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Front cover: From Dancing with the Modernist City by Wesley Lim (found on page 18): “La Loïe Fuller, Folies-Bergère,” an illustration by PAL (1893). Courtesy Bibliothèque nationale de France.

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The Bastard Instrument

A Cultural History of the Electric Bass

Brian F. Wright

An alternative history of popular music that centers the electric bass

The Bastard Instrument chronicles the history of the electric bass and the musicians who played it, from the instrument’s invention through its widespread acceptance at the end of the 1960s. Although their contributions have often gone unsung, electric bassists helped shape the sound of a wide range of genres, including jazz, rhythm & blues, rock, country, soul, funk, and more. Their innovations are preserved in performances from artists as diverse as Lionel Hampton, Liberace, Elvis Presley, Patsy Cline, the Supremes, the Beatles, James Brown, Bob Dylan, Aretha Franklin, Jefferson Airplane, and Sly and the Family Stone, all of whom are discussed in this volume. At long last, The Bastard Instrument gives these early electric bassists credit for the significance of their accomplishments and demonstrates how they fundamentally altered the trajectory of popular music.

Brian F. Wright is Assistant Professor of Music History at the University of North Texas as well as a bass player. His work has been featured in Vintage Guitar and Bass Player magazines and at the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame.

“This book is in-depth, informative, and surprising.”
—Ed Friedland, bassist and former writer for Bass Player magazine

“The Bastard Instrument is a fascinating history of the bass guitar and how its sound became indispensable to popular music in all forms. Especially relevant to me is its inclusion of women players and the important role we played in the instrument’s history.”
—Kathy Valentine, musician and bassist for the Go-Go’s
“Art, and hip-hop in particular, effectively nurtures critical conversations among students. Owning My Masters (Mastered) offers a model for social justice activism (and particularly campus activism) through hip-hop music, ideology, and practice. Carson’s poetry/music, videos, and multimedia timeline (i.e., the context he was operating in) will not only inspire important dialogues and questionings, it should provide a template for how other communities might plan to take on this work.”

— Anthony Kwame Harrison, Virginia Tech

Owning My Masters (Mastered)
The Rhetorics of Rhymes & Revolutions
A.D. Carson

Using hip hop to create new theory

Owning My Masters (Mastered) is a digital archive of original rap music and spoken word poetry containing two volumes of music, an annotated timeline, videos, and a digital book. In this project, A.D. Carson exposes the artificial boundaries imposed on understood ideas about knowledge production in academia by employing hip-hop creative and compositional practices to interrogate ideas of citizenship, history, historical imagination, race, home, and humanness. Using sampled and live instrumentation and repurposed music, film, and news clips, an introductory video, and original rap lyrics, he offers a new examination of how to create theory through hip-hop.

The unmastered album was originally submitted to Clemson University in South Carolina as the author’s dissertation, composed against the backdrop of the growing unrest across the U.S. and the world in response to the public attention to the deaths of Black people, many at the hands of police and vigilantes. As such, the songs highlight outlooks on Black life in America—on campuses and in communities across the country—and how they fit with geographic and temporal place and space.

For this publication, the tracks have been mastered, and Carson has written a new introduction to contextualize and reflect on the moment in which the songs were written.

A.D. Carson is Associate Professor of Hip Hop and the Global South at the University of Virginia. His mixtape/e/ssay, “I used to love to dream” won the Association of American Publishers (AAP) 2021 PROSE Award for Best E-Product.
Hold Me Down
Ben Lauren

How the concept of feel is used to write songs

Through his album Hold Me Down: Toward a Rhetoric of Feel and the liner notes that accompany it, Ben Lauren argues that rhetorical theory can help both formally and informally trained musicians compose songs. This rhetorical theory helps him to anchor his own composing strategy of relying on feel. Feel, as Lauren explains it, is where an artist reflects on their reaction to a song’s melody, lyrics, and dynamics. Relying on feel as a creative-critical method of composing requires songwriters to develop habits that allow them to attend to its emergence in their writing process.

To illustrate these ideas, Lauren shares his album Hold Me Down, which he wrote to process a traumatic experience from when he was a child. The album consists of 10 music tracks, 8 recorded conversations with the artists he collaborated with, and extensive liner notes that depict the collision of identities that make up personal and professional lives. By drawing on his experience as a singer and songwriter and his scholarly training, Lauren develops a rhetorical language for thinking about music that puts the abstract concept of feel in concrete form.

Ben Lauren is Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Writing Studies and Director of the Co-Major in Innovation and Society at the University of Miami. His scholarly work focuses on the intersection of writing and design; rhetorical theory; and organizational, institutional, and community change. He is also a songwriter, best known for his work as singer/songwriter with the band No Address.

“Lauren evokes the affective experience of listening to and engaging with a musical album, opening new doors of inquiry for scholarly engagement and allowing for the exploration of difficult and emotionally heavy topics like childhood abuse and its attendant memories, anger, disappointment, and healing.”
—Jonathan W. Stone, University of Utah

YOU MAY ALSO BE INTERESTED IN:
Concrete Century

Julius Kahn and the Construction Revolution

Michael G. Smith

The tale of concrete cities

At the turn of the 20th century, industrial manufacturing was expanding dramatically while factory buildings remained fire-prone relics of an earlier age. That is, until a 28-year-old civil engineer finally achieved what engineers around the world had unsuccessfully attempted. Working in his brother’s basement in Detroit, Julius Kahn invented the first practical and scientific method of reinforcing concrete with steel bars, which finally made it possible to construct strong, fireproof buildings. After Kahn founded a company in 1903 to manufacture and sell his reinforcement bars, his system of construction became the most widely used throughout the world.

Drawing upon Kahn’s personal correspondence, architectural drawings, company records, and contemporary news and journal articles, Michael G. Smith reveals how this man—whose family had immigrated to the US to escape antisemitism in Germany—played an important role in the rise of concrete. Concrete not only turned the tide against widespread destruction of buildings by fire, it also paved the way for our modern economy. Concrete Century will delight readers intrigued by architecture and construction technology alike with the true origin story of modern concrete buildings.


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Ebook 978-0-472-22184-4
How to Draw a Circle
On Reading and Writing
Dan Beachy-Quick

An examination of what binds poetic endeavor into a singular, shining whole

What is it to write a poem? What work do words do when placed with care and vision into the intensely charged space of poetic effort? How to Draw a Circle does not seek to answer those questions, but to encounter them as fully and honestly as one can. The thread running through the essays is an ongoing investigation into poetry as an epistemological experiment, one which binds the imagination to the worldly, and trusts that creative endeavor is a form of participation in the ongoing creation of the world. It does so in part by focusing on thinkers, poets, writers, and literary movements where such thinking for a while prevailed, from Socrates to Melville, Mythology to Romanticism. Here the poem is approached as something deeply rooted in human consciousness, done so not to make an atavistic claim about poetry’s history, but to show the ways in which oldest tradition gives us ever-new eyes. The hope this book gathers around is that poetry—poetic expression, the wild wonder of working in words—turns us back toward the world in more vibrant, more open, more ethical ways. How to Draw a Circle summons lyric powers—not an argument, but a participation in the ways poetry works in us and on us.

Dan Beachy-Quick is University Distinguished Teaching Scholar at Colorado State University. His books of poetry include, Circle’s Apprentice (2011, Winner of the Colorado Book Award in Poetry), gentleness (2015), Variations on Dawn and Dusk (2019, long-listed for the National Book Award in Poetry) and Arrows (2020). In 2016 he was named a Guggenheim Fellow in Poetry.

“In this thrilling book, Beachy-Quick looks to the tangible, crafted work, to reveal our relationship with the intangible. Drawing a line from here to the eternal, he guides us through writers as varied as Anne Carson, Susan Howe and Henry Thoreau, back to the very foundations of humanity and poetry. Beachy-Quick is our great poet-archaeologist.”
—Martin Corless-Smith, author of The Fool & The Bee and The Poet’s Tomb
Joy (Or Something Darker, but Like It)

Poetry & Parenting

Nathaniel Perry

Thinking about parenting through the lens of poetry

Joy (Or Something Darker, but Like It), the first book of nonfiction by poet Nathaniel Perry, is a group of essays that considers poetry in the context of parenting—what poems and poets might teach us about parenting, what parenting might teach us about poetry, and also, what either of those things might have to teach us about simply being a relatively successful human being. While other poets have written about parenthood, few books consider how parenthood and poetry themselves intersect. The essays are affable and never technical, but take seriously the idea that thinking about poems might help us all think about our other roles in life, as parents, lovers, citizens, and friends. The book, in the end, imagines that this kind of insight is maybe one of the things most useful about poetry. It isn’t, or at least doesn’t have to be, always about itself; it can instead, surprisingly and wonderfully, be about us.

Each of the twelve essays considers a different poet—Edward Thomas, Henry W. Longfellow, George Scarbrough, Elizabeth Bishop, Geoffrey Hill, Primus St. John, Robert Hayden, Elizabeth Coatsworth, Gwendolyn Brooks, Robert Frost, E.A. Robinson, and Belle Randall—and, alongside them, different concerns of parenting and living. Organized in chronological order, they track the growth of Nathaniel Perry’s own children who pop up from time to time in a believable way. Essays consider the idea of devotion and belief, the idea of imperfection, the small details we can focus on as parents, and the conceptions of the world we pass along to our children. Together these essays not only represent the author’s personal canon of poets who have been important to him in his life and work, but also present a diverse slice of American poetry, in voice, form, identity, origin, and time period.

Nathaniel Perry is the author of two books of poetry, Nine Acres and Long Rules: An Essay in Verse. He is Professor of English at Hampden-Sydney College.

“Neil Perry may have invented a whole new genre—the close reading of poems as a step-by-step parenting guide, with not all joking aside—but the essays in this fine collection are much more than that. Behind the day-to-day conditions of living with poems and also with children, is an underlying claim for connection, to live with our shared struggles and divisions, and the doubts that accompany them, and the implied understanding that most of us live with hope, and a hope that will get us through.”

—Maurice Manning, author of Snakedoctor

POETRY AND POETRY CRITICISM | ESSAY AND INTERVIEW | PARENTING

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**Firsthand**

*How I Solved a Literary Mystery and Learned to Play Kickass Tennis while Coming to Grips with the Disorder of Things*

Keith Gandal

**On writing, researching, and tennis**

*Firsthand* is an exploration—both suspenseful and comic—of the creative process in research writing. The book takes the reader through the ins and outs of a specific research journey, from combing through libraries and archives to the intellectual challenges involved with processing information that contradicts established ideas. More fundamentally, it addresses the somewhat mysterious portion of the intellectual process: the creative and serendipitous aspects involved in arriving at a fruitful research question in the first place.

Keith Gandal combines this scholarly detective story with a comic personal narrative about how a midlife crisis accidentally sent him on a journey to write a research monograph that many in his profession—including at times himself—were dubious about. While researching how Hemingway, Fitzgerald, and Faulkner faced their forgotten crises of masculinity, Gandal discovers that his own crisis is instrumental to his creative process. Incorporating stories from Gandal’s comic romp through the hyper-competitive world of middle-aged men’s tennis, adopting pitbulls, and discussing Michel Foucault,* Firsthand* gives readers an inside look at how to acquire accurate knowledge—about the world, about history, and about oneself.

*Keith Gandal* is Professor of English with a Joint Appointment in American Studies and Creative Writing at The City College of New York.

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“Gandal vividly captures the emotions he experienced during a difficult research and writing project. An excellent read full of humor and intellectual and emotional depth. Anyone who is a writer or a want-to-be writer will appreciate this book.”

—Nancy Gentile Ford, author of *Americans All! Foreign-born Soldiers in World War*
Lessons in Gratitude
*A Memoir on Race, the Arts, and Mental Health*
Aaron P. Dworkin

*A tale of persistence, passion, and music*

Lessons in Gratitude tells the story of Aaron Dworkin, a MacArthur Fellow, social entrepreneur, and spoken word artist who has dedicated his life’s work to changing the face of classical arts in the world. The themes of persistence, passion, and loyalty shine through stories of an unhappy childhood, a lifelong search for identity, and the obstacles of race, culture, and class. Readers will learn how the author greets these challenges and how they drove him to make a difference for people who are shut out of opportunity. Persistence in the face of multiple failures and false starts ultimately led Dworkin to create the Sphinx Organization, whose mission is to address the underrepresentation of Black and Latinx people in the field of the classical arts.

Aaron’s unique journey, which begins with his adoption by a white Jewish couple from Chicago at two weeks of age, leads him to the ultimate reunification with his birth family at the age of 31. *Lessons of Gratitude* is a coming of age story that examines the difficulties of biracial identity across generations and the challenges that mixed race families still face today. It is also a painful and honest adoption memoir, further complicating the narrator’s experiences of racial identity throughout his life and shaping his experiences with his own children. Through his work in the arts and the impact of this work, Dworkin has been able to “pay forward” the first thing that offered him unconditional love—music.

Aaron P. Dworkin is a Poetjournalist, Professor of Arts Leadership & Entrepreneurship at the University of Michigan, and Founder of the internationally acclaimed Sphinx Organization.

“Aaron Dworkin’s memoir is as captivating as reading a novel; except it is a true story. On one hand, it accounts for challenges he encountered, from racism—not just from strangers, but people close to him—to financial and mental health issues. More important is how he learned to understand flaws in the system, affirm his identity, and support others; lessons from which we can all benefit.”
—Jane Chu, 11th Chairperson, National Endowment for the Arts
Corpse Crusaders
The Zombie in American Comics
Chera Kee

Unearthing the undead stalking the panels of action/adventure and superhero comics

In the popular imagination, zombies are scary, decomposing corpses hunting down the living. But since the 1930s, there have also been other zombies shambling across the panels of comic books—that aren’t quite what most people think zombies should be. There have been zombie slaves, zombie henchmen, talking zombies, beautiful zombies, and even zombie heroes.

Using archival research into Golden Age comics and extended analyses of comics from the 1940s to today, Corpse Crusaders explores the profound influence early action/adventure and superheroic generic conventions had on shaping comic book zombies. It takes the reader from the 1940s superhero, the Purple Zombie, through 1950s revenge-from-the-grave zombies, to the 1970s anti-hero, Simon Garth (“The Zombie”) and the gruesome heroes-turned-zombies of Marvel Zombies. In becoming immersed in superheroic logics early on, the zombie in comics became a figure that, unlike the traditional narrative uses of other monsters, actually served to defend the status quo. This continuing trend not only provides insight into the overwhelming influence superheroes have had on the comic book medium, but it also provides a unique opportunity to explore the ways in which zombism and superheroism parallel each other. Corpse Crusaders explores the ways that truth, justice, and the American way have influenced the undead in comics and turned what is often a rebellious figure into one that works to save the day.

Chera Kee is Associate Professor of Film & Media Studies in the English Department at Wayne State University.

“Kee’s artful, innovative analysis of the modern zombie’s journey as a racialized villain and gendered hero will delight zombiism scholars and comic enthusiasts alike. The dead will want to rise to read this book, only to die again from envy, knowing they couldn’t have written anything more compelling!”

—Jamie A. Thomas, author of Zombies Speak Swahili: Race, Horror, and Sci-Fi from Mexico to Tanzania and Hollywood

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Pleasure Grounds of Death
The Rural Cemetery in Nineteenth-Century America
Joy M. Giguere

Revealing how landscapes dedicated to the perpetual care of the dead mirrored the transformations and conflicts of the nineteenth century in American society.

Rural cemeteries—named for their expansive, picturesque landscape design rather than location—were established during the middle decades of the nineteenth century in the United States. An instant cultural phenomenon, Mount Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, Massachusetts, was the nation’s first such burial ground to combine the functions of the public park and the cemetery, becoming a popular place to picnic and go for strolls even for people who didn’t have graves to visit. It sparked a nationwide movement in which communities sought to establish their own cities of the dead.

Pleasure Grounds of Death considers the history of the rural cemetery in the United States throughout the duration of the nineteenth century as not only a critical cultural institution embedded in the formation of community and national identities, but also as major sites of contest over matters of burial reform, taste and respectability, and public behavior; issues concerning race, class, and gender; conflicts over the burial of the Civil War dead and formation of postwar memory; and what constituted the most appropriate ways to structure the landscape of the dead in a modern and progressive society. As cultural landscapes that served the needs of the living as well as the dead, rural cemeteries offer a mirror for the transformations and conflicts taking place throughout the nineteenth century in American society.

Joy M. Giguere is Associate Professor of History at Penn State York.
Cue Tears
*On the Act of Crying*
Daniel Sack

**Lively essays on the meanings and methods of tears in performance**

Crying holds a privileged place in conversations around emotions as an expression of authentic feeling. And yet, tears are ambiguous: they might signal the most positive and negative of affects; they might present a sincere revelation of self or be simulated to manipulate others. Unsurprisingly, tears figure prominently on stage and on screen, where actors have experimented with the mechanics of making tears. *Cue Tears* uses tears as a prism through which to see some of the foundational problems and paradoxes of acting and spectatorship anew, including matters of authenticity and sincerity, the ethics of the witness, the interaction between a speech act and its affective force, liveness and documentation.

Across seven semi-autonomous essays, *Cue Tears* looks at the mechanisms of tear production, internal and external techniques that actors use to weep, and the effects of tears in performance situations on the stage, in the gallery, and in the classroom. The writing moves with a light touch between theory and criticism of a broad range of instances from literature, theater, performance art, visual art, and cinema, while also embracing a strong autobiographical and personal slant. Author Daniel Sack’s father was a biochemist who studied tears and collected his son’s tears for research during his childhood. These “reflex tears” were produced as a physical response to irritation—an eye stretched past the point of blinking, a cotton swab up the nose. This childhood occupation coincided with his first years taking acting classes, trying to learn how to cry “emotional tears” onstage through psychological stimulation and the recollection of memory. *Cue Tears* investigates these memories and methods.

**Daniel Sack** is Professor in the Department of English and the Commonwealth Honors College at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. His other books include *After Live: Possibility, Potentiality, and the Future of Performance* and *Imagined Theatres: Writing for a Theoretical Stage.*

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“With a diverse set of essays that include a restaged conversation between the author and his biochemist father, a reconsideration of conceptual artists who use tears to provoke reconsiderations of the public and private self, and an exploration of theatrical props and devices used to symbolize or provoke crying, Sack compels us to dwell with him at the limits of affect, empathy, and performance itself. This is a wonderful book, moving in its invocations and astute in its tear-soaked provocations.”

—Patrick Anderson,
University of California San Diego

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**THEATER AND PERFORMANCE | ART THEORY**

**July 2024**

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The Postdevelopmental State

Dilemmas of Economic Democratization in Contemporary South Korea

Jamie Doucette

Examining the struggle to align high-growth economic models with the egalitarian promises of democracy

Over the last 25 years, South Korea has witnessed growing inequality due to the proliferation of non-standard employment, ballooning household debt, deepening export-dependency, and the growth of super-conglomerates such as Samsung and Hyundai. Combined with declining rates of economic growth and turbulent political events, these processes mark a departure from Korea’s past recognition as a high growth “developmental state.”

The Postdevelopmental State radically reframes research into the South Korean economy by foregrounding the efforts of pro-democratic reformers and social movements in South Korea to create an alternative economic model—one that can address Korea’s legacy of authoritarian economic development during the Cold War and neoliberal restructuring since the Asian Financial Crisis of the late 1990s. Understanding these attempts offers insight into the types of economic reforms that have been enacted since the late 1990s as well as the continued legacy of dictatorship-era politics within the Korean political and legal system. By examining the dilemmas economic democracy has encountered over the past 25 years, from the IMF Crisis to the aftermath of the Candlelight Revolution, the book reveals the enormous and comprehensive challenges involved in addressing the legacy of authoritarian economic models and their neoliberal transformations.

Jamie Doucette is Reader in Human Geography at the University of Manchester.

“This is one of the very best books on contemporary South Korean politics and economics that I have read. It is a tremendous contribution to the fields of Korean studies, geography, and economic history. The study is executed with precision; it is thoroughly and ethically researched; and it is theoretically ambitious.”

—Joseph Jonghyun Jeon, University of California, Irvine
Specters of Cavafy
Maria Boletsi

Haunting the future through poetry

The Greek Alexandrian poet C. P. Cavafy (1863–1933) has been recognized as a central figure in European modernism and world literature. His poetry explored the conditions for animating the past and making lost worlds or people haunt the present. Yet he also described himself as “a poet of the future generations.” Indeed, his writings address concerns and desires that permeate the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. How does poetry concerned with the past, memory, loss, and death, carry futurity? How does it haunt, and how is it haunted by, future presents?

Specters of Cavafy broaches these questions by proposing spectral poetics as a novel approach to Cavafy’s work. Drawing from theorizations of specters and haunting, it develops spectrality as a lens for revisiting Cavafy’s poetry and prose, fiction and nonfiction, as well as his poetry’s bearing on our present. By examining Cavafy’s spectral poetics, the book’s first part shows how conjurations work in his writings, and how the spectral permeates the entanglement of modernity and haunting, and of irony and affect. The second part traces the afterlives of specific poems in the Western imagination since the 1990s, in Egypt’s history of debt and colonization, and in Greece during the country’s recent debt crisis. Beyond its original contribution to Cavafy studies, the book proposes tools and modes of reading that are broadly applicable in literary and cultural studies.

Maria Boletsi is Marilena Laskaridis Endowed Professor of Modern Greek Studies at the University of Amsterdam and Associate Professor in Film and Comparative Literature at Leiden University.

“In this brilliant, engrossing, and important new study, at once dazzlingly far-ranging and admirably fine-grained, Maria Boletsi takes one of the most distinctive Cavafian motifs—the poet’s interest in ghosts, phantoms, apparitions, and hauntings—and persuasively argues for seeing it as the key to an entirely new reading of the poet’s work.” —Daniel Mendelsohn, Bard College

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July 2024

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“Expedition Escape from the Classroom is a highly engaging, vulnerable, and personal book. A pioneer of autoethnography in IR, Löwenheim draws the reader into his journey outside the classroom, showing that IR is all around them, inspiring the reader to look inward and advance their own craft as scholar-teachers with thoughtfulness and care. This book expands his oeuvre into pedagogy, drawing back the curtain on the intellectual, political, and emotional work that goes into teaching.”
—Mira Sucharov, Carleton University

**Expedition Escape from the Classroom**
*Political Outings on the Campus and the Anxiety of Teaching IR*

**Oded Löwenheim**

**Breaking out of the classroom to explore how international relations manifest on campus**

Despite facing profound teaching anxiety stemming from the politically intense surroundings in Israel and his own writer’s block, Oded Löwenheim crafted an innovative college course that breaks free from the traditional classroom setting to explore the depths of Jerusalem’s Mount Scopus campus. He takes his class—and by extension, the reader—to explore the political and historical imprints scattered throughout Mount Scopus, such as the Jerusalem British War Cemetery, the botanical garden of the campus, and the bomb shelter of the Harry S. Truman Research Institute. Drawing from a rich tapestry of disciplines that include political geography, botany, literature, history, and archaeology, this book invites readers to find the international in the everyday.

*Expedition Escape from the Classroom* offers a unique narrative where teaching and its inherent challenges intersect with the intricacies of global politics, history, and identity. While recounting his academic experiment, Löwenheim grapples with the changing landscape of academia in a neoliberal age, while illustrating how personal vulnerabilities can transform into powerful tools for growth, exploration, and enlightenment. Whether you’re an educator, student, or just a curious reader, *Expedition Escape from the Classroom* promises a journey of reflection, critical thinking, and profound revelations.

**Oded Löwenheim** is Senior Lecturer in the Department of International Relations at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

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**The Revolution Will Be Improvised**

*The Intimacy of Cultural Activism*

Elizabeth Rodriguez Fielder

An examination of revolutionary intimacy-making, experimental performance, and art activism during the civil rights movement

This book traces intimate encounters between activists and local people of the civil rights movement through an archive of Black and Brown avant-gardism. In the 1960s, Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) activists engaged with people of color working in poor communities to experiment with creative approaches to liberation through theater, media, storytelling, and craftmaking. With a dearth of resources and an abundance of urgency, SNCC activists improvised new methods of engaging with communities that created possibilities for unexpected encounters through programs such as The Free Southern Theater, El Teatro Campesino, and the Poor People’s Corporation.

Reading the output of these programs, Elizabeth Rodriguez Fielder argues that intimacy-making became an extension of participatory democracy. *The Revolution Will Be Improvised* returns to improvisation’s roots in economic and social necessity and locates it as a core tenet of the aesthetics of obligation, where a commitment to others drives the production and result of creative work.

Elizabeth Rodriguez Fielder is Assistant Professor of English at the University of Iowa.

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**Bateson’s Alphabet**

*Connecting Bateson’s ecology of mind with the environmental humanities*

Jacob Smith

Gregory Bateson (1904–1980) began his career as an anthropologist in the 1930s, yet Bateson has also been recognized as an important early practitioner of ethnographic filmmaking, a key figure in the early development of cybernetics, and a point of reference for environmental artists and activists. In fact, Bateson was an important environmental thinker who was sounding the alarm about global warming and runaway patterns of consumption fifty years ago. His research connected the symptoms of ecological crisis to deeply rooted systems of Western thought.

*Bateson’s Alphabet* draws on archival sources—Bateson’s public presentations, classroom seminars, and recorded memos—and is composed of short, alphabetized essays that put Bateson in conversation with current scholarship in the environmental humanities and ground his ideas in a concrete example from a media text. The hyperlinked text allows readers to take multiple paths through the text. Whichever path is chosen, each step allows for a rich, multimodal encounter with Bateson’s ideas through media analysis and images from the films under discussion. The resulting resource offers a new way to experience Bateson’s ecology of mind and fosters new interdisciplinary connections within the environmental humanities.

Jacob Smith is co-founder and director of the Master of Arts in Sound Arts and Industries and Professor in the Department of Radio/Television/Film at Northwestern University.
Fantasies of Ito Michio
Tara Rodman

Chronicles Ito Michio’s career and explores how fantasy sustains a life disrupted by war, racialization, and imperialism

Born in Japan and trained in Germany, dancer and choreographer Ito Michio (1893–1961) achieved prominence in London before moving to the U.S. in 1916 and building a career as an internationally acclaimed artist. During World War II, Ito spent two years in the Japanese internment camps, later repatriating to Japan, where he contributed to imperial war efforts by creating propaganda performances and performing revues for the occupying Allied Forces in Tokyo. Throughout, Ito continually invented stories of voyages made, artists befriended, performances seen, and political activities carried out—stories later dismissed as false.

Fantasies of Ito Michio argues that these invented stories, unrealized projects, and questionable political affiliations are as fundamental to Ito’s career as his “real” activities, helping us understand how he sustained himself across experiences of racialization, imperialism, war, and internment. Tara Rodman offers “fantasy” as a rubric for understanding how individuals such as Ito sustain themselves in periods of violent disruption and as a scholarly methodology for engaging the past.

Tara Rodman is Assistant Professor of Drama at the University of California, Irvine.

Down Syndrome Culture
Life Writing, Documentary, and Fiction Film in Iberian and Latin American Contexts
Benjamin Fraser

Looking at Down syndrome representation from a global perspective

People with Down syndrome possess a culture. They are producers of culture. And in the twenty-first century, this culture is increasingly visible as a global phenomenon. This book examines Down syndrome alongside its social, cultural, and artistic representation. Author Benjamin Fraser draws upon neomaterialist and posthumanist approaches to disability as well as the work of disability theorists such as David Mitchell, Sharon Snyder, Susan Antebi, Tobin Siebers, and Stuart Murray. Down Syndrome Culture also pushes the traditionally Anglophone borders of disability studies by examining examples in Spanish, Catalan, and Portuguese-language texts, and incorporating the work of thinkers in Iberian and Latin American studies. By particularly focusing on Down syndrome, he showcases the unique place that it holds as an intellectual and developmental disability—one that fits between the social and medical models of disability—within the disability studies field.

Ultimately, this book reveals the lives, cultural work, and representations of people with trisomy 21 in an international context.

Benjamin Fraser is Professor of Iberian and Latin American Cultural Studies at the University of Arizona.
Alchemies of Theater
Plays, Scores, Writings
Dick Higgins
Edited by Bonnie Marranca

Illuminating the extensive contributions of Dick Higgins to theater

In addition to his work as visual artist, publisher, poet, and composer, Dick Higgins (1938–98) was also a genuine man of the theater. A founder of Fluxus, he was a major figure in artistic communities in downtown New York City, across Europe, and in Japan. Yet as important as Higgins’s work has been to historians of the American avant-garde, relatively little attention has been paid to his radical theatrical vision.

Alchemies of Theater brings together a broad selection of Higgins’s writings and theater-related work, much of it unpublished or long out of print, including plays and performance scores, drawings, and writings on theater and performance. As this book demonstrates, Higgins deconstructed the drama long before it became a project of theater; undercut the traditional roles of author and director; created what is now considered “devised” theater; pioneered the use of media in theater, writing the first electronic opera; and was a precursor in deconstruction and “postdramatic” avant-garde traditions.

Dick Higgins (1938–98) was a visual artist, publisher, poet, composer, and playwright. He founded the highly influential Something Else Press, and wrote more than three dozen books. Bonnie Marranca is Professor Emerita of Eugene Lang College of Liberal Arts at The New School.

Contemporary Opera in Flux
Edited by Yayoi U. Everett

A collection of essays examining operas that push the conventional boundaries of opera and advance the work of underrepresented composers

In twelve essays, Contemporary Opera in Flux discusses a series of shifts that, taken together, have radically redefined the production and reception of opera. Focusing on productions involving late twentieth- and twenty-first century scores and libretti, the twelve contributors draw on conversations with members of creative teams and studies of archival material, dipping into a historical record that remains in flux as composers, librettists, directors, and designers revisit existing work and create anew. The contributors to this volume push the boundaries of contemporary opera scholarship by examining works that disrupt operatic conventions; tackle sociopolitical issues such as drug trafficking, racial injustice, and cultural trauma; and advance underrepresented works by female, African-American, Asian, and avant-garde composers around the globe. This collection of essays engages critically with the past out of a conviction that, amid general public perceptions of opera as anachronistic or elitist, contemporary opera has emerged as an artistic incubator for experimentation.

Yayoi U. Everett is a Professor of Music at CUNY Hunter College and the Graduate Center.

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Dancing with the Modernist City
Metropolitan Dance Texts around 1900
Wesley Lim

Combining urban experiences and modern dance to
develop metropolitan dance texts

Drawing on cultural, literary, dance, performance, and
queer studies, Dancing with the Modernist City analyzes an
array of material from 1896 to 1914—essays, novels, short
stories, poetry, newspaper articles, photographs, posters,
drawings, and early film. It argues that these writers and
artists created a genre called the metropolitan dance
text, which depicts dancing figures not on a traditional
stage, but with the streets, advertising pillars, theaters,
cafes, squares, and hospitals of an urban setting. This
posthumanist mode of writing highlights the visual and
episodic unexpectedness of urban encounters, questions
traditional conceptualizations of space and performance,
and makes the protagonist and the reader feel like they
embody the dancer and the movement. In doing so, it
upsets conventional depictions of performance and urban
spaces in ways paralleling modern dance.

Wesley Lim is Lecturer in German Studies at the Australian
National University.

Teaching Difficult Topics
Reflections from the Undergraduate Music
Classroom
Olivia R. Lucas and Laura Moore Pruett,
Editors

Reflections from college music instructors offering
various approaches to inclusive, supportive pedagogy in
the classroom.

The teaching reflections in Teaching Difficult Topics examine
difficult themes that fall into three primary categories:
subjects that instructors sense to be controversial or
emotionally challenging to discuss, those that derive
from or intersect with real-world events that are difficult
to process, and bigger-picture discussions of how music
studies often focuses on dominant narratives while
overlooking other perspectives. Some chapters offer
practical guidance, lesson plans, and teaching materials
to enable instructors to build discussions of race, gender,
sexuality, and traumatic histories into their own classrooms;
others take a more global view, reflecting on the importance
and relevance of teaching these difficult topics and on how
to respond in the music classroom when external events
upset daily life.

Olivia R. Lucas is an Assistant Professor of Music Theory at
Louisiana State University.

Laura Moore Pruett is an Associate Professor of Music at
Merrimack College.
A Queer History of Flamenco

Diversions, Transitions, and Returns in Flamenco Dance (1808–2018)
Fernando López Rodríguez
Translated by Ryan Rockmore

Revealing the LGBTQ+ lives of Flamenco artists

This book offers a groundbreaking exploration of flamenco through the lenses of queer theory and cultural studies. Previous histories have provided a largely distorted image about why, where, and how people have done flamenco— as well as who has performed flamenco. Yet feminists, transvestites, butches, femmes, the Spanish Roma, disabled people, guiris, and “incomprehensible” artists have been determined to do things differently without giving up their flamenco status. Tracing flamenco’s development from its birth up to the contemporary era, the book frames it within significant historical periods such as the Spanish Civil War, Franco’s dictatorship, the transition to democracy, and the economic crisis of 2008, up to contemporary performances of the late 2010s. In this skillful translation of his book Historia Queer del Flamenco, Fernando López Rodríguez draws on diverse archival materials as well as his own lived experience and artistic practice, unearthing queer flamenco histories, voices, and perspectives that were previously unknown, avoided, or purposely hidden.

Fernando López Rodríguez is artist-researcher at Équipe Danse, Université Paris 8-Saint Denis. Ryan Rockmore is Assistant Dean of Students at Oakwood School in North Hollywood, California and an independent flamenco researcher and performer.

Legal Stories

Narrative-Based Property Development in the Modern Copyright Era
Gregory Steirer

How copyright law and the practice of narrative-based property development influenced each other before 1978

Tracing the emergence of what the media industries today call transmedia, story worlds, and narrative franchises, Legal Stories provides a dual history of copyright law and narrative-based media development between the Copyright Act of 1909 and the Copyright Act of 1976. Drawing on archival material, including legal case files, and employing the principles of actor-network theory, Gregory Steirer demonstrates how the meaning and form of narrative-based property in the twentieth century was integral to the letter and practice of intellectual property law during this time.

Steirer’s expansive view of intellectual property law encompasses not only statutes and judicial opinions, but also the everyday practices and productions of authors, editors, fans, and other legal laypersons. The result is a history of the law as improvisatory and accident-prone, taking place as often outside the courtroom as inside, and shaped as much by laypersons as lawyers.

Gregory Steirer is Associate Professor of English and Film & Media Studies at Dickinson College and the author (with Alisa Perren) of The American Comic Book Industry and Hollywood.
Geographies of Relation
Diasporas and Borderlands in the Americas
Theresa Delgadillo

How diaspora and borderlands subjects from across the Americas have represented and performed their interrelationship

Geographies of Relation offers a new lens for examining diaspora and borderlands texts and performances that considers the inseparability of race, ethnicity, and gender in imagining and enacting social change. Theresa Delgadillo crosses interdisciplinary and canonical borders to investigate the interrelationships of African-descended Latinx and mestizx peoples through an analysis of Latin American, Latinx, and African American literature, film, and performance.

This book demonstrates the long histories of networks and exchanges across the Americas as well as the interrelationships among Indigenous, Black, African American, mestizx, Chicanx, and Latinx peoples. It offers a compelling argument that geographies of relation are as significant as national frameworks in structuring cultural formation and change in this hemisphere.

Theresa Delgadillo is a Vilas Distinguished Professor of English and Chicano@/Latin@ Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Uncanny Creatures
Doll Thinking in Modern German Culture
Christophe Koné

How dolls have fascinated writers, thinkers, and artists alike in Modern German culture

Germany held a monopoly on the manufacture and export of bisque toy dolls in Europe before WWI. Yet, dolls’ omnipresence in the material, visual, and literary culture of the modern German-speaking world has so far not been properly addressed. In demonstrating this cultural affinity for dolls, Christophe Koné draws upon a range of stories and seminal essays on dolls, as well as toys, sculptures, paintings, and photographs.

Because dolls occupy a liminal space—not quite things and more than mere objects—they appear as uncanny creatures which have held a fascination for writers, thinkers, and artists alike. Uncanny Creatures moves past the Freudian discourse of fetishism to propose a new reading of doll artifacts in German culture centered on their ability to evoke a feeling of uncertainty and unsettlement in the viewer.

Christophe Koné is Associate Professor of German at Williams College and Director of the Oakley Center for Humanities and Social Sciences.
**In Search of Admiration and Respect**

*Chinese Cultural Diplomacy in the United States, 1875–1974*

Yanqiu Zheng

*Reframes cultural diplomacy as part of China’s ongoing quest for modernity beyond wealth and power*

This book examines the institutionalization of Chinese cultural diplomacy in the period between high imperialism and the international ascendance of the People’s Republic of China. During these years, Chinese intellectuals and officials tried to promote the idea of China’s cultural refinement in an effort to combat negative perceptions of the nation. Yanqiu Zheng argues that, unlike similar projects by more established powers, Chinese cultural diplomacy in this era was not carried out solely by a functional government agency; rather, limited resources forced an uneasy collaboration between the New York-based China Institute and the Chinese Nationalist government.

Drawing upon diverse archival sources, Zheng expands the contours of cultural diplomacy beyond established powers and sheds light on the limited agency of peripheral nations in their self-representation.

**Yanqiu Zheng** is a historian of China in the world and is Associate Director of Asia and Pacific Programs at St. Lawrence University’s Peterson Center for International and Intercultural Studies. He led the China and the Global South project, supported by the Ford Foundation, at the Social Science Research Council.

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**Engineering Stability**

*Rebuilding the State in Twenty-First Century Chinese Universities*

Yan Xiaojun

*How can a state reinvent itself to survive?*

While the processes of founding a new state or constructing a new political order after a transition have been well-studied, there has been much less attention to how regimes that survive major political crises purposefully reinvent a post-crisis state to respond to updated concepts, new circumstances, changed social demands, and a realigned elite consensus. In *Engineering Stability*, Yan Xiaojun examines the Chinese Communist Party’s efforts to reassert control and restore order on university campuses in the post-Tiananmen era. Since prominent national universities serve the nation-state as training grounds for the country’s future political, economic, and cultural elites, public life on university campuses has immediate political relevance. Drawing on rich materials gathered from in-depth field research in China during the Xi Jinping era, *Engineering Stability* invites scholars of comparative politics, state theory, contentious politics, and political development to rethink and reimagine how a compromised autocratic state is rebuilt within and from itself after overcoming a traumatic moment of vulnerability.

**Yan Xiaojun** is Associate Professor of Politics and Public Administration at the University of Hong Kong.
**Queer Chimerica**

*A Speculative Auto/Ethnography of the Cool Child*

Shana Leodar Ye

Examining the intersections of queer theory and the rise of China to reveal how queerness is “produced”

Blending archival work, ethnography, and cultural analysis with memoir, graphic arts, and science fiction, *Queer Chimerica* unpacks the ways in which the transnational circulation of queer culture, politics, and institutions are structured through the antagonist interdependence of China and the United States. By examining the intersecting timelines of the rise of queer theory and the rise of China in the late Cold War era, Shana Ye explores the relationship between the discourse of queer fluidity and capital’s demands for labor flexibility.

*Queer Chimerica* offers insight into the governmentality of LGBT rights, the rules of legibility and recognition, the geo- and bio-politics of identity, and the class-ridden appropriation of queer history and community. Thus understanding the production of queerness unveils the uneven distributions of capital, knowledge, affect, and opportunity that reproduce queer precarity and agency.

**Shana Leodar Ye** is Assistant Professor of Historical and Cultural Studies at the University of Toronto Scarborough and the Women and Gender Studies Institute at the University of Toronto.

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**Learning to Love**

*Intimacy and the Discourse of Development in China*

Sonya E. Pritzker

Understanding generational trauma through a method of self-care

*Learning to Love* offers a range of perspectives on the embodied, relational, affective, and sociopolitical project of “learning to love” at the New Life Center for Holistic Growth, a popular “mind-body-spirit” bookstore and practice space in northeast China, in the early part of the twenty-first century. This intimate form of self-care exists alongside the fast-moving, growing capitalist society of contemporary China and has emerged as an understandable response to the pressures of Chinese industrialized life in the early twenty-first century. Opening with an investigation of the complex ways newcomers to the center suffered a sense of being “off,” both in and with the world at multiple scales, Pritzker then examines how new horizons of possibility are opened as people interact with one another as well as with a range of aesthetic objects at New Life. By examining the interactions and relational experiences from New Life, *Learning to Love* offers a range of novel theoretical interventions into political subjectivity, temporality, and intergenerational trauma/healing.

**Sonya E. Pritzker** is Associate Professor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Alabama.
Samurai with Telephones
Anachronism in Japanese Literature
Christopher Smith

What anachronisms reveal about historical narratives through Early Modern and Modern Japanese cultural products

What is going on when a graphic novel has a twelfth-century samurai pick up a telephone to make a call, or a play has an ancient aristocrat teaching in a present-day schoolroom? Rather than regarding such anachronisms as errors, *Samurai with Telephones* develops a theory of how texts can use different types of anachronisms to challenge or rewrite history, play with history, or open history up to new possibilities.

From the modern period, this volume examines literature by Mori Ōgai and Ōe Kenzaburō, manga by Tezuka Osamu, art by Murakami Takashi, and a variety of other pop cultural works. Turning to the Early Modern period (Edo period, 1600–1868), which produced a literature rich with playful anachronism, he also examines several Kabuki and Bunraku plays, kibyōshi comic books, and gōkan illustrated novels. In analyzing these works, he draws a distinction between anachronisms that attempt to hide their work on history and convincingly rewrite it and those conspicuous anachronisms that highlight and disrupt the construction of historical narratives.

Christopher Smith is Assistant Professor of Modern Japanese Literature and Culture at the University of Florida.

Listening to the Voices of the Dead
The 3-11 Tōhoku Disaster Speaks
Isomae Jun’ichi

An incisive observation of the traumas of loss and marginalization brought to the surface by the 2011 Tōhoku Disaster

*Listening to the Voices of the Dead* is an account of the author’s search for disquieted voices of the dead in the wake of the March 11, 2011, Tōhoku Disaster and his attempt to translate those voices for the living. Isomae Jun’ichi considers the disaster a challenge for outside observers to overcome, especially for practitioners of religion and religious studies. He chronicles the care and devotion for the dead shown by ordinary people, people displaced from their homes and loved ones. Drawing upon religious studies, Japanese history, postcolonial studies, and his own experiences during the disaster, Isomae uncovers historical symptoms brought to the surface by the traumas of disaster. Only by listening to the disquiet voices of the dead, translating them, and responding to them can we regain our true selves as well as offer peace to the spirits of the victims. While this book focuses on this one event in Japanese history and memory, it captures a broadening critique at the heart of many movements responding to how increasing globalization impacts our sense of place and community.

Isomae Jun’ichi is Professor at the International Research Center for Japanese Studies. Lynne E. Riggs and Takechi Manabu are professional translators of mainly nonfiction, working through the Center for Intercultural Communication, which they founded in 1990.

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Typologies of Humor in African Literatures
Adwoa A. Opoku-Agyemang

Examining humor and four of its archetypes in twentieth-century African literature

Despite humor being omnipresent in African societies and their literatures, discussions of contemporary African literature have largely dismissed it as being too lighthearted compared to the more serious issues of post-colonial history, class inequality, and politics. Adwoa A. Opoku-Agyemang establishes humor as an essential component of African literary texts across the twentieth century. Typologies of Humor in African Literatures analyzes four comedic archetypes: the Trickster, the Mimic, the Interpreter, and the Deviant. These character types and the humor they produce present a constant pursuit of balance between contrasting worldviews and frames of reference within the imbrication of different languages, classes, political factions, genders, and (un)officialdoms. By analyzing Francophone and Anglophone African writing and how it overlays local languages, Opoku-Agyemang contributes a uniquely African voice to the primarily Western-dominated field of humor studies.

Adwoa A. Opoku-Agyemang teaches at Ashesi University.

Between HIV Prevention and LGBTQI Rights
Ellie Gore

The Political Economy of Queer Activism in Ghana

Examining the impacts of global development processes and HIV response on queer politics and activism in Ghana

Between HIV Prevention and LGBTQI Rights investigates the transformative impacts of global development’s sexual rights agenda on queer politics and activism in Ghana. With queer men bearing a disproportionate burden of HIV in Africa, rights-based health interventions have sought to tackle the epidemic by bringing together, educating, and ‘empowering’ queer African communities. Gore argues that queer Ghanaian men are not benefiting from development’s turn to sexual health and sexual rights. Instead, HIV and other sexual rights-based initiatives operate through neoliberal paradigms that reinforce class divides and de-politicize queer struggle. These dynamics are further shaping and shaped by the politicization of homophobia within the contemporary Ghanaian state.

Gore combines original ethnography, documentary analysis, and the examination of development and global health data to connect the struggle for queer liberation in Ghana to broader trajectories of capitalist transformation and crisis and the afterlives of colonialism.

Ellie Gore is a Lecturer in Global Political Economy at the University of Manchester.
The South Korean Film Industry
Sangjoon Lee, Dal Yong Jin, and Junhyoung Cho, Editors

A multifaceted exploration of the South Korean film industry

The South Korean Film Industry is the first detailed scholarly overview of the South Korean film industry. The thirteen chapters discuss topics from short films to popular television series that have engaged global audiences. Contributors explore the major changes in South Korean film making, marketing, and in the international growth and popularity of South Korean films. By bringing together a wide range of academic specialists on the South Korean film industry, this book situates the current scholarship on South Korean cinema within the ongoing theoretical debates in contemporary global film studies. This volume offers invigorating discussions of the South Korean film industry, as well as its economic, political, and artistic impact on global, local, and regional film industries and cultures.

Sangjoon Lee is Associate Professor in the School of Creative Media at the City University of Hong Kong.
Dal Yong Jin is Distinguished Professor in the School of Communication at Simon Fraser University and Global Professor in the School of Media & Communication at Korea University.
Junhyoung Cho is Senior Researcher of the Korean Film Archive.

Beyond the River, Under the Eye of Rome
Timothy C. Hart

Explores how Roman perceptions of Danubian peoples influenced some of the most politically and socially significant events of Roman antiquity

Beyond the River, Under the Eye of Rome presents the Danube frontier of the Roman empire as the central stage for many of the most important political and military events of Roman history, from Trajan’s invasion of Dacia and the Marcomannic Wars, to the humbling of the Roman state power at the hands of the Goths and Huns. Hart delves into the cultural and political impacts of Rome’s interactions with Transdanubian peoples, emphasizing the Sarmatians of the Hungarian Plain, whose long encounter with the Roman Empire, he argues, created a problematic template for later dealings with Goths and Huns based on misapplied ethnographic and ecological tropes. This book explores how Roman stereotypical perceptions of specific Danubian peoples directly influenced some of the most politically significant events of Roman antiquity.

Timothy C. Hart is a Lecturer in the History Department at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.
Roman Decorative Stone Collections in the Kelsey Museum of Archaeology
J. Clayton Fant, Leah E. Long, and Lynley J. McAlpine

A visual and historical guide to North America’s largest collection of Roman marble artifacts

At the turn of the twentieth century, Francis W. Kelsey began to amass a large collection of artifacts from ancient sites across the Mediterranean, with an emphasis on Imperial Rome, to broaden the teaching of antiquity at the University of Michigan. Among the objects now housed in the museum that bears his name is a collection of seven hundred colorful stones dating to the Roman period, one of the largest and most varied collections of Roman decorative stones outside Europe. These pieces were obtained as archaeological artifacts, mostly architectural, with many deriving from well-known ancient buildings, such as the Baths of Diocletian in Rome and the Palace of Herod in Jericho, allowing for new interpretations of their architectural decoration and design. Chapters trace the formation of the collection, study the archaeology of the artifacts, and detail the history of each stone and its study with a comprehensive bibliography.

J. Clayton Fant is Professor Emeritus of Classical Studies at the University of Akron.
Leah E. Long teaches Latin and Art History at Mercersburg Academy.
Lynley J. McAlpine is Associate Curator of Provenance Research at the San Antonio Museum of Art.

A Commentary on Plautus’ Curculio
T. H. M. Gellar-Goad

The first commentary on Plautus’ Curculio in over forty years

Lively and critically aware, T. H. M. Gellar-Goad’s A Commentary on Plautus’ Curculio is the new reference text on the play. Curculio follows the efforts of the title character to trick a sex-trafiicker into handing over an enslaved woman to the young man infatuated with her instead of to the soldier who’s paid for her—and will turn out to be her long-lost brother. As Plautus’ shortest comedy, Curculio has proven to be a desirable text for university performances. The play exemplifies Plautus’ style, with a blend of erotic, deception, and recognition plotlines, plus a wide range of archetypal characters. Gellar-Goad’s commentary is the complete package for students, with introductions to themes, content, humor, meter, and syntax; notes on matters of performance, interpretation, and social history; and a text with aids to scansion and clarifying stage directions.

This up-to-date, authoritative commentary on the play will prove useful to directors and actors and will readily introduce students to the joys of Roman comedy.

T. H. M. Gellar-Goad is Associate Professor of Classics at Wake Forest University. He writes books.
Classical Myth: An Introduction
Second Edition
Barry B. Powell

An overview of the history, theory, and stories of myths

Myths are not just the stories from the ancient Greeks and Romans—they represent deep truths from the essential concerns people face in their lives. Readers may already have heard of the Trojan Horse or how Oedipus married his own mother, but why have these stories lingered?

In this book, Barry B. Powell provides the historical and theoretical background necessary for us to understand not only the concept of what a myth is, but the cultural context of how it emerged, and the different approaches to interpreting myth that were put forward by ancient theorists and their more recent successors. Then he helps readers to understand classical myth as it is found in its primary sources: the works of Homer and Hesiod, and the Greek tragedians and historians, Ovid and Vergil. By examining a number of prominent themes in classical myth, this textbook explores the relationship between myth and art, politics, society, and history of the ancient world. This completely revised second edition features new illustrations and will help readers who want to understand myths or study their original sources.

Barry B. Powell is Halls-Bascom Professor of Classics Emeritus at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

The Shadow of an Ass
Philosophical Choice and Aesthetic Experience in Apuleius’ Metamorphoses
Jeffrey P. Ulrich

An examination of philosophical choice and aesthetic reception in the reading of Apuleius’ novel Metamorphoses

This book addresses fundamental questions about the reception and aesthetic experience of Apuleius’ Metamorphoses, popularly known as The Golden Ass, by situating the novel in a contemporaneous literary and philosophical discourse emerging in the Second Sophistic. Ulrich interprets the Metamorphoses as a locus of philosophical inquiry, positioning the act of reading as a choice of how much to invest in this tale of pleasurable transformation and unanticipated conversion. The Shadow of an Ass further explores how Apuleius, as a North African philosopher translating an originally Greek novel into a Latin idiolect, transforms himself into an intermediary of Platonic philosophy for his Carthaginian audience.

Situating the novel in a long history of philosophical and literary conversations, Ulrich suggests that the Metamorphoses anticipates much of the philosophical burlesque we tend to associate with early modern fiction, from Don Quixote to Lewis Carroll.

Jeffrey P. Ulrich is Assistant Professor of Classics at Rutgers University.
The Dilemma of Compliance

Political Parties and Post-Election Disputes

Svitlana Chernykh

Exploring the causes and consequences of post-election disputes

When democratic transitions are dependent on the willingness of participants to accept defeat, political parties can undermine election-based democracy by rejecting the outcome. Today, the question of whether election losers will comply or reject election outcomes is more and more pressing. To answer these questions, this book draws on an original dataset of post-election responses encompassing over 300 political parties, which participated in 270 elections held in twenty-two countries of Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union over a period of more than two decades. In doing so, it offers a new theoretical framework for studying electoral compliance in comparative perspective and advances research on democratic transition, democracy promotion, post-election protests, and party politics.

Svitlana Chernykh is Senior Lecturer in the School of Politics and International Relations at Australian National University.

Mass–Elite Representation Gap in Old and New Democracies

Critical Junctures and Elite Agency

Edited by Jaemin Shim

What happens when voters and their representatives don’t agree?

This book brings together a global array of scholars to examine the issue from new angles, drawing on evidence from North Africa, East Asia, Southeast Asia, South America, and Europe. This global-level analysis of different representation gaps demonstrates that these gaps vary in content, structure, and the timing of formation. Moreover, recognizing the socially, culturally, and internationally embedded nature of party politics, the contributors in the volume trace the historical origin of gaps observed in different world regions. The findings show that earlier choices made by political elites during historical-critical junctures lead to preference mismatch, undermining the quality of democratic representation.

Jaemin Shim is Assistant Professor at Hong Kong Baptist University and Associate Fellow at the German Institute for Global and Area Studies.
The Fundamentals of Campaign Finance in the U.S.

Why We Have the System We Have

Diana Dwyre and Robin Kolodny

Why the U.S. campaign finance system is difficult to fix

Before the U.S. campaign finance system can be fixed, we first have to understand why it has developed into the system as it exists today. The nature of democracy itself, the American capitalist economic system, the content of the U.S. Constitution and how it is interpreted, the structure of our governmental institutions, the competition for governmental power, and the behavior of campaign finance actors have all played a role in shaping the system.

The Fundamentals of Campaign Finance in the U.S. takes care to situate the campaign finance system in the context of the broader U.S. political and economic system. By examining the fundamentals, Dwyre and Kolodny show the difficulties of changing a political system whose candidates have always relied on private funding of campaigns to one that guarantees free speech rights while minimizing concerns of corruption.

Diana Dwyre is Professor of Political Science and Coordinator of the Social Science Program at California State University, Chico. Robin Kolodny is Professor of Political Science at Temple University.

Autocrats Can’t Always Get What They Want

State Institutions and Autonomy under Authoritarianism

Nathan J. Brown, Steven D. Schaaf, Samer Anabtawi, and Julian G. Waller

Discovering why autocrats may not be in total control

Autocrats Can’t Always Get What They Want argues that to understand how authoritarian systems work we need to look not only at the interests and intentions of those at the top, but also at the inner workings of the various parts of the state. Courts, elections, security force structure, and intelligence gathering are seen as structured and geared toward helping maintain the regime. Yet authoritarian regimes do not all operate the same way in the day-to-day and year-to-year tumble of politics.

Instead of viewing authoritarian governance as something that reduces politics to rulers’ whims and opposition movements, the authors show how it operates—and how much what we call “authoritarianism” varies.

Nathan J. Brown is Professor of Political Science and International Affairs at George Washington University. Steven D. Schaaf is Assistant Professor of Political Science and International Studies at the University of Mississippi. Samer Anabtawi is Assistant Professor of Comparative Politics at University College London. Julian G. Waller is Research Analyst at the Center for Naval Analyses and Professorial Lecturer in Political Science at George Washington University.
The Derecognition of States
Gëzim Visoka

When and why do states lose recognition?

Although a great deal is known about the recognition of states, less is known about the practice of derecognition of states, namely why and how states withdraw the recognition of other contested and partially recognized states. This book offers a global and comparative outlook of this unexplored diplomatic practice. Using original empirical research, it addresses the complex processes, justifications, and consequences of state derecognition. In particular, it provides unique insights into five aspirant states facing withdrawal of recognition: Taiwan, Western Sahara, Abkhazia, South Ossetia, and Kosovo.

Gëzim Visoka argues that state derecognition is a highly controversial and unstable practice that has less to do with the unfulfillment of the conditions of statehood by the claimant than with the advancement of the self-interest of the former base state and derecognizing state. By analyzing the withdrawal of recognition, the book offers a window into the reversal politics of unbecoming a sovereign state and how the arbitrary beginning and the end of diplomatic relations between states take place.

Gëzim Visoka is Associate Professor of Peace and Conflict Studies at Dublin City University.

Making Sense of the Arab State
Steven Heydemann and Marc Lynch, Editors

Exploring the surprising strengths and weaknesses of the Arab state

No region in the world has been more hostile to democracy, more dominated by military and security institutions, or weaker on economic development and inclusive governance than the Middle East. Why have Arab states been so oppressively strong in some areas but so devastatingly weak in others? How do those patterns affect politics, economics, and society across the region? The state stands at the center of the analysis of politics in the Middle East, but has rarely been the primary focus of systematic theoretical analysis.

This book brings together top scholars from diverse theoretical orientations to address some of the most critically important questions facing the region today. The authors grapple with enduring questions such as the uneven development of state capacity, the failures of developmentalism and governance, the centrality of regime security and survival concerns, the excesses of surveillance and control, and the increasing personalization of power.

Steven Heydemann is Ketcham Chair in Middle East Studies and Professor of Government at Smith College and a Nonresident Senior Fellow in the Center for Middle East Policy at the Brookings Institution. Marc Lynch is Professor of Political Science at George Washington University.
The Troubling State of India’s Democracy
Šumit Ganguly, Dinsha Mistree, and Larry Diamond, Editors

Assessing the condition and potential trajectories of India’s democracy

India’s democracy faces an unprecedented threat with the rise of Narendra Modi and his Hindu nationalist party, the Bharatiya Janata Party. After decisively winning general elections in 2014, Modi and the BJP have pursued a range of anti-democratic policies to undermine the opposition, to stifle free speech, and to harass religious minorities. This book brings together leading scholars from around the world to assess the conditions of India’s democracy across three important dimensions: politics; the state; and society. Even though elements of India’s democracy seem to function—like its commitment to elections—the contributors document a disturbing trajectory, one that not only threatens to undermine India’s own stability, but could also affect the global order.

Šumit Ganguly is Distinguished Professor of Political Science and holds the Tagore Chair in Indian Cultures and Civilizations at Indiana University, Bloomington. He is also a Visiting Fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University. Dinsha Mistree is Research Fellow at the Hoover Institution. Larry Diamond is William L. Clayton Senior Fellow at the Hoover Institution and Mosbacher Senior Fellow in Global Democracy at the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies at Stanford University.

Turbulence Across the Sea
Transatlantic Relations and Strategic Competition
Edited by Elie Baranets and Andrew R. Novo

How power struggles are shifting security on both sides of the Atlantic

Great Power competition is back. While the United States is focused on China, Europe is preoccupied with Russia. With a mix of research methodologies applied by scholars from both sides of the Atlantic, Turbulence Across the Sea offers a comprehensive analysis of relations among European and North American actors in the context of strategic competition among the United States, Europe, Russia, and China. In doing so, it demonstrates that a reaffirmation of transatlantic cooperation is necessary to maintain security in the face of aggressive moves by both Russia and China. By analyzing attitudes from the perspective of both the various actors (Britain, France, Germany, and the European Union) and various sectors (intelligence cooperation, foreign direct investments, technology, and the defense industry), this book provides readers with a comprehensive perspective on the challenges and opportunities in the shifting landscape of security in the twenty-first century.

Elie Baranets is a Research Fellow in International Security at the Institute for Strategic Research (IRSEM). Andrew R. Novo is Professor of Strategic Studies at The National Defense University.
Navigating the English Language Classroom

*Effective Practices for Novice Teachers*
Lía D. Kamhi-Stein, Bahiyyih Hardacre, and Jeremy Kelley

Guiding new teachers as they transition to the classroom

Although language teacher preparation programs expose future teachers to a variety of approaches, methods, and techniques, the transition from training environments to real classrooms is not a straightforward one. This book is designed to bridge the gap between the highly theorized view of the language classroom presented in language teacher preparation programs and the first years of teaching. Written in accessible language and filled with principled pedagogical practices, the chapters can be integrated into any teacher training program. Each chapter offers context; a case study; common concerns; and concrete, research-based practices that link theory to practice in an easy-to-access manner. Readers will learn how to face several challenges, including:

- lesson planning and delivery
- classroom assessment
- integrating technology into the classroom
- using corpora in the classroom
- establishing a professional identity

*Lía D. Kamhi-Stein* is Professor and Coordinator of the MA in TESOL Program at California State University, Los Angeles. *Bahiyyih Hardacre* is Associate Professor of TESOL at California State University, Los Angeles. *Jeremy Kelley* is Associate Director of the Writing Programs at the University of California, Los Angeles.

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Preparing Adult English Learners to Read for College and the Workplace

Edited by Kirsten Schaetzel, Joy Kreeft Peyton, and Rebeca Fernández

How to prepare adult English learners for reading success

The ability to read effectively—to work with a text, understand its meaning, and talk and write about it with, and for, others—is a critical aspect of academic and workplace success.

After reading this book, adult ESL practitioners will be able to:

- Prepare adults learning English to apply appropriate reading strategies to a variety of academic and professional contexts and purposes
- Use instructional strategies, including digital technology, to help struggling and developing readers close gaps in skills and conceptual knowledge
- Improve reading comprehension through robust vocabulary instruction
- Enhance reading skills and comprehension through writing instruction that balances sentence-level, discourse, and interactive processes and practices
- Inspire students to become lifelong readers who engage in extensive reading outside of school and professional contexts

*Kirsten Schaetzel* is an English Language Specialist at Emory University. *Joy Kreeft Peyton* is a Senior Fellow at the Center for Applied Linguistics in Washington, DC. *Rebeca Fernández* is Associate Professor of Writing and Educational Studies at Davidson College.
Project Management for Researchers

A Practical, Stress-Free Guide to Getting Organized

Shiri Noy

A step-by-step guide to developing a research organization system that works for you

This book offers guidance on choosing tools and developing a personalized system that will help the reader manage and organize their research. Suitable for work across methods, experience levels, and disciplines and adaptable for those working alone, with others, or as team managers, this book will guide readers between various research stages—from planning, to execution, to adjustment of research projects big and small.

Shiri Noy is Associate Professor of Sociology at Denison University.

A Casebook of Decolonizing Pedagogical Practices for Second Language Teacher Education

Amy B. Gooden

Authentic practice for promoting equitable learning environments for all students

This comprehensive collection of case studies is designed to empower educators by providing them with the necessary pedagogical content knowledge, dispositions, and curricular insights to actively decolonize second/world language teaching in K–12 and university contexts.

Amy B. Gooden is Associate Professor of TESOL and Bilingual Education and Director of Institute for English Language Programs Beyond Borders at Lesley University and Former U.S. Department of State English Language Specialist.

Analysis and Argument in First-Year Writing and Beyond

A Functional Perspective

Silvia Pessoa, Thomas D. Mitchell, and Maria Pía Gómez-Laich

A language to discuss good writing

Instructors and students will better understand how to: distinguish between descriptive and argumentative writing; write argumentative claims; apply an analytical framework in a written text; and maintain a consistent position in an argumentative text while incorporating outside sources.

Silvia Pessoa is a Teaching Professor of English at Carnegie Mellon University Qatar. Thomas D. Mitchell is Associate Teaching Professor of English at Carnegie Mellon University Qatar. Maria Pía Gómez-Laich is Associate Teaching Professor of English at Carnegie Mellon University Qatar.

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Trouble in Censorville
The Far Right’s Assault on Public Education and the Teachers Who are Fighting Back
Edited by Nadine M. Kalin and Rebekah Modrak

These gripping testimonials are enhanced by a timeline that situates today’s far-right war on public education in the context of American history, moving briskly from Reconstruction to the anti-left and anti-gay fearmongering of the McCarthy era to the Black Lives Matter movement to the Trump presidency.

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Published by Disobedience Press and distributed by Michigan Publishing Services
Urban Fantasy
*Exploring Modernity through Magic*
Stefan Ekman

Urban fantasy, the genre of fantastic literature in which magic and monsters meet modern society, is fairly young but has old roots. This book examines the genre in depth, including its inherent social commentary, its historical development, and its interplay between modernity and the fantastic.

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*An Introduction to the Philosophical Imagination*
Saul Traiger

This book acts as both an introduction to the field of philosophy and as a complete guide to the philosophical issues illustrated throughout the original 1959-64 television series. Saul Traiger explores each of the 156 episodes, investigating the show’s themes in metaphysics, epistemology, moral and political philosophy, and other topics in a way that is accessible to both seasoned philosophers and those outside academia.

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Queer Compassion in 15 Comics
Edited by Andrew Thomas, Megan Aston, and Phillip Joy

This unique comic anthology takes its readers on a journey through different art styles and queer perspectives, from first Prides to multi-generational friendships to finding community among chosen families. The comics in *Queer Compassion* offer kaleidoscopic insight into the colorful, heartbreaking, empowering, funny, and diverse lives of queer people around the world by centering compassion as a way to inhabit and build community.

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Theater and Crisis
*Myth, Memory, and Racial Reckoning in America, 1964-2020*
Patrice D. Rankine

Rankine traces the cyclical hauntings of race through the refiguring of mythic stories across the past 75 years in the plays of James Baldwin, Ntozake Shange, Antoinette Nwandu, and many more, and in response to flashpoints in US racial history, such as the 1955 lynching of Emmett Till, the upheavals of the 1960s and 1970s, the wars on drugs and crime, and the continued violence against and disenfranchisement of Black people into the twenty-first century.

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Imagined Geographies of Revolutionary Russia, 1914-1922
Edith W. Clowes

An innovative, digitally-aided study of Russia’s “imagined geography” during the early decades of the twentieth century, Shredding the Map uncovers varying emotional patterns and responses to Russian ideas of place, some familiar and some quite new.

Paper 978-1-94320-877-7 / $22.99
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Playthrough Poetics
Gameplay as Research Method
Edited by Milena Droumeva

Game streamers and live commentators are producing increasingly comprehensive analyses of gameplay, yet scholarship still tends to flatten the experiential media of video games into text for close reading. By shifting focus toward the immersiveness of video games, Playthrough Poetics makes the case for gameplay as a necessary, alternate method.

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Silencing the Drum
Religious Racism and Afro-Brazilian Sacred Music
Danielle N. Boaz and Umi Vaughan

Explores the role of sacred music in Afro-Brazilian religious traditions and provides detailed accounts of religious intolerance, particularly in relation to the drum. The book argues that unless Afro-Brazilian sacred music is protected from a rising wave of attacks, such as the one against Pai Diego and his terreiro, the effects on these important practices could be devastating.

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