconventional images use techniques such as a “bending,” intuitive perspective and subtle shifts of focus. Comparing the descriptive and expressive effects that Castle achieves in his soot drawings with studies by Rembrandt and showing how Castle’s manipulation of space has much in common with Piranesi and M. C. Escher, this study expands our understanding of the artist’s evocative and unconventional images in new and exciting ways.

Distributed for the Santa Barbara Museum of Art

Exhibition Schedule:
Santa Barbara Museum of Art
(June 25–September 17, 2023)

Contributor Bio
Larry J. Feinberg is Robert and Mercedes Eichholz Director and CEO at the Santa Barbara Museum of Art.
**Edvard Munch**

**Trembling Earth**

Ali Smith, Jay A. Clarke, Jill Lloyd-Peppiatt, Trine Otte Bak Nielsen, Arne Johan Vetlesen

**Summary**

A thought-provoking volume on Edvard Munch’s often neglected pictures of nature, exploring the Norwegian artist’s landscapes, seascapes, and existential environments in light of his own time and ours

This richly illustrated catalogue provides a multifaceted perspective on the pictures of nature and landscape by Norwegian artist Edvard Munch (1863–1944). This important topic has been neglected in scholarship on Munch, despite the fact that it is a major motif in his œuvre. This volume is the first to explore the theme in its full breadth throughout Munch’s corpus, including his paintings, lithographs, watercolors, and woodcuts. His depictions of forests, farmland, and the seashore, as well as paintings of sea storms, snow, and other extreme weather, present us with undulating forms that animate nature. They likewise provide an example of Munch’s preference for liminal spaces where transformations take place, often celebrating human interaction with nature in its many manifestations. The book also considers Munch’s less conventional landscapes, and particularly those where his famous *Scream* motif occurs. These environments depict nature in an existential way, suggesting that the artist held a deep concern for nature’s destruction by humans—a concern no less relevant today. A complementary look at his writings as primary sources alongside his images shows how Munch mixed a scientific perspective on nature with metaphysical and spiritual notions of rebirth that permeate other parts of his corpus. The book also includes a engaging short story by award-winning author Ali Smith that was inspired by Munch’s work.

Distributed for MUNCH

**Exhibition Schedule:**

**Clark Art Institute, Williamstown, MA**

(June 10–October 15, 2023)

**Museum Barberini, Potsdam**

(November 18, 2023–April 1, 2024)

**Munch Museum, Oslo**

(April 27–August 24, 2024)

**Contributor Bio**

**Ali Smith** is an award-winning author based in Cambridge, UK. **Jay A. Clarke** is Rothman Family Curator in the Department of Prints of Drawings at the Art Institute of Chicago. **Jill Lloyd** is an independent curator. **Trine Otte Bak Nielsen** is a curator at MUNCH in Oslo. **Arne Johan Vetlesen** is a professor of philosophy at the University of Oslo.
Near East to Far West
Fictions of French and American Colonialism
Jennifer R. Henneman, Jacob Rama Berman, Emily C Burns, Betsy Fahlman, Richard V. Francaviglia

Summary
A new look at French Orientalism’s influence on the art of the American West, showing how aesthetics and ideology jointly informed approaches to colonialism and expansion during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries in both France and the United States

From the 1830s to the 1920s, American artists such as Alfred Jacob Miller, George de Forest Brush, Joseph H. Sharp, Bert Geer Phillips, and Ernest Blumenschein traveled to France to study their craft. Returning from abroad, these artists looked to the American West in search of new subjects. Influenced by French Orientalists such as Eugène Delacroix, Eugène Fromentin, and Jean-Léon Gérôme, the American artists applied an Orientalist aesthetic and ideology to their paintings, sculptures, and drawings, while at the same time creating works that appeared uniquely American. Exploring the ways that the visual tropes and knowledge structures of Orientalism influenced French and American colonialism and expansion, this volume considers the impact of French artistic techniques and tropes on the development of western American art. Other themes include the symbolism of desert landscapes and exotic animals, the role of world’s fairs in disseminating Orientalist spectacles and stereotypes, and the importance of artistic pilgrimage to the deserts of North Africa and the American Southwest. Historical and contemporary perspectives of Indigenous peoples of North America, Muslim Americans, and Arab Americans challenge, negotiate, and provide alternative perspectives to the artworks.

Distributed for the Denver Art Museum

Exhibition Schedule:

Denver Art Museum
(March 5–May 28, 2023)

Contributor Bio
Jennifer R. Henneman is director of the Petrie Institute of Western American Art and curator of Western American Art at the Denver Art Museum.
American Watercolors, 1880-1990
Into the Light
Joachim Homann, Margaret Morgan Grasselli, Miriam Stewart, Horace Ballard, Elisa Germán

Summary
A celebration of the diverse world of American watercolors from the late nineteenth through the twentieth century, featuring works from the Harvard Art Museums’ collection

Watercolor holds a special place in the history of American art. For generations of artists, the medium has provided a space for innovation and experimentation, allowing practitioners to let their imagination loose and to reflect on process and perception. Its rise to the status of fine art in the decades following the Civil War is well documented, yet its continued role as a testing ground and means of generating new ideas throughout the twentieth century has received comparatively less attention.

This volume considers continuity and change in the American watercolor tradition over a century of production through the lens of the Harvard Art Museums’ collection. Works by well-known watercolorists such as Winslow Homer, John Singer Sargent, and James Abbott McNeill Whistler are included, as well as surprising additions from Zelda Fitzgerald, Alexander Calder, Claes Oldenburg, and many others. In the spirit of the medium, the authors take a fluid and open-ended approach to the topic, offering both personal and scholarly reflections that invite readers to ponder the influence of these works on their own experience of the world. In addition to contextual essays, there are close readings of singular works and examinations of the unique material characteristics of the watercolor medium.

Distributed for the Harvard Art Museums

Exhibition Schedule:
Harvard Art Museums, Cambridge, MA
(May 20–August 13, 2023)

Contributor Bio
Joachim Homann is the Maida and George Abrams Curator of Drawings, Margaret Morgan Grasselli is a visiting senior scholar for drawings, and Miriam Stewart is curator of the collection for the Division of European and American Art, all at the Harvard Art Museums, Cambridge, MA.
Josh Kline
Project for a New American Century
Christopher Y. Lew, Nora N Kahn, Ed Halter, Josh Kline, Laura Poitras

Summary
A deep look at a contemporary artist whose work highlights how the rise of technology and corporate capitalism have disrupted our lives and polarized society

One of the most thought-provoking artists of his generation, Josh Kline (b. 1979) creates installations, sculptures, videos, and photographs that address the ways new technologies affect how people live and work. Engaging with a range of concerns that impact the entire labor force, from essential workers to the creative class, Kline demonstrates how climate change, automation, disease, and politics have shaped our identities. At a time when so many aspects of life are under threat, Kline takes an unflinching look at how we got here and boldly imagines a more equitable and empathetic future. Kline’s art demonstrates the ways technology has widened and reinforced the gap of inequity in America, while also carrying the potential to make a fairer world. “As an artist who's thinking about the consequences of technological innovation,” Kline has said, “I think there's an obligation to raise questions about who benefits.” His ongoing cycle of installations (Freedom, 2014–16; Unemployment, 2015–16, Civil War, 2016–19; Climate Change, 2019– ) that imagine the next hundred years of society are featured in this book, along with his earlier bodies of work, Creative Labor (2009– ) and Blue Collars (2014– ) and production images and concept sketches for his newest works that are published here for the first time.

Distributed for the Whitney Museum of American Art

Exhibition Schedule:

Whitney Museum of American Art, New York
(April 19–August 13, 2023)

Contributor Bio

Christopher Y. Lew is chief artistic director of the Horizon Foundation in Los Angeles.
Lygia Pape
Tecelares
Mark Pascale, Adele Nelson, Maria Cristina Rivera Ramos

Summary
An engaging investigation of contemporary Brazilian artist Lygia Pape’s early body of woodblock prints, which profoundly influenced the trajectory of her oeuvre

One of Brazil’s best-known contemporary artists, Lygia Pape (1927–2004) was a founding member of the Neo-Concrete movement in the late 1950s along with artists such as Lygia Clark and Hélio Oiticica. Pape explored new visual languages in painting, performance, printmaking, and sculpture, and her work—much of it based in geometry—invited viewers to participate in the existential, sensorial, and psychological experience of her art.

Presenting the first in-depth treatment of the experimental woodblock prints Pape made between 1952 and 1960, this volume examines the foundational role these works played in the rest of Pape’s career, foreshadowing her philosophy of “magnetized space.” Composed of overlapping geometric and linear elements that at times suggest atomic particles or slides of microscopic specimens, Pape’s prints display an extraordinary depth accentuated by her use of incredibly thin, translucent Japanese papers. The artist applied the title Tecelares to these works decades after their creation. Loosely translated as “weavings,” the term captures Pape’s uniquely handmade approach to printmaking. Lavishly illustrated, this study is filled with revealing insights into how the artist’s printmaking aesthetic, materials, and process embody her core ideas about art.

Distributed for the Art Institute of Chicago

Exhibition Schedule:

Art Institute of Chicago
(February 11–June 5, 2023)

Contributor Bio

Mark Pascale is Janet and Craig Duchossois Curator of Prints and Drawings at the Art Institute of Chicago.
Artful Subversion
Empress Dowager Cixi's Image Making
Ying–chen Peng

Summary
This revelatory book shows how the influential and controversial Empress Dowager Cixi used art and architecture to establish her authority.

Empress Dowager Cixi (1835–1908), who ruled China from 1861 until her death in 1908, is a subject of fascination and controversy, at turns vilified for her political maneuvering and admired for modernizing China. In addition to being an astute politician, she was an earnest art patron, and this beautifully illustrated book explores a wide range of objects, revealing how the empress dowager used art and architecture to solidify her rule.

Cixi’s art commissions were innovative in the way that they unified two distant conceptions of gender in China at the time, demonstrating her strength and wisdom as a monarch while highlighting her identity as a woman and mother. *Artful Subversion* examines commissioned works, including portrait paintings and photographs, ceramics, fashion, architecture, and garden design, as well as work Cixi created, such as painting and calligraphy. The book is a compelling study of how a powerful matriarch at once subverted and upheld the Qing imperial patriarchy.

Contributor Bio
Ying–chen Peng is assistant professor of art history at American University.
**Fashion at the Edge** *(2nd Edition)*

Spectacle, Modernity, and Deathliness

Caroline Evans

**Summary**

Experimental fashion has a dark side, a preoccupation with representations of death, trauma, alienation and decay. This seminal publication offers an unexpected discussion of cutting-edge fashion in the 1990s, exploring what its disturbing themes tell us about consumer culture and contemporary anxieties. Caroline Evans analyses the work of innovative designers, the images of fashion photographers and the spectacular fashion shows that developed in the final decade of the twentieth century to arrive at a new understanding of fashion’s dark side and what it signifies.

*Fashion at the Edge* considers a range of ground-breaking fashion in unprecedented depth and detail, including the work of such designers as John Galliano, Alexander McQueen, Hussein Chalayan and Viktor & Rolf, and photographers such as Steven Meisel, Nick Knight and Juergen Teller.

Drawing on diverse perspectives from Marx to Walter Benjamin, Evans shows that fashion stands at the very centre of the contemporary, and that it voices some of Western culture’s deepest concerns.

**Contributor Bio**

Caroline Evans is professor emerita at Central Saint Martins (University of the Arts London).
The Art Institute of Chicago Field Guide to Photography and Media
Antawan I. Byrd, Elizabeth Siegel, Carl Fuldner, Matthew S. Witkovsky, James Rondeau, Katie Palmer Albers, Leticia Alvarado, Carol Armstrong, Rebecca Arnold, Nadya Bair, George Baker

Summary
A roster of prominent artists, curators, and scholars offers a new, entirely contemporary approach to our understanding of photography and media.

Focusing on the Art Institute of Chicago’s deep and varied collection of photographs, books and other printed matter, installation art, photobooks, albums, and time-based media, this ambitious, wide-ranging volume features short essays by prominent artists, curators, university professors, and independent scholars that explore topics essential to understanding photography and media today. The essays, organized around themes ranging from the expected to the esoteric, are paired with key objects from the collection in order to address issues of aesthetics, history, philosophy, power relations, production, and reception. More than 400 high-quality reproductions amplify the authors’ arguments and suggest additional dialogues across conventional divisions of chronology, genre, geography, and technology. An introductory essay by Matthew S. Witkovsky traces the museum’s history of acquisitions and how the evolution of the museum’s collection reflects broader changes in the critical reception of the field of photography and media.

Contributor Bio
Antawan I. Byrd is a Weinberg fellow in art history at Northwestern University and an associate curator of photography and media, Art Institute of Chicago. Elizabeth Siegel is curator of photography and media, Carl Fuldner is former Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Postdoctoral Fellow, Photography and Media, and Matthew S. Witkovsky is Richard and Ellen Sandor Chair and Curator of Photography, all at the Art Institute of Chicago.
**Chryssa & New York**  
Megan Holly Witko, Sophia Larigakis, Michelle White

**Summary**

*The first major publication in more than thirty years on contemporary artist Chryssa, an innovator of light art*

*Chryssa & New York* offers a timely reassessment of Greek-born artist Chryssa (Chryssa Vardea-Mavromichali, 1933–2013). Chryssa was a leading figure in the postwar New York art world and in the use of signage, text, and neon, yet her work, which bridges Pop, Conceptual, and Minimalist approaches to art making, remains under-recognized.

Focusing on the artist’s early career, in particular her time in New York from the 1950s to the 1970s, this book charts the emergence of her singular aesthetic, especially her formal innovations with neon, and culminates in the development of her monumental and rarely seen installation *The Gates to Times Square* (1964–66). Essays situate Chryssa’s art alongside that of other New York-based practitioners in the 1950s and 1960s, consider her work through the lenses of queer theory and the Greek diaspora, and uncover her crucial influence on light art today. Rounding out the volume, a conversation on the technical aspects of her practice and a comprehensive chronology make this the definitive publication on Chryssa for years to come.

Distributed for Dia Art Foundation and the Menil Collection, Houston

**Exhibition Schedule:**

**Dia Chelsea, New York**  
(March 2–July 23, 2023)

**Menil Collection, Houston**  
(September 29, 2023–March 10, 2024)

**Wrightwood 659, Chicago**  
(May 1–August 15, 2024)

**Contributor Bio**

*Megan Holly Witko* is external curator at Dia Art Foundation. *Sophia Larigakis* is assistant editor at Dia Art Foundation. *Michelle White* is senior curator at the Menil Collection, Houston.
Amongst the Ruins
Why Civilizations Collapse and Communities Disappear
John Darlington

Summary
Amongst the Ruins explores the loss of ancient civilizations, the collapse of ruling elites, and the disappearance of more recent communities and their local traditions. Some of these are now sealed under 3,000-year-old peat, others lost to rising seas or sands, and the carcasses of twentieth-century buildings which serve as reminders of the destructive power of war.

These compelling stories of fallen or lost places are brought together through themes of war, climate change, natural hazards, human self-destruction, and simple economics. From the ice of the Arctic fringe, through to the desert landscapes of North Africa, by way of South America’s high mountains and Southeast Asia’s urban sprawl, Amongst the Ruins charts the rise and fall of places and communities around the world, the fascinating characters associated with them, and the important events that punctuate their history. Exploring wide-ranging examples from prehistory to the present day, John Darlington challenges us to recognize past failures and identify what we need to do to protect the cultures of our current world.

Contributor Bio
John Darlington is an archaeologist and executive director of World Monuments Fund Britain.
The Ugly Duchess

Beauty and Satire in the Renaissance

Emma Capron, Martin Clayton, Charlotte Wytema

Summary

Quinten Massys’ An Old Woman (‘The Ugly Duchess’) is one of the Renaissance’s most famous faces. In a fresh review of the iconic image, this book unveils the painting’s original context: its status as a pioneering work of satirical art, its debt to Leonardo da Vinci’s grotesque drawings, and what it tells us about the period’s complex attitudes towards women, age and normative beauty.

The painting and its partner, An Old Man, are parodic portraits that mock the supposed lust and vanity of older women. Yet a closer look also reveals a figure defiantly flouting conventions and a painter subverting artistic expectations.

The publication traces the eventful afterlife and enduring power of this seminal image: how she gained her nickname ‘The Ugly Duchess’ and inspired John Tenniel’s much-loved illustrations of Lewis Carroll’s *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland* (1865), capturing the imagination of generations of readers.

Published by National Gallery Global/Distributed by Yale University Press

Exhibition Schedule:

National Gallery, London, 16 March–11 June 2023

Contributor Bio

Emma Capron is Associate Curator of Renaissance Painting at the National Gallery, London.

Martin Clayton is Head of Prints and Drawings at the Royal Collection Trust.

Charlotte Wytema is the Simon Sainsbury Curatorial Fellow at the National Gallery, London.
**Futurism & Europe**
*The Aesthetics of a New World*
Fabio Benzi, Renske Cohen Tervaert, Maria Elena Versari, Manuel Barrese, Verena Krieger, Sjoerd Van Faassen, Monica Cioli, Francesco Tedeschi, Christine Poggi, Lotte Johnson

**Summary**
A new, expansive study on Futurism which explores for the first time its relationships with other European avant-gardes during 1912 to 1939

*Futurism & Europe: The Aesthetics of a New World* examines for the first time the many interconnections between Futurism and other European avant-gardes as varied as the Bauhaus in Germany, De Stijl in the Netherlands, Omega Workshops in Britain, Constructivism in Russia and Esprit Nouveau in France. Featuring over twenty essays by an international team of experts, this expansive book covers a range of topics and mediums including painting, sculpture, architecture, interior and stage designs, graphic work, fashion, theatre and cinema, as well as a diverse variety of functional objects from furniture and carpets to ceramics and toys.

Spanning various avant-gardes from 1912 to 1939, artists featured include Italian futurists such as Giacomo Balla, Umberto Boccioni and Fortunato Depero, alongside other European artists including Sonia Delaunay, Le Corbusier, Fernand Léger, Walter Gropius, Alexander Rodchenko, Fritz Lang, László Moholy-Nagy, Wassily Kandinsky, Hans Arp, Duncan Grant, Natalia Goncharova and Vladimir Tatlin. Broad in scope, this pioneering book examines the intersections between Futurism and other European avant-garde movements in their shared quest for a new aesthetic, triggering a lively exchange of new ideas, friction and rivalry.

**Exhibition Schedule:**

Kröller-Müller Museum, Otterlo
(April 29–September 3 2023)

**Contributor Bio**

Fabio Benzi is full professor in the history of contemporary art at Università “Gabriele d’Annunzio” di Chieti-Pescara, Italy. Renske Cohen Tervaert is curator at the Kröller-Müller Museum, Otterlo, The Netherlands.
Untimely Moderns
How Twentieth-Century Architecture Reimagined the Past
Eeva-Liisa Pelkonen

Summary
A novel exploration of the idea of nonlinear time and its place at the heart of modern art and architecture

Through much of the twentieth century, a diverse group of thinkers engaged in an interdisciplinary conversation about the meaning of time and history for modern art and architecture. The group included architects Louis Kahn, Everett Victor Meeks, James Gamble Rogers, Paul Rudolph, and Eero Saarinen; artists Anni and Josef Albers; philosopher Paul Weiss; and art historians Henri Focillon, George Kubler, Sibyl Moholy-Nagy, and Vincent Scully. These figures were unified by their resistance to the idea that, to be considered modern, art and architecture had to be of its time, as well as by the pivotal role that Yale University held as a backdrop to their thinking.

These thinkers sponsored a new kind of approach, one that Eeva-Liisa Pelkonen terms “untimely,” emphasizing a departure from a sequential course of events. Ideas about temporal duration, new tradition, the presence of the past, and the shape of time were among the concepts they explored. With an interdisciplinary focus, Pelkonen reveals previously unexplored connections among key figures of American intellectual and artistic culture at midcentury whose works and words would shape modern architecture.

Contributor Bio
Eeva-Liisa Pelkonen is assistant dean and professor at the Yale University School of Architecture. Her many books include Alvar Aalto: Architecture, Modernity, and Geopolitics; Kevin Roche: Architecture as Environment; and Eero Saarinen: Shaping the Future.
**Gego**

**Weaving the Space in Between**

Monica Amor

**Summary**

An authoritative study of Gego, whose distinctive modernist practice sits at the intersection of architecture, design, and the visual arts

This important book is the first extended study of the life and work of German-born Venezuelan artist Gertrude Goldschmidt (1912–94), known as Gego. In locating the artist’s contribution to postwar art and her important place in the global conversations around modernity, Mónica Amor explores her intermedial practice as a model of cultural complexity at the “edge of modernity.” In situating Gego’s work alongside other local archives and against her European education and global reception, Amor offers a monographic model that complicates traditional approaches to history. She investigates the full range of Gego’s work, including her furniture workshop, her teaching at schools of architecture and design, her seminal reticuláreas, and her lesser-known prints. Through rigorous archival research, formal analysis, theoretical relevance, and deep exploration of historical context, this essential book unpacks Gego’s radical recasting of the modern sculptural project through her engagement with architecture, craft, and design pedagogy.

**Contributor Bio**

Mónica Amor is professor at the Maryland Institute College of Art. She is the author of *Theories of the Nonobject: Argentina, Brazil, Venezuela, 1944–1969.*
Stephen Burks
Shelter in Place
Monica Obniski, Glenn Adamson, Beatrice Galilee, bell hooks, Stephen Burks, Michelle Joan Wilksinson, Patricia Urquiola

Summary
A multifaceted look at the work of award-winning American industrial designer Stephen Burks

Through essays, photo-essays, and a conversation between Black designer Stephen Burks (b. 1969) and the late cultural critic bell hooks, this book contextualizes Burks’s wide-ranging work while exploring design’s influence on politics, society, and culture. Burks’s work is underpinned by his belief in a pluralistic vision of design that is inclusive of all cultural perspectives; the award-winning designer has been commissioned by many of the world’s leading design-driven brands to develop collections that engage hand production as a strategy for innovation.

The book centers the industrial design and craft collaborations within Burks’s workshop-based design practice and offers an opportunity to reflect on the potential of design at a time when racial, social, and environmental justice remain in jeopardy. Topics explored in the book include an overview of the designer’s practice, from the foundational architecture culture of Chicago (Burks’s birthplace) to his latest speculative project; the workshop-based collaborative ethos of his studio, Stephen Burks Man Made; and the politics of design. In the conversation between bell hooks and Burks, hooks brings her critical eye to design as it relates to the broader field of African American cultural production.

Distributed for the High Museum of Art

Exhibition Schedule:
High Museum of Art, Atlanta
(September 16, 2022–March 5, 2023)

Contributor Bio
Monica Obniski is curator of decorative arts and design at the High Museum of Art.
Art of Japan
Highlights from the Philadelphia Museum of Art
Felice Fischer, Kyoko Kinoshita

Summary
An exploration of the treasures of Japanese art at the Philadelphia Museum of Art reveals a wealth of fascinating works dating from prehistoric times to today

Art of Japan presents one hundred highlights of Japanese art from the collection of the Philadelphia Museum of Art, dating from the Neolithic period to today. Among them are a temple and a teahouse, acquired in 1928, each the first of its type in an American museum. The collection is also notable for tea wares, particularly ceramics produced between the sixteenth and twenty-first centuries. The Edo and Meiji periods are especially well represented by a wide range of artworks that include calligraphy, paintings, and prints by such luminaries as Hon’ami Kōetsu (1558–1637), Ike Taiga (1723–1776), and Tsukioka Yoshitoshi (1839–1892). An introductory essay by Felice Fischer illuminates the formation of the museum’s extensive collection of Japanese art, which began with the 1876 Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition—the event that first opened American eyes to Japanese art and culture. The naissance of the museum’s exceptional holdings of Japanese ceramics can be traced directly to the Centennial, where General Hector Tyndale acquired more than a hundred examples that he bequeathed to the fledgling museum. This collection has continued to be augmented with ceramics by current practitioners of the craft, also represented in this volume, along with works by other contemporary Japanese artists. For anyone curious about Japanese art and its relevance to the art of the world today, this book provides an engaging roadmap from earliest times to the present.

Contributor Bio
Felice Fischer is curator emerita of Japanese and East Asian art, and Kyoko Kinoshita is project associate curator, both at the Philadelphia Museum of Art.
Abstract Bodies
Sixties Sculpture in the Expanded Field of Gender
David J. Getsy

Summary
An innovative analysis of 1960s abstract sculpture that draws on transgender studies and queer theory

Now back in print, Abstract Bodies was the first book to bridge the interdisciplinary field of transgender studies with the discipline of art history. Original and theoretically astute, it recasts debates around abstraction and figuration in 1960s art through a discussion of gender’s mutability and multiplicity. In that decade, sculpture purged representation and figuration but continued to explore the human as an implicit reference. Even as the statue and the figure were left behind, artists and critics asked how the human, and particularly gender and sexuality, related to abstract sculptural objects that refused the human form.

This book examines abstract sculpture in the 1960s that came to propose unconventional and open accounts of bodies, persons, and genders. Drawing on transgender studies and queer theory, David J. Getsy offers innovative and archivally rich new interpretations of artworks by and critical writing about four major artists—Dan Flavin (1933–1996), Nancy Grossman (b. 1940), John Chamberlain (1927–2011), and David Smith (1906–1965). Abstract Bodies makes a case for abstraction as a resource in reconsidering gender’s multiple capacities and offers an ambitious contribution to this burgeoning interdisciplinary field.

Contributor Bio
David J. Getsy is Eleanor Shea Professor of Art History at the University of Virginia.
The Trees of the Cross
Wood as Subject and Medium in the Art of Late Medieval Germany
Gregory C. Bryda

Summary
A revelatory study exploring wood’s many material, ecological, and symbolic meanings in the religious art of medieval Germany

In late medieval Germany, wood was a material laden with significance. It was an important part of the local environment and economy, as well as an object of religious devotion in and of itself. Gregory C. Bryda examines the multiple meanings of wood and greenery within religious art—as a material, as a feature of agrarian life, and as a symbol of the cross, whose wood has resonances with other iconographies in the liturgy. Bryda discusses how influential artists such as Matthias Grünewald, known for the Isenheim Altarpiece, and the renowned sculptor Tilman Riemenschneider exploited wood’s multivalent nature to connect spiritual themes to the lived environment outside church walls. Exploring the complex visual and material culture of the period, this lavishly illustrated volume features works ranging from monumental altarpieces to portable pictures and offers a fresh understanding of how wood in art functioned to unlock the mysteries of faith and the natural world in both liturgy and everyday life.

Contributor Bio
Gregory C. Bryda is assistant professor of art history at Barnard College.
Bruegel and Beyond
Netherlandish Drawings in the Royal Library of Belgium, 1500-1800
Daan Van Heesch, Sarah Van Ooteghem, Joris Van Grieken

Summary
The Royal Library of Belgium in Brussels houses the largest collection of drawings in the country. Among its highlights are works by leading artists of the Low Countries, including Pieter Bruegel I, Joris Hoefnagel, Hendrick Goltzius, Peter Paul Rubens, Anthony van Dyck, and Jacques Jordaens.

As the library’s collection has been little studied up to now, it is largely unknown to scholars and the general public. To acquaint a wider audience with these important works of art, this richly illustrated publication brings together for the first time over one hundred master drawings from the Royal Library’s vaults. Not only new art-historical insights are presented, but also numerous rediscovered drawings and revised attributions to artists such as Maarten van Heemskerck and Karel van Mander.

This carefully researched book, written by thirty specialists in the field, aims to make a significant contribution to our knowledge of the history of Netherlandish drawing from the sixteenth to the eighteenth centuries.

Contributor Bio
Daan van Heesch is head of prints and drawings at the Royal Library of Belgium. Sarah Van Ooteghem is an independent art historian. Between 2012 and 2018, she was assistant curator of drawings at the Royal Library of Belgium. Joris Van Grieken is curator of prints and drawings at the Royal Library of Belgium.
Portals
The Visionary Architecture of Paul Goesch
Robert Wiesenberger, Raphael Koenig

Summary
The first monographic publication in English on German Expressionist artist and architect Paul Goesch, who long struggled with—and was persecuted and ultimately murdered for—his schizophrenia.

Paul Goesch (1885–1940) produced one of the most inventive, peculiar, and poignant bodies of work to emerge from Weimar Germany. An artist and architect, he made both fanciful figurative drawings and visionary architectural designs. The latter, from the extensive holdings of the Centre for Canadian Architecture in Montreal, are the focus of this publication, the first in English dedicated to Goesch.

Amid the aftermath of First World War, a generation of young architects sketched their visions for utopia. Goesch stands out among them for his formal range, his kaleidoscopic color sense, and his playful and pluralistic embrace of architectural history, as well as for his long struggles with schizophrenia, a condition for which he was institutionalized and ultimately murdered by the Nazis.

This publication highlights the decorative portals and archways that predominate in Goesch’s work. These represent the artist’s metaphysical passages, as a spiritualist steeped in diverse religious and esoteric beliefs, and his altered psychological states. They also suggest Goesch’s liminal status between art and architecture, “sanity” and “madness,” the trained insider and the institutionalized “outsider.” Celebrated in his time and since forgotten, Goesch is presented here in the context of period discussions on art, architecture, and mental health.

Distributed for the Clark Art Institute

Exhibition Schedule:
Clark Art Institute, Williamstown, MA
(March 18–June 11, 2023)

Contributor Bio
Robert Wiesenberger is curator of contemporary projects at the Clark Art Institute and lecturer in the Williams Graduate Program in the History of Art in Williamstown, MA.

Raphael Koenig is visiting assistant professor (ATER) in Comparative Literature at the University of Toulouse II and associate researcher at the University of Toulouse II’s Literature, Languages and Visual Arts Research Unit.
Jeff Wall
Catalogue Raisonné 2005-2021
Gary Dufour, Jean-francois Chevrier, Thierry De Duve, David Campany

Summary
A handsome volume of the renowned photographer’s work from 2005 to 2021

Best known for his large-scale photographs, carefully constructed “near documentaries” created in collaboration with the subjects, Jeff Wall (b. 1946) is one of the most influential photographers of the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries. Often displayed as backlit color transparencies, Wall’s works have helped define the use of color and painterly sensibilities in contemporary art photography. This volume collects over fifteen years’ worth of new work from Jeff Wall in a lavish presentation that includes multiple gatefolds to better convey the scale of Wall’s work. As a collection of Wall’s most recent work, this volume will include numerous pieces that are as-yet unfamiliar to many of his fans. Chevrier’s essay deftly summarizes the varied directions of Wall’s recent work and contextualizes them within the body of work that precedes this volume; de Duve’s and Campany’s wide-ranging conversations with the artist cover the role of performance and the effects of spontaneity and scale, respectively.

Contributor Bio

Gary Dufour is an art historian and curator, previously having served as the chief curator and deputy director of the Art Gallery of Western Australia. Jean-François Chevrier is professor in the history of contemporary art at the École nationale supérieure des Beaux-Arts in Paris.
Tudor Liveliness
Vivid Art in Post-Reformation England
Christina J Faraday

Summary
A groundbreaking approach to the problem of realism in Tudor art

In Tudor and Jacobean England, visual art was often termed “lively.” This word was used to describe the full range of visual and material culture—from portraits to funeral monuments, book illustrations to tapestry. To a modern viewer, this claim seems perplexing: what could “liveliness” have meant in a culture with seemingly little appreciation for illusionistic naturalism? And in a period supposedly characterised by fear of idolatry, how could “liveliness” have been a good thing?

In this wide-ranging and innovative book, Christina Faraday excavates a uniquely Tudor model of vividness: one grounded in rhetorical techniques for creating powerful mental images for audiences. By drawing parallels with the dominant communicative framework of the day, Tudor Liveliness sheds new light on a lost mode of Tudor art criticism and appreciation, revealing how objects across a vast range of genres and contexts were taking part in the same intellectual and aesthetic conversations. By resurrecting a lost model for art theory, Faraday re-enlivens the vivid visual and material culture of Tudor and Jacobean England, recovering its original power to move, impress and delight.

Distributed for the Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art

Contributor Bio
Christina Faraday is a research fellow in art history at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, and an AHRC/BBC New Generation Thinker.
Sue Williamson and Lebohang Kganye
Tell Me What You Remember
Emma Lewis, Lebohang Kganye, Sindiwe Magona, Portia Malatjie, Nkgopoleng Moloi, Sue Williamson

Summary
Two acclaimed South African artists offer a cross-generational dialogue on history, memory, and the power of self-narration

Three decades after the dismantling of apartheid began, South Africa’s so-called “born free” generation has reached adulthood and its artists have used their work to navigate their difficult inheritance. At the same time, the historical distance between their experience and that of an older generation grows. This book brings together two of South Africa’s most acclaimed contemporary artists to reflect upon this moment. In their respective practices, Sue Williamson (b. 1941) and Lebohang Kganye (b. 1990) incorporate oral histories into film, photographs, installations, and textiles to consider how, just as formal statements determine collective histories, so the stories our elders tell us shape family narratives and personal identities. Exploring the complexities involved in the passing down of memories, their works implicitly and explicitly address racial violence, social injustice, and intergenerational trauma. This richly illustrated catalogue features essays that consider themes of voice, testimony, ancestry, and care, and a dialogue between Kganye and Williamson that explores how art can mobilize the healing powers of conversation.

Distributed for the Barnes Foundation

Exhibition Schedule:
The Barnes Foundation, Philadelphia
(March 5–May 21, 2023)

Contributor Bio
Emma Lewis is assistant curator, international art, at Tate Modern, London.
Lauren Halsey
The Roof Garden Commission
Abraham Thomas, Lauren Halsey, Douglas Kearney

Summary
Lauren Halsey’s diverse artistic influences, including Afrofuturism, ancient Egyptian iconography, and the architecture and community in her native Los Angeles, feature prominently in her latest site-specific installation.

In her 2023 site-specific work at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, the eastside of south central los angeles hieroglyph prototype architecture (I), Lauren Halsey combines signs, symbols, and architecture from the past, present, and future to remix (or, as she says, “funkify”) history. Known for her vibrant sculptures, mixed-media pieces, and large-scale installations, Halsey here critiques the gentrification of Black spaces by uniting ancient Egyptian–inspired iconography with contemporary advertising and representations of leaders and icons from her South Central, Los Angeles community. An insightful essay on Halsey’s artistic process and an interview with the artist uncover her diverse influences—from ancient Egyptian relief carving to funk music, Afrofuturism, and LA architecture—while also discussing how her work focuses on community engagement and on creating spaces for people of color and the working class.

Published by The Metropolitan Museum of Art/Distributed by Yale University Press

Exhibition Schedule:
The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York
(April 18–October 22, 2023)

Contributor Bio
Abraham Thomas is the Daniel Brodsky Curator of Modern Architecture, Design, and Decorative Arts in the Department of Modern and Contemporary Art at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York.
The Rainbow’s Gravity
Colour, Materiality and British Modernity
Kirsty Sinclair Dootson

Summary
From Victorian breakthroughs in synthesising pigments to the BBC’s conversion to chromatic broadcasting, the story of colour’s technological development is inseparable from wider processes of modernisation that transformed Britain. This revolutionary history brings to light how new colour technologies informed ideas about national identity during a period of profound social change, when the challenges of industrialisation, decolonisation of the Empire and evolving attitudes to race and gender reshaped the nation. Offering a compelling new account of modern British visual culture that reveals colour to be central to its aesthetic trajectories and political formations, this chromatic lens deepens our understanding of how British art is made and what it means, offering a new way to assess the visual landscape of the period and interpret its colourful objects.

Across a kaleidoscopic array of materials, from radiant paintings by major Victorian artists, vivid print advertisements and vibrant interwar fashion photographs, to glorious Technicolor films and the prismatic programmes of the BBC’s early years of colour television, The Rainbow’s Gravity reveals how Britain modernised colour and how colour, in turn, modernised Britain.

Distributed for the Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art

Contributor Bio
Kirsty Sinclair Dootson is a lecturer in film and media at University College London.
American Art
Selections from the Yale University Art Gallery
Yale University Art Gallery

Summary
A tour through the Yale University Art Gallery’s holdings of American art, one of the most exceptional museum collections of its kind

This volume presents an engaging selection of highlights and introduces readers to the richness and diversity of the Yale University Art Gallery’s holdings of American art. An introductory essay outlines pivotal moments in the three-hundred-year history of collecting, exhibiting, and teaching with American art at Yale and commemorates the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Friends of American Arts at Yale, whose support continues to ensure the excellence of the collection. The more than one hundred object entries that follow create a narrative that charts the multiplicity of experiences and accomplishments of artists and artisans living and working in North America—from the earliest days of European settlement to the present. Among the cataloged objects are works by some of the best-known names in American art as well as recent acquisitions and masterpieces that represent diverse American identities. A dazzling range of media is displayed, including paintings and sculpture, medals, prints and drawings, photographs, jewelry, furniture, and decorative arts. Each object is illustrated with a full-page image and is accompanied by a one-page discussion that focuses on its contribution to the history of American art.

Distributed for the Yale University Art Gallery

Contributor Bio
Founded in 1832, the Yale University Art Gallery is the oldest university art museum in America. Today, it is a center for teaching, learning, and scholarship and is a preeminent cultural asset for Yale University, the wider academic community, and the public.
Black Modernisms in the Transatlantic World
Steven Nelson, Huey Copeland

Summary
Illustrated essays that broaden our understanding of modernism by centering Black artists and experiences, with a contribution featuring the work of Venice Biennale Golden Lion winner Simone Leigh

In this volume, ten leading scholars examine the contradictions of modernity and Black agency that continue to define the Western art world. Illustrated essays explore the work of artists such as Roy DeCarava, Ben Enwonwu, James Hampton, Norman Lewis, Nancy Elizabeth Prophet, Augusta Savage, and Carrie Mae Weems, always with an eye toward reframing our understanding of Black artistic producers. The interdisciplinary avenues of inquiry remake the boundaries of modernist art—its notions time and again focused on the singular white male European or American artist—with another set of imperatives, ethics, and histories, broadening our understanding of the past and present of modernism.

Published by the National Gallery of Art, Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts/Distributed by Yale University Press

Contributor Bio
Steven Nelson is dean of the Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts at the National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC. Huey Copeland is BFC Presidential Associate Professor in the Department of the History of Art at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.
The Art Lover's Guide to Japanese Museums
Sophie Richard

Summary
An indispensable guide to Japan’s most fascinating museums and galleries

The Art Lover’s Guide to Japanese Museums is a personal introduction to more than 100 of Japan’s most distinctive and inspiring museums. In-depth information is given about each venue, including about its creation, collection, and highlights. Organized geographically, the book begins with numerous art institutions in and around Tokyo, and proceeds to Kyoto; museums in the western and eastern parts of the nation; Shikoku and the Inland Sea; Kyushu; and Hokkaido and Okinawa. Among the buildings and collections featured are the Nezu Museum, the Tokyo Metropolitan Teien Museum, Nagi MOCA, the Hiroshige Museum, the George Nakashima Memorial Museum, and the Hokkaido Historical Village. From magnificent traditional arts to fascinating artist’s houses, from sleek contemporary museums to quirky galleries, these museums house some of the world’s greatest artworks and are a reflection of Japan’s extraordinary culture both past and present.

Distributed for Modern Art Press

Contributor Bio
Sophie Richard is a specialist in Japanese culture and a freelance art historian. She is also the presenter of a 2019 documentary about the museums of Japan, airing on Japanese TV in 47 episodes.
The Environment and Ecology in Islamic Art and Culture
Radha Dalal, Sean Roberts, Jochen Sokoly

Summary
The Islamic world finds itself increasingly at the epicenter of our escalating climate emergency, both as a locus of the petrochemical industry and as home to extraordinary landscapes in which the effects of environmental transformation are acutely felt. Yet, far from a solely twenty-first-century concern, engagement with changing, and often extreme, natural conditions has long characterized Islamic art and architecture in the central Islamic lands and beyond into the Muslim diaspora. This new book brings together a diverse group of scholars and critics whose contributions address this profound ecological awareness through the dual lenses of Islamic culture and climate change. Their case studies range from the Gulf, Iraq, Syria, the Indian Subcontinent, North Africa, and even outer space. Contributors examine the optimistic, sustainable, and innovative responses adopted by artists and builders in the face of often irreversible and escalating environmental destruction that necessitates such ingenuity. Breaking traditional disciplinary boundaries, this timely book brings together a diverse range of perspectives to bear on this increasingly urgent problem.

Contributor Bio
Radha Dalal is associate professor of Islamic art and architecture and director of art history at VCUarts Qatar. Sean Roberts is senior lecturer in art history at the University of Tennessee. Jochen Sokoly is associate professor of art history of the Islamic world at VCUarts Qatar.
William Burges's Great Bookcase and The Victorian Colour Revolution
Charlotte Ribeyrol, Tea Ghigo

Summary
Charlotte Ribeyrol presents a fascinating (book)case study exploring the story of an extraordinary object, William Burges’s (1827–1881) Great Bookcase. No fewer than 13 major artists, including Edward Burne-Jones, Edward Poynter, and Albert Moore, took part in the painting of this unique piece of furniture, which has now returned to the Ashmolean Museum after an absence of over 80 years. Ribeyrol throws new light on the chromophilia of the “Pre-Raphaelite” architect William Burges and his key role in shaping aesthetic debates about color in the 1860s. This crucial decade, which saw the advent of the first synthetic dyes, transformed the experience of color for many painters and poets in Burges’s circle. Interweaving art, literature, and chemistry, Ribeyrol reads the eight painted panels of the Great Bookcase in the context of this ‘color revolution’, which brought to the fore new approaches to color while simultaneously triggering a revival of the polychromy of the Pagan and Christian past. Drawing on pioneering interdisciplinary research and featuring new photography throughout, this book provides a definitive account of one of Burges’s most cherished and complex artworks.

Exhibition Schedule:
Ashmolean Museum, Oxford
(September 2023–February 2024)

'The Colour Revolution: From Turner to Whistler'

Contributor Bio
Charlotte Ribeyrol is a professor in nineteenth-century British literature at the Sorbonne, Paris and an honorary curator at the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford. Tea Ghigo is a conservation research fellow at the Ashmolean Museum.
Annals and Antiquities of Rajast’han
James Tod, Norbert Peabody, Brian Cannon, Ramya Sreenivasan

Summary
The two volumes of James Tod’s *Annals and Antiquities of Rajast’han*, first published in 1829–32, remain to this day the first port of call for anyone interested in the history and culture of Rajasthan and the early colonial encounter in India. Written by the first East India Company official to the region, the text was also seminal for the early figures in India’s independence movement who reworked Tod’s imagined ancient Rajput national identities into a call for India’s national liberation from British colonial rule.

Now available in a numbered limited edition of 750 copies, this re-issue of the original text including over 80 original copperplate engravings, woodblock prints, and lithographs returns the text to its original state, while the accompanying companion volume critically reframes this monumental, but often misunderstood, work. The new volume shows how Tod’s *Annals* is not merely the product of the singular voice of a Western “orientalist” imagination, instead revealing a richly complex work in which Rajasthani voices provide a “multi-authored” heterogeneity to the text which is often discordant and unpredictable. Re-articulating the variety of voices that simultaneously inhabit Tod’s *Annals*, the revised volume argues for a more conjunctural, contingent, and open-ended reading of colonial history.

Distributed for the Royal Asiatic Society

Contributor Bio
Norbert Peabody is an affiliated scholar at the Centre of South Asian Studies, University of Cambridge. Ramya Sreenivasan is associate professor of history at the University of Pennsylvania. Brian Cannon is a PhD student in South Asian history at the University of Pennsylvania.
Lawrence Abu Hamdan: Air Pressure (A Diary of the Sky)

The Future Fields Commission in Time-Based Media
Irene Calderoni, Amanda Sroka, Lawrence Abu Hamdan, Marina Peterson, Ghalya Saadawi

Summary
A close investigation of aerial war and atmospheric violence through artist Lawrence Abu Hamdan’s newly commissioned audio and video installation

This publication documents the creation of a new work by artist Lawrence Abu Hamdan (b. 1985) for the Future Fields Commission in Time-Based Media. For this commission, Abu Hamdan has developed an ambitious multichannel sound installation and singular film derived from ongoing documentation and analysis of Israeli Air Force violations of Lebanese airspace. The film features narration in Arabic, presented in English in this volume, that elaborates on the artist’s research methodology while chronicling the details of these acts of aerial and aural trespass—a diary of the sounds, subjects, and powers that turn the air violent.

The publication also includes a conversation between Abu Hamdan and Ghalya Saadawi that explores the tension inherent to a violence that is both exceptional and routine. An essay by Marina Peterson situates Abu Hamdan’s work within the broader artistic and scholarly study of noise, political violence, and air pollution. Contributions from Irene Calderoni and Amanda Sroka introduce the commission and detail other works in the artist’s larger Air Pressure project. Together these texts position the commission as a continuation of Abu Hamdan’s rigorous investigations into the political dimensions of listening and the role of sound as a tool that can be used to silence, suppress, or heal.

Distributed for the Philadelphia Museum of Art

Exhibition Schedule:
Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, Turin
(November 3, 2022–February 26, 2023)

Philadelphia Museum of Art
(Spring 2024)

Contributor Bio
Irene Calderoni is chief curator at the Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, Turin.
Amanda Sroka is senior curator at the Institute of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles.
Marina Peterson is associate professor of anthropology at the University of Texas at Austin. Ghalya Saadawi is an independent writer and researcher in critical theory and contemporary art.
Artists We’ve Known
Selected Works from the Walter Hopps and Caroline Huber Collection
Clare Elliott

Summary
An eclectic selection of twentieth-century artwork from the collection of legendary curator and museum director Walter Hopps, some with personal reminiscences by the artists themselves

Over a fifty-year career that included stints at the famed Ferus Gallery in Los Angeles and as director of the Pasadena Art Museum (now Norton Simon Museum), the Corcoran Gallery, and as founding director of the Menil Collection, the legendary curator Walter Hopps (1932–2005) established himself as a voracious and eclectic collector of twentieth-century art. Hopps together with his wife Caroline Huber—also a curator, as well as an artist—assembled an adventurous and diverse collection of art, a large portion of which has been donated or promised to the Menil Collection. Featuring sculpture and photography as well as drawings and paintings, and including work by Christo, Linda Connor, Beauford Delaney, Anne Doran, Marcel Duchamp, Walker Evans, Robert Rauschenberg, Ed Ruscha, and Niki de Saint Phalle, to name a few, this book reveals the personal choices of two fine curatorial minds. Many of the more than fifty works illustrated have a story—often marvelous, sometimes humorous, and in several cases in the artist's own words—of how they came to be in the collection. The publication also highlights artists not often featured in print, such as John Altoon, James Bettison, Mark Flood, and Sonia Gechtoff. Candid photos also highlight some of interactions between Hopps, Huber, and the artists from 1957 to 2001.

Contributor Bio
Clare Elliott is associate research curator at the Menil Collection, Houston.
Pierre Culot
Anne Bony, Tyas Matthew

Summary
Pierre Culot (1938-2011) was a Belgian ceramist and sculptor who was trained by Antoine de Vinck and English master potter Bernard Leach. He is one of the ceramists of the 1950s who transformed their craft into an art form. In his work, Pierre Culot passionately expresses his desire to be in the world, to be on earth and to be in nature the sole generator of life and beauty. The clay that he molds into slabs, scratches and enamels becomes containers for daily use with majestic presence. Over his career Culot aimed at mastery of his practice, shaping his pieces in terms of size and in surface effect, by combining the raw earth in each item with luxuriant enamels that had unique variations.

All of Culot’s life he remained faithful to his initial experience as a potter, evolving his ceramic works from basic forms (bowls, plates, jugs) to more daring shapes (cruciform vases, gourds, compound pots, inkwells), and even into the landscape space by sculpting garden walls. This book offers a complete overview of his unique and multi-faceted career in pottery, sculpture and landscaping.

Contributor Bio
Anne Bony is at the University of Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne. Matthew Tyas is a curator & Deputy Director at the Leach Pottery as well as an independent writer and potter.
Unmaking the East India Company
British Art and Political Reform in Colonial India, c. 1813-1858
Tom Young

Summary
Illuminates how new modes of artistic production in colonial India shaped the British state’s nationalisation of the East India Company, transforming the relationship between nation and empire

This pioneering book explores how art shaped the nationalisation of the East India Company between the loss of its primary monopoly in 1813 and its ultimate liquidation in 1858. Challenging the idea that parliament drove political reform, it argues instead that the Company’s political legitimacy was destabilised by novel modes of artistic production in colonial India. New artistic forms and practices—the result of new technologies like lithography and steam navigation, middle-class print formats like the periodical, the scrapbook and the literary annual, as well as the prevalence of amateur sketching among Company employees—reconfigured the colonial regime’s racial boundaries and techniques of governance. They flourished within transimperial networks, integrating middle-class societies with new political convictions and moral disciplines, and thereby eroding the aristocratic corporate cultures that had previously structured colonial authority in India.

Unmaking the East India Company contributes to a reassessment of British art as a global, corporate and intrinsically imperial phenomenon—highlighting the role of overlooked media, artistic styles and print formats in crafting those distinctions of power and identity that defined ‘Britishness’ across the world.

Distributed for the Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art

Contributor Bio
Tom Young is a Leverhulme Trust Early Career Fellow in the History of Art Department at the University of Warwick.
Landscape Design and Revolution in Ireland and the United States, 1688-1815
Finola O’Kane

Summary
Explores how revolutionary ideas were translated into landscape design, encompassing liberty, equality, improvement and colonialism

Spanning the designed landscapes of England’s Glorious Revolution of 1688, the American Revolution of 1776 and the Irish rebellion of 1798, with some detours into revolutionary France, this book traces a comparative history of property structures and landscape design across the eighteenth-century Atlantic world and evolving concepts of plantation and improvement within imperial ideology. Revolutionaries such as Jean-Jacques Rousseau, George Washington, Arthur Young, Lord Edward FitzGerald and Pierce Butler constructed houses, farms and landscape gardens—many of which have since been forgotten or selectively overlooked. How did the new republics and revolutionaries, having overthrown social hierarchies, translate their principles into spatial form?

As the eighteenth-century ideology of improvement was applied to a variety of transatlantic and enslaved environments, new landscape designs were created—stretching from the suburbs of Dublin to the sea islands of the state of Georgia. Yet these revolutionary ideas of equality and freedom often contradicted reality, particularly where the traditional design of the great landed estate—the building block of aristocratic power throughout Europe—intersected with that of the farm and the plantation.

Distributed for the Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art

Contributor Bio
Finola O’Kane is a landscape historian, architect, and professor at the School of Architecture, Planning and Environmental Policy, University College Dublin.
Angel Vergara
In the Instant
Denis Gielen, Jerome Andre, Nicolas Bourriaud, Philippe Van Cauteren, Michelon Olivier

Summary
Angel Vergara’s (1958 – based in Brussels) work is a continued investigation into the power of the image. By means of performances, videos, installations, paintings and drawings, he tests the limits of art and reality. Each of his works is an attempt to break through the image and to make its impact on an aesthetic as well as a socio-cultural and political level. Thus, Vergara creates a new, suspended reality, grown from the artist’s personal dialogue with reality and with the image by which it has already been transformed. Decontextualised images of reality are mediated by the artist and transformed into art, encouraging the viewer to question their way of perceiving the everyday as well as the way it is presented to them in images. Vergara’s art disorients and disconcerts the viewer. It questions what is known and opens paths to new modes of signification.

Accompanying the 2023 retrospective exhibition "In the Instant" that the MACS is dedicating to Angel Vergara, this important book reviews the career of the Belgian artist and highlights the close relationship between his painting and the cinematic medium.

Exhibition Schedule:
02.11.2022 – 02.06.2023
Outside installation. Musée de la batellerie – Conflans Sainte Honorine, France.

24.11.2022 > 19.03.2023
Photo Brut - Centrale for Contemporary Art, Brussels

23.04.2023 – 08.10.2023
Angel Vergara. In a Moment. Monographic exhibition. MAC’s in Mons, Belgium.
Pictural Abstraction 1980–Today
The Tangle of Life
Olivier Kaeppelin
Philip Aguirre y Otegui: L’invitation au voyage
Works on Paper
Iris Kockelbergh, Simon Njami

Summary
Multitalented artist Philip Aguirre sees his prints as completed products. His drawings, however, serve a very different purpose within his work. He views these drawings as the start of a thought process, forming a consistent thread throughout what is, for him, a vitally important method of creation. In that process, it is not unusual to see historic heritage as a source of his inspiration. Thus, his work engages with reoccurring themes such as the spring and water in the world, immigration and refugees, and the story of Africa threading throughout his oeuvre.

This book focuses on the broad palette of disciplines that Aguirre practices, reflecting on these important reoccurring themes that have been present throughout his career, as well as the role played by printmaking in his work. It also highlights the selection of prints and drawings from the rich oeuvre that he has built up over the last 40 years, which he recently donated to the collection of modern prints and drawings for the Plantin Moretus Museum print cabinet.

Exhibition Schedule:
Plantin Moretus Museum, Antwerp, Belgium.
The Print Cabinet. 27 October 2022 – February 2023.

Contributor Bio
Iris Kockelbergh is the director of the Museum Plantin-Moretus/Print cabinet in Antwerp, Belgium.

Simon Njami (born 1962, Lausanne) is a writer, independent curator, lecturer, and art critic.
Bill Viola
Love/Death - The Tristan Project
Kira Perov, Peter Sellars, Mark Swed, Gerard Mortier, Esa-pekka Salonen

Summary
In 2004, the opera scene was taken by storm by the ground-breaking production of Richard Wagner’s opera *Tristan und Isolde* in Los Angeles.

This book offers a behind-the-scenes look at how the visionary American artist Bill Viola created four hours of video as a visual complement to this profound psychological drama. It also tells the story of its commissioning by the then Paris Opera director Gerard Mortier, who pushed the boundaries of what opera could be by inviting a trinity of California-based creatives to re-imagine a *Tristan und Isolde* for our times. Having just opened the now iconic Frank Gehry-designed Walt Disney Concert Hall, this was a bold project for the Los Angeles Philharmonic to take on, but it was one which catapulted them into the world of music and breath-taking visuals. The fully staged opera that resulted has been seen in Paris, Toronto, Madrid, Tokyo, Kobe, and concert versions in LA, New York, Rotterdam, London, Helsinki, Stockholm, and St Petersburg, and the revolutionary four-hour video and visuals created by Bill Viola to accompany this opera lives on through this beautifully illustrated book.

Distributed for Mercatorfonds
Alexandria
Past Futures
Arnaud Quertinmont, Nicolas Amoroso, Edwin Nasr, Rifky Sarah

Summary
Founded in 331 BC by Alexander the Great, Alexandria’s unique urban, political and religious organization evolved alongside the numerous scientific innovations and philosophical expressions that shaped the city into one of the ancient world’s civilizational centres. Located at the intersection of art and history, this book revisits the former Egyptian megapolis of Alexandria with the aim of going beyond the usual depictions of the city – focusing on the Greeks, the Egyptians, the Lighthouse and the Library – to take a journey of discovery into an ancient city that is full of nuance.

Several recent discoveries have enabled us to refine our knowledge of the lost city of Alexandria. By examining the city’s multi-layered temporalities, this book echoes dominant accounts of Alexandria as a city through which successive civilisations and political formations of the past (Byzantine, Arab, Modern) have rehearsed visions of futures that are either no longer present or remain felt through Alexandria’s remaining material culture and built environment. This book also features a series of contemporary artworks which develop a critical and poetic association with the themes it covers.

Exhibition Schedule:
BOZAR, Center for Fine Arts, Brussels : 29/09/2022 – 08/01/2023
MUCEM, Musée des Civilisations de l’Europe et de la Méditerranée, Marseille : 08/02/2022 – 08/05/2023

Contributor Bio
Arnaud Quertinmont is curator of Egyptian and Near Eastern antiquities at the Royal Museum of Mariemont, Belgium
Nicolas Amoroso is curator of Greek and Roman antiquities at the Royal Museum of Mariemont, Belgium
Edwin Nasr is an independent writer and curator
Sarah Rifky is a curatorial advisor and curator at the Institute for Contemporary Art at Virginia Commonwealth University and PhD candidate at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Yorkshire: The North Riding
The North Riding
Jane Grenville, Nikolaus Pevsner

Summary
Providing unrivalled coverage of the area, this volume offers a fully revised and updated guide to the North Riding of Yorkshire. From the fells on the Westmorland border, through the unspoilt wild beauty of Swaledale and Wensleydale to the highest cliffs in the country, the area represents some of the finest landscaping and impressive castle architecture in the north of England. Towns explored include Richmond with its large cobbled marketplace and the beautiful fishing town of Whitby presided over by the Gothic silhouette of its iconic abbey. Architectural styles range from the remains of unusually complete and beautiful monastic establishments, including the Cistercians at Rievaulx, to the stone and stucco marine terraces and villas of the Victorian seaside resort of Scarborough. Covering structures as diverse as Vanbrugh’s Castle Howard, early Garden City housing by the Rowntrees at New Earswick and the Middlesbrough transporter bridge, this volume is an essential reference for visitors and residents alike.

Contributor Bio
Jane Grenville is the former head of department in archaeology and subsequently deputy vice-chancellor at the University of York. Before her academic career began, she worked in historic buildings conservation.
Traders in Men
Merchants and the Transformation of the Transatlantic Slave Trade
Nicholas Radburn

Summary
A sweeping new history that reveals how British, African, and American merchants developed the transatlantic slave trade

“This is a landmark study given its clear status as easily the best researched and most comprehensive book on the British slave trade to date.”—David Eltis, coauthor of Atlas of the Transatlantic Slave Trade

“A masterful account of one of the most brutal moments in the history of capitalist modernity. Radburn brilliantly details all aspects of the process of commodification of human beings in the Liverpool slave trade, vividly depicting the long journeys endured by Africans in Africa, across the Atlantic, and in the Americas.”—Leonardo Marques, Universidade Federal Fluminense

During the eighteenth century, Britain’s slave trade exploded in size. Formerly a small and geographically constricted business, the trade had, by the eve of the American Revolution, grown into a transatlantic system through which fifty thousand men, women, and children were enslaved every year.

In this wide-ranging history, Nicholas Radburn explains how thousands of merchants collectively transformed the slave trade by devising highly efficient but violent new business methods. African brokers developed commercial infrastructure that facilitated the enslavement and sale of millions of people. Britons invented shipping methods that quelled enslaved people’s constant resistance on the Middle Passage. And American slave traders formulated brutal techniques through which shiploads of people could be quickly sold to colonial buyers. Truly Atlantic-wide in its vision, this study shows how the slave trade dragged millions of people into its terrible vortex and became one of the most important phenomena in world history.

Contributor Bio
Nicholas Radburn is a senior lecturer in Atlantic history at Lancaster University and coeditor of www.slavevoyages.org. He lives in Lancaster, England, formerly one of Britain’s largest slave-trading ports.
Ignorance
A Global History
Peter Burke

Summary
A rich, wide-ranging history of ignorance in all its forms, from antiquity to the present day

“Ignorance: A Global History explores the myriad ways in which ‘not-knowing’ affects our lives, sometimes for good, sometimes for ill.”—Michael Dirda, Washington Post

Throughout history, every age has thought of itself as more knowledgeable than the last. Renaissance humanists viewed the Middle Ages as an era of darkness, Enlightenment thinkers tried to sweep superstition away with reason, the modern welfare state sought to slay the “giant” of ignorance, and in today’s hyperconnected world seemingly limitless information is available on demand. But what about the knowledge lost over the centuries? Are we really any less ignorant than our ancestors?

In this highly original account, Peter Burke examines the long history of humanity’s ignorance across religion and science, war and politics, business and catastrophes. Burke reveals remarkable stories of the many forms of ignorance—genuine or feigned, conscious and unconscious—from the willful politicians who redrew Europe’s borders in 1919 to the politics of whistleblowing and climate change denial. The result is a lively exploration of human knowledge across the ages, and the importance of recognizing its limits.

Contributor Bio
Peter Burke is emeritus professor of cultural history at the University of Cambridge. He is the author of many distinguished books that have been translated into more than thirty languages, including The Polymath and What Is the History of Knowledge?
The Coming of the Railway
A New Global History, 1750-1850
David Gwyn

Summary
The first global history of the epic early days of the iron railway

Railways, in simple wooden or stone form, have existed since prehistory. But from the 1750s onward the introduction of iron rails led to a dramatic technological evolution—one that would truly change the world.

In this rich new history, David Gwyn tells the neglected story of the early iron railway from a global perspective. Driven by a combination of ruthless enterprise, brilliant experimenters, and international cooperation, railway construction began to expand across the world with astonishing rapidity. From Britain to Australia, Russia to America, railways would bind together cities, nations, and entire continents. Rail was a tool of industry and empire as well as, eventually, passenger transport, and developments in technology occurred at breakneck speed—even if the first locomotive in America could muster only 6 mph.

The Coming of the Railway explores these fascinating developments, documenting the early railway’s outsize social, political, and economic impact—carving out the shape of the global economy as we know it today.

Contributor Bio
David Gwyn is a historian of the industrial and modern period. He is actively involved in the railway heritage movement, serving as a trustee of the Ffestiniog Railway and as chairman of the Bala Lake Railway Company.
Atlas of the Senseable City
Antoine Picon, Carlo Ratti

Summary
A fascinating exploration of how the growth of digital mapping, spurred by sensing technologies, is affecting cities and daily lives

What have smart technologies taught us about cities? What lessons can we learn from today’s urbanites to make better places to live? Antoine Picon and Carlo Ratti argue that the answers are in the maps we make. For centuries, we have relied on maps to navigate the enormity of the city. Now, as the physical world combines with the digital world, we need a new generation of maps to navigate the city of tomorrow. Pervasive sensors allow anyone to visualize cities in entirely new ways—ebbs and flows of pollution, traffic, and internet connectivity.

This book explores how the growth of digital mapping, spurred by sensing technologies, is affecting cities and daily lives. It examines how new cartographic possibilities aid urban planners, technicians, politicians, and administrators; how digitally mapped cities could reveal ways to make cities smarter and more efficient; how monitoring urbanites has political and social repercussions; and how the proliferation of open-source maps and collaborative platforms can aid activists and vulnerable populations. With its beautiful, accessible presentation of cutting-edge research, this book makes it easy for readers to understand the stakes of the new information age—and appreciate the timeless power of the city.

Contributor Bio
Antoine Picon, an architect and historian, is the G. Ware Travelstead Professor of the History of Architecture and Technology at Harvard University Graduate School of Design. Carlo Ratti, a practicing architect, is professor of urban technologies and director of the Senseable City Lab at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
Theoderic the Great
King of Goths, Ruler of Romans
Hans-Ulrich Wiemer, John Noel Dillon

Summary
The first full-scale history of Theoderic and the Goths in more than seventy-five years, tracing the transformation of a divided kingdom into a great power

In the year 493, the leader of a vast confederation of Gothic warriors, their wives, and children personally cut down Odoacer, the man famous for deposing the last Roman emperor in 476. That leader became Theoderic the Great (454–526). This engaging history of his life and reign immerses readers in the world of the warrior-king who ushered in decades of peace and stability in Italy as king of Goths and Romans. Theoderic transformed his roving “warrior nation” from the periphery of the Roman world into a standing army that protected his taxpaying Roman subjects with the support of the Roman elite. With a ruling strategy of “integration through separation,” Theoderic not only stabilized Italy but also extended his kingdom to the western Balkans, southern France, and the Iberian Peninsula.

Using sources as diverse as letters, poetry, coins, and mosaics, Hans-Ulrich Wiemer brings readers into the world of Theoderic’s court, from Gothic warriors and their families to the notables, artisans, and shopkeepers of Rome and Ravenna to the peasants and enslaved people who tilled the soil on grand rural estates. This book offers a fascinating history of the leader who brought peace to Italy after the disintegration of the Roman Empire.

Contributor Bio
Hans-Ulrich Wiemer is professor of ancient history at the Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg. He has published books and articles on Alexander the Great, Hellenistic history and historiography, Late Roman history, and the history of the Goths. He lives in Fürth, Germany. John Noël Dillon is lecturer in Latin at Yale Divinity School and translates scholarly work from German, French, and Italian. He lives in Branford, CT.
The Secret Gospel of Mark
A Controversial Scholar, a Scandalous Gospel of Jesus, and the Fierce Debate over Its Authenticity
Geoffrey S. Smith, Brent C. Landau

Summary
A groundbreaking account of the Secret Gospel of Mark, one of the most hotly debated documents in Christian history

In 1958, at the ancient Christian monastery of Mar Saba just outside Jerusalem, Columbia University scholar Morton Smith claimed to have unearthed a letter written by the Christian philosopher Clement of Alexandria and containing an excerpt from a previously unknown version of the canonical Gospel of Mark. This excerpt recounts a story of Jesus's apparent sexual encounter with a young, resurrected disciple. In recent years, an influential group of researchers has alleged that no Secret Gospel or letter of Clement existed in antiquity, and that the manuscript that Morton Smith “found” was a modern forgery—created by none other than Smith himself.

In this book, Geoffrey S. Smith and Brent C. Landau enter into the controversy surrounding this document and argue that the Secret Gospel of Mark is neither a first-century alternative gospel nor a twentieth-century forgery by the scholar who announced its discovery. Instead, this account is intimately bound up with the history of Mar Saba, one of the oldest monasteries in the Christian world. In this fascinating work, Smith and Landau present the realities and misconceptions surrounding not only the now-lost manuscript but also its brilliant, enigmatic, and acerbic discoverer, Morton Smith.

Contributor Bio
Geoffrey S. Smith is associate professor, fellow of the Louise Farmer Boyer Chair in Biblical Studies, and director of the Institute for the Study of Antiquity and Christian Origins in the religious studies department at the University of Texas at Austin. Brent C. Landau is associate professor of instruction in religious studies at the University of Texas at Austin. Both authors live in Austin.
**A Map of Longings**  
The Life and Works of Agha Shahid Ali  
Manan Kapoor

**Summary**

The beautifully written first biography of one of the world’s finest twentieth-century poets

Agha Shahid Ali (1949–2001) was one of the most celebrated American poets of the latter twentieth century, and his works have touched millions of lives around the world. Traversing multiple geographies, cultures, religions, and traditions, he mapped the varied landscapes of the Indian subcontinent and the United States.

In this biography, Manan Kapoor narrates Shahid’s evolution, following in the footsteps of the “Beloved Witness” from Kashmir and New Delhi to the American Southwest and Massachusetts. He charts Shahid’s friendships with literary figures such as James Merrill, Salman Rushdie, and Edward Said; explores how Shahid responded to events around the world, including the partition of the Indian subcontinent and the AIDS epidemic in America; and draws on unpublished materials and in-depth interviews to reveal the experiences and relationships that informed his poetry.

Hailed upon its release in India as “lush” and “poetic,” *A Map of Longings* is the story of an extraordinary poet, the works he left behind, and the legacy of his singular poetic vision.

**Contributor Bio**

**Manan Kapoor** is the author of *The Lamentations of a Sombre Sky*, which was a finalist for the 2017 Sahitya Akademi’s Yuva Award. He lives in Cambridge, MA.
**China’s Law of the Sea**
The New Rules of Maritime Order
Isaac B. Kardon

**Summary**

An in-depth examination of the law and geopolitics of China’s maritime disputes and their implications for the rules of the international law of the sea.

*China’s Law of the Sea* is the first comprehensive study of the law and geopolitics of China’s maritime disputes. It provides a rigorous empirical account of whether and how China is changing “the rules” of international order—specifically, the international law of the sea.

Conflicts over specific rules lie at the heart of the disputes, which are about much more than sovereignty over islands and rocks in the South and East China Seas. Instead, the main contests concern the strategic maritime space associated with those islands. To consolidate control over this vital maritime space, China’s leaders have begun to implement “China’s law of the sea”: building domestic legal institutions, bureaucratic organizations, and a naval and maritime law enforcement apparatus to establish China’s preferred maritime rules on the water and in the diplomatic arena.

Isaac B. Kardon examines China’s laws and policies to defend, exploit, study, administer, surveil, and patrol disputed waters. He also considers other claimants’ reactions to these Chinese practices, because other states must acquiesce for China’s preferences to become international rules. China’s maritime disputes offer unique insights into the nature and scope of China’s challenge to international order.

**Contributor Bio**

**Isaac B. Kardon** is senior fellow for China studies at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. He was formerly assistant professor at the U.S. Naval War College’s China Maritime Studies Institute. He is also a term member of the Council on Foreign Relations and an associate in research at Harvard’s Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies.
Schubert
A Musical Wayfarer
Lorraine Byrne Bodley

Summary
An insightful biography of the great composer, revealing Schubert’s complex and fascinating private life alongside his musical genius

Brilliant, short-lived, incredibly prolific—Schubert is one of the most intriguing figures in music history. While his music attracts a wide audience, much of his private life remains shrouded in mystery, and significant portions of his work have been overlooked.

In this major new biography, Lorraine Byrne Bodley takes a detailed look into Schubert’s life, from his early years at the Stadtconvikt to the harrowing battle with syphilis that led to his death at the age of thirty-one. Drawing on extensive archival research in Vienna and the Czech Republic, and reconsidering the meaning of some of his best-known works, Bodley provides a fuller account than ever before of Schubert’s extraordinary achievement and incredible courage. This is a compelling new portrait of one of the most beloved composers of the nineteenth century.

Contributor Bio
Lorraine Byrne Bodley is professor of musicology at Maynooth University. Internationally renowned as a Schubert and Goethe scholar, her previous books include Schubert’s Late Music, Rethinking Schubert, Goethe and Zelter, and Schubert’s Goethe Settings.
A Darkly Radiant Vision
The Black Social Gospel in the Shadow of MLK
Gary Dorrien

Summary
The third and final volume in the first comprehensive history of Black social Christianity, by the “greatest theological ethicist of the twenty-first century” (Michael Eric Dyson)

The Black social gospel is a tradition of unsurpassed and ongoing importance in American life, argues Gary Dorrien in his groundbreaking trilogy on the history of Black social Christianity. This concluding volume, an interpretation of the tradition since the early 1970s, follows Dorrien’s award-winning The New Abolition: W. E. B. Du Bois and the Black Social Gospel and Breaking White Supremacy: Martin Luther King Jr. and the Black Social Gospel.

Beginning in the shadow of Martin Luther King Jr., Dorrien examines the past fifty years of this intellectual and activist tradition, interpreting its politics, theology, ethics, social criticism, and social justice organizing. He argues that Black social Christianity is today an intersectional tradition of discourse and activist religion that interrelates liberation theology, womanist theology, antiracist politics, LGBTQ+ theory, cultural criticism, progressive religion, broad-based interfaith organizing, and global solidarity politics.

A Darkly Radiant Vision features in-depth discussions of Andrew Young, Jesse Jackson, Samuel DeWitt Proctor, Gayraud Wilmore, James Cone, Cornel West, Katie Geneva Cannon, Stacey Floyd-Thomas, Traci Blackmon, William J. Barber II, Raphael G. Warnock, and many others.

Contributor Bio
**In the Herbarium**  
The Hidden World of Collecting and Preserving Plants  
Maura C. Flannery

**Summary**  
*How herbaria illuminate the past and future of plant science*

Collections of preserved plant specimens, known as herbaria, have existed for nearly five centuries. These pressed and labeled plants have been essential resources for scientists, allowing them to describe and differentiate species and to document and research plant changes and biodiversity over time—including changes related to climate.

Maura C. Flannery tells the history of herbaria, from the earliest collections belonging to such advocates of the technique as sixteenth-century botanist Luca Ghini, to the collections of poets, politicians, and painters, and to the digitization of these precious specimens today. She charts the growth of herbaria during the Age of Exploration, the development of classification systems to organize the collections, and herbaria’s indispensable role in the tracking of climate change and molecular evolution. Herbaria also have historical, aesthetic, cultural, and ethnobotanical value—these preserved plants can be linked to the Indigenous peoples who used them, the collectors who sought them out, and the scientists who studied them.

This book testifies to the central role of herbaria in the history of plant study and to their continued value, not only to biologists but to entirely new users as well: gardeners, artists, students, and citizen-scientists.

**Contributor Bio**

Maura C. Flannery is professor emerita of biology at St. John’s University, New York, and research affiliate in the A. C. Moore Herbarium at the University of South Carolina. She is the author of two previous books and a blog, herbariumworld.wordpress.com. She lives in Aiken, SC.
Transparency
The Material History of an Idea
Daniel Jutte

Summary
A wide-ranging illustrated history of transparency as told through the evolution of the glass window

Transparency is a mantra of our day. It is key to the Western understanding of a liberal society. We expect transparency from, for instance, political institutions, corporations, and the media. But how did it become such a powerful—and global—idea?

From ancient glass to Apple’s corporate headquarters, this book is the first to probe how Western people have experienced, conceptualized, and evaluated transparency. Daniel Jütte argues that the experience of transparency has been inextricably linked to one element of Western architecture: the glass window.

Windows are meant to be unnoticed. Yet a historical perspective reveals the role that glass has played in shaping how we see and interpret the world. A seemingly “pure” material, glass has been endowed, throughout history, with political, social, and cultural meaning, in manifold and sometimes conflicting ways. At the same time, Jütte raises questions about the future of vitreous transparency—its costs in terms of visual privacy but also its ecological price tag in an age of accelerating climate change.

Contributor Bio
Daniel Jütte is associate professor in the Department of History at New York University. He is the author of the award-winning The Age of Secrecy: Jews, Christians, and the Economy of Secrets, 1400–1800 and The Strait Gate: Thresholds and Power in Western History. He lives in New York City.
Martin Heidegger's Changing Destinies
Catholicism, Revolution, Nazism
Guillaume Payen, Jane Marie Todd, Steven Rendall

Summary
A portrait of Martin Heidegger as a man and a philosopher

In this biography of Martin Heidegger (1889–1976), now available in English, historian Guillaume Payen synthesizes the connections between the German philosopher's life and work. Critically, but without polemics, he creates a portrait of Heidegger in his time, using all available sources—lectures, letters, and the notorious “black notebooks.”

Payen chronicles Heidegger’s “changing destinies”: after the First World War, an uncompromising Catholicism gave way to a vigorous striving for a philosophical revolution—fertile ground for National Socialism. The book reflects a life of light and shadow. Heidegger was a great philosopher and teacher who cultivated friendships and love affairs with Jews but also was an anti-Semitic nationalist who lamented the “Judaization of German intellectual life.”

Contributor Bio
Guillaume Payen is professor of history at Sorbonne Université in Paris. He lives in Paris. Jane Marie Todd (1957–2021) was a translator of over eighty books. Steven Rendall has translated ninety-five books from French and German.
The Lost Peace
How We Failed to Prevent a Second Cold War
Richard Sakwa

Summary
The first account of the new Cold War—revealing how today’s renewed era of global great power competition could threaten us all

The end of the Cold War in 1989 heralded a unique prospect for an enduring global peace, as harsh ideological divisions and conflicts began to be resolved. Now, three decades on, that peace has been lost. With increasing tensions between China, Russia, and the West, and war in Ukraine, great power politics once again dominates the world stage. But could it have been different?

In this incisive account, Richard Sakwa shows how these intervening years represented merely a hiatus in conflict rather than its end. Tracing the intricate reconfiguration of international politics which has led to this Second Cold War, Sakwa considers the resurgence of China and Russia and the disruptions and ambitions of the liberal order which opened up catastrophic new lines of conflict. This is a vital, erudite account of how the world entered its present era of renewed war in Europe, global rivalries and nuclear threat.

Contributor Bio
Richard Sakwa is emeritus professor of Russian and European politics at the University of Kent. He has published widely on Soviet, Russian, and post-communist affairs and is the author of Frontline Ukraine and Russia against the Rest.
The Throne of the Great Mogul in Dresden
The Ultimate Artwork of the Baroque
Dror Wahrman

Summary
A masterful deciphering of an extraordinary art object, illuminating some of the biggest questions of the eighteenth century

The Throne of the Great Mogul (1701–8) is a unique work of European decorative art: an intricate miniature of the court of the Mughal emperor Aurangzeb depicted during the emperor’s birthday celebrations. It was created by the jeweler Johann Melchior Dinglinger in Dresden and purchased by the Saxon prince Augustus the Strong for an enormous sum. Constructed like a theatrical set made of gold, silver, thousands of gemstones, and amazing enamel work, it consists of 164 pieces that together tell a detailed story.

Why did Dinglinger invest so much time and effort in making this piece? Why did Augustus, in the midst of a political and financial crisis, purchase it? And why did the jeweler secrete in it messages wholly unrelated to the prince or to the Great Mogul? In answering these questions, Dror Wahrman, while shifting scales from microhistory to global history, opens a window onto major historical themes of the period: the nature of European absolutism, the princely politics of the Holy Roman Empire, the changing meaning of art in the West, the surprising emergence of a cross-continental lexicon of rulership shared across the Eastern Hemisphere, and the enactment in jewels and gold of quirky contemporary theories about the global history of religion.

Contributor Bio
Dror Wahrman holds the Vigevani Chair in European Studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and is president of the Academic College of Tel-Aviv-Yaffo. He is the author of The Making of the Modern Self and Mr. Collier’s Letter Racks: A Tale of Art and Illusion at the Threshold of the Modern Information Age and coauthor of Invisible Hands: Self Organization and the Eighteenth Century. He lives in Jaffa, Israel.
Less Heat, More Light
A Guided Tour of Weather, Climate, and Climate Change
John D. Aber

Summary
A straightforward and fact-based exploration of how weather happens, how it relates to climate, and how science answers major questions about Earth as a system

Climate change is one of the most hotly contested environmental topics of our day. To answer criticisms and synthesize available information, scientists have been driven to devise increasingly complex models of the climate system. This book conveys that the basics of climate and climate change have been known for decades, and that relatively simple descriptions can capture the major features of the climate system and help the general public understand what controls climate and weather, and how both might be changing.

Renowned environmental scientist and educator John D. Aber distills what he has learned from a long fascination with weather and climate, the process of science, and the telling of the story of science. This is not a book about policies and politics. Instead, it explores how weather happens, how it relates to climate, and how science has been used to answer major questions about the Earth as a system and inform policies that have reversed environmental degradation. By providing a guided tour of the science of weather, this thoughtful survey will contribute clarity and rationality to the public understanding of climate change.

Contributor Bio
John D. Aber is university professor emeritus of environmental sciences at the University of New Hampshire, where he also served as vice president for research and as provost. He lives in Durham, NH.
The Two Moralities
Conservatives, Liberals, and the Roots of Our Political Divide
Ronnie Janoff-Bulman

Summary
The most complete picture to date of the moral worlds of the political left and right and how their different views relate to specific political issues

The left and right will always have strong policy disagreements, but constructive debate and negotiation are not possible when each side demonizes the other. We need to move past our poisonous politics. In this book, social psychologist Ronnie Janoff-Bulman provides a new framework for understanding why and how we disagree.

Janoff-Bulman asks readers to consider the challenging possibility that both liberalism and conservatism are morally based and reflect genuine concern for the country. Moral psychology is an invaluable lens for understanding the roots of political differences. She presents a “Model of Moral Motives” that maps the most fundamental motivations recognized by psychology—approach and avoidance—onto these differences. Liberal morality focuses on providing for the group’s well-being and ensuring social justice. Conservative morality focuses on protecting the group from threats and preserving order.

These moralities can account for the psychological differences between liberals and conservatives and for why certain positions resonate on each side of the political spectrum. Why, for example, do conservatives oppose abortion and favor unfettered free markets while liberals favor a woman’s right to choose and economic regulation? Understanding that our political differences are rooted in two natural forms of morality can help us begin to detoxify our politics.

Contributor Bio
Ronnie Janoff-Bulman is professor emerita of psychology and brain sciences at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and the former editor of the journal Psychological Inquiry. She is the author of Shattered Assumptions: Toward a New Psychology of Trauma. She lives in Amherst, MA.
The Syriac World
In Search of a Forgotten Christianity
Francoise Briquel Chatonnet, Muriel Debie, Jeffrey Haines

Summary
A comprehensive survey of Syriac Christianity over three thousand years

Syriac is often referred to as the third main language of Christianity, along with Latin and Greek, and it remains a foundational classical, literary, and religious language throughout the world. Originating in Mesopotamia along the Roman and Parthian frontiers, it was never the language of a powerful state or ethnic group, but with the coming of Christianity it developed into a rich religious and cultural tradition. At the same time that Christianity was making its way through Europe, Syriac missionaries were founding churches from the Mediterranean coast to Persia, converting the Turkic tribes of Central Asia, and building communities in India and China.

This comprehensive work tells the underexplored story of the Syriac world over three thousand years, from its pre-Christian roots in the Aramaic tribes and the ancient Near East to its vibrant expressions in modern diaspora churches. Enhanced with images, songs, poems, and important primary texts, this book shows the importance of Syriac history, theology, and literature in the twenty-first century.

Contributor Bio
Françoise Briquel Chatonnet, a French historian and senior researcher at the French National Center for Scientific Research, specializes in Syriac and Northwest Semitic studies. Muriel Debié holds a chair in ancient Eastern Christianities at the École Pratique des Hautes Études-PSL and specializes in Syriac studies. Jeffrey Haines is a historian of Eastern Christianity and specialist in Syriac studies.
Love for the Land
Lessons from Farmers Who Persist in Place
Brooks Lamb

Summary
A moving exploration of presence and place told through the stories of small-scale farmers who, despite intense adversity, continue caring for their land.

Love for the Land explores the power and potential of people-place relationships. Through clear and compelling prose, it elevates the virtues of imagination, affection, and fidelity—concepts promoted by farmer-writer Wendell Berry—and shows how they motivate small- and mid-scale farmers to care for the land, even in the face of adversity. Paying particular attention to farmland loss from suburban sprawl, rampant agricultural consolidation, and, for farmers of color, racial injustice, Brooks Lamb reckons with the harsh realities that these farmers face.

Drawing from in-depth interviews and hands-on experiences in two changing rural communities, he shares stories and sacrifices from dozens of farmers, local leaders, agricultural service providers, and land conservationists. Lamb’s rural roots and farming background enable him to cultivate honest, trusting connections with the farmers he engages, yielding raw and powerful insights. Time and again, compelling evidence reveals that stewardship virtues encourage people to live and act as devoted caretakers.

With a refreshing, accessible, and engaging approach, Lamb argues that these resilient and often overlooked farmers show rural and urban people alike a way forward, one that serves people, places, and the planet. That path is rooted in love for the land.

Contributor Bio
Brooks Lamb has served farms and farmers on local, state, and national levels. He currently works with American Farmland Trust and writes on agrarian and environmental issues. Originally from Holts Corner, TN, he now lives in Memphis, TN.
Tudor Children
Nicholas Orme

Summary

The first history of childhood in Tudor England

What was it like to grow up in England under the Tudors? How were children cared for, what did they play with, and what dangers did they face?

In this beautifully illustrated and characteristically lively account, leading historian Nicholas Orme provides a rich survey of childhood in the period. Beginning with birth and infancy, he explores all aspects of children’s experiences, including the games they played, such as Blind Man’s Bluff and Mumble-the-Peg, and the songs they sang, such as “Three Blind Mice” and “Jack Boy, Ho Boy.” He shows how social status determined everything from the food children ate and the clothes they wore to the education they received and the work they undertook.

Although childhood and adolescence could be challenging and even hazardous, it was also, as Nicholas Orme shows, a treasured time of learning and development. By looking at the lives of Tudor children we can gain a richer understanding of the era as a whole.

Contributor Bio

Nicholas Orme is emeritus professor of history at Exeter University. He has written more than thirty books on the religious and social history of England, including Medieval Children, The History of England’s Cathedrals, and Going to Church in Medieval England, which was shortlisted for the Wolfson History Prize.
The Lost Future
And How to Reclaim It
Jan Zielonka

Summary
A timely and compelling argument for a revitalized and restructured global politics

The future seems increasingly uncertain. Our democracies are failing to prevent financial crises, energy shortages, climate change, and war—so how can we look to the future with confidence?

Jan Zielonka argues that it is democracy’s shortsightedness that makes politics stumble in our increasingly connected world. With our governments still confined to the borders of nation-states, defending the short-term interests of present-day voters, the consequences for future generations are dire.

In this incisive account, Zielonka makes a bold case for a new politics of time and space. He considers how democracy should adjust to the world of high speed, and he questions our everyday experiences as citizens: Is it acceptable for authorities and firms to monitor our whereabouts? Why is the distribution of time and space so unequal? And, most crucially, can we construct a new system of governance that will allow us to plan ahead with certainty?

Contributor Bio
Jan Zielonka is professor of politics and international relations at the University of Oxford and at the University of Venice, Cà Foscari. He is the author of the prize-winning Counter Revolution: Liberal Europe in Retreat and is a contributor to several leading European newspapers.
Asylum between Nations
Refugees in a Revolutionary Era
Janet Polasky

Summary
Why some of the most vulnerable communities in Europe, from independent cities to new monarchies, welcomed refugees during the Age of Revolutions and prospered

“Janet Polasky unearths an unappreciated history of the experience of asylum in Europe and the United States since the Age of the Democratic Revolutions. Facing squarely the destruction of asylum in our own time, she ends with a stunningly optimistic vision of a path toward its reconstruction.”—Linda K. Kerber, author of No Constitutional Right to Be Ladies

Driven from their homelands, refugees from ancient times to the present have sought asylum in worlds turned upside down. Theirs is an age-old story. So too are the solutions to their plight.

In the wake of the American and French Revolutions, thousands of men and women took to the roads and waterways on both sides of the Atlantic—refugees in search of their inalienable rights. Although larger nations fortified their borders and circumscribed citizenship, two port cities, German Hamburg and Danish Altona, opened their doors, as did the federated Swiss cantons and the newly independent Belgian monarchy. The refugees thrived and the societies that harbored them prospered. The United States followed, not only welcoming waves of immigrants in the mid-nineteenth century but offering them citizenship as well.

In this remarkable story of the first modern refugee crisis, historian Janet Polasky shows how open doors can be a viable alternative to the building of border walls.

Contributor Bio
Janet Polasky is Presidential Professor of History at the University of New Hampshire. She is the author of six books, including Revolutions without Borders: The Call to Liberty in the Atlantic World. She lives in Portsmouth, NH.
**Tempest**
The Royal Navy and the Age of Revolutions
James Davey

**Summary**
A major new history of the Royal Navy during the tumultuous age of revolution

The French Revolutionary Wars catapulted Britain into a conflict against a new enemy: Republican France. Britain relied on the Royal Navy to protect its shores and empire, but as radical ideas about rights and liberty spread across the globe, it could not prevent the spirit of revolution from reaching its ships.

In this insightful history, James Davey tells the story of Britain’s Royal Navy across the turbulent 1790s. As resistance and rebellion swept through the fleets, the navy itself became a political battleground. This was a conflict fought for principles as well as power. Sailors organized riots, strikes, petitions, and mutinies to achieve their goals. These shocking events dominated public discussion, prompting cynical—and sometimes brutal—responses from the government.

Tempest uncovers the voices of ordinary sailors to shed new light on Britain’s war with France, as the age of revolution played out at every level of society.

**Contributor Bio**
James Davey teaches at the University of Exeter. He was formerly curator of naval history at the National Maritime Museum and is the author of *In Nelson’s Wake: The Navy and the Napoleonic Wars.*
The Stories Old Towns Tell
A Journey through Cities at the Heart of Europe
Marek Kohn

Summary
A fascinating journey through Europe’s old towns, exploring why we treasure them—but also what they hide about a continent’s fraught history

Historic quarters in cities and towns across the middle of Europe were devastated during the Second World War—some, like those of Warsaw and Frankfurt, had to be rebuilt almost completely. They are now centers of peace and civility that attract millions of tourists, but the stories they tell about places, peoples, and nations are selective. They are never the whole story.

These old towns and their turbulent histories have been key sites in Europe’s ongoing theater of politics and war. Exploring seven old towns, from Frankfurt and Prague to Vilnius in Lithuania, the acclaimed writer Marek Kohn examines how they have been used since the Second World War to conceal political tensions and reinforce certain versions of history.

Uncovering hidden stories behind these old and old-seeming façades, Kohn offers us a new understanding of the politics of European history-making—showing how our visits to old towns could promote belonging over exclusion, and empathy over indifference.

Contributor Bio
Marek Kohn is the author of nine books, including Four Words for Friend, A Reason for Everything, and Dope Girls.
Barnave
The Revolutionary who Lost his Head for Marie Antoinette
John Hardman

Summary
A major new biography of Antoine Barnave—the politician and writer who advocated for a constitutional monarchy in revolutionary France

Antoine Barnave was one of the most influential statesmen in the early French Revolution. He was a didactic man of austere morals and vaulting ambition who dressed as an English dandy, running up considerable tailor’s bills. Before his execution at age thirty-two, he played a decisive role in revolutionary politics and even governed France in 1791 through a secret correspondence with Marie-Antoinette.

In the first biography for more than a century, John Hardman traces Barnave’s life from his youth in Dauphiné to his role in the Constituent Assembly and his part in forming the Feuillants, the party dedicated to the moderate cause. Despite his early death, Barnave left a remarkable volume of material, from published works to thousands of manuscript pages. Hardman uses this rich archive to explore the life of this elusive writer, politician, and thinker—and sheds new light on the revolutionary period.

Contributor Bio
John Hardman is one of the world’s leading experts on the French Revolution and the author of several distinguished books on the subject, including Marie-Antoinette and The Life of Louis XVI, which was shortlisted for the Elizabeth Longford Prize for Historical Biography and won the Franco-British Society Prize.
**Henry III**

*Reform, Rebellion, Civil War, Settlement, 1259-1272*

David Carpenter

**Summary**

The second volume in the definitive history of Henry III's rule, covering the revolutionary events between 1258 and the king’s death in 1272

After coming to the throne aged just nine, Henry III spent much of his reign peaceably. Conciliatory and deeply religious, he created a magnificent court, rebuilt Westminster Abbey, and invested in soft power. Then, in 1258, the king faced a great revolution. Led by Simon de Montfort, the uprising stripped him of his authority and brought decades of personal rule to a catastrophic end. In the brutal civil war that followed, the political community was torn apart in a way unseen again until Cromwell.

Renowned historian David Carpenter brings to life the dramatic events in the last phase of Henry III’s momentous reign. Carpenter provides a fresh account of the king’s strenuous efforts to recover power and sheds new light on the characters of the rebel de Montfort, Queen Eleanor, and Lord Edward—the future Edward I. A groundbreaking biography, *Henry III* illuminates as never before the political twists and turns of the day, showing how politics and religion were intimately connected.

**Contributor Bio**

David Carpenter is professor of medieval history at King’s College London. He is the author of numerous books, including the widely acclaimed *Henry III: The Rise to Power and Personal Rule, 1207–1258* and a new study of the Magna Carta.
Woman
The American History of an Idea
Lillian Faderman

Summary
A comprehensive history of the struggle to define womanhood in America, from the seventeenth to the twenty-first century

“Exhaustively researched and finely written.”—Alexandra Jacobs, New York Times

“An intelligently provocative, vital reading experience. . . . This highly readable, inclusive, and deeply researched book will appeal to scholars of women and gender studies as well as anyone seeking to understand the historical patterns that misogyny has etched across every era of American culture.”—Kirkus Reviews, starred review

What does it mean to be a “woman” in America? Award-winning gender and sexuality scholar Lillian Faderman traces the evolution of the meaning from Puritan ideas of God’s plan for women to the sexual revolution of the 1960s and its reversals to the impact of such recent events as #metoo, the appointment of Amy Coney Barrett to the Supreme Court, the election of Kamala Harris as vice president, and the transgender movement.

This wide-ranging 400-year history chronicles conflicts, retreats, defeats, and hard-won victories in both the private and the public sectors and shines a light on the often-overlooked battles of enslaved women and women leaders in tribal nations. Noting that every attempt to cement a particular definition of “woman” has been met with resistance, Faderman also shows that successful challenges to the status quo are often short-lived. As she underlines, the idea of womanhood in America continues to be contested.

Contributor Bio
Lillian Faderman is professor emerita at California State University, Fresno. Her books on the history of gender and sexuality have won numerous prizes, including seven Lambda Literary Awards, two Stonewall Book Awards, and the Anisfield-Wolf Book Award. She lives in La Jolla, CA.
After Disbelief
On Disenchantment, Disappointment, Eternity, and Joy
Anthony T. Kronman

Summary
An intimate, philosophic quest for eternity, amidst the disenchantments and disappointments of our time

“Anyone who, in our age of disbelief, longs to believe in God will find Mr. Kronman worth reading.”—Andrew Stark, Wall Street Journal

“Aims to persuade America’s ‘relentlessly rational’ elites to acknowledge the existence of ‘divinity.’ . . . Kronman’s ambition is to repair ‘the schism between those for whom religion continues to matter and those who view it with amusement or contempt.’”—Tunku Varadarajan, Wall Street Journal

Many people of faith believe the meaning of life depends on our connection to an eternal order of some kind. Atheists deride this belief as a childish superstition.

In this wise and profound book, Anthony Kronman offers an alternative to these two entrenched positions, arguing that neither addresses the complexities of the human condition. We can never reach God, as religion promises, but cannot give up the longing to do so either. We are condemned by our nature to set goals we can neither abandon nor fulfill, yet paradoxically are able to approach more closely if we try. The human condition is one of inevitable disappointment tempered by moments of joy.

Resolutely humanistic and theologically inspired, this moving book offers a rational path to the love of God amidst the disenchantments of our time.

Contributor Bio
Anthony Kronman is Sterling Professor of Law and a former dean at Yale Law School. He is the author of Confessions of a Born-Again Pagan and Education's End: Why Our Colleges and Universities Have Given Up on the Meaning of Life. He lives on Block Island, RI.
Journeys to Heaven and Hell
Tours of the Afterlife in the Early Christian Tradition
Bart D. Ehrman

Summary
A New York Times bestselling scholar’s illuminating exploration of the earliest Christian narrated journeys to heaven and hell


From classics such as the Odyssey and the Aeneid to fifth-century Christian apocrypha, narratives that described guided tours of the afterlife played a major role in shaping ancient notions of morality and ethics. In this new account, acclaimed author Bart Ehrman contextualizes early Christian narratives of heaven and hell within the broader intellectual and cultural worlds from which they emerged. He examines how fundamental social experiences of the early Christian communities molded the conceptions of the afterlife that eventuated into the accepted doctrines of heaven, hell, and purgatory.

Drawing on Greek and Roman epic poetry, early Jewish writings such as the Book of Watchers, and apocryphal Christian stories including the Acts of Thomas, the Gospel of Nicodemus, and the Apocalypse of Peter, Ehrman demonstrates that ancient tours of the afterlife promoted reflection on matters of ethics, faith, ambition, and life’s meaning, the fruit of which has been codified into Christian belief today.

Contributor Bio
Bart D. Ehrman is the James A. Gray Distinguished Professor of Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He has written or edited thirty-three books, six of which were New York Times best sellers. He lives in Durham, NC.
The Economic Weapon
The Rise of Sanctions as a Tool of Modern War
Nicholas Mulder

Summary
The first international history of the emergence of economic sanctions during the interwar period and the legacy of this development

A Foreign Affairs Best Book of 2022

“Valuable . . . offers many lessons for Western policy makers today.”—Paul Kennedy, Wall Street Journal

“The lessons are sobering.”—The Economist

Economic sanctions dominate the landscape of world politics today. First developed in the early twentieth century as a way of exploiting the flows of globalization to defend liberal internationalism, their appeal is that they function as an alternative to war. This view, however, ignores the dark paradox at their core: designed to prevent war, economic sanctions are modeled on devastating techniques of warfare.

Tracing the use of economic sanctions from the blockades of World War I to the policing of colonial empires and the interwar confrontation with fascism, Nicholas Mulder uses extensive archival research in a political, economic, legal, and military history that reveals how a coercive wartime tool was adopted as an instrument of peacekeeping by the League of Nations. This timely study casts an overdue light on why sanctions are widely considered a form of war, and why their unintended consequences are so tremendous.

Contributor Bio
Nicholas Mulder is an assistant professor of modern European history at Cornell University and regular contributor to Foreign Policy and The Nation.
A World Safe for Democracy
Liberal Internationalism and the Crises of Global Order
G. John Ikenberry

Summary
A sweeping account of the rise and evolution of liberal internationalism in the modern era, selected as a Best Book of 2021 by Foreign Affairs

“A thoughtful and profound defence of liberal internationalism—both as a political philosophy and as a guide to future actions.”—Gideon Rachman, Financial Times

“The crowning achievement of [Ikenberry’s] decades-long work explaining and defending the liberal international order.”—Michael Hirsch, Foreign Policy

For two hundred years, the grand project of liberal internationalism has been to build a world order that is open, loosely rules-based, and oriented toward progressive ideas. Today this project is in crisis, threatened from the outside by illiberal challengers and from the inside by nationalist-populist movements. This timely book offers the first full account of liberal internationalism’s long journey from its nineteenth-century roots to today’s fractured political moment. Creating an international “space” for liberal democracy, preserving rights and protections within and between countries, and balancing conflicting values such as liberty and equality, openness and social solidarity, and sovereignty and interdependence—these are the guiding aims that have propelled liberal internationalism through the upheavals of the past two centuries. G. John Ikenberry argues that in a twenty-first century marked by rising economic and security interdependence, liberal internationalism—reformed and reimagined—remains the most viable project to protect liberal democracy.

Contributor Bio
G. John Ikenberry is the Albert G. Milbank Professor of Politics and International Affairs at Princeton University, as well as a Global Scholar at Kyung Hee University, South Korea. His books include Liberal Leviathan and After Victory.
The Weaponisation of Everything
A Field Guide to the New Way of War
Mark Galeotti

Summary
An engaging guide to the various ways in which war is now waged—and how to adapt to this new reality

“This brisk everyman’s guide—straight-talking and free of jargon—is a useful tasting menu to a fast moving, constantly evolving set of problems. . . . A lively reminder that war adapts to technology, that civilians are part of modern conflict whether they like it or not.”—Roger Boyes, The Times

“Galeotti’s field guide is an admirably clear overview (in his words, ‘quick and opinionated’) of a form of conflict which is vague and hard to grasp. Variously described as hybrid, sub-threshold or grey-zone warfare, this is the no man’s land between peaceful relations and formal combat.”—Helen Warrell, Financial Times

Hybrid War, Grey Zone Warfare, Unrestricted War: today, traditional conflict—fought with guns, bombs, and drones—has become too expensive to wage, too unpopular at home, and too difficult to manage. In an age when America threatens Europe with sanctions, and when China spends billions buying influence abroad, the world is heading for a new era of permanent low-level conflict, often unnoticed, undeclared, and unending.

As conflict once again returns to Europe, transnational crime expert Mark Galeotti provides a comprehensive and ground-breaking survey of the new way of war. Ranging across the globe, Galeotti shows how today’s conflicts are fought with everything from disinformation and espionage to crime and subversion, leading to instability within countries and a legitimacy crisis across the globe. But rather than suggest that we hope for a return to a bygone era of “stable” warfare, Galeotti details ways of surviving, adapting, and taking advantage of the opportunities presented by this new reality.

Contributor Bio
Mark Galeotti is an honorary professor at UCL SSEES and senior associate fellow at the Royal United Services Institute. An expert on transnational crime and Russian security affairs, Galeotti has written numerous books including The Vory and We Need to Talk About Putin.
A World Without Soil
The Past, Present, and Precarious Future of the Earth Beneath Our Feet
Jo Handelsman, Kayla Cohen

Summary
A celebrated biologist’s manifesto addressing a soil loss crisis accelerated by poor conservation practices and climate change

“Jo Handelsman is a national treasure, and her clarion call warning of a looming soil-loss catastrophe must be heard. Add her clearly written alarm to other future-shocks: climate change, pandemics, and mass extinctions.” —Laurie Garrett, Pulitzer Prize winner and author of The Coming Plague: Newly Emerging Diseases in a World Out of Balance

“The ground beneath our feet is slipping away as we lose the precious soil that sustains us. Jo Handelsman’s writing—as rich and life supporting as the soil itself—is a riveting warning.” —Alan Alda, actor, writer, and host of the podcast “Clear+Vivid with Alan Alda”

This book by celebrated biologist Jo Handelsman lays bare the complex connections among climate change, soil erosion, food and water security, and drug discovery.

Humans depend on soil for 95 percent of global food production, yet let it erode at unsustainable rates. In the United States, China, and India, vast tracts of farmland will be barren of topsoil within this century. The combination of intensifying erosion caused by climate change and the increasing food needs of a growing world population is creating a desperate need for solutions to this crisis.

Writing for a nonspecialist audience, Jo Handelsman celebrates the capacities of soil and explores the soil-related challenges of the near future. She begins by telling soil’s origin story, explains how it erodes and the subsequent repercussions worldwide, and offers solutions. She considers lessons learned from indigenous people who have sustainably farmed the same land for thousands of years, practices developed for large-scale agriculture, and proposals using technology and policy initiatives.

Contributor Bio
Jo Handelsman is the director of the Wisconsin Institute for Discovery and a Vilas Research Professor and Howard Hughes Medical Institute Professor in the Department of Plant Pathology at the University of Wisconsin–Madison. She served as a science advisor to President Barack Obama. Kayla Cohen provided research and creative contributions to A World Without Soil. She completed a master’s degree with distinction in Environment and Development at the London School of Economics.
The Week
A History of the Unnatural Rhythms That Made Us Who We Are
David M Henkin

Summary
An investigation into the evolution of the seven-day week and how our attachment to its rhythms influences how we live

“[Henkin] scours American literature, diaries, periodicals, menus and other ephemera from as far back as the seventeenth century to unearth fascinating evidence of the stickiness of the seven-day cycle.”—Melissa Holbrook Pierson, Wall Street Journal

We take the seven-day week for granted, rarely asking what anchors it or what it does to us. Yet weeks are not dictated by the natural order. They are, in fact, an artificial construction of the modern world.

With meticulous archival research that draws on a wide array of sources—including newspapers, restaurant menus, theater schedules, marriage records, school curricula, folklore, housekeeping guides, courtroom testimony, and diaries—David Henkin reveals how our current devotion to weekly rhythms emerged in the United States during the first half of the nineteenth century. Reconstructing how weekly patterns insinuated themselves into the social practices and mental habits of Americans, Henkin argues that the week is more than just a regimen of rest days or breaks from work, but a dominant organizational principle of modern society. Ultimately, the seven-day week shapes our understanding and experience of time.

Contributor Bio
David M. Henkin is Margaret Byrne Professor of History at the University of California, Berkeley. His previous books include The Postal Age, City Reading, and (with Rebecca McLennan) Becoming America: A History for the 21st Century. He lives in San Francisco, CA, and Bozeman, MT.
The Wall and the Bridge
Fear and Opportunity in Disruption's Wake
Glenn Hubbard

Summary
An informed argument for an economic policy based on bridges of preparation
and adaptation rather than walls of protection and exclusion

“When technological change and globalization in recent decades brought
frustration over the resulting losses to jobs and communities, there were no
guardrails to get these workers back on track. As this compelling book shows,
our nation is going to need bridges to help people get through the
unavoidable transformations.”—Edmund Phelps, 2006 Nobel Laureate in
Economics and author of Mass Flourishing

Free-market economists often have noted that there are winners and losers in a
competitive capitalist world. The question of how to deal with the difficult real-life
consequences faced by the losers, however, has largely been ignored. Populist
politicians have tried repeatedly to address the issue by creating walls—of both the
physical and economic kinds—to insulate communities and keep competition at bay.
While recognizing the broad emotional appeal of walls, economist Glenn Hubbard
argues that because they delay needed adaptations to the ever-changing world, walls
are essentially backward-looking and ultimately destined to fail. Taking Adam Smith’s
logic to Youngstown, Ohio, as a case study in economic disruption, Hubbard promotes
the benefits of an open economy and creating bridges to support people in turbulent
times so that they remain engaged and prepared to participate in, and reap the
rewards of, a new economic landscape.

Contributor Bio
Glenn Hubbard, Russell L. Carson Professor of Finance and Economics and dean
emeritus at Columbia Business School, was chairman of the U.S. Council of Economic
Advisers from 2001 through 2003.
Thomas Jefferson
A Biography of Spirit and Flesh
Thomas S. Kidd

Summary
A revelatory new biography of Thomas Jefferson, focusing on his ethical and spiritual life

“Kidd’s biography may well be the best treatment of Jefferson’s religious and moral life available, and certainly it is among the few to take those two subjects seriously while carefully avoiding hagiography or anachronism. It deserves a wide readership.”—Miles Smith, National Review

“Set aside everything you think you know about Thomas Jefferson and religion, and read this book. This is the definitive account. It is well written, well researched, judicious, and entirely convincing.”—Timothy Larsen, Wheaton College

Thomas Jefferson was arguably the most brilliant and inspiring political writer in American history. But the ethical realities of his personal life and political career did not live up to his soaring rhetoric. Indeed, three tensions defined Jefferson’s moral life: democracy versus slavery, republican virtue versus dissolute consumption, and veneration for Jesus versus skepticism about Christianity.

In this book Thomas S. Kidd tells the story of Jefferson’s ethical life through the lens of these tensions, including an unapologetic focus on the issue where Jefferson’s idealistic philosophy and lived reality clashed most obviously: his sexual relationship with his enslaved woman Sally Hemings. In doing so, he offers a unique perspective on one of American history’s most studied figures.

Contributor Bio
Thomas S. Kidd is distinguished professor of history at Baylor University. His books include Benjamin Franklin: The Religious Life of a Founding Father and Who Is an Evangelical? The History of a Movement in Crisis. He lives in Woodway, Texas.
Why Argument Matters
Lee Siegel

Summary
Hailed by the New York Times as a book that “examines the role that argument has played throughout history and how it has shaped human existence”

—Publishers Weekly, starred review

“Perhaps more than any other commentary, Why Argument Matters illuminates the root causes of our partisan, venomous, irrational times—and yet somehow rescues from the morass the true nature of argument, its power and beauty.”—Michael Wolff, author of Fire and Fury: Inside the Trump White House

From Eve’s crafty exchange with the serpent, to Martin Luther King’s soaring, subtle ultimatums, to the throes of Twitter—argument’s drainpipe—the human desire to prevail with words has been not just a moral but an existential compulsion. In this dazzling reformulation of argument, renowned critic Lee Siegel portrays the true art of argument as much deeper and far more embracing than mere quarrel, dispute, or debate. It is the supreme expression of humanity’s longing for a better life, born of empathy and of care for the world and those who inhabit it. With wit, passion, and striking insights, Siegel plumbs the emotional and psychological sources of clashing words, weaving through his exploration the untold story of the role argument has played in societies throughout history. Each life, he maintains, is an argument for that particular way of living; every individual style of argument is also a case that is being made for that person’s right to argue. Argument is at the heart of the human experience, and language, at its most liberated and expressive, inexorably bends toward argument.

Contributor Bio
Lee Siegel, the author of six previous books and the recipient of a National Magazine Award for Reviews and Criticism, publishes widely on culture and politics. He lives in Montclair, NJ, with his wife and two children.
Dark Persuasion
A History of Brainwashing from Pavlov to Social Media
Joel E. Dimsdale

Summary
A "highly readable and compelling" account (Science) of brainwashing’s pervasive role in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries

“Riveting . . . . Dimsdale . . . shows how the art of dark persuasion a generation ago led almost inevitably to today’s misinformation, cyberbullying and cultlike behavior on the Internet.”—Dina Temple-Raston, Washington Post

This gripping book traces the evolution of brainwashing from its beginnings in torture and religious conversion into the age of neuroscience and social media. When Pavlov introduced scientific approaches, his research was enthusiastically supported by Lenin and Stalin, setting the stage for major breakthroughs in tools for social, political, and religious control.

Tracing these developments through many of the past century’s major conflagrations, Dimsdale narrates how when World War II erupted, governments secretly raced to develop drugs for interrogation. Brainwashing returned to the spotlight during the Cold War in the hands of the North Koreans and Chinese. In response, a huge Manhattan Project of the Mind was established to study memory obliteration, indoctrination during sleep, and hallucinogens. Cults used the techniques as well. Nobel laureates, university academics, intelligence operatives, criminals, and clerics all populate this shattering and dark story—one that hasn’t yet ended.

Contributor Bio
Joel E. Dimsdale is Distinguished Professor Emeritus in the Department of Psychiatry at University of California, San Diego. He consults widely to government agencies and is the author of numerous other works, including Anatomy of Malice: The Enigma of the Nazi War Criminals. He lives in San Diego, CA.
Military Strategy
A Global History
Jeremy Black

Summary
A global account of military strategy, which examines the practices, rather than the theories, of the most significant military figures of the past 400 years.

Strategy has existed as long as there has been organised conflict. In this ground-breaking account, Jeremy Black explores the ever-changing relationship between purpose, force, implementation and effectiveness in military strategy and its dramatic impact on the development of the global power system.

Taking a “total” view of strategy, Black looks at leading powers—notably the United States, China, Britain, and Russia—in the wider context of their competition and their domestic and international strengths. Ranging from France’s ancien régime and Britain’s empire building to present-day conflicts in the Middle East, Black devotes particular attention to the strategic practice and decisions of the Kangxi Emperor, Clausewitz, Napoleon, and Hitler.

Contributor Bio
Jeremy Black is emeritus professor of history at the University of Exeter. Black has published widely in military history, including A Short History of War and Air Power. His other works include Maps and History and Naval Warfare.
Stronger
Adapting America's China Strategy in an Age of Competitive Interdependence
Ryan Hass

Summary
An examination of how America can strengthen its approach to China by building on its existing advantages

“This book is essential reading for anyone interested in understanding how the United States can renew its advantages in its competition with China.”—Ambassador Susan E. Rice, former U.S. National Security Advisor

“Ryan Hass has provided an indispensable and timely contribution to understanding our critical path forward with China.”—Jon M. Huntsman, former U.S. Ambassador to China and Russia

Ryan Hass charts a path forward in America’s relationship and rivalry with China, a path rooted in the relative advantages America already possesses. Hass argues that while competition will remain the defining trait of the relationship, both countries will continue to be impacted—for good or ill—by their capacity to coordinate on common challenges that neither can solve on its own, such as pandemic disease, global economic development, climate change, and nuclear nonproliferation. Hass makes the case that the United States will have greater success in outpacing China economically and outshining it in questions of governance if it focuses more on improving its condition at home than on trying to impede Chinese initiatives. He argues that the task at hand is not to stand in China’s way and, in the process, turn a rising power into an enemy but to renew America’s advantages in its competition with China.

Contributor Bio
Ryan Hass is the Michael H. Armacost Chair in Foreign Policy at the Brookings Institution and a nonresident affiliated fellow in the Paul Tsai China Center at Yale Law School. He is also a senior advisor at the Scowcroft Group and McLarty Associates.
Campaign of the Century
Kennedy, Nixon, and the Election of 1960
Irwin F. Gellman

Summary
Based on massive new research, a compelling and surprising account of the twentieth century’s closest election

“[Gellman] offers as detailed an exploration of the 1960 presidential race as can be found.”—Robert W. Merry, Wall Street Journal

“A brilliant work . . . the research is absolutely phenomenal . . . This book should receive every accolade the publishing industry can give it, including the Pulitzer Prize.”—John Rothmann, KGO’s “The John Rothmann Show”

The 1960 presidential election between John F. Kennedy and Richard Nixon is one of the most frequently described political events of the twentieth century, yet the accounts to date have been remarkably unbalanced. Far more attention is given to Kennedy’s side than to Nixon’s. The imbalance began with the first book on that election, Theodore White’s The Making of the President 1960—in which (as he later admitted) White deliberately cast Kennedy as the hero and Nixon as the villain—and it has been perpetuated in almost every book since then. Few historians have attempted an unbiased account of the election, and none have done the archival research that Irwin F. Gellman has done. Based on previously unused sources such as the FBI’s surveillance of JFK and the papers of Leon Jaworski, vice-presidential candidate Henry Cabot Lodge, and many others, this book presents the first even-handed history of both the primary campaigns and the general election. The result is a fresh, engaging chronicle that shatters long-held myths and reveals the strengths and weaknesses of both candidates.

Contributor Bio
Irwin F. Gellman is a renowned scholar of twentieth-century American presidential history. His books include The Contender and The President and the Apprentice. He lives in West Chester, PA.
The World Before Us
The New Science Behind Our Human Origins
Tom Higham

Summary
A fascinating investigation of the origin of humans, based on incredible new discoveries and advanced scientific technology

"Conveys the thrill of archaeological discovery.‘’—Alexander Larman, The Observer

"Packs in startling discoveries, impressive insights and the occasional debunking of a foolish idea."—Michael Marshall, New Scientist

Fifty thousand years ago, Homo sapiens was not the only species of humans in the world. There were also Neanderthals in what is now Europe, the Near East, and parts of Eurasia; Hobbits (H. floresiensis) on the island of Flores in Indonesia; Denisovans in Siberia and eastern Eurasia; and H. luzonensis in the Philippines. Tom Higham investigates what we know about these other human species and explores what can be learned from the genetic links between them and us. He also looks at whether H. erectus may have survived into the period when our ancestors first moved into Southeast Asia.

Filled with thrilling tales of recent scientific discoveries, this book offers an engaging synopsis of our current understanding of human origins and raises new and interesting possibilities—particularly concerning what contact, if any, these other species might have had with us prior to their extinction.

Contributor Bio
Tom Higham is professor of archaeological science at the Research Laboratory for Archaeology and the History of Art at the University of Oxford and director of the Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit.
The Liberation of the Camps
The End of the Holocaust and Its Aftermath
Dan Stone

Summary
A moving, deeply researched account of survivors’ experiences of liberation from Nazi death camps and the long, difficult years that followed

When tortured inmates of Hitler’s concentration and extermination camps were liberated in 1944 and 1945, the horror of the atrocities came fully to light. It was easy for others to imagine the joyful relief of freed prisoners, yet for those who had survived the unimaginable, the experience of liberation was a slow, grueling journey back to life. In this unprecedented inquiry into the days, months, and years following the arrival of Allied forces at the Nazi camps, a foremost historian of the Holocaust draws on archival sources and especially on eyewitness testimonies to reveal the complex challenges liberated victims faced and the daunting tasks their liberators undertook to help them reclaim their shattered lives.

Historian Dan Stone focuses on the survivors—their feelings of guilt, exhaustion, fear, shame for having survived, and devastating grief for lost family members; their immense medical problems; and their later demands to be released from Displaced Persons camps and resettled in countries of their own choosing. Stone also tracks the efforts of British, American, Canadian, and Russian liberators as they contended with survivors’ immediate needs, then grappled with longer-term issues that shaped the postwar world and ushered in the first chill of the Cold War years ahead.

Contributor Bio
Dan Stone is professor of modern history, Royal Holloway, University of London. He has published twenty books on the Holocaust, genocide, and twentieth-century European history, including The Holocaust: An Unfinished History.
Henry V
The Conscience of a King
Malcolm Vale

Summary
More than just a single-minded warrior-king, Henry V comes to life in this fresh account as a gifted ruler acutely conscious of spiritual matters and his subjects’ welfare.

Shakespeare’s centuries-old portrayal of Henry V established the king’s reputation as a warmongering monarch, a perception that has persisted ever since. But in this engaging study a different view of Henry emerges: that of a multidimensional ruler of great piety, a hands-on governor who introduced a radically new conception of England’s European role in secular and ecclesiastical affairs, a composer of music, an art patron, and a dutiful king who fully appreciated his obligations toward those he ruled.

Historian Malcolm Vale draws on extensive primary archival evidence that includes many documents annotated or endorsed in Henry’s own hand. Focusing on a series of themes—the interaction between king and church, the rise of the English language as a medium of government and politics, the role of ceremony in Henry’s kingship, and more—Vale revises understandings of Henry V and his conduct of the everyday affairs of England, Normandy, and the kingdom of France.

Contributor Bio
Malcolm Vale is emeritus research fellow in history, St. John’s College, Oxford. He has written extensively on Anglo-French history and is the author of The Ancient Enemy and A Short History of the Renaissance in Northern Europe.
Culture
Terry Eagleton

Summary
One of our most brilliant minds offers a sweeping intellectual history that argues for the reclamation of culture’s value

Culture is a defining aspect of what it means to be human. Defining culture and pinpointing its role in our lives is not, however, so straightforward. Terry Eagleton, one of our foremost literary and cultural critics, is uniquely poised to take on the challenge.

In this keenly analytical and acerbically funny book, he explores how culture and our conceptualizations of it have evolved over the last two centuries—from rarified sphere to humble practices, and from a bulwark against industrialism’s encroaches to present-day capitalism’s most profitable export. Ranging over art and literature as well as philosophy and anthropology, and major but somewhat “unfashionable” thinkers like Johann Gottfried Herder and Edmund Burke as well as T. S. Eliot, Matthew Arnold, Raymond Williams, and Oscar Wilde, Eagleton provides a cogent overview of culture set firmly in its historical and theoretical contexts, illuminating its collusion with colonialism, nationalism, the decline of religion, and the rise of and rule over the "uncultured" masses. Eagleton also examines culture today, lambasting the commodification and co-option of a force that, properly understood, is a vital means for us to cultivate and enrich our social lives, and can even provide the impetus to transform civil society.

Contributor Bio
Terry Eagleton is distinguished professor of English literature, University of Lancaster. He lives in Northern Ireland.
Late Fragments
Flares, My Heart Laid Bare, Prose Poems, Belgium Disrobed
Charles Baudelaire, Richard Sieburth

Summary
The first English collection of the late poetry and prose fragments of literary icon Charles Baudelaire

“[A] handsome new book . . . all this inchoate material is given context by Sieburth’s learned, elegantly written commentary. He is the perfect guide.” —Michael Dirda, Washington Post

“[These] unfinished works written after 1861 . . . deliver what their titles seem to promise: a soul stripped of guises and illusions.”—Ange Mlinko, New York Review of Books

While not as well-known as his other works, Charles Baudelaire’s late poems, drafts of poems, and prose fragments are texts indispensable to the history of modern poetics.

This volume brings together Baudelaire’s late fragmentary writings, aphoristic in form and radical in thought, into one edited collection for the first time. Substantial introductions to each work by Richard Sieburth combine the literary context with formal analysis and reception history to give readers a comprehensive picture of the genesis of these works and their subsequent fate.

Baudelaire’s turn toward fragmentary writing involved not only a conscious renunciation of his aesthetics of perfection and unity, but a desertion of the harmonies of the traditional lyric in favor of the disjunctions of prose. These are daring works, often painful to read in their misanthropy and unconventional beauty.

Contributor Bio
Charles Baudelaire (1821–1867) is widely regarded as a giant of modern French poetry. Richard Sieburth is Professor Emeritus of English, French, and Comparative Literature at NYU.
The Last Days of Mankind
The Complete Text
Karl Kraus, Fred Bridgham, Edward Timms

Summary
Kraus's iconic WWI drama, a satirical indictment of the glory of war, now in English in its entirety for the first time

"[A] superb translation."—Bill Marx, Arts Fuse

One hundred years after Austrian satirist Karl Kraus began writing his dramatic masterpiece, The Last Days of Mankind remains as powerfully relevant as the day it was first published. Kraus's play enacts the tragic trajectory of the First World War, when mankind raced toward self-destruction by methods of modern warfare while extolling the glory and ignoring the horror of an allegedly “defensive” war. This volume is the first to present a complete English translation of Kraus's towering work, filling a major gap in the availability of Viennese literature from the era of the War to End All Wars.

Bertolt Brecht hailed The Last Days as the masterpiece of Viennese modernism. In the apocalyptic drama Kraus constructs a textual collage, blending actual quotations from the Austrian army's call to arms, people's responses, political speeches, newspaper editorials, and a range of other sources. Seasoning the drama with comic invention and satirical verse, Kraus reveals how bungled diplomacy, greedy profiteers, Big Business complicity, gullible newsreaders, and, above all, the sloganizing of the press brought down the Austro-Hungarian Empire. In the dramatization of sensationalized news reports, inurement to atrocities, and openness to war as remedy, today's readers will hear the echo of the fateful voices Kraus recorded as his homeland descended into self-destruction.

Contributor Bio
The Austrian Jewish author **Karl Kraus** (1874–1936) was the foremost German-language satirist of the twentieth century. As editor of the journal *Die Fackel* (The Torch) he conducted a sustained critique of propaganda and the press, expressed through polemical essays, witty aphorisms, and resonant poems. **Edward Timms**, founding director of the University of Sussex Centre for German-Jewish Studies, is best known for his two-volume study *Karl Kraus—Apocalyptic Satirist*. The title of his memoirs, *Taking Up the Torch*, reflects his long-standing interest in Kraus’s journal. **Fred Bridgham** is the author of wide-ranging studies in German literature, history, and the history of ideas. His translations of lieder and opera include Hans Werner Henze's *The Prince of Homburg* for performance by English National Opera.
533 Days
Cees Nooteboom, Laura Watkinson, Simone Sassen

Summary
The noted Dutch poet and novelist Cees Nooteboom reflects on the life of the mind through a reexamination of books, music, art, travel, and gardening.

“Nooteboom’s real subject is the one that’s defined his career—mainly, the persistent strangeness of existence and its refusal to be fully resolved by religion, philosophy, or science. . . . His journal . . . can seem like a medieval bestiary, a nature chronicle with the vividness of a dream.”—Danny Heitman, Wall Street Journal

“Laura Watkinson’s deft English translation never reads like one.”—Michael Dirda, Washington Post

Though a tireless explorer of distant cultures, Cees Nooteboom has been returning for more than forty years to the Spanish island of Menorca. It is in his house on this “island of the wind,” with a study full of books and a garden taken over by cacti and many insects, that the 533 days of writing take place. The result is neither a diary nor a set of movements of the soul organized by dates but rather a “book of days,” with Nooteboom’s observations about what is immediately around him, his love for Menorca, and his thoughts on the world, on life and death, on literature and oblivion. Every impression opens windows onto vast horizons: The Divine Comedy and the books it generated, Borges’s contempt for Gombrowicz, the death of David Bowie, the endless flight of the Voyagers, the repetition of history as tragedy but never as farce. Nooteboom resists the noise of current events yet he must return to them several times, skeptically contemplating the threat of a disintegrating Europe. Reading 533 Days is like having a conversation with an extraordinary mind.

Contributor Bio
Cees Nooteboom is a poet, novelist, and travel writer who has received numerous prestigious awards, including the Pegasus Prize and the Aristeion Prize. Laura Watkinson is an award-winning translator of Dutch, Italian, and German who has translated several works by Nooteboom, including Venice: The Lion, the City and the Water. Both Nooteboom and Watkinson live in Amsterdam.
Hocus Bogus
Emile Ajar, David Bellos, Romain Gary

Summary
One of the twentieth century’s most ingenious literary works, imaginatively translated from the French by Man Booker Prizewinner David Bellos

By the early 1970s, Romain Gary had established himself as one of France’s most popular and prolific novelists, journalists, and memoirists. Feeling that he had been typecast as “Romain Gary,” however, he wrote his next novel under the pseudonym Émile Ajar. His second novel written as Ajar, Life Before Us, was an instant runaway success, winning the Prix Goncourt and becoming the best-selling French novel of the twentieth century.

The Prix Goncourt made people all the keener to identify the real “Émile Ajar,” and stressed by the furor he had created, Gary fled to Geneva. There, Pseudo, a hoax confession and one of the most alarmingly effective mystifications in all literature, was written at high speed. Writing under double cover, Gary simulated schizophrenia and paranoid delusions while pretending to be Paul Pawlovitch confessing to being Émile Ajar—the author of books Gary himself had written.

In Pseudo, brilliantly translated by David Bellos as Hocus Bogus, the struggle to assert and deny authorship is part of a wider protest against suffering and universal hypocrisy. Playing with novelistic categories and authorial voice, this work is a powerful testimony to the power of language—to express, to amuse, to deceive, and ultimately to speak difficult personal truths.

Contributor Bio
Romain Gary (1914–1980), a French novelist, film director, World War II aviator, and diplomat, was the author of more than thirty novels, essays, and recollections. David Bellos is professor of French and comparative literature and director of the Program in Translation and Intercultural Communication at Princeton University.
The Story of the Country House
A History of Places and People
Clive Aslet

Summary
The Story of the Country House is an authoritative and vivid account of the British country house, exploring how they have evolved with the changing political and economic landscape. Clive Aslet reveals the captivating stories behind individual houses, their architects, and occupants, and paints a vivid picture of the wider context in which the country house in Britain flourished and subsequently fell into decline before enjoying a renaissance in the twenty-first century. The genesis, style, and purpose of architectural masterpieces such as Hardwick Hall, Hatfield House, and Chatsworth are explored, alongside the numerous country houses lost to war and economic decline. We also meet a cavalcade of characters, owners with all their dynastic obsessions and diverse sources of wealth, and architects such as Inigo Jones, Sir John Vanbrugh, Robert Adam, Sir John Soane and A.W.N. Pugin, who dazzled or in some cases outraged their contemporaries. The Story of the Country House takes a fresh look at this enduringly popular building type, exploring why it continues to hold such fascination for us today.

Contributor Bio
Clive Aslet is a writer, commentator, historian, editor, and academic. He has written around twenty books on architecture and history and was editor of Country Life magazine from 1993 to 2006.
How to Enjoy Art
A Guide for Everyone
Ben Street

Summary
An entertaining and lively guide to rediscovering the pleasure in art

“Ben Street is one of the greatest communicators and writers on art. [This is] an expert guide to looking at and understanding art. Beautifully put together and brilliantly written.”—Katy Hessel, author of The Story of Art Without Men

How to Enjoy Art: A Guide for Everyone provides the tools to understand and enjoy works of art. Debunking the pervasive idea that specialist knowledge is required to understand and appreciate art, instead How to Enjoy Art focuses on experience and pleasure, demonstrating how anyone can find value and enjoyment in art. Examples from around the world and throughout art history—from works by Fra Angelico and Berthe Morisot to Kazuo Shiraga and Kara Walker—are used to demonstrate how a handful of core strategies and skills can help enhance the experience of viewing art works. With these skills, anyone can encounter any work of art—regardless of media, artist, or period—and find some resonance with their own experiences. How to Enjoy Art encourages us to rediscover the fundamental pleasure in viewing art.

Contributor Bio
Ben Street is an art historian and writer. He has worked as an art history lecturer and educator at a wide variety of institutions, including the Museum of Modern Art and the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, and Tate and The National Gallery, London. He is author of a number of books on art, for both children and adult audiences.
John Craxton
A Life of Gifts
Ian Collins

Summary
Born into a large, musical, and bohemian family in London, the British artist John Craxton (1922–2009) has been described as a Neo-Romantic, but he called himself a “kind of Arcadian”. His early art was influenced by Blake, Palmer, Miró, and Picasso. After achieving a dream of moving to Greece, his work evolved as a personal response to Byzantine mosaics, El Greco, and the art of Greek life. This book tells his adventurous story for the first time. At turns exciting, funny, and poignant, the saga is enlivened by Craxton’s ebullient pictures. Ian Collins expands our understanding of the artist greatly—including an in-depth exploration of the storied, complicated friendship between Craxton and Lucian Freud, drawing on letters and memories that Craxton wanted to remain private until after his death.

Contributor Bio
Ian Collins is an independent art writer and curator.
A Blue New Deal
Why We Need a New Politics for the Ocean
Chris Armstrong

Summary
An urgent account of the state of our oceans today—and what we must do to protect them

The ocean sustains life on our planet, from absorbing carbon to regulating temperatures, and, as we exhaust the resources to be found on land, it is becoming central to the global market. But today we are facing two urgent challenges at sea: massive environmental destruction and spiraling inequality in the ocean economy.

Chris Armstrong reveals how existing governing institutions are failing to respond to the most pressing problems of our time, arguing that we must do better. Armstrong examines these crises—from the fate of people whose lands will be submerged by sea level rise to the exploitation of people working in fishing to the rights of marine animals—and makes the case for a powerful World Ocean Authority capable of tackling them. *A Blue New Deal* presents a radical manifesto for putting equality, democracy, and sustainability at the heart of ocean politics.

Contributor Bio
Chris Armstrong is professor of political theory at the University of Southampton. He is the author of *Global Distributive Justice, Justice and Natural Resources: An Egalitarian Theory*, and *Why Global Justice Matters: Moral Progress in a Divided World.*
Critical Revolutionaries
Five Critics Who Changed the Way We Read
Terry Eagleton

Summary
Terry Eagleton looks back across sixty years to an extraordinary critical milieu that transformed the study of literature

Before the First World War, traditional literary scholarship was isolated from society at large. In the years following, a younger generation of critics came to the fore. Their work represented a reaction to the impoverishment of language in a commercial, utilitarian society increasingly under the sway of film, advertising, and the popular press. For them, literary criticism was a way of diagnosing social ills and had a vital moral function to perform.

Terry Eagleton reflects on the lives and work of T. S. Eliot, I. A. Richards, William Empson, F. R. Leavis, and Raymond Williams, and explores a vital tradition of literary criticism that today is in danger of being neglected. These five critics rank among the most original and influential of modern times and represent one of the most remarkable intellectual formations in twentieth-century Britain. This was the heyday of literary modernism, a period of change and experimentation—the bravura of which spurred on developments in critical theory.

Contributor Bio
Terry Eagleton is Distinguished Visiting Professor of English Literature at Lancaster University and the author of more than fifty books in the fields of literary theory, postmodernism, politics, ideology, and religion.
Confronting Climate Gridlock
How Diplomacy, Technology, and Policy Can Unlock a Clean Energy Future
Daniel S Cohan, Michael E. Webber

Summary
An atmospheric scientist explains why global climate change mitigation and energy decarbonization demand American diplomacy, technology, and policy

“Daniel Cohan makes a compelling case that the problem of climate change is solvable. Fixing the gridlock on global action requires fixing the gridlock here in the United States of America. Cohan shows how that can be done.”—David Victor, UC San Diego

Professor of environmental engineering Daniel Cohan argues that escaping the gravest perils of climate change will first require American diplomacy, technological innovation, and policy to catalyze decarbonization globally. Combining his own expertise along with insights from more than a hundred interviews with diplomats, scholars, and clean-energy pioneers, Cohan identifies flaws in previous efforts to combat climate change. He highlights opportunities for more successful strategies, including international “climate clubs” and accelerated development of clean energy technologies. Grounded in history and emerging scholarship, this book offers a forward-looking vision of solutions to confronting climate gridlock and a clear-eyed recognition of the challenges to enacting them.

Contributor Bio
Daniel Cohan is an atmospheric scientist and associate professor of environmental engineering at Rice University in Houston, Texas, and the recipient of a National Science Foundation CAREER award.
**The Normans**
*Power, Conquest and Culture in 11th Century Europe*
Judith A. Green

**Summary**

A bold new history of the rise and expansion of the Norman Dynasty across Europe from Byzantium to England

In the eleventh century the climate was improving, population was growing, and people were on the move. The Norman dynasty ranged across Europe, led by men who achieved lasting fame, such as William the Conqueror and Robert Guiscard. These figures cultivated an image of unstoppable Norman success, and their victories make for a great story. But how much of it is true?

In this insightful history, Judith Green challenges old certainties and explores the reality of Norman life across the continent. There were many soldiers of fortune, but their successes were down to timing, good luck, and ruthless leadership. Green shows the Normans’ profound impact, from drastic change in England to laying the foundations for unification in Sicily to their contribution to the First Crusade. Going beyond the familiar, she looks at personal dynastic relationships and the important part women played in what at first sight seems a resolutely masculine world.

**Contributor Bio**

**Judith A. Green** is professor emeritus of history at the University of Edinburgh. Her many distinguished works include *Henry I* and *The Aristocracy of Norman England.*
Rapture and Melancholy
The Diaries of Edna St. Vincent Millay
Edna St. Vincent Millay, Daniel Mark Epstein, Holly Peppe

Summary
The first publication of Edna St. Vincent Millay’s private, intimate diaries, providing “a candid self-portrait of the ‘bad girl of American letters’” (Kirkus Reviews)

“Provides an occasion to revisit not just [Millay’s] improbable life but also her sometimes revelatory work.”—Abigail Deutsch, Wall Street Journal

“Rapture and Melancholy paints a picture of artistic triumph, romantic tumult, and a daily life that descended into addiction.”—Heather Clark, New York Times Book Review

The English author Thomas Hardy proclaimed that America had two great attractions: the skyscraper, and the poetry of Edna St. Vincent Millay. In these diaries the great American poet illuminates not only her literary genius, but her life as a devoted daughter, sister, wife, and public heroine; and finally as a solitary, tragic figure.

This is the first publication of the diaries she kept from adolescence until middle age, between 1907 and 1949, focused on her most productive years. Who was the girl who wrote “Renascence,” that marvel of early twentieth-century poetry? What trauma or spiritual journey inspired the poem? And after such celebrity why did she vanish into near seclusion after 1940? These questions hover over the life and work, and trouble biographers and readers alike. Intimate, eloquent, these confessions and keen observations provide the key to understanding Millay’s journey from small-town obscurity to world fame, and the tragedy of her demise.

Contributor Bio
Pulitzer Prize winner Edna St. Vincent Millay (1892–1950) was a poet and playwright. Millay biographer Daniel Mark Epstein is a poet and dramatist, the author of books about Abraham Lincoln, Walt Whitman, and Bob Dylan, and a recipient of awards from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. Holly Peppe, literary executor for Edna St. Vincent Millay, has written and lectured about the poet’s life and work since the early 1980’s, when she lived in Millay’s home at Steepletop with the poet’s younger sister Norma. Dr. Peppe’s essays about Millay appear in the Penguin Classics, Harper Perennial, and Yale University Press editions of her poetry.
The Georgians
The Deeds and Misdeeds of 18th-Century Britain
Penelope J. Corfield

Summary
What did the Georgians think of themselves, and of their exciting, turbulent, and controversial times?

The Georgian era (1714–1830) was a time of innovations. It saw the end of monarchical absolutism, the world’s first industrial revolution, and deep transformations in religious and cultural life. Britain vastly expanded its global exploration and settlements overseas and played an ignoble role in the international trade in enslaved Africans. But how were these major transitions experienced by people at the time? Are their responses surprising—or to be expected?

In this wide-ranging history, Penelope J. Corfield explores every aspect of Georgian life—love and violence, politics and empire, religion and science, industry and towns. People’s responses were often divided. Pessimists saw loss and decline, while optimists saw improvements and light. Out of these tensions came the Georgian culture of experiment and resistance. Corfield shows how features of continuity, like the monarchy and titled society, persisted alongside innovations—while both old ways and new developments were challenged whenever the human costs proved too great.

Contributor Bio
Penelope J. Corfield is professor of history at Royal Holloway, London University; president of the International Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies; and an optimist. Her books include Time and the Shape of History and Power and the Professions in Britain 1700–1850.
Burning the Big House
The Story of the Irish Country House in a Time of War and Revolution
Terence Dooley

Summary
The gripping story of the tumultuous destruction of the Irish country house, spanning the revolutionary years of 1912 to 1923

During the Irish Revolution nearly three hundred country houses were burned to the ground. These “Big Houses” were powerful symbols of conquest, plantation, and colonial oppression and were caught up in the struggle for independence and the conflict between the aristocracy and those demanding access to more land. Stripped of their most important artifacts, most of the houses were never rebuilt, and ruins such as Summerhill stood like ghostly figures for generations to come.

Terence Dooley offers a unique perspective on the Irish Revolution, exploring the struggles over land, the impact of the Great War, and why the country mansions of the landed class became such a symbolic target for republicans throughout the period. Dooley details the shockingly sudden acts of occupation and destruction—including soldiers using a Rembrandt as a dart board—and evokes the exhilaration felt by the revolutionaries at seizing these grand houses and visibly overturning the established order.

Contributor Bio
Terence Dooley is professor of history at Maynooth University and director at the Centre for the Study of Historic Irish Houses and Estates. He is the author of numerous books, including The Decline of the Big House in Ireland.
The Dissolution of the Monasteries
A New History
James Clark

Summary
The first account of the dissolution of the monasteries for fifty years—exploring its profound impact on the people of Tudor England

“This is a book about people, though, not ideas, and as a detailed account of an extraordinary human drama with a cast of thousands, it is an exceptional piece of historical writing.”—Lucy Wooding, Times Literary Supplement

Shortly before Easter, 1540 saw the end of almost a millennium of monastic life in England. Until then religious houses had acted as a focus for education, literary, and artistic expression and even the creation of regional and national identity. Their closure, carried out in just four years between 1536 and 1540, caused a dislocation of people and a disruption of life not seen in England since the Norman Conquest.

Drawing on the records of national and regional archives as well as archaeological remains, James Clark explores the little-known lives of the last men and women who lived in England’s monasteries before the Reformation. Clark challenges received wisdom, showing that buildings were not immediately demolished and Henry VIII’s subjects were so attached to the religious houses that they kept fixtures and fittings as souvenirs. This rich, vivid history brings back into focus the prominent place of abbeys, priories, and friaries in the lives of the English people.

Contributor Bio
James Clark is professor of history at the University of Exeter. He has published widely on medieval monasteries and their place in the medieval world and he was historical advisor on the BBC TV series Tudor Monastery Farm.
Alexander the Great
A Life in Legend
Richard Stoneman

Summary
In his brief life, Alexander the Great gained fame as the military genius who conquered the known world. After death, his legend only increased.

Alexander the Great (356–323 B.C.) precipitated immense historical change in the Mediterranean and Near Eastern worlds. But the resonance his legend achieved over the next two millennia stretched even farther—across foreign cultures, religious traditions, and distant nations.

This engaging and handsomely illustrated book for the first time gathers together hundreds of the colorful Alexander legends that have been told and retold around the globe. Richard Stoneman, a foremost expert on the Alexander myths, introduces us first to the historical Alexander and then to the Alexander of legend, an unparalleled mythic icon who came to represent the heroic ideal in cultures from Egypt to Iceland, from Britain to Malaya.

Alexander came to embody the concerns of Hellenistic man; he fueled Roman ideas on tyranny and kingship; he was a talisman for fourth-century pagans and a hero of chivalry in the early Middle Ages. He appears in Jewish, Christian, and Islamic writings, frequently as a prophet of God. Whether battling winged foxes or meeting with the Amazons, descending to the underworld or inventing the world’s first diving bell, Alexander inspired as a hero, even a god. Stoneman traces Alexander’s influence in ancient literature and folklore and in later literatures of east and west. His book provides the definitive account of the legends of Alexander the Great—a powerful leader in life and an even more powerful figure in the history of literature and ideas.

Contributor Bio
Richard Stoneman is Honorary Fellow of the University of Exeter and widely acknowledged as the foremost expert globally on the myths of Alexander.
The Great Plague
When Death Came to Cambridge in 1665
Evelyn Lord

Summary
In this intimate history of the extraordinary Black Plague pandemic that swept through the British Isles in 1665, Evelyn Lord focuses on the plague’s effects on smaller towns, where every death was a singular blow affecting the entire community. Lord’s fascinating reconstruction of life during plague times presents the personal experiences of a wide range of individuals, from historical notables Samuel Pepys and Isaac Newton to common folk who tilled the land and ran the shops. She brings this dark era to vivid life through stories of loss and survival from those who grieved, those who fled, and those who hid to await their fate.

Contributor Bio
Evelyn Lord is a local historian and emeritus fellow of Wolfson College, Cambridge. She is the author of The Hell-Fire Clubs, The Stuart Secret Army, and The Knights Templar in Britain.
The Women Who Saved the English Countryside
Matthew Kelly

Summary
A vibrant history of English landscape preservation over the last 150 years, told through the lives of four remarkable women

In Britain today, a mosaic of regulations protects the natural environment and guarantees public access to green spaces. But this was not always so. Over the last 150 years, activists have campaigned tirelessly for the right to roam through the countryside and the vital importance of preserving Britain’s natural beauty.

Matthew Kelly traces the history of landscape preservation through the lives of four remarkable women: Octavia Hill, Beatrix Potter, Pauline Dower, and Sylvia Sayer. From the commons of London to the Lake District, Northumberland, and Dartmoor, these women protected the English landscape at a crucial period through a mixture of environmental activism, networking, and sheer determination.

They grappled with the challenges that urbanization and industrial modernity posed to human well-being as well as the natural environment. By tirelessly seeking to reconcile the needs of particular places to the broader public interest they helped reimagine the purpose of the English countryside for the democratic age.

Contributor Bio
Matthew Kelly is professor of modern history at Northumbria University. He is the author of Finding Poland: From Tavistock to Hurzdowa and Back Again and Quartz and Feldspar: Dartmoor—A British Landscape in Modern Times.
Talking Back
Native Women and the Making of the Early South
Alejandra Dubcovsky

Summary
A pathbreaking look at Native women of the early South who defined power and defied authority

“An artful, powerful book. . . . [A] substantial contribution to our knowledge of women in the so-called ‘forgotten centuries’ of European colonialism in the southeast.”—Malinda Maynor Lowery, author of The Lumbee Indians

“A remarkable book. Alejandra Dubcovsky pursued relentless research to uncover the histories of women previously unseen, even unnamed. As Dubcovsky shows, they had names, they had families, they had lives that mattered. The historical landscape is transformed by their presence.”—Lisa Brooks, author of Our Beloved Kin

Historian Alejandra Dubcovsky tells a story of war, slavery, loss, remembrance, and the women whose resilience and resistance transformed the colonial South. In exploring their lives she rewrites early American history, challenging the established male-centered narrative.

Dubcovsky reconstructs the lives of Native women—Timucua, Apalachee, Chacato, and Guale—to show how they made claims to protect their livelihoods, bodies, and families. Through the stories of the Native cacica who demanded her authority be recognized; the elite Spanish woman who turned her dowry and household into a source of independent power; the Floridiana who slapped a leading Native man in the town square; and the Black woman who ran a successful business at the heart of a Spanish town, Dubcovsky reveals the formidable women who claimed and used their power, shaping the history of the early South.

Contributor Bio
Alejandra Dubcovsky is associate professor of history at the University of California, Riverside. She is the author of Informed Power: Communication in the Early South. She lives in California.
Micah
A New Translation with Introduction and Commentary
Bob Becking

Summary
A new translation and commentary on the biblical book of Micah that proposes a convincing new theory of its composition history

While the biblical book of Micah is most famous for its images of peace—swords forged into to plowshares, spears turned into pruning hooks—and its passages of prophetic hope, the book is largely composed of prophecies of ruin. The historical Micah, who likely lived in the late eighth century BCE, is the first recorded prophet to predict the fateful fall of Jerusalem, and he also foretells the destruction of the regions of Samaria and Judah, in addition to the more well-known promises of Judah’s eventual restoration.

Bob Becking translates the Hebrew text anew and illuminates the book’s most important elements, including its literary features, political context, and composition history. Drawing on ancient Near Eastern comparative evidence, archaeological notes, and inscriptions, Becking surveys the debates surrounding the book’s interpretation and argues that it be regarded as three separate source texts: the early first chapter; a large middle section containing a proto-apocalyptic, alternating prophetic futurology collected and molded by a later redactor; and an added section advocating for legal reform under Josiah.

Contributor Bio
Bob Becking is emeritus senior research professor of Old Testament studies at Utrecht University. He is the author of many books, including Identity in Persian Egypt: The Fate of the Yehudite Community of Elephantine. He lives in Woerden, the Netherlands.
Ezra
A New Translation with Introduction and Commentary
Tamara Cohn Eskenazi

Summary
A new translation and commentary on the biblical book of Ezra by the renowned author of two award-winning biblical commentaries

The book of Ezra is a remarkable testament to a nation’s ability to survive and develop a distinctive identity under imperial rule. But Ezra is far more than a simple chronicle; it constitutes a new biblical model for political, religious, and social order in the Persian Empire.

In this new volume, Tamara Cohn Eskenazi illustrates how the book of Ezra envisions the radical transformation that followed reconstruction after the fall of Jerusalem and Judah. The extensive introduction highlights the book’s innovations, including its textualization of the tradition, as well as the unprecedented role of the people as chief protagonists. The translation and commentary incorporate evidence from ancient and contemporaneous primary sources from Egypt, Babylonia, Greece, and Persia, along with new archaeological studies of Judah. With great care and detail, Eskenazi demonstrates how the book of Ezra creates a blueprint for survival after destruction, shaping a new kind of society and forging a new communal identity.

Contributor Bio
Tamara Cohn Eskenazi is the Effie Wise Ochs Professor Emerita of Biblical Literature and History at Hebrew Union College–Jewish Institute of Religion. She is a two-time National Jewish Book Award winner for The Torah: A Women’s Commentary and The JPS Bible Commentary: Ruth. She lives in Los Angeles, CA.
The Posen Library of Jewish Culture and Civilization, Volume 5
The Early Modern Era, 1500-1750
Yosef Kaplan

Summary
The fifth volume of the Posen Library demonstrates through a rich array of texts and images the extraordinary diversity of Jewish life during the early modern period.

“A rich and varied gateway into the primary source material of early modern Jewish history that is very strong on geographical diversity. A magnificent achievement.”—Adam Sutcliffe, King’s College London

The Posen Library of Jewish Culture and Civilization, Volume 5, covering the early modern period (1500–1750), presents a variety of Jewish texts to demonstrate the diversity of Jewish culture and life. These texts originate from Eastern and Western Europe, the Americas, the Ottoman Empire, North Africa, Kurdistan, Persia, Yemen, India—in short, a worldwide diaspora. They embrace historical writing and religious scholarship, liturgical expression and economic records, ethics and personal devotion, correspondence and communal regulations, art and music, architecture and poetry. The simultaneous centrifugal and centripetal character of Jewish communities during this era illustrates the distinctiveness of the early modern period in Jewish history and informs developments in world history at large. Including texts written by women, a robust collection of images, and extensive material not previously accessible to English-language readers, this volume is rich, deep, and enlightening.

Contributor Bio
Yosef Kaplan is Bernard Cherrick Emeritus Professor of Jewish History at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He is the author of several books, including From Christianity to Judaism: The Story of Isaac Orobio de Castro and An Alternative Path to Modernity: The Western Sephardi Diaspora. He lives in Jerusalem, Israel. Deborah Dash Moore is Frederick G. L. Huetwell Professor of History and professor of Judaic studies at the University of Michigan. She is editor in chief of The Posen Library of Jewish Culture and Civilization.
**Revolutionary Things**  
*Material Culture and Politics in the Late Eighteenth-Century Atlantic World*  
Ashli White

### Summary

How objects associated with the American, French, and Haitian revolutions drew diverse people throughout the Atlantic world into debates over revolutionary ideals

“By excavating the power of material objects and visual images to express the fervor and fear of the revolutionary era, Ashli White brings us closer to more fully embodied, more fully human, figures.”—Richard Rabinowitz, author of *Objects of Love and Regret: A Brooklyn Story*

“In this important, innovative book, Ashli White moves nimbly between North America, Europe, and the Caribbean to capture the richness and complexity of material culture in the Age of Revolutions.”—Michael Kwass, Johns Hopkins University

Historian Ashli White explores the circulation of material culture during the American, French, and Haitian revolutions, arguing that in the late eighteenth century, radical ideals were contested through objects as well as in texts. She considers how revolutionary things, as they moved throughout the Atlantic, brought people into contact with these transformative political movements in visceral, multiple, and provocative ways.

Focusing on a range of objects—ceramics and furniture, garments and accessories, prints, maps, and public amusements—White shows how material culture held political meaning for diverse populations. Enslaved and free, women and men, poor and elite—all turned to things as a means to realize their varied and sometimes competing visions of revolutionary change.

### Contributor Bio

**Ashli White** is associate professor of history at the University of Miami. She is the author of *Encountering Revolution: Haiti and the Making of the Early Republic*. She lives in Miami, FL.
The Age of Atlantic Revolution
The Fall and Rise of a Connected World
Patrick Griffin

Summary
A bold new account of the Age of Revolution, one of the most complex and vast transformations in human history

“A fresh and illuminating framework for understanding our past and imagining our future. Powerfully argued and engagingly written, Patrick Griffin’s timely account of revolutionary regime change and reaction shows how a world of empires became our world of nation-states.”—Peter S. Onuf, coauthor of Most Blessed of the Patriarchs

“When we speak of an age of revolution, what do we mean? In this synoptic, compelling book, Patrick Griffin asks the difficult questions and invites readers to reconsider the answers.”—Eliga Gould, author of Among the Powers of the Earth

The Age of Atlantic Revolution was a defining moment in western history. Our understanding of rights, of what makes the individual an individual, of how to define a citizen versus a subject, of what states should or should not do, of how labor, politics, and trade would be organized, of the relationship between the church and the state, and of our attachment to the nation all derive from this period (c. 1750–1850).

Historian Patrick Griffin shows that the Age of Atlantic Revolution was rooted in how people in an interconnected world struggled through violence, liberation, and war to reimagine themselves and sovereignty. Tying together the revolutions, crises, and conflicts that undid British North America, transformed France, created Haiti, overturned Latin America, challenged Britain and Europe, vexed Ireland, and marginalized West Africa, Griffin tells a transnational tale of how empires became nations and how our world came into being.

Contributor Bio
Patrick Griffin is Madden-Hennebry Professor of History at the University of Notre Dame. He lives in South Bend, IN.
The Invention of Scarcity
Malthus and the Margins of History
Deborah Valenze

Summary
A radical new reading of eighteenth-century British theorist Thomas Robert Malthus, which recovers diverse ideas about subsistence production and environments later eclipsed by classical economics.

With the publication of *Essay on the Principle of Population* and its projection of food shortages in the face of ballooning populations, British theorist Thomas Robert Malthus secured a leading role in modern political and economic thought. In this startling new interpretation, Deborah Valenze reveals how canonical readings of Malthus fail to acknowledge his narrow understanding of what constitutes food production.

Valenze returns to the eighteenth-century contexts that generated his arguments, showing how Malthus mobilized a redemptive narrative of British historical development and dismissed the varied ways that people adapted to the challenges of subsistence needs. She uses history, anthropology, food studies, and animal studies to redirect our attention to the margins of Malthus’s essay, where activities such as hunting, gathering, herding, and gardening were rendered extraneous. She demonstrates how Malthus’s omissions and his subsequent canonization provided a rationale for colonial imposition of British agricultural models, regardless of environmental diversity.

By broadening our conception of human livelihoods, Valenze suggests pathways to resistance against the hegemony of Malthusian political economy. *The Invention of Scarcity* invites us to imagine a world where monoculture is in retreat and the margins are recentered as spaces of experimentation, nimbleness, and human flourishing.

Contributor Bio
Deborah Valenze is the Ann Whitney Olin Professor of History at Barnard College. A recipient of numerous fellowships, she has written four previous books on British culture and economic life. She lives in Cambridge, MA, and New York City.
Early Modernity and Mobility
Port Cities and Printers across the Armenian Diaspora, 1512-1800
Sebouh David Aslanian

Summary
A history of the continent-spanning Armenian print tradition in the early modern period

Early Modernity and Mobility explores the disparate yet connected histories of Armenian printing establishments in early modern Europe and Asia. From 1512, when the first Armenian printed codex appeared in Venice, to the end of the early modern period in 1800, Armenian presses operated in nineteen locations across the Armenian diaspora. Linking far-flung locations in Amsterdam, Livorno, Marseille, Saint Petersburg, and Astrakhan to New Julfa, Madras, and Calcutta, Armenian presses published a thousand editions with more than half a million printed volumes in Armenian script.

Drawing on extensive archival research, Sebouh David Aslanian explores why certain books were published at certain times, how books were sold across the diaspora, who read them, and how the printed word helped fashion a new collective identity for early modern Armenians. In examining the Armenian print tradition Aslanian tells a larger story about the making of the diaspora itself. Arguing that “confessionalism” and the hardening of boundaries between the Armenian and Roman churches was the “driving engine” of Armenian book history, Aslanian makes a revisionist contribution to the early modern origins of Armenian nationalism.

Contributor Bio
Sebouh David Aslanian is professor and Richard Hovannisian Endowed Chair in Modern Armenian History at the University of California, Los Angeles. He is the author of From the Indian Ocean to the Mediterranean: The Global Trade Networks of Armenian Merchants from New Julfa. He lives in West Hollywood, CA.
Three Powers in Heaven
The Emergence of Theology and the Parting of the Ways
Emanuel Fiano

Summary
A fresh look at how Christianity and Judaism became two distinct religions through the parting of their intellectual traditions

How, when, and why did Christianity and Judaism diverge into separate religions? Emanuel Fiano reinterprets the parting of the ways between Jews and Christians as a split between two intellectual traditions, a split that emerged within the context of ancient debates about Jesus’s relationship to God and the world.

Fiano explores how Christianity moved away from Judaism through the development of new practices for religious inquiry. By demonstrating that the constitution of communal borders coincided with the elaboration of different methods for producing religious knowledge, the author shows that Christian theological controversies, often thought to teach us nothing beyond the history of dogma, can cast light on the broader religious landscape of late antiquity. Three Powers in Heaven thus marks not only a historical but also a methodological intervention in the study of the parting of the ways and in scholarship on ancient religion.

Contributor Bio
Emanuel Fiano is assistant professor of Syriac studies in the Theology Department at Fordham University. He lives in New York City.
Our NHS
A History of Britain's Best Loved Institution
Andrew Seaton

Summary
An engaging, inclusive history of the NHS, exploring its surprising survival—and the people who have kept it running

In recent decades, a wave of appreciation for the NHS has swept across the UK. Britons have clapped for frontline workers and championed the service as a distinctive national achievement. All this has happened in the face of ideological opposition, marketization, and workforce crises. But how did the NHS become what it is today?

In this wide-ranging history, Andrew Seaton examines the full story of the NHS. He traces how the service has changed and adapted, bringing together the experiences of patients, staff from Britain and abroad, and the service’s wider supporters and opponents. He explains not only why it survived the neoliberalism of the late twentieth century but also how it became a key marker of national identity. Seaton emphasizes the resilience of the NHS—perpetually “in crisis” and yet perennially enduring—as well as the political values it embodies and the work of those who have tirelessly kept it afloat.

Contributor Bio
Andrew Seaton is the Plumer Junior Research Fellow in History at St Anne’s College, University of Oxford. An expert in the history of modern Britain and the NHS, he received his PhD in history from New York University in 2021.
A Lab for All Seasons
The Laboratory Revolution in Modern Botany and the Rise of Physiological Plant Ecology
Sharon E. Kingsland

Summary
The first book to chronicle how innovation in laboratory designs for botanical research energized the emergence of physiological plant ecology as a vibrant subdiscipline

Laboratory innovation since the mid-twentieth century has powered advances in the study of plant adaptation, evolution, and ecosystem function. The phytotron, an integrated complex of controlled-environment greenhouse and laboratory spaces, invented by Frits W. Went in the 1950s, set off a worldwide laboratory movement and transformed the plant sciences. Sharon Kingsland explores this revolution through a comparative study of work in the United States, France, Australia, Israel, the USSR, and Hungary.

These advances in botanical research energized physiological plant ecology. Case studies explore the development of phytotron spinoffs such as mobile laboratories, rhizotrons, and ecotrons. Scientific problems include the significance of plant emissions of volatile organic compounds, symbiosis between plants and soil fungi, and the discovery of new pathways for photosynthesis as an adaptation to hot, dry climates. The advancement of knowledge through synthesis is a running theme: linking disciplines, combining laboratory and field research, and moving across ecological scales from leaf to ecosystem. The book also charts the history of modern scientific responses to the emerging crisis of food insecurity in the era of global warming.

Contributor Bio
Sharon Kingsland is professor emerita in the Department of History of Science and Technology at Johns Hopkins University. She is the author of two previous books and has coedited two essay collections. She lives in Baltimore, MD.
**Schreiben lernen (2nd Edition)**

*A Writing Guide for Learners of German*

Pennylyn Dykstra-Pruim, Jennifer Redmann

**Summary**

Designed for German students of all levels, the second edition of this unique writing guide is updated with prompts for exploring contemporary culture and identities.

Using a unique and effective approach, *Schreiben lernen* offers a comprehensive means for learners of German to develop and refine their writing skills. This guide consists of model texts, vocabulary-building exercises, and guided activities to practice writing sentences, paragraphs, and entire texts. Each chapter highlights issues related to writing for specific audiences and purposes. Students learn by analyzing model texts in ten different genres and by engaging with contemporary culture as they explore various modes of communication and creative expression.

The second edition has been updated to feature two entirely new chapters on writing reviews and interpreting art and provides additional focus on personal portraits, immigrant identity, climate change, and film. *Schreiben lernen* targets beginning, intermediate, and advanced learners, allowing instructors to support students at all levels and unify their German curricula with a foundational text for developing writing skills. This versatility means that the guide may be used as supplementary material or as a stand-alone textbook for courses focusing on German composition.

**Contributor Bio**

**Pennylyn Dykstra-Pruim** is professor of German and associate dean for diversity and inclusion at Calvin University. Her previous books include *Understanding Us & Them* and *Christians and Cultural Difference*. She lives in Grand Rapids, MI. **Jennifer Redmann** is professor of German at Franklin & Marshall College. With Dykstra-Pruim, she coedited *A Writing Guide for Learners of Chinese*. She lives in Lancaster, PA.