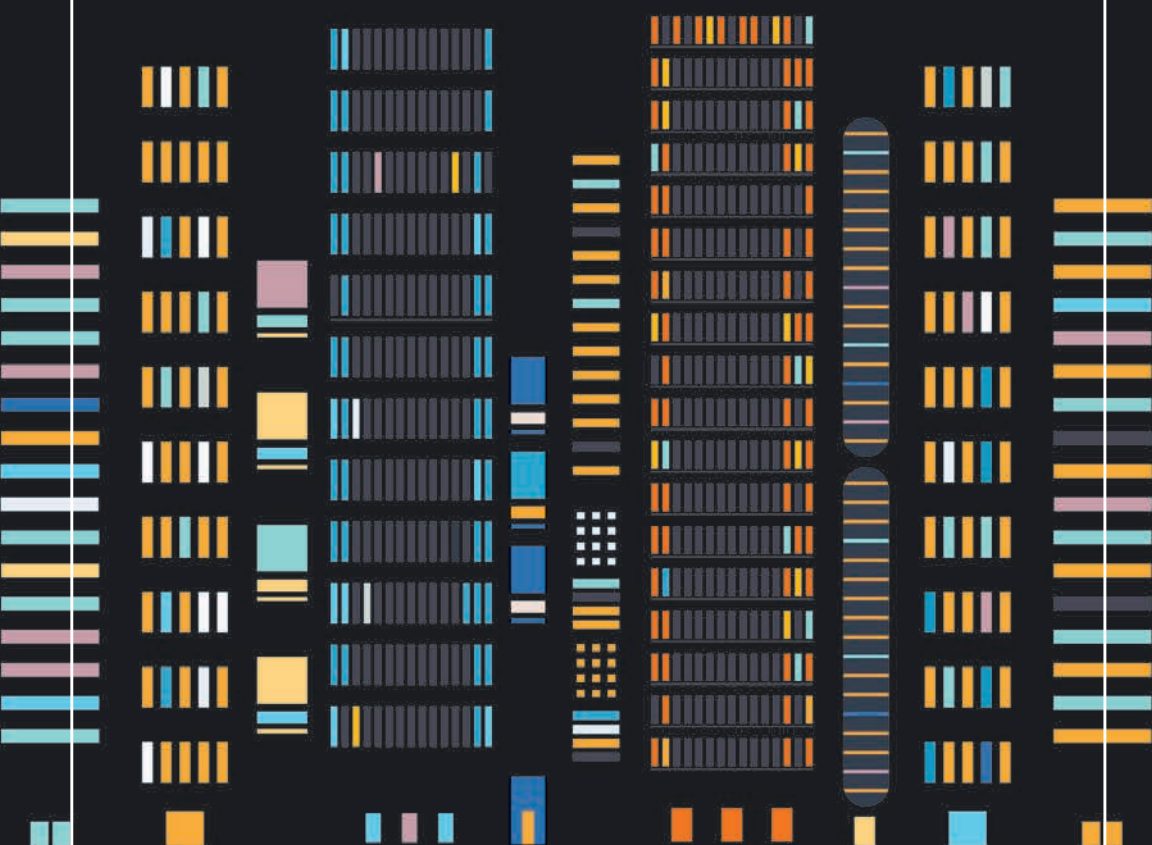




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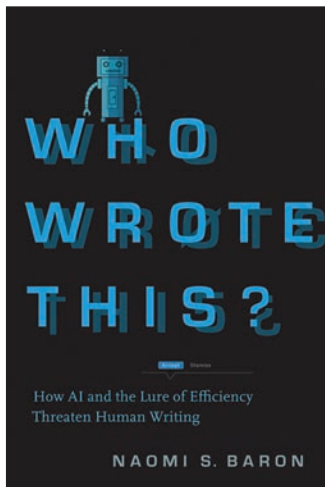
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Who Wrote This?

How AI and the Lure of Efficiency Threaten Human Writing

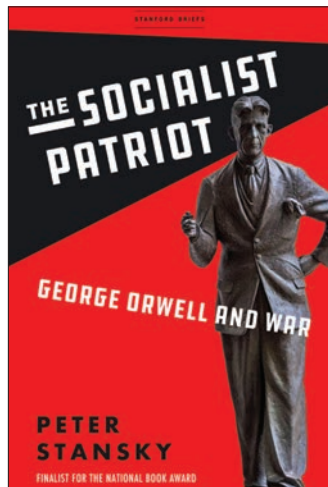
Naomi S. Baron

To understand how AI is redefining what it means to write and think, linguist and educator Naomi S. Baron leads us on a journey connecting the dots between human literacy and today's technology. From nineteenth-century lessons in composition, to mathematician Alan Turing's work creating a machine for deciphering war-time messages, to contemporary engines like ChatGPT, Baron gives readers a spirited overview of the emergence of both literacy and AI, and a glimpse of their possible future. As the technology becomes increasingly sophisticated and fluent, it's tempting to take the easy way out and let AI do the work for us. Baron cautions that such efficiency isn't always in our interest; as AI plies us with suggestions or full-blown text, we risk losing not just our technical skills but the power of writing as a springboard for personal reflection and unique expression.

"Insightful and witty, comprehensive and entertaining."

—Frank Pasquale,
author of *The Black Box Society*

344 pages, September 2023
9781503633223 Cloth \$30.00 **\$24.00 sale**



The Socialist Patriot

George Orwell and War

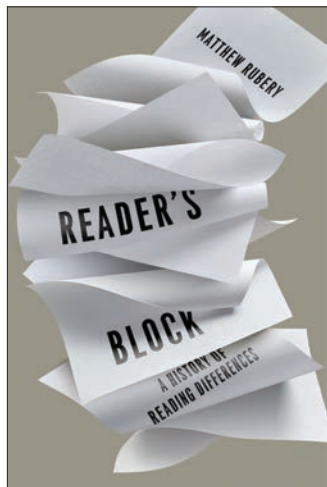
Peter Stansky

WINNER OF THE 2023 PETER DAVISON
AWARD, SPONSORED BY THE
ORWELL SOCIETY.

Few English writers wielded a pen so sharply as George Orwell, the quintessential political writer of the twentieth century. His literary output at once responded to and sought to influence the tumultuous times in which he lived—decades during which Europe and eventually the entire world would be torn apart by war, while ideologies like fascism, socialism, and communism changed the stakes of global politics. In this study, Stanford historian and lifelong Orwell scholar Peter Stansky incisively demonstrates how Orwell's body of work was defined by the four major conflicts that punctuated his life: World War I, the Spanish Civil War, World War II, and the Cold War. Stansky teases apart Orwell's often paradoxical views on patriotism and socialism, giving twenty-first century readers greater insight into the inner world of one of the most influential writers of the modern age.

STANFORD BRIEFS

150 pages, January 2023
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Reader's Block

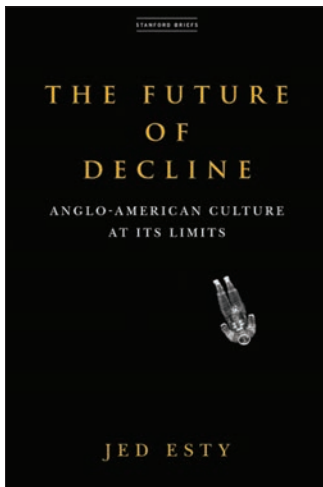
A History of Reading Differences
Matthew Rubery

Drawing on personal testimonies gathered from literature, film, life writing, social media, medical case studies, and other sources to express how cognitive differences—from dyslexia, hyperlexia, and alexia to synesthesia, hallucinations, and dementia—have shaped people's experiences both on and off the page, Rubery contends that there is no single activity known as reading. Instead, there are multiple ways of reading (and, for that matter, not reading) despite the ease with which we use the term. Pushing us to rethink what it means to read, *Reader's Block* moves toward an understanding of reading as a spectrum that is capacious enough to accommodate the full range of activities documented in this fascinating and highly original book.

"[A] remarkably well-researched catalogue of neurodivergent reading experiences."

—Timothy Aubry,
American Literary History

288 pages, October 2022
9781503632493 Cloth \$26.00 **\$20.80 sale**



The Future of Decline
Anglo-American Culture at Its Limits
Jed Esty

AS THE US BECOMES A SECOND-PLACE NATION, CAN IT SHED THE SUPERPOWER NOSTALGIA THAT STILL HAUNTS THE UK?

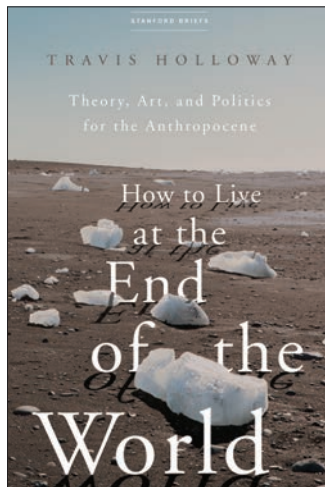
Drawing on the example of post-WWII Britain and looking ahead at 2020s America, Jed Esty suggests that becoming a second-place nation is neither disastrous, as alarmists claim, nor avoidable, as optimists insist. Contemporary declinism often masks white nostalgia and perpetuates a conservative longing for Cold War certainty. But the narcissistic lure of "lost greatness" appeals across the political spectrum. As Esty argues, it resonates so widely in mainstream media because Americans have lost access to a language of national purpose beyond global supremacy. It is time to shelve the shopworn fables of endless US dominance, to face the multipolar world of the future, and to tell new American stories. *The Future of Decline* is a guide to finding them.

"The brain worm working quietly upon the professoriate."

—Matt Seybold,
The American Vandal

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How to Live at the End of the World

Theory, Art, and Politics for the Anthropocene
Travis Holloway

ASSESSING THE DAWN OF THE ANTHROPOCENE ERA, A POET AND PHILOSOPHER ASKS: HOW DO WE LIVE AT THE END OF THE WORLD?

The irony of the Anthropocene era is that, in a neoliberal culture of the self, it is forcing us to consider ourselves as a collective. This urgent new work offers readers a hopeful exploration of how we might inherit the name "Anthropocene," renarrate it, and revise our way of life or thought in view of it. Reflecting on time, art, and politics in an era of escalating climate change, Holloway takes up difficult, unanswered questions in recent work by Donna Haraway, Kathryn Yusoff, Bruno Latour, Dipesh Chakrabarty, and Isabelle Stengers, sketching a path toward a radical form of democracy—a *zoocracy*, or, a rule of all of the living.

"Short and provocative, this is my kind of 'how to' book."

—Bill Marx,
Arts Fuse

STANFORD BRIEFS

138 pages, May 2022
9781503633339 Paper \$14.00 **\$11.20 sale**



The War That Must Not Occur

Jean-Pierre Dupuy, Translated by Malcolm DeBevoise

Revisiting debates on the effectiveness and ethics of nuclear deterrence, Jean-Pierre Dupuy is led to reformulate some of the most difficult questions in philosophy. He develops a counterintuitive but powerful theory of apocalyptic prophecy: once a major catastrophe appears to be possible, one must assume that it will in fact occur. Dupuy shows that the contradictions and paradoxes riddling discussions of deterrence arise from the tension between two opposite conceptions of time: one in which the future depends on decisions and strategy, and another in which every occurring event is one that could not have failed to occur. Considering the immense destructive power of nuclear warheads, Dupuy reaches a provocative conclusion: the mere possession of nuclear weapons is a moral abomination.

"Dupuy models how to think the unthinkable."

—Alison McQueen, author of *Political Realism in Apocalyptic Times*

192 pages, September 2023
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The Authenticity Industries

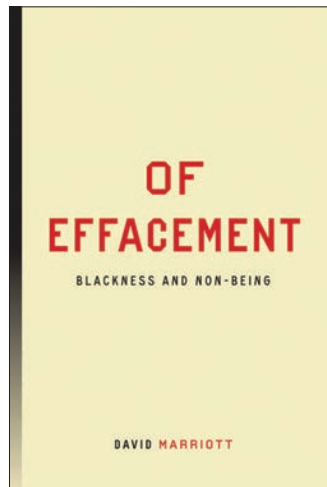
Keeping it "Real" in Media, Culture, and Politics
Michael Serazio

In recent decades, authenticity has become an American obsession. In *The Authenticity Industries*, journalist and scholar Michael Serazio combines eye-opening reporting and lively prose to take readers behind the scenes with those who make "reality." Drawing upon dozens of interviews with campaign consultants, advertising executives, tech company leadership, and entertainment industry gatekeepers, Serazio investigates the professionals and practices that make people, products, and platforms seem "authentic." In theory, authenticity might represent the central moral framework of our time: allaying anxieties about self and society, culture and commerce, and technology and humanity. Serazio reveals how these pretenses are crafted, backstage, for audiences, consumers, and voters.

"A fascinating, commended academic exploration of the ways in which products and experiences are marketed to consumers."

—*Library Journal*

304 pages, November 2023
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Of Effacement

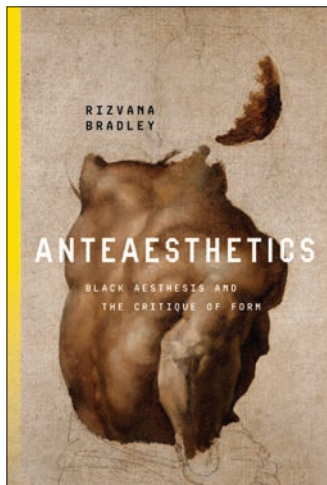
Blackness and Non-Being
David Marriott

Of Effacement endeavors to demolish established opinion about what blackness is and reorient our understanding of what it is not. Marriott presents a series of radical philosophical engagements with Fanon's "is not" (*niest pas*) and its "black" political truth. How does one speak—let alone represent—that which is without existence? Is blackness *niest pas* because it has yet to be thought as blackness? Marriott anchors these questions and others by addressing the most fundamental perennial questions concerning the nature of freedom, resistance, mastery, life, and liberation, via a series of analyses of such key figures as Huey Newton, Nietzsche, Malcolm X, Edward Said, Georges Bataille, Stuart Hall, and Lacan. He thus develops the basis for a reading of blackness by recasting its effacement as an identity, while insisting on it as a fundamental question for philosophy.

"Undeniably path-breaking."

—Joan Copjec, Brown University

410 pages, November 2023
9781503637252 Paper \$32.00 **\$25.60 sale**



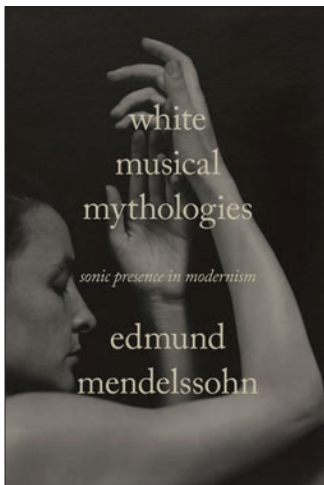
Anteaeesthetics
Black Aesthetics and the Critique of Form
Rizvana Bradley

In *Anteaeesthetics*, Rizvana Bradley begins from the proposition that blackness cannot be represented in modernity's aesthetic regime, but is nevertheless foundational to every representation. Moving across multiple histories and geographies, artistic mediums and forms, from nineteenth-century painting and early cinema, to the contemporary text-based works, video installations, and digital art of Glenn Ligon, Mickalene Thomas, and Sondra Perry, Bradley inaugurates a new method for interpretation—an ante-formalism which demonstrates how black art engages in the recursive deconstruction of the aesthetic forms that remain foundational to modernity. Ultimately, this work asks us to think philosophically with black art, and with the philosophical invention black art necessarily undertakes.

“An indispensable and undisciplined new frame for black feminist theorizing.”

—Huey Copeland,
University of Pennsylvania

406 pages, October 2023
9781503637139 Paper \$30.00 **\$24.00 sale**



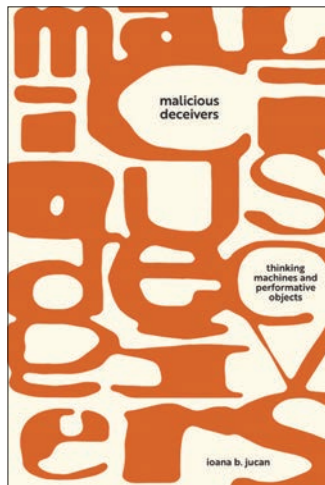
White Musical Mythologies
Sonic Presence in Modernism
Edmund Mendelssohn

In a narrative that extends from fin de siècle Paris to the 1960s, Edmund Mendelssohn examines modernist thinkers and composers who engaged with non-European and pre-modern cultures as they developed new conceptions of “pure sound.” Pairing Erik Satie with Bergson, Edgard Varèse with Bataille, Pierre Boulez with Artaud, and John Cage with Derrida, *White Musical Mythologies* offers an ambitious critical history of the ontology of sound, suggesting that the avant-garde ideal of “pure sound” was always an expression of western ethnocentrism. By examining musicians who strove to produce sonic presence, specifically by re-thinking the concept of musical writing (*écriture*), the book demonstrates that we cannot fully understand French theory in its novelty and complexity without music and sound.

“An outstanding example of a new generation of research in music and philosophy.”

—Michael Gallope,
University of Minnesota

306 pages, September 2023
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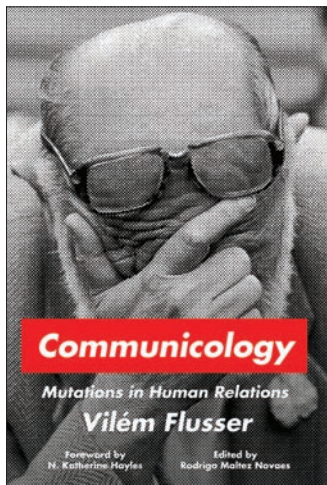
Malicious Deceivers
Thinking Machines and Performative Objects
Ioana B. Jucan

Jucan traces a genealogy of post-truth intimately tied to globalizing modernity and connects the production of repeatable fakeness with capitalism and Cartesian metaphysics. Through case studies, the book unpacks the notion of fakeness through the related logics of dissimulation (deception) and simulation (performativity) as seen with software/AI, television, plastics, and the internet. Specifically, Jucan shows how these (dis)simulation machines and performative objects construct impoverished pictures of the world, ensuring a repeatable sameness through processes of hollowing out embodied histories and lived experience.

“Beautifully argued.”

—Alexandra Juhasz,
Brooklyn College, CUNY

324 pages, August 2023
9781503636071 Paper \$32.00 **\$25.60 sale**



Communicology
Mutations in Human Relations?
Vilém Flusser
 Edited by Rodrigo Maltez Novaes
 Foreword by N. Katherine Hayles

Communicology is Vilém Flusser's first thesis on his concepts of technical images and technical imagination. In this foundational text he lays the groundwork for later work, offering a philosophical approach to communication as a phenomenon that permeates every aspect of human existence. Clearly organized around questions such as "What is Communication?," "What are Codes?," and "What is Technical Imagination?," the work touches on theater, photography, film, television, and more. Originally written in 1978, but only posthumously published in German, the book is one of the clearest statements of Flusser's theory of communication as involving a variably mediated relation between humans and the world.

"Refreshes, challenges and blasts open unexpected vistas."

—Seán Cubitt,
 University of Melbourne

236 pages, December 2022
 9781503634480 Paper \$28.00 **\$22.40 sale**



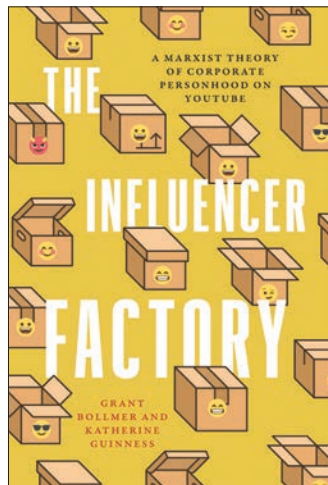
Organizing Color
Toward a Chromatics of the Social
Timon Beyes

We live in a world that is saturated with color, but how should we make sense of color's force and capacities? Via a series of scenes from the past two hundred years, Timon Beyes develops a theory of color as fundamental medium of the social. Beyes takes readers from Goethe's chocolate experiments in search of chromatic transformation to nineteenth-century Scottish cotton mills designed to modulate workers' moods and productivity, from the colonial production of Indigo in India to globalized categories of skin colorism and their disavowal. Contributing to a more general reconsideration of aesthetic capitalism and the role of sensory media, this book seeks to pioneer a theory of social organization—a "chromatics of organizing"—that is attuned to the protean and world-making capacity of color.

"Inventive, brilliantly written, and very readable."

—Esther Leslie, Birkbeck,
 University of London

292 pages, March 2024
 9781503638617 Paper \$30.00 **\$24.00 sale**



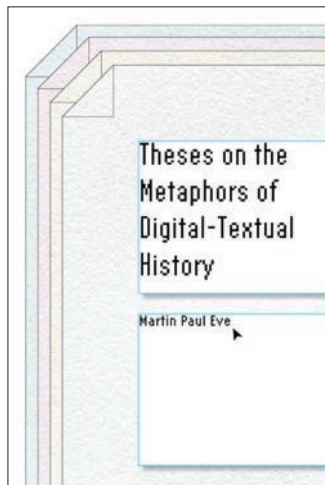
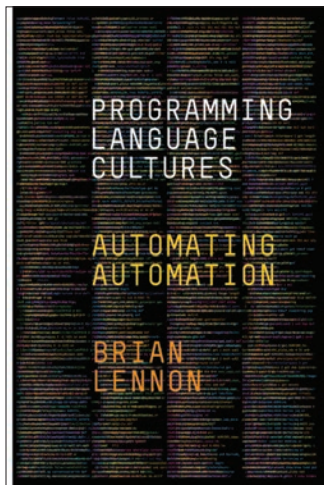
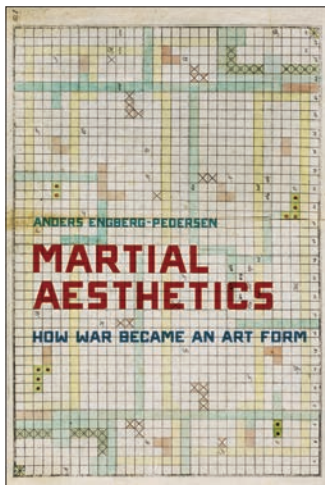
The Influencer Factory
A Marxist Theory of Corporate Personhood on YouTube
Grant Bollmer and Katherine Guinness

Behind the veneer of leisure and indulgence, influencers are laboring daily, usually for pittance wages, to manufacture a commodity called "the self"—a raw material for brands to use—with the dream of becoming corporations in human form by owning and investing in the products they sell. Refuting the theory that digital labor and economies are immaterial, Grant Bollmer and Katherine Guinness search influencer content for evidence of the material infrastructure of capitalism. Each chapter looks to what literally appears in the backgrounds of videos and images: the houses, cars, warehouses, and spaces of the market that point back to the manufacturing and circulation of consumer goods. Demonstrating the material reality of producing the self as a commodity, *The Influencer Factory* makes a crucial contribution to our understanding of contemporary economic life.

"A dazzling and organic application of cultural theory."

—Michael Palm, The University of
 North Carolina at Chapel Hill

248 pages, April 2024
 9781503638792 Paper \$28.00 **\$22.40 sale**



Martial Aesthetics
How War Became an Art Form
Anders Engberg-Pedersen

The twenty-first century has witnessed a pervasive militarization of aesthetics with Western military institutions co-opting the creative worldmaking of art and merging it with the destructive forces of warfare. *Martial Aesthetics* examines the origins of this unlikely merger, showing that today's creative warfare is merely the extension of a historical development that began long ago. Indeed, the emergence of martial aesthetics harkens back to a series of inventions, ideas, and debates in the eighteenth and early nineteenth century. Engberg-Pedersen shows how military discourses and early war media such as star charts, horoscopes, and the Prussian wargame were entangled with ideas of creativity, genius, and possible worlds in philosophy and aesthetic theory (by thinkers such as Leibniz, Baumgarten, Kant, and Schiller) in order to trace the emergence of martial aesthetics.

"A bold, ambitious, and expansive book."

—Thomas Stubblefield,
author of *Drone Art*

216 pages, March 2023
9780804799942 Paper \$25.00 **\$20.00 sale**

**Programming
Language Cultures**
Automating Automation
Brian Lennon

Brian Lennon demonstrates the power of a philological approach to the history of programming languages and their usage cultures. In chapters focused on specific programming languages such as SNOBOL and JavaScript, as well as on code comments, metasyntactic variables, the very early history of programming, and the concept of DevOps, Lennon emphasizes the histories of programming languages in their individual specificities over their abstract formal or structural characteristics, viewing them as carriers and sometimes shapers of specific cultural histories. The book's philological approach to programming languages presents a natural, sensible, and rigorous way for researchers trained in the humanities to perform research on computing in a way that draws on their own expertise.

"Dispels the hype around computation that colors so much previous analysis."

—Aden Evens,
Dartmouth College

240 pages, August 2024
9781503639874 Paper \$30.00 **\$24.00 sale**

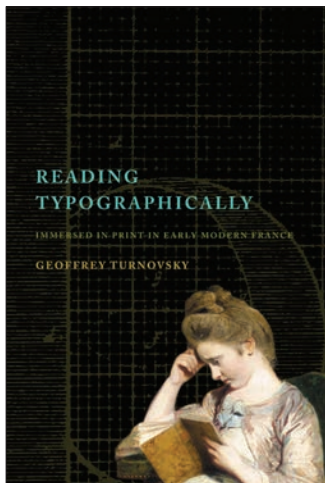
**Theses on the Metaphors of
Digital-Textual History**
Martin Paul Eve

Martin Paul Eve calls attention to the digital-textual metaphors that condition our experience of digital space, and traces their history as they interact with physical cultures. Eve posits that digital-textual metaphors move through three life phases. Initially they are descriptive. Then they encounter a moment of fracture or rupture. Finally, they go on to have a prescriptive life of their own that conditions future possibilities for our text environments—even when the metaphors have become untethered from their original intent. Why is "whitespace" white? Was the digital page always a foregone conclusion? Over a series of theses, Eve addresses these and other questions in order to understand the moments when digital-textual metaphors break and to show us how it is that our textual softwares become locked into paradigms that no longer make sense.

"Omnivorously learned, yet immensely approachable. A true scholarly feat."

—Kathleen Fitzpatrick,
Michigan State University

392 pages, July 2024
9781503614888 Paper \$35.00 **\$28.00 sale**



Reading Typographically

Immersed in Print in Early Modern France

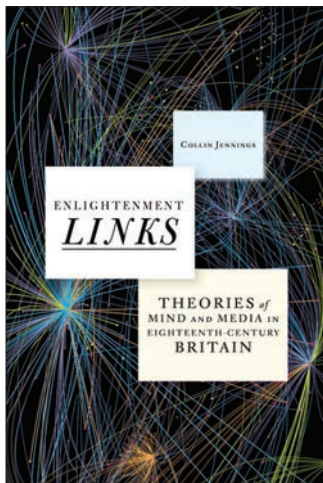
Geoffrey Turnovsky

Anxieties about the fate of reading in the digital age reveal how deeply our views of the moral and intellectual benefits of reading are tied to print. These views take root in a conception of reading as an immersive activity, exemplified by the experience of “losing oneself in a book.” Against the backdrop of digital distraction and fragmentation, such immersion leads readers to become more focused, collected, and empathetic. How did we come to see the printed book as especially suited to deliver this experience? Exploring key evolutions in print in 17th- and 18th-century France, from typeface, print runs, and format to editorial organization and punctuation, this book argues that typographic developments upholding the transparency of the printed medium were decisive for the ascendancy of immersive reading as a dominant paradigm that shaped modern perspectives on reading and literacy.

“Essential for students and historians of reading.”

—Jennifer Richards,
University of Cambridge

304 pages, June 2024
9781503637214 Cloth \$70.00 **\$56.00 sale**



Enlightenment Links

Theories of Mind and Media in Eighteenth-Century Britain

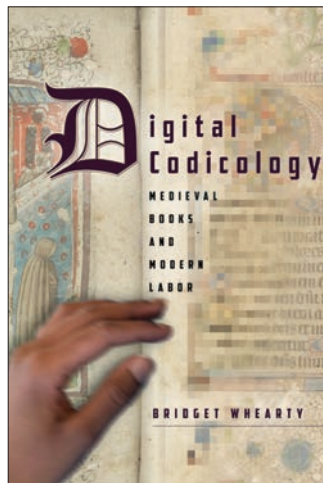
Collin Jennings

Hallmark genres of the British Enlightenment, such as the novel and the stadia history, are typically viewed as narratives of linear progress, emerging from Britain’s imperial growth and scientific advancement. Jennings foregrounds Enlightenment links: the paratextual devices, including cross-references, footnotes, and epigraphs, that make words work differently by pointing the reader to places inside and outside the text. Writers and printers combined text and paratext to produce nonlinear paths of reading and polysemous forms of reference that resist simple, causal structures of experience or theories of mind. Revealing the eighteenth-century genealogy of the digital hyperlinks of today, Jennings argues that emergent print genres combined language and links to bring forward the associative, circular, and multi-sequential ways in which literature makes language work.

“Ambitious and exciting.”

—Brad Pasanek,
University of Virginia

256 pages, May 2024
9781503637979 Cloth \$70.00 **\$56.00 sale**



Digital Codicology

Medieval Books and Modern Labor

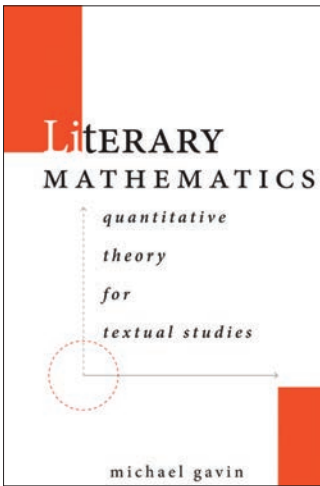
Bridget Whearty

Medieval manuscripts are our shared inheritance, and today they are more accessible than ever—thanks to digital copies online. Yet for all that widespread digitization has fundamentally transformed how we connect with the medieval past, we understand very little about what these digital objects really are. We rarely consider how they are made or who makes them. This case study-rich book demystifies digitization, revealing what it’s like to remake medieval books online and connecting modern digital manuscripts to their much longer media history, from print, to photography, to the rise of the internet. Ultimately, this book argues that centering the modern labor and laborers at the heart of digital cultural heritage fosters a more just and more rigorous future for medieval, manuscript, and media studies.

“Deeply insightful and fiercely generous.”

—Matthew Fisher,
University of California, Los Angeles

338 pages, November 2022
9781503632752 Cloth \$80.00 **\$64.00 sale**



Literary Mathematics

Quantitative Theory for Textual Studies

Michael Gavin

Across the humanities and social sciences, scholars increasingly use quantitative methods to study textual data. In *Literary Mathematics*, Michael Gavin grapples with this development, describing how quantitative methods for the study of textual data offer powerful tools for historical inquiry and sometimes unexpected perspectives on theoretical issues of concern to literary studies. Student-friendly and accessible, the book advances this argument through case studies drawn from the *Early English Books Online* corpus. Across these case studies, Gavin challenges readers to consider why corpus-based methods work so effectively and asks whether the successes of formal modeling ought to inspire humanists to reconsider fundamental theoretical assumptions about textuality and meaning.

"The most ambitious, and practical, book I know on the computational revolution in literary studies."

—Jonathan Hope,
Arizona State University

280 pages, October 2022
9781503633902 Paper \$30.00 **\$24.00 sale**



The Politics of Grace in Early Modern Literature

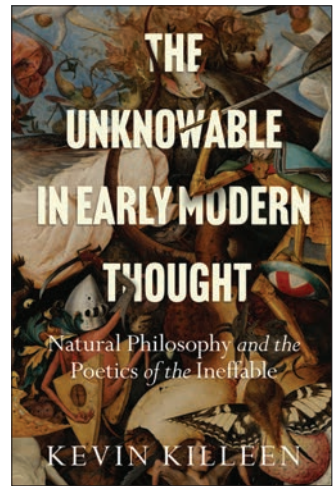
Deni Kasa

The Protestant belief that salvation was due to *sola gratia*, or grace alone, was originally meant to inspire religious reform. But, as Kasa shows, poets of the period used grace to interrogate the most important political problems of their time, from empire and gender to civil war and poetic authority. Kasa examines how four writers—John Milton, Edmund Spenser, Aemilia Lanyer, and Abraham Cowley—used the promise of grace to develop idealized imagined communities, and not always egalitarian ones. Kasa analyzes the uses of grace to make new space for individual and collective agency in the period, but also to validate domination and inequality, with poets and the educated elite inserted as mediators between the gift of grace and the rest of the people. Grace, Kasa demonstrates, was an important means of expression and a way to imagine impossible political ideals.

"Provocative, original, and timely."

—Brian Cummings,
University of York

250 pages, March 2024
9781503638266 Cloth \$75.00 **\$60.00 sale**



The Unknowable in Early Modern Thought

Natural Philosophy and the Poetics of the Ineffable

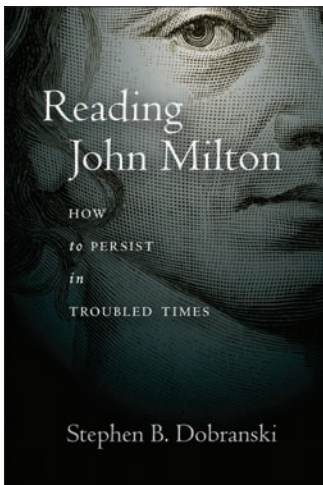
Kevin Killeen

Ranging from *Paradise Lost* to thinkers in and around the Royal Society and commentary on the Book of Job, Killeen explores how the era of the scientific revolution was in part paralyzed by and in part energized by the paradox it encountered in thinking about the elusive nature of God and the unfathomable nature of the natural world. Looking at writers with scientific, literary and theological interests, from the shoemaker mystic Jacob Boehme to John Milton, from Robert Boyle to Margaret Cavendish, and from Thomas Browne to the fiery prophet Anna Trapnel, the book shows how seventeenth-century writings redeployed the rich resources of the ineffable and the apophatic—what cannot be said, except in negative terms—to think about natural philosophy and the enigmas of the natural world.

"Brimming with smart scholarship, sharp writing, and surprising discoveries."

—Jess Keiser, Tufts University

274 pages, June 2023
9781503635852 Paper \$30.00 **\$24.00 sale**



Reading John Milton

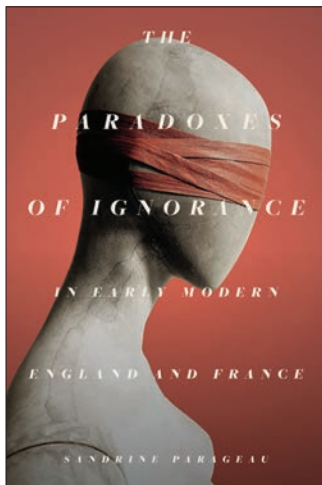
How to Persist in Troubled Times
Stephen B. Dobranski

A CAPTIVATING BIOGRAPHY THAT CELEBRATES THE AUDACIOUS, INSPIRING LIFE AND WORKS OF JOHN MILTON, REVEALING HOW HE SPEAKS TO OUR TIMES.

John Milton is unrivalled—for the music of his verse and the breadth of his learning. In a time of convulsive political turmoil, he justified the killing of a king, pioneered free speech, and publicly defended divorce. He was, in short, an iconoclast. Afflicted by blindness, illness, and political imprisonment, he also understood adversity. In this brisk, topical, and engaging biography, Stephen B. Dobranski brushes the scholarly dust from the portrait of the artist to reveal Milton's essential humanity and his unwavering commitment to ideals—freedom of religion and the right and responsibility of all persons to think for themselves—that are still relevant and necessary in our times.

"Marvelous. Puts to rest the notion that Milton is just for academics."
—Publishers Weekly

328 pages, September 2022
9781503632707 Cloth \$35.00 **\$28.00 sale**



The Paradoxes of Ignorance in Early Modern England and France

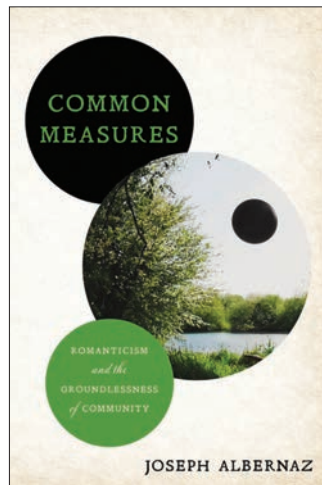
Sandrine Parageau

With close textual analysis of philosophical works by Montaigne, Bacon, Descartes, Locke, and others, Parageau examines the role of ignorance in the production of knowledge, identifying three common virtues of ignorance as a mode of wisdom, a principle of knowledge, and an epistemological instrument, in philosophical and theological works. How could an essentially negative notion be turned into something profitable and even desirable? Taken in the context of Renaissance humanism, the Reformation and the "Scientific Revolution"—which all called for a redefinition and reaffirmation of knowledge—ignorance, Parageau finds, was not dismissed in the early modern quest for renewed ways of thinking and knowing. On the contrary, it was assimilated into the philosophical and scientific discourses of the time.

"Parageau has assembled a rich set of texts, and she reads them with care and nuance."

—Paula Findlen,
Stanford University

264 pages, March 2023
9781503635319 Paper \$30.00 **\$24.00 sale**



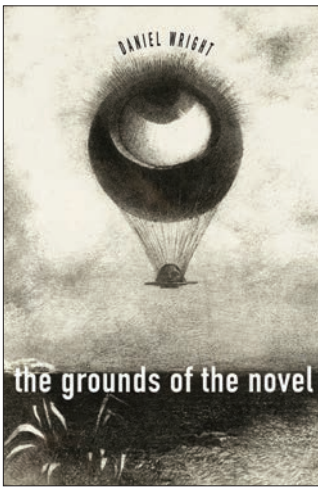
Common Measures

Romanticism and the Groundlessness of Community
Joseph Albernaz

Amidst the violent expropriation of the commons, Romantic writers including the Wordsworths, Clare, Hölderlin, and the revolutionary abolitionist Robert Wedderburn, reimagined the forms of their own lives through literature to conceive community as *groundless*, a disposition toward radically open forms of sharing—including with nonhuman beings—without recourse to any collective identity. Unearthing Romanticism's intersections with the history of communism and the general strike, Albernaz also demonstrates how Romantic literature's communal imagination reverberates through later theories of community in Bataille, Derrida, Nancy, Moten, and others. With sharp close readings, new historical constellations, and innovative theoretical paradigms, *Common Measures* recasts the relationship of the Romantic period to the basic terms of modernity.

"A true accomplishment."
—Sara Guyer,
University of California, Berkeley

336 pages, August 2024
9781503639720 Cloth \$75.00 **\$60.00 sale**



The Grounds of the Novel

Daniel Wright

Philosophers who debate whether fictional worlds exist take the novel as an ontological problem to be solved; instead, Wright reveals the novel as a genre of immanent ontological critique. Wright argues that the novel imagines its own metaphysical “grounds” through figuration, understanding fictional being as self-sufficient, cohesive, and alive, rather than as beholden to the actual world as an existential anchor. Through philosophically attuned close readings of novels and reflections on writerly craft by Thomas Hardy, Olive Schreiner, Colson Whitehead, Virginia Woolf, Zadie Smith, Henry James, and Akwaeke Emezi, Wright shares an impassioned vision of reading as stepping into ontologically terraformed worlds, and of literary criticism as treading and re-treading the novel’s grounds.

“An exceptionally bold and brave work.”

—Adela Pinch,
University of Michigan

246 pages, January 2024
9781503637559 Paper \$28.00 **\$22.40 sale**



Refiguring Speech

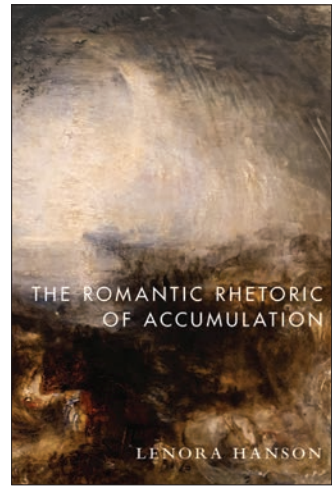
Late Victorian Fictions of Empire and the Poetics of Talk
Amy R. Wong

In this book, Wong unravels the colonial and racial logic behind seemingly innocuous assumptions about “speech”: that our words belong to us, and that self-possession is a virtue. Through readings of late-Victorian fictions of empire, Wong revisits the scene of speech’s ideological foreclosures as articulated in postcolonial theory. Engaging Afro-Caribbean thinkers like Édouard Glissant and Sylvia Wynter and analyzing novels by Robert Louis Stevenson, Bram Stoker, George Meredith, Joseph Conrad, and Ford Madox Ford, *Refiguring Speech* reroutes attention away from speech and toward an anticolonial poetics of talk, which emphasizes communal ownership and embeddedness within the social world and material environment.

“Illuminating and eloquent.”

—Tanya Agathocleous,
Hunter College

240 pages, July 2023
9781503635173 Cloth \$70.00 **\$56.00 sale**



The Romantic Rhetoric of Accumulation

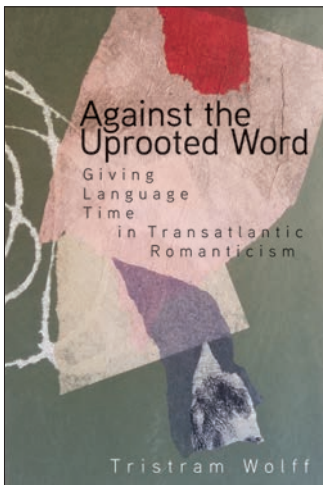
Lenora Hanson

Reading both historically and rhetorically, Hanson argues that rhetorical language records histories of dispossession and the racialized, gendered distribution of the labor of subsistence. Examining work by S.T. Coleridge, Edmund Burke, Mary Robinson, William Wordsworth, Benjamin Moseley, Joseph Priestley, and Alexander von Humboldt, as well as contemporary film and critical theory, Hanson reads riots through apostrophe, enclosure through anachronism, superstition and witchcraft through tautology, and the paradoxical coincidence of subsistence living with industrialization. The result is to show the figural to be a material record of the survival of non-capitalist forms of life within capitalism. But this survival is not always-already resistant to capitalism, nor are the origins of capital accumulation confined to the Romantic past. Hanson reveals rhetorical figure as entwined in deeply ambivalent ways with the circuitous, ongoing process of dispossession.

“A work of massive and singular importance.”

—Fred Moten, New York University

302 pages, November 2022
9781503633940 Paper \$30.00 **\$24.00 sale**

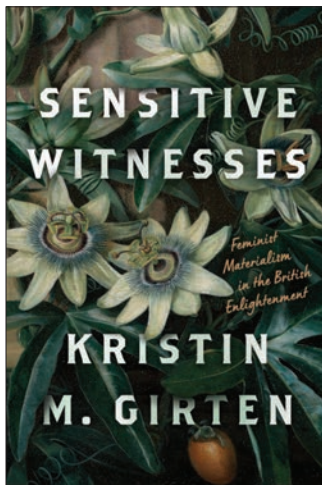


Against the Uprooted Word
Giving Language Time in Transatlantic Romanticism
Tristram Wolff

Wolff argues that well-known writers including Phillis Wheatley Peters, William Blake, William Wordsworth, and Henry David Thoreau offer a radical chronopolitics in reaction to the “uprooted word,” or the formal analytic used to classify languages in progressive time according to a primitivist timeline of history and a hierarchy of civilization. Before the bad naturalisms of nineteenth-century race science could harden language into place as a metric of social difference, writers tried to soften, thicken, deepen, and dissolve it. This naturalizing tendency made language more difficult to uproot from its active formation in the lives of its speakers. And its “gray romanticism” simultaneously gave language different kinds of time—most strikingly, the deep time of geologic form—to forestall the hardening of time into progress.

“A splendid piece of scholarship.”
—William Galperin,
Rutgers University

338 pages, October 2022
9781503632769 Cloth \$70.00 **\$56.00 sale**



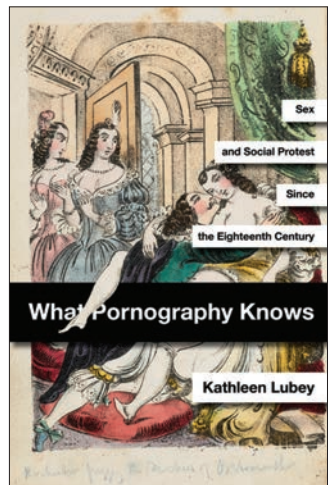
Sensitive Witnesses
Feminist Materialism in the British Enlightenment
Kristin M. Girten

Francis Bacon and other male natural philosophers regularly downplayed the embodied nature of their observations. In contrast, the author-philosophers that Girten takes up (including Lucy Hutchinson, Margaret Cavendish, Aphra Behn, Eliza Haywood, and Charlotte Smith) asserted themselves as intimately entangled with matter—boldly embracing their perceived close association with the material world as women. Girten persuasively argues that our understanding of Enlightenment thought must take into account these sensitive witnesses’ visions of an alternative scientific method informed by profound closeness with the natural world.

“A figure for our own time, Girten’s sensitive witness emerges as the unashamed hero of a history of scientific passions.”

—Wendy Anne Lee,
New York University

246 pages, February 2024
9781503633032 Cloth \$65.00 **\$52.00 sale**

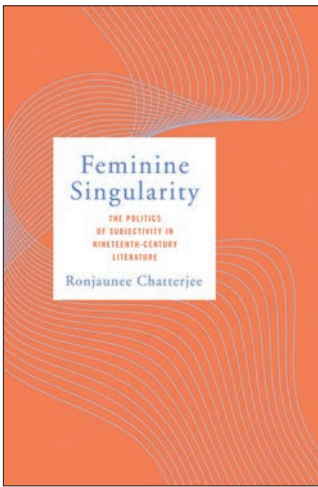


What Pornography Knows
Sex and Social Protest since the Eighteenth Century
Kathleen Lubey

Lubey offers a new history of pornography based on forgotten bawdy fiction of the eighteenth century, its nineteenth-century republication, and its appearance in 1960s paperbacks. Through close textual study, Lubey shows how these texts were edited across time to become what we think pornography is—a genre focused primarily on sex. Originally, they were far more variable, joining speculative philosophy and feminist theory to sexual description. Lubey’s readings show that pornography always had a social consciousness—that it knew, long before anti-pornography feminists said it, that women and nonbinary people are disadvantaged by a society that grants sexual privilege to men. Rather than glorify this inequity, Lubey argues, the genre’s central task has historically been to expose its artifice and envision social reform.

“Nothing short of astonishing.”
—Frances Ferguson,
University of Chicago

312 pages, September 2022
9781503633117 Paper \$28.00 **\$22.40 sale**



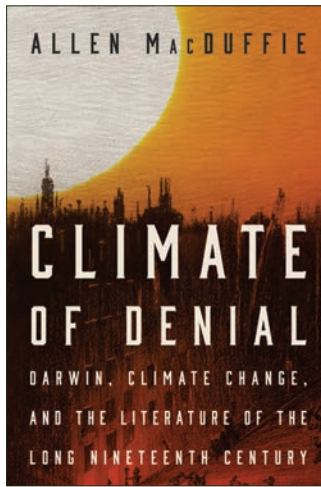
Feminine Singularity
*The Politics of Subjectivity in
Nineteenth-Century Literature*
Ronjaunee Chatterjee

Feminine Singularity offers a powerful feminist theory of the subject—and shows us paths to thinking subjectivity, race, and gender anew in literature and in our wider social world. Through fresh, sophisticated readings of Lewis Carroll, Christina Rossetti, Charles Baudelaire, and Wilkie Collins in conversation with psychoanalysis, Black feminist and queer-of-color theory, and continental philosophy, Chatterjee uncovers a lexicon of feminine singularity that manifests across poetry and prose through likeness and minimal difference, rather than individuality and identity. Reading for singularity shows us the ways femininity is fundamentally entangled with racial difference in the nineteenth century and well into the contemporary, as well as how rigid categories can be unsettled and upended.

"A compelling and exhilaratingly learned call to think fearlessly."

—Elaine Freedgood,
New York University

224 pages, August 2022
9781503630802 Cloth \$60.00 **\$48.00 sale**



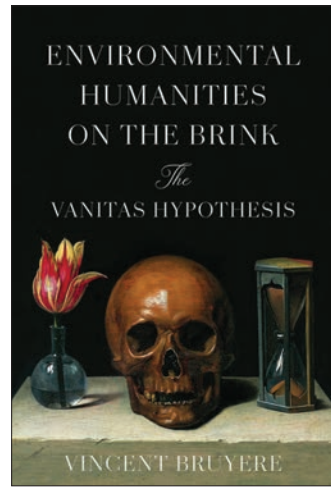
Climate of Denial
*Darwin, Climate Change,
and the Literature of the Long
Nineteenth Century*
Allen MacDuffie

Many people today experience the climate crisis with a divided state of mind: aware of the extreme effects, but living everyday life *as if* the crisis is not actually happening. This book traces this structure of feeling back to the nineteenth century, when Western culture encountered the profound shock of Charles Darwin's theory of evolution. Darwin's theory made it increasingly difficult for secular humanists to flatly deny that humans are animals, fully enmeshed in natural systems and processes. But like those of us confronting climate change today, many writers and scientists struggled to integrate its depersonalizing vision into their understanding of the place of humans in the natural order. In light of the climate emergency, *Climate of Denial* offers rich insight into the defensive strategies used—then and now—to avoid confronting the unsettling realities of our situation on this planet.

"Brilliant and tonic."

—Dame Gillian Beer,
University of Cambridge

272 pages, August 2024
9781503639546 Paper \$32.00 **\$25.60 sale**



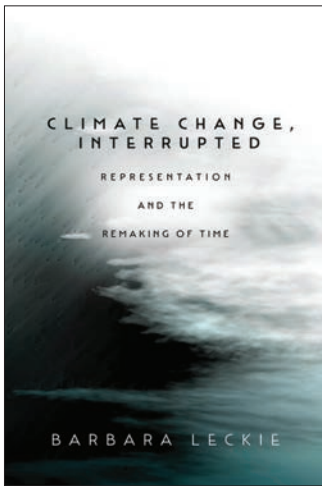
**Environmental Humanities
on the Brink**
The Vanitas Hypothesis
Vincent Bruyere

In this experimental work of ecocriticism, Bruyere confronts the seeming pointlessness of the humanities amid spectacularly negative future projections of environmental collapse. The vanitas paintings of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries dazzlingly depict heaps of riches alongside skulls, shells, and hourglasses. Vanitas images openly declare their own pointlessness in relation to the future. This book takes inspiration from the vanitas tradition to fearlessly contemplate the stakes of the humanities in the Anthropocene present. Each chapter places a vanitas motif—canvas, debris, toxics, paper, ark, meat, and light—in conversation with stories and images of the Anthropocene, from the Pleistocene Park geoengineering project to toxic legacies to in-vitro meat. Considering questions of quiet erasure and environmental memory, this book argues we ought to keep reading, even by the flickering light of extinction.

"This book reads with inspired conviction."

—Tom Conley,
Harvard University

176 pages, September 2023
9781503638631 Paper \$26.00 **\$20.80 sale**



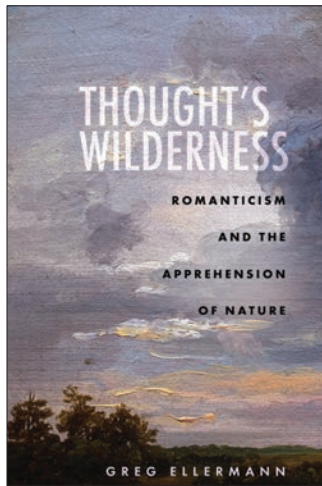
Climate Change, Interrupted
Representation and the Remaking of Time
Barbara Leckie

Spanning the long nineteenth century through our current moment, Leckie's interdisciplinary treatment of climate change at once rethinks time and illustrates that the time for climate action is now. *Climate Change, Interrupted* argues that linear, progress-inflected temporalities are not adequate to a crisis that defies their terms. Instead, this book advances a theory and practice of interruption to rethink prevailing temporal frameworks. At the same time, it models the anachronistic, time-blending, and time-layering temporality it advances. In a series of experimental chapters informed by the unlikely trio of Walter Benjamin, Donna Haraway, and Virginia Woolf, Leckie reinfects the traditions and knowledges of the long nineteenth century and the current period in the spirit of climate action collaboration.

"A moving and voracious experiment that inspires more than it alarms."

—Maggie Nelson,
author of *On Freedom: Four Songs of Care and Constraint*

274 pages, November 2022
9781503633988 Paper \$30.00 **\$24.00 sale**

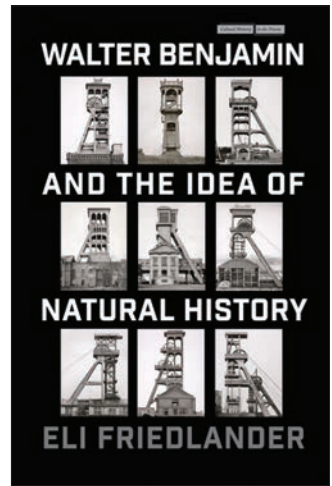


Thought's Wilderness
Romanticism and the Apprehension of Nature
Greg Ellermann

Ellermann undertakes a fundamental rethinking of the aesthetics and politics of nature, contending that the romantics tried to circumvent the domination of nature that is essential to modern capitalism. As he shows, poets and philosophers of the period such as Immanuel Kant, G. W. F. Hegel, Mary Wollstonecraft, William Wordsworth, and Percy Shelley were attuned to nature's ephemeral, ungraspable forms. Further, he explains how nature's vanishing—its vulnerability and its flight from apprehension—became a philosophical and political problem. By trying to imagine what ultimately eludes capture, the romantics recognized the complicity between conceptual and economic domination, and they saw how thought itself could become a technology for control. This insight, Ellermann proposes, motivated romantic efforts to think past capitalist instrumentality and its devastation of the world.

"A vital, eloquent, and necessary book."
—Jonathan Sachs, Concordia University

200 pages, September 2022
9781503628489 Cloth \$70.00 **\$56.00 sale**

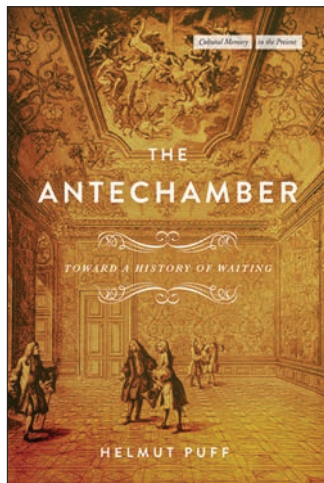


Walter Benjamin and the Idea of Natural History
Eli Friedlander

Across seemingly heterogeneous writings, Friedlander argues, Walter Benjamin consistently explores what the natural in the human comes to, that is, how nature is transformed, actualized, redeemed, and overcome in human existence. The book progresses gradually from Benjamin's philosophically fundamental writings on language and nature to his Goethean empiricism, from the presentation of ideas to the primal history of the Paris arcades. Friedlander's careful analysis brings out how the idea of natural history inflects Benjamin's conception of the work of art and its critique, his diagnosis of the mythical violence of the legal order, his account of the body and of action, of material culture and technology, as well as his unique vision of historical materialism. Featuring revelatory new readings of Benjamin's major works that differ, sometimes dramatically, from prevailing interpretations, this book reveals the internal coherence and philosophical force of Benjamin's thought.

"Genuinely illuminating."
—Stephen Mulhall, University of Oxford

350 pages, January 2024
9781503637702 Paper \$32.00 **\$25.60 sale**



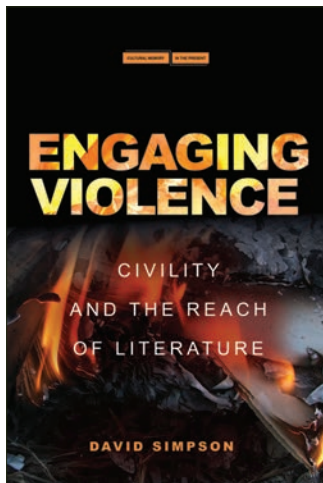
The Antechamber
Toward a History of Waiting
 Helmut Puff

From literature, memoirs, manuals, chronicles, visuals, and other documents, Puff presents a history of waiting anchored in antechambers—interior rooms designated and designed for people to linger. Puff explores both the logic and the experience of waiting in such formative spaces, showing that time divides as much as it unites, and that far from what people have said about early moderns, they approached living in time with apprehensiveness. Unlike how contemporary society primarily views the temporal dimension, to early modern Europeans time was not an objective force external to the self but something that was tied to acting in time. Situated at the intersection of history, literature, and the history of art and architecture, this wide-ranging study demonstrates that waiting has a history that has much to tell us about social and power relations in the past and present.

“Cultural history at its best.”

—Mitchell Merback,
 Johns Hopkins University

262 pages, October 2023
 9781503637023 Paper \$30.00 **\$24.00 sale**



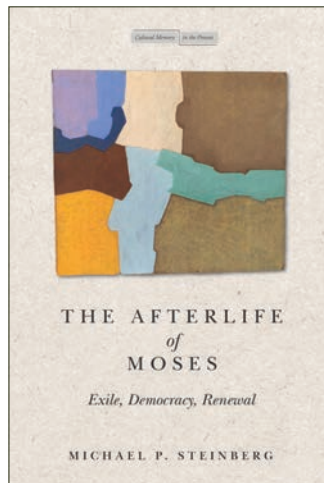
Engaging Violence
Civility and the Reach of Literature
 David Simpson

While it is widely acknowledged that civility works against violence, and that literature generates or accompanies civility and engenders tolerance, civility has also been understood as violence in disguise, and literature, which has only rarely sought to claim the power of violence, has often been accused of inciting it. This book sets out to describe the ways in which these words—violence, literature and civility—and the concepts they evoke are mutually entangled, and the uses to which these entanglements have been put. Simpson’s argument follows a broadly historical trajectory from the Renaissance to the present, drawing on the work of historians, political scientists, literary scholars and philosophers. The result is a distinctly new argument about the complex entanglements between literature, civility and violence in the anglophone Atlantic sphere.

“Among the most important literary historical considerations of violence and civility to emerge in recent decades.”

—Judith Butler,
 University of California, Berkeley

304 pages, September 2022
 9781503633087 Paper \$28.00 **\$22.40 sale**



The Afterlife of Moses
Exile, Democracy, Renewal
 Michael P. Steinberg

In this elegant and personal new work, Steinberg reflects on the story of Moses and the Exodus as a foundational myth of politics—of the formation not of a nation but of a political community grounded in universal law. Motivated in part by recent reactionary insurgencies in the US, Europe, and Israel, this astute work of intellectual history posits the critique of myths of origin as a key principle of democratic government, affect, and citizenship, of their endurance as well as their fragility.

“A tour de force.”

—Omri Boehm,
 The New School for Social Research

240 pages, July 2022
 9781503632295 Paper \$28.00 **\$22.40 sale**



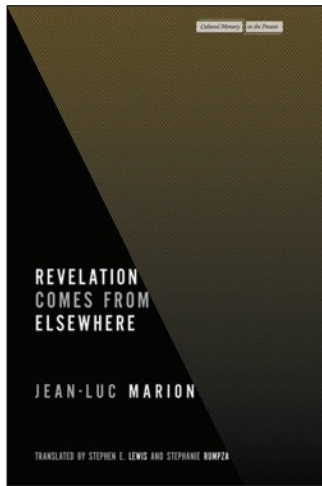
Out of the World

Peter Sloterdijk

In this essential early work, the preeminent European philosopher Peter Sloterdijk offers a cross-cultural and transdisciplinary meditation on humanity's tendency to refuse the world. Developing the first seeds of his anthropotechnics, Sloterdijk develops a theory of consciousness as a medium, tuned and retuned over the course of technological and social history. His subject here is the "world-alien" in man that was formerly institutionalized in religions, but is increasingly dealt with in modern times through practices of psychotherapy. Originally written in 1993, this almost clairvoyant work examines how humans seek escape from the world in cross-cultural and historical context, up to the mania and world-escapism of our cybernetic network culture. In classic form, Sloterdijk recalibrates and reinvents concepts from the ancient Greeks to Heidegger to develop an astonishingly contemporary philosophical anthropology. "Sloterdijk's work is more important than ever."

—Claire Colebrook,
Pennsylvania State University

256 pages, May 2024
9781503639003 Paper \$32.00 **\$25.60 sale**



Revelation Comes from Elsewhere

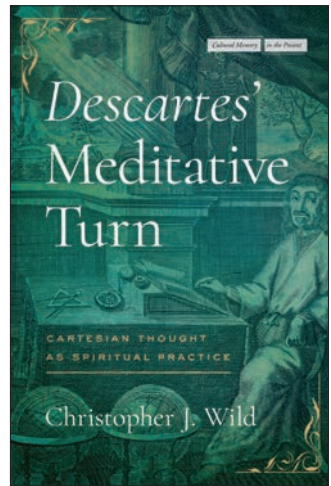
Jean-Luc Marion,
Translated by Stephen E. Lewis
and Stephanie Rumpza

Although today considered *the* central theme of theology, the concept of Revelation was almost entirely unknown to the first millennium of Christian thought. In a penetrating historical deconstruction Marion traces the development of this term to the rise of metaphysics from Aquinas through Descartes, Suárez, and Kant. To break free from these limits, Marion takes hints from theologians including Balthasar and Barth while mobilizing the phenomenology of givenness to provide a rigorous new understanding of revelation as a mode of uncovering. His extensive study of the Jewish and Christian Scriptures unfolds a logic of Trinitarian phenomenality, worked out in conversation with Augustine, Basil, Hegel, Schelling, and others, that ultimately transforms our very notions of being and time.

"Marion stands out as one of the major heirs of the great religious thought of the West."

—Florent Georgesco,
Le Monde

488 pages, August 2024
9781503639348 Paper \$35.00 **\$28.00 sale**



Descartes' Meditative Turn

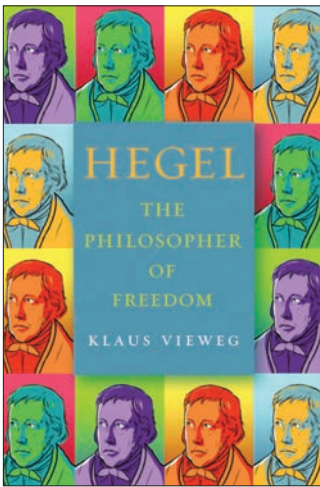
*Cartesian Thought as
Spiritual Practice*
Christopher J. Wild

Why would René Descartes, the father of modern rationalist philosophy, choose "meditations"—a term and genre associated with religious discourse and practice—for the title of his magnum opus that lays the metaphysical foundations for his reform of all knowledge, including mathematics and sciences? Why did he believe that the immortality of the soul and the existence of God, which the *Meditations on First Philosophy* set out to demonstrate, can only be made self-evident through meditating? These are the questions that Christopher Wild's book answers. Descartes' meditative turn, Wild argues, brings to a culmination a lifelong preoccupation with the practice or craft of thinking, known as Cartesian method. By joining meditation to method the *Meditations* becomes the founding document for a Cartesian "art of turning," a new practice of both thought and life.

"A groundbreaking, dazzling, thought-provoking work."

—Hall Bjornstad,
Indiana University Bloomington

352 pages, March 2024
9781503638594 Paper \$30.00 **\$24.00 sale**



Hegel
The Philosopher of Freedom
Klaus Vieweg

In this landmark biography, Klaus Vieweg provides readers an intimate account of the milieu in which Hegel developed his thought, along with detailed, clear-sighted analyses of Hegel's four major works. What results is a new interpretation of Hegel through the lens of reason and freedom. Vieweg draws on extensive archival research that has brought to light a wealth of hitherto undiscovered documents and handwritten notes relating to Hegel's work, touching on Hegel's engagement with the leading thinkers and writers of his age: Kant, Fichte, Schelling, Hölderlin, and others. Combatting clichés and misunderstandings about Hegel, Vieweg also offers a sustained defense of the philosopher's more progressive impulses. Highly praised upon its release in Germany as having set the new biographical standard, this monumental work emphasizes Hegel's relevance for today, depicting him as a vital figure in the history of philosophy.

"Sets new standards."

—Slavoj Žižek,
Hegel in A Wired Brain

488 pages, December 2023
9781503630574 Cloth \$40.00 **\$32.00 sale**



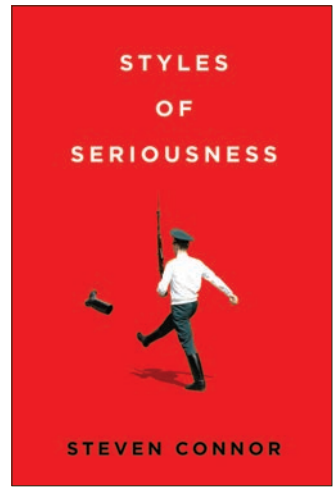
The Sociology of Literature
Gisèle Sapiro, Translated by
Madeline Bedecarré and
Ben Libman

Addressing the epistemological premises of the field at present, this pithy primer also refutes the common criticism that the sociology of literature does not take the text to be the central object of study. From this rebuttal, Gisèle Sapiro, the field's leading theorist, is able to demonstrate convincingly one of the greatest affordances of the discipline: its in-built methods for accounting for the roles and behaviors of agents and institutions (publishing houses, prize committees, etc.) in the circulation and reception of texts. While Sapiro emphasizes the rich interdisciplinary nature of the approach on display, the book also stands as a defense of the sociology of literature as a discipline in its own right.

"This erudite, yet accessible book has no equal."

—Bridget Fowler,
University of Glasgow

212 pages, October 2023
9781503637597 Paper \$25.00 **\$20.00 sale**



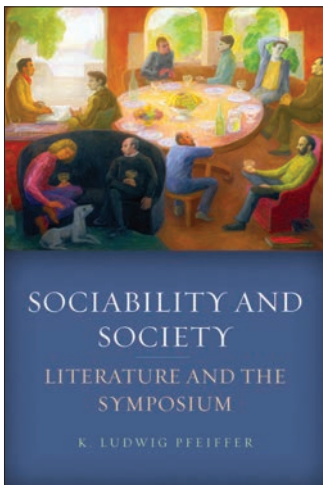
Styles of Seriousness
Steven Connor

Being serious demands serious kinds of work. Steven Connor here reflects on the surprisingly various ways in which a sense of the serious is made and maintained, revealing that while seriousness is the most powerful feeling, it is also the most poignantly indeterminate, perhaps because of the impossibility of being completely serious. In colloquy with philosophers such as Aristotle, Nietzsche, James, Sartre, Austin, Agamben and Sloterdijk, and writers like Shakespeare, Byron, Auden and Orwell, Connor considers the linguistic and ritual behaviors associated with different modes of seriousness: importance; intention, or ways of really "meaning things;" sincerity; solemnity; urgency; regret; warning; and ordeal. Styles of seriousness matter, Connor shows, because human beings are incapable of simply and spontaneously existing. Being a human means having to take seriously one's style of being.

"At once puckish, exacting, and morally grounded."

—John Durham Peters,
author of *The Marvelous Clouds*

248 pages, October 2023
9781503636866 Paper \$26.00 **\$20.80 sale**

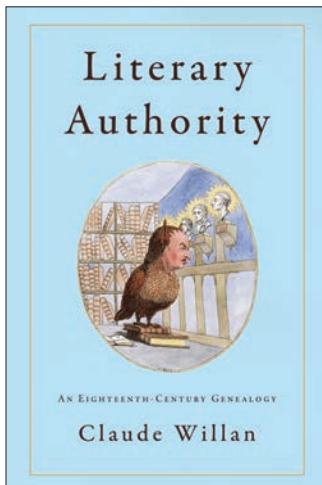


Sociability and Society
Literature and the Symposium
 K. Ludwig Pfeiffer

From medieval troubadours to Parisian salons and beyond, Pfeiffer conceptualizes the symposium as an institution of sociability with a central societal function. As such he reinforces a programmatic theoretical move in the sociology of Georg Simmel and builds on theories of social interaction and communication characterized by Max Weber, George Herbert Mead, Jürgen Habermas, Niklas Luhmann, and others. To make his argument, Pfeiffer draws on the work of a range of writers, including Dr. Samuel Johnson and Diderot, Virginia Woolf and Marcel Proust, Dorothy Sayers, Joseph Conrad, and Stieg Larsson. Ultimately, Pfeiffer concludes that if modern societies do not find ways of reinstating elements of the Athenian symposium, especially those relating to its ritualized ease, decency and style of interaction, they will have to cope with increasing violence and decreasing social cohesion.

"Important and thought-provoking."
 —Peter Gilgen,
 Cornell University

300 pages, March 2023
 9781503634848 Paper \$30.00 **\$24.00 sale**

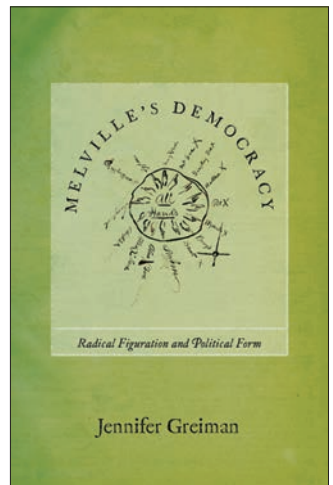


Literary Authority
An Eighteenth-Century Genealogy
 Claude Willan

This book is the cultural history of an idea which now seems so self-evident as barely to be worth stating: through writing imaginative literature, an author can accrue significant and lasting economic and cultural power. We take for granted, now, that authority dwells in literature and in being its author. This state of affairs was not naturally occurring, but deliberately invented. This book tells the story of that invention, taking Alexander Pope and Samuel Johnson as central figures. Willan challenges the continued reign of the "Scriblerian" model of the period and shows how that reign was engineered. In so doing he historicizes the relationship between "good" and "bad" writing, and suggests how we might think about literature and beauty had Pope and Johnson not taken literary authority for themselves.

"An authoritative rethinking of the making of modern literary authority in the eighteenth century."
 —Joseph Roach, Yale University

328 pages, March 2023
 9781503630864 Cloth \$80.00 **\$64.00 sale**

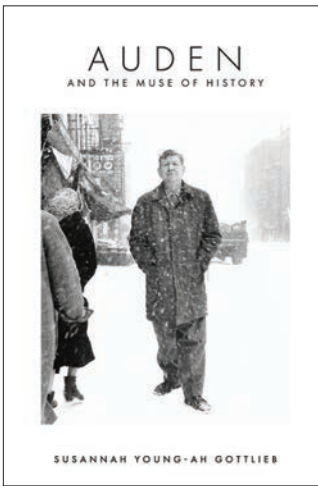


Melville's Democracy
Radical Figuration and Political Form
 Jennifer Greiman

Across Melville's five decades of writing, from his early Pacific novels to his late poetry, Greiman identifies a literary formalism that is radically political and carries the project of democratic theory in new directions. Recovering Melville's readings in political philosophy and aesthetics, Greiman shows how he engaged with key problems in political theory—the paradox of foundations, the vicious circles of sovereign power, the fragility of the people—to produce a body of radical democratic art and thought. Scenes of green and growing life, circular structures, and images of a groundless world emerge as forms for understanding democracy as a collective project in flux. In Melville's experimental aesthetics, Greiman finds a significant precursor to the tradition of radical democratic theory in the US and France that emphasizes transience and creativity over the foundations and forms prized by liberalism.

"An excellent book, wonderfully written and researched."
 —Branka Arsic, Columbia University

350 pages, January 2023
 9781503633322 Cloth \$70.00 **\$56.00 sale**



Auden and the Muse of History
Susannah Young-ah Gottlieb

Concentrating on W. H. Auden's work from the late 1930s, when he seeks to understand the poet's responsibility in the face of a triumphant fascism, to the late 1950s, when he discerns an irreconcilable "divorce" between poetry and history in light of industrialized murder, this new study reveals the intensity of the poet's struggles with the meanings of history. Through meticulous readings and significant archival findings, Susannah Young-ah Gottlieb presents a new image and understanding of Auden's achievement and reveals how his version of modernism illuminates urgent contemporary issues and theoretical paradigms: from the meaning of marriage equality to the persistence of fascism; from critical theory to psychoanalysis; from precarity to postcolonial studies.

"Gottlieb reveals her own integrity as an impeccable scholarly reader with a fine understanding of the give and take, the ebb and flow, of the performance of poetic justice."

—Homi K. Bhabha,
Harvard University

312 pages, December 2022
9781503633926 Paper \$30.00 **\$24.00 sale**



Criticism and Politics
A Polemical Introduction
Bruce Robbins

AN ACCESSIBLE INTRODUCTION TO CULTURAL THEORY AND AN ORIGINAL POLEMIC ABOUT THE PURPOSE OF CRITICISM.

What is criticism *for*? Re-examining theorists from Matthew Arnold to Walter Benjamin, to Fredric Jameson, Stuart Hall, and Hortense Spillers, *Criticism and Politics* explores the animating contradictions that have long propelled literary studies: between pronouncing judgment and engaging in philosophical critique, between democracy and expertise, between political commitment and aesthetic autonomy. Both a leftist critic and a critic of the left, Robbins unflinchingly defends criticism from those who might wish to de-politicize it, arguing that working for change is not optional for critics, but rather a core part of their job description.

"Urgent, bracing, and powerfully argued."

—Caroline Levine, Cornell University

272 pages, September 2022
9781503633209 Paper \$24.00 **\$19.20 sale**



Overlooking Damage
Art, Display, and Loss in Times of Crisis
Jonah Siegel

Siegel makes the daring argument that a thoughtful reaction to images of damage need not stop at melancholy, but can lead us to a new reckoning. Would the objects we admire be more beautiful if they were not injured or displaced, if they did not remind us of unbearable violence? Siegel takes up writers from the time of the French Revolution to today who have reacted to the depredations of revolutionary iconoclasm, imperial looting, and industrial capitalism, and proposes that in these authors we may find resources with which to navigate our contemporary situation. Deftly bringing the methods of literary studies to bear on debates in the study of heritage, archaeology, and visual culture, *Overlooking Damage* reflects on the ways in which concepts of beauty intersect with periods of epochal violence.

"Dazzling and dizzying."

—Elaine Scarry,
Harvard University

336 pages, July 2022
9781503632158 Paper \$30.00 **\$24.00 sale**



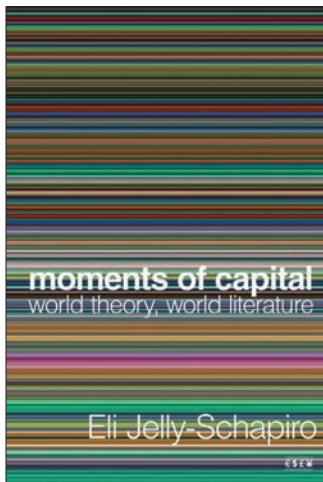
Aesthetic Action Florian Klinger

In this new book, Florian Klinger gives readers a basic action-theoretical account of the aesthetic. While normal action fulfills a determinate concept, Klinger argues, aesthetic action performs an indeterminacy by suspending the action's conceptual resolution. Taking as examples work by Tino Sehgal, Kara Walker, Mazen Kerbaj, Marina Abramović, Cy Twombly, and Franz Kafka, and in conversation with philosophers such as Kant, Hegel, Wittgenstein, and Anscombe; political thinkers such as Marx and Lorde; and contemporary interlocutors such as Michael Thompson, Sebastian Rödl, and Thomas Khurana, Klinger's book makes a case for a conception of the human form that systematically includes the aesthetic: an actualization of the form that is indeterminate and nevertheless rational. The book gives the project of Western philosophical aesthetics a long-overdue formulation for our present that aims to do justice to contemporary aesthetic production as it actually exists.

"Ingenious, stunning readings."

—Henry W. Pickford,
Duke University

404 pages, January 2024
9781503636972 Cloth \$80.00 **\$64.00 sale**



Moments of Capital *World Theory, World Literature* Eli Jelly-Schapiro

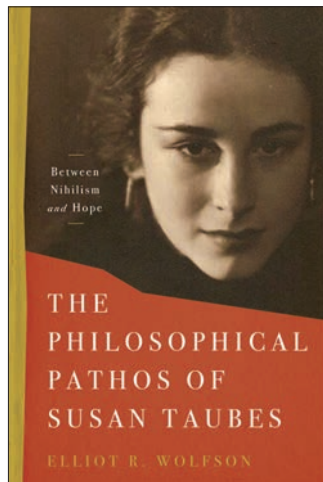
Jelly-Schapiro argues that global capital is composed of three synchronous moments: primitive accumulation, expanded reproduction, and the "synthetic dispossession" facilitated by financialization and privatization. These moments correspond to distinct economic and political forms, and distinct strands of theory and fiction. The book integrates various intellectual traditions—from multiple trajectories of Marxist thought, to Weberian inquiries into the "spirit" of capitalism, to anticolonial accounts of racial depredation—to reveal the concurrent interrelation of the three moments of capital, and its literary readings make vivid the uneven texture and experience of capitalist modernity at large. Analyzing formally and thematically diverse novels, Jelly-Schapiro evinces the different patterns of consciousness that register and hypothesize a way beyond the contradictions of capital.

"A formidable achievement."

—Upamanyu Pablo Mukherjee,
Oxford University

**CURRENCIES: NEW THINKING
FOR FINANCIAL TIMES**

266 pages, March 2023
9781503635432 Paper \$28.00 **\$22.40 sale**



The Philosophical Pathos of Susan Taubes *Between Nihilism and Hope* Elliot R. Wolfson

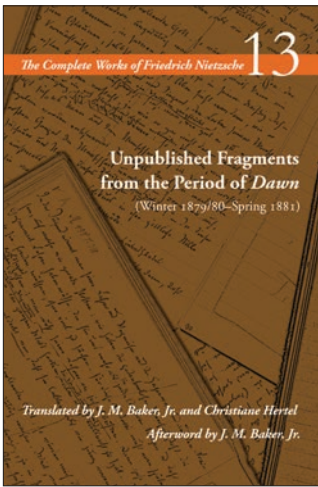
Drawing on close readings of Susan Taubes's writings, Wolfson plumbs the depths of the tragic sensibility that shaped her worldview, hovering between the poles of nihilism and hope. Specifically, Wolfson illumines how she presciently explored the hypernomian status of Jewish ritual and belief after the Holocaust; the theopolitical challenges of Zionism and the dangers of ethnonationalism; the antitheological theology and gnostic repercussions of Heideggerian thought; the mystical atheism and apophaticism of tragedy in Simone Weil; and the understanding of poetry as the means to face the faceless and to confront the silence of death in the temporal overcoming of time through time.

"Wolfson writes with a poetic lucidity—and a passion—worthy of his subject."

—Vivian Liska,
University of Antwerp

**STANFORD STUDIES IN
JEWISH MYSTICISM**

504 pages, April 2023
9781503633186 Cloth \$90.00 **\$72.00 sale**

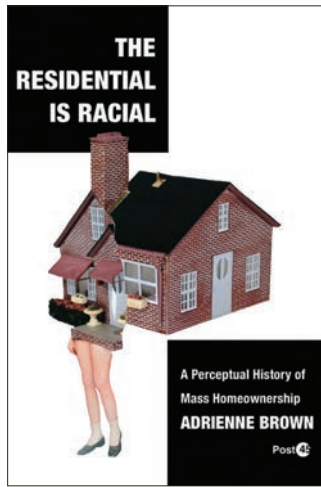


**Unpublished Fragments
from the Period of Dawn
(Winter 1879/80–
Spring 1881)**

Volume 13
**Friedrich Nietzsche,
Translated, with an Afterword,
by J. M. Baker, Jr. and
Christiane Hertel**

In these fragments, we see Nietzsche developing the conceptual triad of morals, customs, and ethics, which undergirds his critique of morality as the reification into law or dogma of conceptions of good and evil. These notes show the resulting tension between Nietzsche's contrasting thoughts on modernity, which he critiques as an unrecognized aftereffect of the Christian worldview, but also views as the springboard to "the dawn" of a transformed humanity and culture. The fragments further allow readers insight into Nietzsche's continuous internal debate with exemplary figures in his own life and culture, including Napoleon, Schopenhauer, and Wagner.

**THE COMPLETE WORKS OF
FRIEDRICH NIETZSCHE**
530 pages, December 2023
9781503636989 Paper \$28.00 **\$22.40 sale**



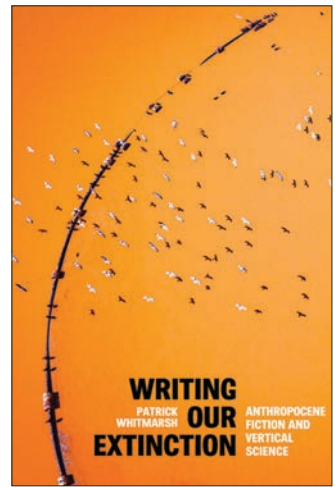
The Residential Is Racial
*A Perceptual History of
Mass Homeownership*
Adrienne Brown

Adrienne Brown here reveals how mass homeownership remade the rubrics of race, from the early cases realtors made for homeownership's necessity to white survival through to the 1968 Fair Housing Act. Reading real estate archives and appraisal textbooks alongside literary works by F. Scott Fitzgerald, John Steinbeck, Lorraine Hansberry, Richard Wright, Gwendolyn Brooks, James Baldwin, Ralph Ellison, John Cheever, and Thomas Pynchon, Brown goes beyond merely identifying the discriminatory mechanisms that the real estate industry used to forestall black homeownership. Rather, she reveals that redlining and other forms of racial discrimination are perceptual modes, changing what it meant to sense race and assign it value. Resituating residential discrimination as a key moment within the history of perception and aesthetics as well as of policy, demography, and democracy, we get an even more expansive picture of both its origins and its impacts.

"An illuminating account."

—Kinohi Nishikawa,
Princeton University

406 pages, March 2024
9781503638648 Paper \$30.00 **\$24.00 sale**



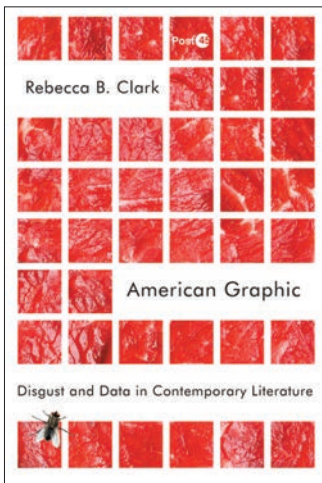
Writing Our Extinction
*Anthropocene Fiction and
Vertical Science*
Patrick Whitmarsh

Revealing the ways that literature has engaged the history of vertical science and linked it to increasing environmental precarity, Whitmarsh examines works by writers such as Don DeLillo, Karen Tei Yamashita, Reza Negarestani, and Colson Whitehead alongside postwar scientific programs including the Space Race, atmospheric and underground nuclear testing, and geological expeditions such as Project Mohole (which attempted to drill to the earth's mantle). As Whitmarsh argues, by focusing readers' attention on the fragility of postwar life through a vertical lens, Anthropocene fiction highlights the interconnections between human behavior and planetary change. These fictions situate industrial history within the much longer narrative of geological time and reframe scientific progress as a story through which humankind writes itself out of existence.

"A crucial touchstone for current debates in ecocriticism."

—Caren Irr,
Brandeis University

228 pages, April 2023
9781503635548 Paper \$26.00 **\$20.80 sale**

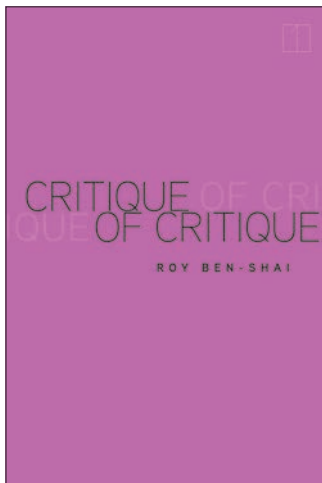


American Graphic
*Disgust and Data in
Contemporary Literature*
Rebecca B. Clark

“Graphic” as a term tellingly at odds with itself. On the one hand, it seems to evoke the grotesque; on the other hand, it promises the geometrically streamlined in the form of graphs and diagrams. Clark’s innovation is to ask what happens when the same moment in a work of literature is graphic in both ways at once. Her answer suggests the graphic turn in contemporary literature is intimately implicated in the fraught dynamics of identification. Clark analyzes the contemporary graphic along three specific axes: the ethnographic, the pornographic, and the infographic. In each chapter, Clark’s explication of the double graphic reads a canonical author against literary, visual and/or performance works by Black and/or female creators, demonstrating how closely and uncomfortably yoked together disgust and data have become in our increasingly graph-ick world.

“Stylishly written.”
—Eugene Brinkema,
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

308 pages, December 2022
9781503634237 Paper \$30.00 **\$24.00 sale**

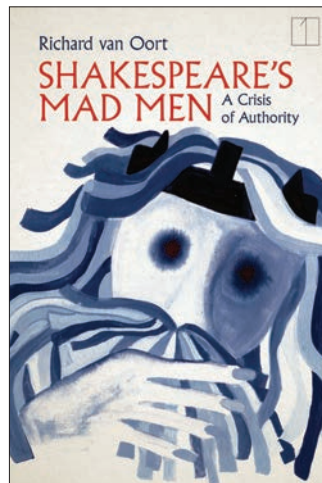


Critique of Critique
Roy Ben-Shai

At a moment when popular discourse is saturated with voices confronting each other about not being critical enough, while academic discourses proclaim to have moved past critique, this provocative book reawakens the foundational question of what “critique” is in the first place. Ben-Shai inspects critique as an orientation of critical thinking, probing its structures and assumptions, its limits and its risks, its history and its possibilities. The book is a journey through a landscape of ideas, images, and texts from diverse sources—theological, psychological, etymological, and artistic, but mainly across the history of philosophy, from Plato and Saint Augustine, through Kant and Hegel, Marx and Heidegger, up to contemporary critical theory. Along the way, the reader is invited to examine their own orientation of thought; to question popular discourse; and to revisit the philosophical canon, setting the groundwork for an examination of alternative orientations of critical thinking.

“This is one hell of a book.”
—Anne O’Byrne,
Stony Brook University

258 pages, February 2023
9781503633827 Paper \$28.00 **\$22.40 sale**

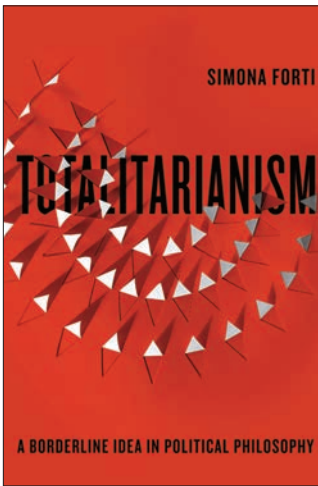


Shakespeare's Mad Men
A Crisis of Authority
Richard van Oort

This book is about a mad king and a mad duke. With original and iconoclastic readings, Richard van Oort pioneers the reading of Shakespeare as an ethical thinker of the “originary scene,” the scene in which humans became conscious of themselves as symbol-using moral and narrative beings. Taking *King Lear* and *Measure for Measure* as case studies, van Oort shows how the minimal concept of an anthropological scene of origin—the “originary hypothesis”—provides the basis for a new understanding of every aspect of the plays, from the psychology of the characters to the ethical and dialogical conflicts upon which the drama is based. The result is a gripping commentary on the plays that makes Shakespeare feel new again.

“A stunning provocation.”
—Amir Khan,
Shakespeare Quarterly

304 pages, October 2022
9781503633575 Paper \$30.00 **\$24.00 sale**



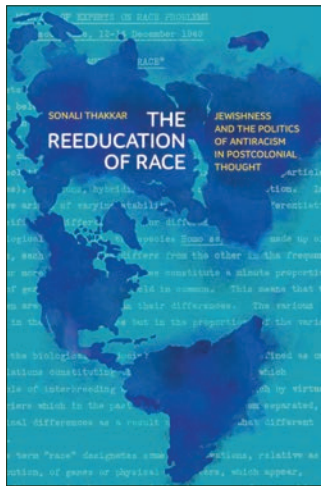
Totalitarianism
A Borderline Idea in Political Philosophy
Simona Forti

In the last decade, we have witnessed the return of one of the most controversial terms in the political lexicon: totalitarianism. Reconstructing not only the genealogy of the concept, but also by clarifying its motives, misunderstandings, and the controversies that have animated its current resurgence, Forti argues that totalitarianism cannot be considered an external threat to democracy, but rather as one of the possible answers to those questions posed by modernity which democracies have not been able to solve. Her investigation of the uses and abuses of totalitarianism as one of the fundamental categories of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries promises to provoke much-needed discussion and debate among those in philosophy, politics, ethics, and beyond.

“This gripping book has particularly urgent and disquieting implications for readers today.”

—Alessia Ricciardi,
author of *Finding Ferrante*

182 pages, January 2024
9781503637375 Paper \$25.00 **\$20.00 sale**



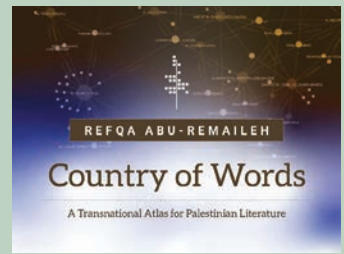
The Reeducation of Race
Jewishness and the Politics of Antiracism in Postcolonial Thought
Sonali Thakkar

In this book, Sonali Thakkar tells the story of how UNESCO’s race project directly influenced anticolonial thought and made Jewish difference and the Holocaust enduring preoccupations for anticolonial and postcolonial writers. Drawing on UNESCO’s rich archival resources and shifting between the scientific, social scientific, literary, and cultural, Thakkar offers new readings of a varied collection of texts from the postcolonial, Jewish, and Black diasporic traditions. Anticolonial thought and postcolonial literature critically recast liberal scientific antiracism, Thakkar argues, and the concepts central to this new moral economy were the medium for postcolonialism’s engagement with Jewishness. By recovering these connections, she shows how the midcentury crisis of racial meaning shaped the kinds of solidarities between racialized subjects that are thinkable today.

“Brings together fields of study too often siloed.”

—Yogita Goyal, UCLA

288 pages, November 2023
9781503637337 Paper \$30.00 **\$24.00 sale**



Country of Words
A Transnational Atlas for Palestinian Literature
Refqa Abu-Remaileh

Country of Words is a digital-born project that seeks to retrace and remap the global story of Palestinian literature in the twentieth century, from the Arab world to Europe, North America, and Latin America. At the intersection of literary history, periodical studies, and digital humanities, *Country of Words* creates a networked meeting place for the data and narrative fragments of a literature-in-motion, weaving porous, interrupted, disconnected, and discontinuous fragments into an elastic, open-ended literary history.

The story of Palestinian literature resembles the story of its people: an entire nation-in-exile scattered and fragmented across countries and continents. As a case study, Palestinian literary history invites us to “read together” national and exilic, encouraging a transnational comparative perspective. It gives us the opportunity to think of new ways to write nonlinear, nonconventional literary histories of displacement and movement, exposing new constellations, networks, trajectories, relationships, and collaborations.

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