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SEARCHING FOR "MISSING" STUDENTS, REID SAARIS ULTIMATELY FINDS WHAT ELSE IS MISSING—JUSTICE, EQUITY, COMPLEXITY, AND JOY—IN AMERICAN SCHOOLS.

Growing up in middle-class comfort, Reid was alarmed by the way his life so diverged from that of his best friend, Jamie. They used to laugh together in class, but were separated by a hallway when Reid enrolled in advanced classes. After graduation, the two moved further apart, as Reid pursued an elite degree studying educational opportunity in America.

Determined to pay forward his good fortune, Reid became a teacher at an underresourced South Carolina high school where efforts to serve the students were stymied by internal segregation and administrative ambivalence. He was quickly disabused of the Hollywood myth that a good teacher could simply save the day, and each false start with his students forced him to reckon with all that he didn’t know. Ultimately, a student project to create one positive change became the launchpad for Reid’s own professional awakening.

While individual efforts are no match against systems of educational inequality, Reid learned firsthand that a community of people powered by data can effect change. This lesson motivated Reid to found Equal Opportunity Schools (EOS), a nationwide nonprofit dedicated to finding the students overlooked, discouraged, or otherwise missing from higher-level learning opportunities.

As EOS became more successful, partnering with major philanthropies, universities, and even the White House, Reid once again grappled with his role as a leader. Only through the efforts of, first, his students in South Carolina, and later his team at EOS, would he come to understand, and begin to overcome, the limitations of his vision. Informed by immense new data on educational opportunity in America, The Kid Across the Hall is a powerful story of learning and unlearning; of leading and, ultimately, following.

Reid Saaris is Founder of Equal Opportunity Schools, a nonprofit whose mission is to ensure that students of color and low-income students have equitable access to America’s most academically intense high school programs. Formerly a high school teacher and administrator, Reid continues to write and research about educational justice.
DEAR CALIFORNIA

The Golden State in Diaries and Letters

Edited by DAVID KIPEN

Dispatches from a land of extremes, by writers and movie stars, natives and visitors, activists and pioneers, and more. California has always been, literally, a place to write home about. Renowned figures and iconoclasts; politicians, actors, and artists; the world-famous and the not-so-much—all have contributed their voices to the patchwork of the state. With this book, cultural historian and California scholar David Kipen reveals this long-storied place through its residents’ writings, and gives readers a highly anticipated follow up to his book Dear Los Angeles.

Running from January 1 through December 31, leaping across decades and centuries, Dear California reflects on the state’s shifting landscapes and the notion of place. Entries talk across the centuries, from indigenous stories told before the Spanish arrived on the Pacific coast through to present-day tweets, blogs, and other ephemera. The collected voices show how far we’ve wandered—and how far we still have to go in chasing the elusive California dream.

This is a book for readers who love California—and for anyone who simply treasures flavorful writing. Weaving together the personal, the insightful, the impressionistic, the lewd, and the hysterically funny, Dear California presents collected writings essential to understanding the diversity, antagonisms, and abiding promise of the Golden State.


California native David Kipen has worked as the San Francisco Chronicle’s book editor/critic, Director of Literature at the NEA, and, lately, L.A. Times critic at large and founder-director of the Libros Schmibros Lending Library. Previous books include Dear Los Angeles and four reissued WPA Guides. His California-set historical paranoid conspiracy thriller, The Americanist, is forthcoming. Really.

“Is California a place of hopes or of despair? In Dear California, the voices of the famous...and long forgotten cleverly play off each other, with observations on the weather, water, the San Francisco/Los Angeles rivalry, and all things that make the state both loveable and maddening.... However you approach this book, you will find wonderful surprises.”

—Lisa See, author of The Island of Sea Women

“With a series of intimate, spontaneous, and surprising moments, this collection revels in the many crazy and magical turns the Golden State has taken in its history.”

—Héctor Tobar, author of Deep Down Dark and Our Migrant Souls
MY BROTHER, MY LAND
A Story from Palestine
SAMI HERMEZ, with SIREEN SAWALHA

A RIVETING AND UNAPOLOGETIC ACCOUNT OF PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE, THE STORY OF ONE FAMILY’S CARE FOR THEIR LAND, AND A REFLECTION ON LOVE AND HEARTACHE WHILE LIVING UNDER MILITARY OCCUPATION.

In 1967, Sireen Sawalha’s mother, with her young children, walked back to Palestine against the traffic of exile. My Brother, My Land is the story of Sireen’s family in the decades that followed and their lives in the Palestinian village of Kufr Ra’i. From Sireen’s early life growing up in the shadow of the ‘67 War and her family’s work as farmers caring for their land, to the involvement of her brother Iyad in armed resistance in the First and Second Intifada, Sami Hermez, with Sireen Sawalha, crafts a rich story of intertwining voices, mixing genres of oral history, memoir, and creative nonfiction.

Through the lives of the Sawalha family, and the story of Iyad’s involvement in the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, Hermez confronts readers with the politics and complexities of armed resistance and the ethical tensions and contradictions that arise, as well as with the dispossession and suffocation of people living under occupation and their ordinary lives in such times. Whether this story leaves readers discomforted, angry, or empowered, they will certainly emerge with a deeper understanding of the Palestinian predicament.

“A breathtaking display of literary prowess that tells the story of an entire homeland through the frame of one woman’s life. Sami Hermez expertly weaves together different perspectives and narratives, all the while handling the delicate gift of the Sawalha family story with precision and care.”

—Hala Alyan, author of Salt Houses

Sami Hermez is an anthropologist and Associate Professor at Northwestern University in Qatar. He is the author of War Is Coming: Between Past and Future Violence in Lebanon (2017). His work in and out of the classroom reflects a strong commitment to freedom, justice, and equality. His family’s history of migration spans the Levant, with roots in Al-Qosh, Aleppo, Beirut, and Jerusalem. Sami lives in Doha with his family.
Would you read this book if a computer wrote it? Would you even know? And why would it matter?

Today’s eerily impressive artificial intelligence writing tools present us with a crucial challenge: As writers, do we unthinkingly adopt AI’s time-saving advantages or do we stop to weigh what we gain and lose when heeding its siren call? 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-blow text, we risk losing not just our technical skills but the power of writing as a springboard for personal reflection and unique expression.

Funny, informed, and conversational, Who Wrote This? urges us as individuals and as communities to make conscious choices about the extent to which we collaborate with AI. The technology is here to stay. Baron shows us how to work with AI and how to spot where it risks diminishing the valuable cognitive and social benefits of being literate.

Naomi S. Baron is Professor Emerita of Linguistics at American University. Her books include How We Read Now: Strategic Choices for Print, Screen, and Audio (2021), Words Onscreen: The Fate of Reading in a Digital World (2015), and Always On: Language in an Online and Mobile World (2008).
THE WAR THAT MUST NOT OCCUR
JEAN-PIERRE DUPUY, Translated by MALCOLM DEBEVOISE

AT A MOMENT WHEN HUMANITY IS ON THE PRECIPICE OF NUCLEAR CATASTROPHE, JEAN-PIERRE DUPUY CASTS THE PARADOXICAL LOGIC OF NUCLEAR DETERRENCE IN A NEW LIGHT.

The possibility of a nuclear war that could destroy civilization has influenced the course of international affairs since 1945, suspended like a sword of Damocles above the heads of the world’s leaders. The fact that we have escaped a third world war involving strategic nuclear weapons—indeed, that no atomic weapon of limited power has yet been used under battlefield conditions—seems nothing short of a miracle.

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 and the almost unimaginable ruin they are bound to cause, Dupuy reaches a provocative conclusion: whether they bring about good or evil does not depend on the present or future intentions of those who are in a position to use them. The mere possession of nuclear weapons is a moral abomination.

Jean-Pierre Dupuy teaches in the Program in Science, Technology, and Society at Stanford University. He is Professor Emeritus of Political Philosophy at the École Polytechnique in Paris and formerly Chair of the Ethics Committee of the French High Authority on Nuclear Safety and Security.

"Dupuy is our best theorist of catastrophes and his new book is a book for all of us." —Slavoj Žižek, author of Surplus-Enjoyment

"If we are to postpone nuclear catastrophe indefinitely, Dupuy argues, we must understand that nuclear war is not merely possible but bound to occur." —David Holloway, author of Stalin and the Bomb

"Dupuy provides an extremely important service by bringing much-needed attention to the existential risk that society largely ignored prior to the war in Ukraine and, even now, does not take seriously enough. Highly recommended." —Martin E. Hellman, winner of the Turing Award
THE AUTHENTICITY INDUSTRIES

Keeping it “Real” in Media, Culture, and Politics

MICHAEL SERAZIO

AN EYE-OPENING BACKSTAGE TOUR OF THE PEOPLE AND PROCESSES FEEDING OUR OBSESSION WITH AUTHENTICITY.

In recent decades, authenticity has become an American obsession. It animates thirty years’ worth of reality TV programming and fuels the explosive virality of one hot social media app after another. It characterizes Donald Trump’s willful disregard for political correctness (and proofreading) and inspires multinational corporations to stake activist claims in ways that few “woke” brands ever dared before. It buttresses a multibillion-dollar influencer industry of everyday folks shilling their friends with #spon-con and burnishes the street cred of rock stars and rappers alike. But, ironically, authenticity’s not actually real: it’s as fabricated as it is ubiquitous.

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”—and the ways it tries to influence us. Drawing upon dozens of rare interviews with campaign consultants, advertising executives, tech company leadership, and entertainment industry gatekeepers, the book slyly investigates the professionals and practices that make people, products, and platforms seem “authentic” in today’s media, culture, and politics. The result is a spotlight on the power of authenticity in today’s media-saturated world and the strategies to satisfy this widespread yearning. 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. It infects and informs our ideals of celebrity, aesthetics, privacy, nostalgia, and populism. And Serazio reveals how these pretenses are crafted, backstage, for audiences, consumers, and voters.


“An ambitious survey of the rising currency of ‘authenticity’ in contemporary life.”

—Laurie Ouellette, author of *Lifestyle TV*
A HISTORY OF FAKE THINGS ON THE INTERNET

WALTER J. SCHEIRER

AN INSIDER’S GUIDE TO THE HACKERS, HOAXES, AND MYTHS THAT WARPED THE DIGITAL WORLD.

As all aspects of our social and informational lives increasingly migrate online, the line between what is “real” and what is digitally fabricated grows ever thinner—and that fake content has undeniable real-world consequences. A History of Fake Things on the Internet takes the long view of how advances in technology brought us to the point where faked texts, images, and video content are nearly indistinguishable from what is authentic or true.

Computer scientist Walter J. Scheirer takes a deep dive into the origins of fake news, conspiracy theories, reports of the paranormal, and other deviations from reality that have become part of mainstream culture, from image manipulation in the nineteenth-century darkroom to the literary stylings of large language models like ChatGPT. Scheirer investigates the origins of Internet fakes, from early hoaxes that traversed the globe via Bulletin Board Systems (BBSs), USENET, and a new messaging technology called email, to today’s hyperrealistic, AI-generated deepfakes. An expert in machine learning and recognition, Scheirer breaks down the technical advances that made new developments in digital deception possible, and shares behind-the-scenes details of early Internet-era pranks that have become touchstones of hacker lore. His story introduces us to the visionaries and mischief-makers who first deployed digital fakery and continue to influence how digital manipulation works—and doesn’t—today: computer hackers, digital artists, media forensics specialists, and AI researchers. Ultimately, Scheirer argues that problems associated with fake content are not intrinsic properties of the content itself, but rather stem from human behavior, demonstrating our capacity for both creativity and chaos.

Walter J. Scheirer is the Dennis O. Doughty Collegiate Associate Professor of Computer Science and Engineering at the University of Notre Dame.
HEGEL

The Philosopher of Freedom

KLAUS VIEWEG

When a painter once told Goethe that he wanted to paint the most famous man of the age, Goethe directed him to Georg Friederich Wilhelm Hegel. Hegel, the most famous figure in modern philosophy, arguably its father, believed that to philosophize is to learn to live freely. He was slow and cautious in the development of his philosophy; yet his intellectual growth was like an Odyssey of the mind, and, contrary to popular belief, his life was full of twists and turns, of suspense and even danger.

In this landmark biography, the philosopher Klaus Vieweg paints a new picture of the life and work of the most important representative of German idealism. His vivid portrait provides readers an intimate account of Hegel's times and the milieu in which he 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.

Klaus Vieweg is Professor of Classical German Philosophy at the Friedrich Schiller University, Jena, and one of the world's leading Hegel experts. Vieweg has authored or edited over two dozen books, with translations appearing in Italian, Spanish, Chinese, and English, among other languages.

“Vieweg’s biography of Hegel is more than the best work in its field—it sets new standards for a book on Hegel and for a philosopher’s biography as such.”
—Slavoj Žižek, author of Hegel in a Wired Brain

“Vieweg’s outstanding biography, based on original research and written with verve and imagination, places freedom and reason at the center of Hegel’s thought, painting an engaging, colorful picture of one of the world’s greatest thinkers.”
—Stephen Houlgate, author of Hegel on Being
Any tattoo is the outcome of an intimate, often hidden process. The people, bodies, and money that make tattooing what it is blend together and form a heady cocktail, something described by Matt, the owner of Oakland’s Premium Tattoo, as “blood and lightning.” Faced with the client’s anticipation of pain and excitement, the tattooer must carefully perform calm authority to obscure a world of preparation and vigilance. “Blood and lightning, my dude”—the mysterious and intoxicating effect of tattooing done right.

Dustin Kiskaddon draws on his own apprenticeship with Matt and takes us behind the scenes into the complex world of professional tattooers. We join people who must routinely manage a messy and carnal type of work. Blood and Lightning brings us through the tattoo shop, where the smell of sterilizing agents, the hum of machines, and the sound of music spill out onto the back patio. It is here that Matt, along with his comrades, reviews the day’s wins, bemoans its losses, and prepares for the future.

Having tattooed more than five hundred people, Kiskaddon is able to freshly articulate the physical, mental, emotional, and moral life of tattooers. His captivating account explores the challenges they face on the job, including the crushing fear of making mistakes on someone else’s body, the role of masculinity in evolving tattoo worlds, appropriate and inappropriate intimacy, and the task of navigating conversations about color and race.

Ultimately, the stories in this book teach us about the roles our bodies play in the social world. Both mediums and objects of art, our bodies are purveyors of sociocultural significance, sites of capitalist negotiation, and vivid encapsulations of the human condition. Kiskaddon guides us through a strangely familiar world, inviting each of us to become a tattooer along the way.

Dustin Kiskaddon is a cultural sociologist and trained tattooer, whose work can be seen on Instagram at @Dustin.Kiskaddon. After nearly a decade of teaching and a few years of professional tattooing, he now uses his expertise in culture, the economy, and technology to conduct applied research.
For decades, the outside world mostly knew Myanmar as the site of a valiant human rights struggle against an oppressive military regime, predominantly through the figure of Nobel Peace Prize winner Aung San Suu Kyi. And yet, a closer look at Burmese grassroots sentiments reveals a significant schism between elite human rights cosmopolitans and subaltern Burmese subjects maneuvering under brutal and negligent governance. While elites have endorsed human rights logics, subalterns are ambivalent, often going so far as to refuse rights themselves, seeing in them no more than empty promises. Such alternative perspectives became apparent during Burma’s much-lauded decade-long “transition” from military rule that began in 2011, a period of massive change that saw an explosion of political and social activism.

How then do people conduct politics when they lack the legally and symbolically stabilizing force of “rights” to guarantee their incursions against injustice? In this book, Elliott Prasse-Freeman documents grassroots political activists who advocate for workers and peasants across Burma, covering not only the so-called “democratic transition” from 2011-2021, but also the February 2021 military coup that ended that experiment and the ongoing mass uprising against it. Taking the reader from protest camps, to flop houses, to prisons, and presenting practices as varied as courtroom immolation, occult cursing ceremonies, and land reoccupations, Rights Refused shows how Burmese subaltern politics compel us to reconsider how rights frameworks operate everywhere.

Elliott Prasse-Freeman is Assistant Professor of Sociology and Anthropology at the National University of Singapore.

Raising Two Fists is a historically grounded ethnography of Afro-Colombian political mobilization after the multicultural turn that swept Latin America in the 1990s, when states began to recognize and legally enshrine rights for Afro-descendants. Roosbelinda Cárdenas explores three major strategies that Afro-Colombians’ developed in their struggles against racialized dispossession—the defense of culturally specific livelihoods through the creation of Black Territories; the demand for differential reparations for Afro-Colombian war victims; and the fight for inclusion in Colombia’s peace negotiations and post-conflict rebuilding—illustrating how they engage in this work both as participants of organized political movements and in their everyday lives.

Although rights-based claims to the state have become necessary and pragmatic tools in the intersecting struggles for racial, economic, and social justice, Cárdenas argues that they continue to be ineffective due to Colombia’s entrenched colonial racial hierarchies. She shows that while Afro-Colombians pursue rights-based claims, they also forge African Diasporic solidarities and protect the flourishing of their lives outside of the frame of rights, and with or without the state’s sanction—a “two-fisted” strategy for Black citizenship.

Roosbelinda Cárdenas is Associate Professor of Anthropology and Latin American Studies at Hampshire College.
A Blessing and a Curse

Oil, Politics, and Morality in Bolivarian Venezuela

MATT WILDE

A Blessing and a Curse examines the lived experience of political change, moral uncertainty, and economic crisis amid Venezuela’s controversial Bolivarian Revolution. Drawing on ethnographic research conducted in an urban barrio over the course of a decade, Matt Wilde argues that everyday life in this period was intimately shaped by a critical contradiction: that in their efforts to capture a larger portion of oil money and distribute it more widely among the population, the governments of Hugo Chávez and Nicolás Maduro pursued policies that ultimately entrenched Venezuela in the very position of dependency they sought to overcome. Offering a new synthesis between anthropological work on energy, politics, and morality, the book explores how the use of oil money to fund the revolution’s social programs and political reforms produced profound cultural anxieties about the contaminating effects of petroleum revenues in everyday settings. Tracing how these anxieties rippled out into community life, family networks, and local politics, Wilde shows how questions about how to live a good life came to be intimately shaped by Venezuela’s contradictory relationship with oil. In doing so, he brings a vital perspective to contemporary debates about energy transitions by proposing a new way of thinking about the political and moral economies of natural resources in postcolonial settings.

Matt Wilde is an anthropologist and Lecturer in Human Geography at the University of Leicester.

Sufi Civilities

Religious Authority and Political Change in Afghanistan

ANNIKA SCHMEDING

Despite its pervasive reputation as a place of religious extremes and war, Afghanistan has a complex and varied religious landscape where elements from a broad spectrum of religious belief vie for a place in society. It is also one of the birthplaces of a widely practiced variant of Islam: Sufism. Contemporary analysts suggest that Sufism is on the decline due to war and the ideological hardening that results from societies in conflict. However, in Sufi Civilities, Annika Schmeding argues that this is far from a truthful depiction. Members of Sufi communities have worked as resistance fighters, aid workers, business people, actors, professors, and daily workers in creative and ingenious ways to keep and renew their networks of community support.

Based on long-term ethnographic field research among multiple Sufi communities in different urban areas of Afghanistan, the book examines navigational strategies employed by Sufi leaders over the past four decades to weather periods of instability and persecution, showing how they adapted to changing conditions in novel ways that crafted Sufism as a force in the civil sphere. This book offers a rare on-the-ground view into how Sufi leaders react to moments of transition within a highly insecure environment, and how humanity shines through the darkness during times of turmoil.

Annika Schmeding is a cultural anthropologist and Junior Fellow at the Harvard University Society of Fellows.
Japan’s contemporary struggle with low fertility rates is a well-known issue, as are the country’s efforts to bolster their population in order to address attendant socioeconomic challenges. However, though this anxiety about and discourse around population is thought of as a relatively recent phenomenon, government and medical intervention in reproduction and fertility are hardly new in Japan. The “population problem (jinko mondai)” became a buzzword in the country over a century ago, in the 1910s, with a growing call among Japanese social scientists and social reformers to solve what were seen as existential demographic issues.

In this book, Sujin Lee traces the trajectory of population discourses in interwar and wartime Japan, and positions them as critical sites where competing visions of modernity came into tension. Lee destabilizes the essentialized notions of motherhood and population by dissecting gender norms, modern knowledge, and government practices, each of which played a crucial role in valorizing, regulating, and mobilizing women’s maternal bodies and responsibilities in the name of population governance. Bringing a feminist perspective and Foucauldian theory to bear on the history of Japan’s wartime scientific fascism, Lee shows how anxieties over demographics have undergirded justifications for ethnonationalism and racism, colonialism and imperialism, and gender segregation for much of Japan’s modern history.

Sujin Lee is Assistant Professor of Pacific and Asian Studies at the University of Victoria.

After the trauma of mass violence and massive population movements around the partition of India and Pakistan in 1947, both new nation states faced the enormous challenge of creating new national narratives, symbols, and histories, as well as a new framework for their political life. While leadership in India claimed the anti-colonial movement, Gandhi, and a civilizational legacy in the subcontinent, the new political elite in Pakistan were faced with a more complex task: to carve out a separate and distinct Muslim history and political tradition from a millennium long history of cultural and religious interaction, mixing, and coexistence.

Drawing on a rich archive of diverse sources, Ali Qasmi traces the complex development of ideas of citizenship and national belonging in the postcolonial Muslim state, offering a nuanced and sweeping history of the country’s formative period. Qasmi paints a rich picture of the long, arduous, and often conflict-ridden process of writing a democratic constitution of Pakistan, while simultaneously narrating the invention of a range of new rituals of state—such as the exact color of the flag, the precise date of birth of the national poet of Pakistan, and the observation of Eid as a “national festival”—providing an illuminating analysis of the practices of being Pakistani, and a new portrait of Muslim history in the subcontinent.

Ali Usman Qasmi is Associate Professor of History at Lahore University of Management Sciences.
LABORS OF DIVISION

Global Capitalism and the Emergence of the Peasant in Colonial Panjab

NAVYUG GILL

A NEW ANALYSIS OF “THE PEASANT” IN GLOBAL CAPITALIST HISTORY.

The peasant has long been one of the most durable figures in modern history and the site of intense intellectual and political debate. Yet underlying much of the literature is the assumption that peasants simply existed everywhere, a general if not generic group, traced backward from modernity to antiquity. Focused on the transformation of Panjab during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, this book accounts for the colonial origins of global capitalism through a radical history of the concept of “the peasant,” demonstrating how seemingly fixed hierarchies were in fact produced, legitimized, and challenged within the preeminent agricultural region of South Asia. Navyug Gill uncovers how and why British officials and ascendant Panjabis disrupted existing forms of identity and occupation to generate a new agrarian order in the countryside. The notion of the hereditary caste peasant engaged in timeless cultivation thus emerged, paradoxically, as a result of a dramatic series of conceptual, juridical, and monetary divisions.

Far from casting them as archaic relics, this book ultimately reveals both the landowning peasant and landless laborer to be novel political subjects forged through the encounter between colonialism and struggles over culture and capital within Panjabi society. With this history, Gill brings difference and contingency to understandings of the global past in order to rethink the itinerary of comparative political economy and imagine alternative possibilities for emancipatory futures.

Navyug Gill is Assistant Professor of History at William Paterson University.
LIQUID ASSET
How Business and Government Can Partner to Solve the Freshwater Crisis
BARTON H. THOMPSON, JR.

A SWEEPING, POLICY-ORIENTED ACCOUNT OF THE PRIVATE AND PUBLIC MANAGEMENT OF THE WORLD’S ESSENTIAL NATURAL RESOURCE.

Governments dominated water management throughout the twentieth century. Tasked with ensuring a public supply of clean, safe, reliable, and affordable water, governmental agencies controlled water administration in most of the world. They built the dams, reservoirs, and aqueducts that store water when available and move that water to areas with increasing populations and economies. Private businesses sometimes played a part in managing water, but typically in a supporting position, as consultants or contractors. Today, given the global need for innovative new technologies, institutions, and financing to solve the freshwater crisis, private businesses and markets are playing a rapidly expanding role, bringing both new approaches and new challenges to a historically public field.

In Liquid Asset, Barton H. Thompson, Jr., examines the growing position of the private sector in the “business of water.” Thompson seeks to understand the private sector’s involvement in meeting the water needs of both humans and the environment, looks at the potential risks that growing private involvement poses to the public interest in water, and considers the obstacles that private organizations face in trying to participate in a traditionally governmental sector. Thompson provides a richly detailed analysis to foster both improved public policy and responsible business behavior. As the book demonstrates, the story of private businesses and water offers a window into the serious challenges facing freshwater today, and their potential solutions.

Barton H. Thompson, Jr., is Robert E. Paradise Professor of Natural Resources Law at Stanford Law School, Professor of Environmental Behavioral Sciences at the Stanford Doerr School of Sustainability, and a Senior Fellow at the Woods Institute for the Environment. He has written and co-authored several books, his most recent being Environmental Law and Policy, 5th edition (2019).
Entrepreneurs and leaders often have an inspiring vision for how their business can not only make money for owners and shareholders, but also benefit society. In recent years a new legal structure has emerged, the “Benefit Corporation,” “Public Benefit Corporation,” or “B-Corp,” which helps organizations make this vision a reality. Companies like Patagonia, Kickstarter, Warby Parker, Danone North America, Allbirds, and King Arthur Baking have become Benefit Corporations to help advance both their business and their broader mission. Rather than aim strictly at maximizing profits, thousands of revolutionary companies are now committing to consider their business strategy’s impact on their employees, customers, suppliers, the environment, and anyone materially affected by their activities. The goal of benefit corporations is to foster a new, more humane, and sustainable capitalism by pursuing both profits and mission. Benefit corporation status helps protect the company mission through changes in leadership—and despite pressure from investors, shareholders, bankers, and lenders.

Becoming a Public Benefit Corporation explains in depth this exciting new type of corporation, when it makes sense, and how becoming a benefit corporation can help visionary leaders and organizations balance the tradeoffs between profits and mission. Law professor and corporate governance expert Michael Dorff explains the basic framework of corporate governance and how these forms fit in. He also explains the weaknesses of benefit corporations, arguing that the enforcement mechanisms around benefit corporations are too weak to prevent “purpose washing.” Using real-life examples from top companies, this book shows mission-driven leaders, board members, and advisors how to use the benefit corporation structure to make the world a better place.

Michael B. Dorff is Michael & Jessica Downer Endowed Chair, Professor of Law, and Director of Technology Law and Entrepreneurship Concentration at Southwestern Law School.
VENTURE MEETS MISSION
Aligning People, Purpose, and Profit to Innovate and Transform Society

ARUN GUPTA, GERARD GEORGE, THOMAS J. FEWER

THE WORLD’S BIGGEST PROBLEMS CAN’T BE ADDRESSED BY GOVERNMENT ALONE—THEY REQUIRE INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS THAT ONLY BUSINESS, AND THE VENTURE CAPITAL ECOSYSTEM, CAN PROVIDE.

The world is facing dramatic geopolitical, environmental, and technological shifts. Venture Meets Mission argues that if Business, Government, and Society come together, rebuild trust, and collaborate, we have a generational opportunity to address societal challenges—climate change, cybersecurity, disease outbreaks, food insecurity, and education. The authors use their deep experience in Silicon Valley and Washington, DC, to explain how our existing entrepreneurial ecosystem, aligned with the ideals of democracy, can be the foundation for a new mission-driven capitalism.

Drawing on their leadership experience with Silicon Valley innovation, venture capital, and their work at the highest levels of the federal government, the authors tell engaging stories of successful entrepreneurs, with diverse perspectives and intersectional experiences, who combine mission and venture to solve critical societal problems. Venture Meets Mission seeks to inspire students, young professionals, and entrepreneurial executives to devote a few years of their careers to pursuing mission-driven ventures that can make the world a better place, and explains why and how forward-thinking government officials and policy makers can collaborate and harness private sector entrepreneurship and innovation to solve society’s problems.

Arun Gupta is a venture capitalist, CEO, and Lecturer at Stanford University.

Gerard George is a Professor of Entrepreneurship and Innovation at Georgetown University and Senior Advisor at TPG, a leading global alternative asset manager.

Thomas J. Fewer is a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Georgetown Entrepreneurship Initiative at Georgetown University.

“Venture Meets Mission brings to life two powerful ideas: 1) how to infuse a business (or a career) with an inspiring mission, and 2) how working creatively with government can be a crucial part of accomplishing that mission.”

—Charles O. Rossotti, Senior Advisor, The Carlyle Group
Innovators and creators work in cultural and environmental contexts that shape their work. These contexts are large-scale, filled with overwhelming multitudes of elements and possibilities. Creativity in Large-Scale Contexts, by Yale professor Jonathan Feinstein, introduces a groundbreaking new network model to describe how successful innovation is focused, generated, and accelerated in such contexts. The book will help groups and organizations innovate smarter and faster.

Feinstein argues that in large-scale contexts creativity happens most efficiently when it is actively “guided.” Guiding creativity involves understanding and navigating the creative context, imagining new ways to understand and use the larger cultural context, identifying puzzles and opportunities, and spanning these to create novel connections. With thoughtful guidance, creators and creative teams can find their way through the thicket of possibilities faster, more smartly, and with less waste. Feinstein describes two forms of guidance—guiding conceptions and guiding principles—and shows how they work together to generate innovation.

Creativity in Large-Scale Contexts draws on case studies of famous creators including Virginia Woolf, Albert Einstein, Indigenous artist Clifford Possum, transgender activist and engineer Lynn Conway, and Twitter cofounder Jack Dorsey. Empirically grounded, this book will be essential for teaching and managing creativity and innovation and will open new avenues for future intellectual growth in the field.

Jonathan Feinstein is John G. Searle Professor of Economics and

The Invention of Terrorism in France, 1904–1939 investigates the political and social imaginaries of “terrorism” in the early twentieth century. Chris Millington traces the development of how the French conceived of terrorism, from the late nineteenth-century notion that terrorism was the deed of the mad anarchist bomber, to the fraught political clashes of the 1930s when terrorism came to be understood as a political act perpetrated against French interests by organized international movements. Through a close analysis of a series of terrorist incidents and representations thereof in public discourse and the press, the book argues that contemporary ideas of terrorism in France as “unFrench”—that is, contrary to the ideas and values, however defined, that make up “Frenchness”—emerged in the interwar years and subsequently took root long before the terrorist campaigns of Algerian nationalists during the 1950s and 1960s.

Millington conceptualizes “terrorism” not only as the act itself, but also as a political and cultural construction of violence composed from a variety of discourses and deployed in particular circumstances by commentators, witnesses, and perpetrators. In doing so, he argues that the political and cultural battles inherent to perceptions of terrorism lay bare numerous concerns, not least anxieties over immigration, antiparlamentarianism, representations of gender, and the future of European peace.

Chris Millington is Reader in Modern European History at Manchester Metropolitan University.
From the 1850s until the mid-twentieth century, a period marked by global conflicts and anxiety about dwindling resources and closing opportunities after decades of expansion, the frontier became a mirror for historically and geographically specific hopes and fears. From Asia to Europe and the Americas, countries around the world engaged with new interpretations of empire and the deployment of science and technology to aid frontier development in extreme environments. Through a century of political turmoil and war, China nevertheless is the only nation to successfully navigate the twentieth century with its imperial territorial expanse largely intact. In Birth of the Geopolitical Age, Shellen Xiao Wu demonstrates how global examples of frontier settlements refracted through China’s unique history and informed the making of the modern Chinese state. Wu weaves a narrative that moves through time and space, the lives of individuals, and empires’ rise and fall and rebirth, to show how the subsequent reshaping of Chinese geopolitical ambitions in the twentieth century, and the global transformation of frontiers into colonial laboratories, continues to reorder global power dynamics in East Asia and the wider world to this day.

Shellen Xiao Wu is the Lawrence Gipson Chair of Transnational History at Lehigh University. She is the author of Empires of Coal: Fueling China’s Entry into the Modern World Order, 1860–1919 (Stanford, 2015).

Helmut Puff invites readers to visit societies and spaces of the past through the lens of a particular temporal modality: waiting. 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.

In early modern continental Western Europe, antechambers became standard in the residences of the elites. As a time-space infrastructure these rooms shaped encounters between equals. By imposing spatial distance and temporal delays, antechambers constituted authority, rank, and power. 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. Divided only by walls and doors, waiters sought out occasions to improve their lot. At other times, they disrupted the scripts accorded them. Situated at the intersection of history, literature, and the history of art and architecture, this wide-ranging study demonstrates that waiting has much to tell us about social and power relations in the past and present.

Helmut Puff is Elizabeth L. Eisenstein Collegiate Professor of History and Germanic Languages at the University of Michigan. His other books include Sodomy in Reformation Germany and Switzerland (2003) as well as Miniature Monuments: Modeling German History (2014).

Cultural Memory in the Present

October 2023  264 pages | 6 x 9
22 halftones, 1 map
Paper $30.00 (£25.99)  SDT 9781503637023
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History

The Antechamber

Toward a History of Waiting

Helmut Puff
THE AFTERLIFE OF OTTOMAN EUROPE
Muslims in Habsburg Bosnia Herzegovina
LEYLA AMZI-ERDOĞDULAR

The Afterlife of Ottoman Europe examines how Bosnian Muslims navigated the Ottoman and Habsburg domains following the Habsburg occupation of Bosnia Herzegovina after the 1878 Berlin Congress. Leyla Amzi-Erdoğdular explores the enduring influence of the Ottoman Empire during this period—an influence perpetuated both by the efforts of the imperial state from afar, and by its former subjects in Bosnia Herzegovina. Prominent members of the Ottoman imperial polity under occupation, Bosnian Muslims became minority subjects of Austria-Hungary, and developed a relationship with the new authorities in Vienna while transforming their interactions with Istanbul and the rest of the Muslim world. Amzi-Erdoğdular highlights Muslim agency, demonstrating that in addition to Habsburg and Ottoman policies, it was also Muslims’ own endeavors that shaped their self-perceptions, community organization, and institutions. Their efforts influenced imperial considerations and policies on occupation, sovereignty, minorities, and migration.

This book is a product of multilingual research and draws on Eastern European and Ottoman primary material and historiographies. Introducing Ottoman sources for the first time into the study of the Habsburg period in Bosnia, this book traces transregional connections and networks across empires bridging Ottoman, Islamic, Middle Eastern, and Balkan studies. Amzi-Erdoğdular tells the story of Muslims who redefined their place and influence in both empires and the modern world, to argue for the centrality of Islamic intellectual history within the history of Bosnia Herzegovina and Eastern Europe.

Leyla Amzi-Erdoğdular is Assistant Professor in the Department of History at Rutgers University Newark.

THE RUSSIAN WAY OF DETERRENCE
Strategic Culture, Coercion, and War
DMITRY (DIMA) ADAMSKY

From a globally renowned expert on Russian military strategy and national security, The Russian Way of Deterrence investigates Russia’s approach to coercion (both deterrence and compellence), comparing and contrasting it with the Western conceptualization of this strategy. Strategic deterrence, or what Dmitry (Dima) Adamsky calls deterrence à la Russe, is one of the main tools of Russian statecraft. Adamsky deftly describes the genealogy of the Russian approach to coercion and highlights the cultural, ideational, and historical factors that have shaped it in the nuclear, conventional, and informational domains. Drawing on extensive research on Russian strategic culture, Adamsky highlights several empirical and theoretical peculiarities of the Russian coercion strategy, including how this strategy relates to the war in Ukraine. Exploring the evolution of strategic deterrence, along with its sources and prospective avenues of development, Adamsky provides a comprehensive intellectual history that makes it possible to understand the deep mechanics of this Russian stratagem, the current and prospective patterns of the Kremlin’s coercive conduct, and the implications for policymakers on both sides of the Atlantic.

Dmitry (Dima) Adamsky, Professor at the Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy, and Strategy at Reichman University (IDC Herzliya) in Israel, and visiting professor at the Vytuatas Magnus University. He is the author of Russian Nuclear Orthodoxy (Stanford, 2019) and The Culture of Military Innovation (Stanford, 2010).
The postwar period saw increased interest in the idea of relatively easy-to-manufacture but devastatingly lethal radiological munitions whose use would not discriminate between civilian and military targets. *Death Dust* explores the largely unknown history of the development of radiological weapons (RW)—weapons designed to disperse radioactive material without a nuclear detonation—through a series of comparative case studies across the United States, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom, Iraq, and Egypt. The authors illuminate the historical drivers of and impediments to radiological weapons innovation. They also examine how new, dire geopolitical events—such as the war in Ukraine—could encourage other states to pursue RW and analyze the impact of the spread of such weapons on nuclear deterrence and the nonproliferation regime. *Death Dust* presents practical, necessary steps to reduce the likelihood of a resurgence of interest in and pursuit of radiological weapons by state actors.

**William C. Potter** is Founding Director of the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies (CNS) at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey (MIIS).

**Sarah Bidgood** is Director of the Eurasia Nonproliferation Program at CNS.

**Samuel Meyer** is an Analyst at the Office of Radiological Security, U.S. Department of Energy.

**Hanna Notte** is a Senior Research Associate with the Vienna Center for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation.
A close study of the human impact and political consequences of comprehensive sanctions on Iran since 1979.

Sanctions have enormous consequences. Especially when imposed by a country with the economic influence of the United States, sanctions induce clear shockwaves in both the economy and political culture of the targeted state, and in the everyday lives of citizens. But do economic sanctions induce the behavioral changes intended? Do sanctions work in the way they should?

To answer these questions, the authors of How Sanctions Work highlight Iran, the most sanctioned country in the world. Comprehensive sanctions are meant to induce uprisings or pressures to change the behavior of the ruling establishment, or to weaken its hold on power. But, after four decades, the case of Iran shows the opposite to be true: sanctions strengthened the Iranian state, impoverished its population, increased state repression, and escalated Iran's military posture toward the U.S. and its allies in the region. Instead of offering an ‘alternative to war,’ sanctions have become a cause of war. Consequently, How Sanctions Work reveals how necessary it is to understand how sanctions really work.

Narges Bajoghli is Assistant Professor of Middle East Studies at the School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University.

Vali Nasr is Professor of International Affairs and Middle East Studies at the Johns Hopkins SAIS.

Djavad Salehi-Isfahani is Professor of Economics at Virginia Tech.

Ali Vaez is the Director of the International Crisis Group Iran Project.
For the sixty thousand German Jews who escaped Nazi Germany and found refuge in Mandate Palestine between 1933 and 1941, migration meant radical changes: it transformed their professional and cultural lives and confronted them with a new language, climate, and society. Bridging German-Jewish and Israeli history, this book tells the story of German-Jewish migration to Mandate Palestine / Eretz Israel as gender history. It argues that this migration was shaped and structured by gendered policies and ideologies and experienced by men and women in a gendered form—from the decision to immigrate and the anticipation of change, through the outcomes for family life, body, self-image, and sexuality.

Immigration led to immediate transformations in allocations of tasks within the family, concepts of masculinity and femininity, and participation in the labor market and domestic life. Through a close examination of archival materials in German, English, and Hebrew, including administrative records, personal documents, newspapers, and oral history interviews conducted by the author, this book follows Jewish migrants along their journey from Germany and into the workplaces, living rooms, and kitchens of their new homeland, providing a new perspective on everyday life in Mandate Palestine. Viola Alianov-Rautenberg’s work illuminates key issues at the intersection of migration studies, German-Jewish studies, and Israeli history, demonstrating how the lens of gender enriches our understanding of social change, power, ethnicity, and nation-building.

Viola Alianov-Rautenberg is the Minerva Postdoctoral Fellow at the Bucerius Institute for Research of Contemporary German History and Society, University of Haifa.
THE GUIDE TO THE PERPLEXED
A New Translation

MOSES MAIMONIDES, Translated and with Commentary by LENN E. GOODMAN and PHILLIP I. LIEBERMAN

A LANDMARK NEW TRANSLATION OF THE MOST SIGNIFICANT TEXT IN MEDIEVAL JEWISH THOUGHT.

Maimonides’ Guide to the Perplexed is a classic of world philosophy. Written in Arabic and completed around 1190, the work is among the most powerful and influential living texts in Jewish philosophy, a masterwork navigating the straits between religion and science, logic and revelation. The author, Rabbi Moses ben Maimon, commonly known as Maimonides or as Rambam, was a Sephardi Jewish philosopher, jurist, and physician. He wrote his Guide in the form of a letter to a disciple. But the perplexity it aimed to cure might strike anyone who sought to square logic, mathematics, and the sciences with biblical and rabbinic traditions. In this new translation by philosopher Lenn E. Goodman and historian Phillip I. Lieberman, Maimonides’ warm, conversational voice and clear explanatory language come through as never before in English.

Maimonides knew well the challenges facing serious inquirers at the confluence of the two great streams of thought and learning that Arabic writers labeled ‘aql and naql, reason and tradition. The aim of the Guide, he wrote, is to probe the mysteries of physics and metaphysics. But mysteries, to Maimonides, were not conundrums to be celebrated for their obscurity. They were problems to be solved.

Maimonides’ methods and insights resonate throughout the work of later Jewish thinkers, rationalists, and mystics, and in the work of philosophers like Thomas Aquinas, Spinoza, Leibniz, and Newton. The Guide continues to inspire inquiry, discovery, and vigorous debate among philosophers, theologians, and lay readers today. Goodman and Lieberman’s extensive and detailed commentary provides readers with historical context and philosophical enlightenment, giving generous access to the nuances, complexities, and profundities of what is widely agreed to be the most significant textual monument of medieval Jewish thought, a work that still offers a key to those who hope to harmonize religious commitments and scientific understanding.

Lenn E. Goodman is Professor of Philosophy and Andrew W. Mellon Professor in the Humanities at Vanderbilt University.

Phillip I. Lieberman is Associate Professor of Jewish Studies and Law, Classical and Mediterranean Studies, and Religious Studies at Vanderbilt University.
A GUIDE TO THE GUIDE TO THE PERPLEXED
A Reader’s Companion to Maimonides’ Masterwork
LENN E. GOODMAN

In this volume, noted philosopher Lenn E. Goodman shares the insights gained over a lifetime of pondering the meaning and purpose of Maimonides’ celebrated Guide to the Perplexed. Written in the late twelfth century, Maimonides’ Guide aims to help religiously committed readers who are alive to the challenges posed by reason and the natural sciences to biblical and rabbinic tradition. Keyed to the new translation and commentary by Lenn E. Goodman and Phillip I. Lieberman, this volume follows Maimonides’ life and learning and delves into the text of the Guide, clearly explaining just what Maimonides means by identifying the Talmudic Ma’aseh Bereshit and Ma’aseh Merkavah with physics and metaphysics (to Maimonides, biblical cosmology and theology). Exploring Maimonides’ treatments of revelation, religious practice and experience, law and ritual, the problem of evil, and the rational purposes of the commandments, this guide to the Guide explains the tactics Maimonides deployed to ensure that readers not get in over their heads when venturing into philosophical deep waters.

Lenn E. Goodman is Professor of Philosophy and Andrew W. Mellon Professor in the Humanities at Vanderbilt University.

INTERIORITY AND LAW
Bahya ibn Paquda and the Concept of Inner Commandments
OMER MICHAELIS

Interiority and Law presents a groundbreaking reassessment of a medieval Jewish classic, Bahya ibn Paquda’s Guide to the Duties of the Hearts. Michaelis reads this work anew as a revolutionary intervention in Jewish law, or halakha.

Overturning perceptions of Bahya as the shaper of an ethical-religious form of life that exceeds halakha, Michaelis offers a pioneering historical and conceptual analysis of the category of “inner commandments” developed by Bahya. Interiority and Law reveals that Bahya’s main effort revolved around establishing a new legal formation—namely, the “duties of the hearts”—which would deal entirely with human interiority. Michaelis takes up the implications of Bahya’s radical innovation, examining his unique mystical model of proximity to God, which he based on an increasingly growing fulfillment of the inner commandments. With an integrative approach that puts Bahya in dialogue with other medieval Muslim and Jewish religious thinkers, this work offers a fresh perspective on our understanding of the interconnectedness of the dynamic, neighboring religious traditions of Judaism and Islam.

Contributing to conversations in the history of religion, Jewish studies, and medieval studies on interiority and mysticism, this book reveals Bahya as a revolutionary and demanding thinker of Jewish law.

Omer Michaelis is Senior Lecturer of Jewish Philosophy at Tel Aviv University.
When General Porfirio Díaz assumed power in 1876, he ushered in Mexico’s first prolonged period of political stability and national economic growth—though “progress” came at the cost of democracy. *Indigenous Autocracy* presents a new story about how regional actors negotiated between national authoritarian rule and local circumstances by explaining how an Indigenous person held state-level power in Mexico during the thirty-five-year dictatorship that preceded the Mexican Revolution (the *Porfiriato*), and the apogee of scientific racism across Latin America.

Although he was one of the few recognizably Indigenous persons in office, Próspero Cahuantzi of Tlaxcala kept his position (1885–1911) longer than any other gubernatorial appointee under Porfirio Díaz’s transformative but highly oppressive dictatorship (1876–1911). Cahuantzi leveraged his identity and his region’s Indigenous heritage to ingratiate himself to Díaz and other nation-building elites. Locally, Cahuantzi navigated between national directives aimed at modernizing Mexico, often at the expense of the impoverished rural majority, and strategic management of Tlaxcala’s natural resources—in particular, balancing growing industrial demand for water with the needs of the local population. Jaclyn Ann Sumner shows how this intermediary actor brokered national expectations and local conditions to maintain state power, challenging the idea that governors during the Porfirián dictatorship were little more than provincial stewards who repressed dissent. Drawing upon documentation from more than a dozen Mexican archives, the book brings Porfirián-era Mexico into critical conversations about race and environmental politics in Latin America.

*Jaclyn Ann Sumner* is Associate Professor of History at Presbyterian College.
REFORM NATION

The First Step Act and the Movement to End Mass Incarceration

COLLEEN P. EREN

HOW ONE LAW TELLS THE STORY OF AMERICA’S MODERN CRIMINAL JUSTICE MOVEMENT.

In late 2018, the First Step Act was signed into law by President Donald Trump just hours before a government shutdown. It was one of few major pieces of federal criminal justice reform since the 1970s to move toward reversing the incarceration frenzy that had characterized United States policy. While it did not amount to revolutionary reform, in Reform Nation, Colleen P. Eren investigates it as a symbol for the larger movement’s trajectory. Its unlikely passage during a period of political polarization was testament to the power of a new constellation of advocates, stakeholders, and strange bedfellow alliances.

These intriguing and complex dynamics are indicative of a longer, twenty-year shift in which the movement became nationalized and mainstreamed. Using in-depth interviews with major players in the national movement, formerly incarcerated activists, celebrities, and donors, this is the first book to turn the mirror back on the criminal justice reform movement itself—the frames used, the voices heard, the capital activated among elite participants, and the bitter controversies. This snapshot in time raises much larger questions about how our democratic processes inform criminal justice policy, and where we are going in the decades to come.

Colleen P. Eren is Associate Professor of Sociology and Criminal Justice at William Paterson University. She is the author of Bernie Madoff and the Crisis (2017) and co-author (with Robert Costello) of The Impact of Supreme Court Decisions on U.S. Institutions (2021).

“A critical look behind the scenes at the way ‘criminal justice reform’ has blossomed into not just a movement but also, at times, a kind of industry. Eren’s book is vital to our understanding of how change happens—and doesn’t.”

—Baz Dreisinger, author, Incarceration Nations
SUPREME BIAS

Gender and Race in U.S. Supreme Court Confirmation Hearings

CHRISTINA L. BOYD, PAUL M. COLLINS, JR., and LORI A. RINGHAND

In Supreme Bias, Christina L. Boyd, Paul M. Collins, Jr., and Lori A. Ringhand present for the first time a comprehensive analysis of the dynamics of race and gender at the Supreme Court confirmation hearings held before the Senate Judiciary Committee. Drawing on their deep knowledge of the confirmation hearings, as well as rich new qualitative and quantitative evidence, the authors highlight how the women and people of color who have sat before the Committee have faced a significantly different confirmation process than their white male colleagues. Despite being among the most qualified and well-credentialed lawyers of their respective generations, female nominees and nominees of color face more skepticism of their professional competence, are subjected to stereotype-based questioning, are more frequently interrupted, and are described in less-positive terms by senators. In addition to revealing the disturbing extent to which race and gender bias exist even at the highest echelon of U.S. legal power, this book also provides concrete suggestions for how that bias can be reduced in the future.

Christina L. Boyd is Professor of Political Science and Thomas P. & M. Jean Lauth Public Affairs Professor at the University of Georgia.

Paul M. Collins, Jr., is Professor of Legal Studies and Political Science at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

Lori A. Ringhand is J. Alton Hosch Professor of Law and Josiah Meigs Distinguished Teaching Professor at the University of Georgia School of Law.

JUDGING INSANITY, PUNISHING DIFFERENCE

A History of Mental Illness in the Criminal Court

CHLOÉ DEAMBROGIO

In Judging Insanity, Punishing Difference, Chloé Deambrogio explores how developments in the field of forensic psychiatry shaped American courts’ assessments of defendants’ mental health and criminal responsibility over the course of the twentieth century. During this period, new psychiatric notions of the mind and its readability, legal doctrines of insanity and diminished culpability, and cultural stereotypes about race and gender shaped the ways in which legal professionals, mental health experts, and lay witnesses approached mental disability evidence, especially in cases carrying the death penalty.

Using Texas as a case study, Deambrogio examines how these medical, legal, and cultural trends shaped psycho-legal debates in state criminal courts, while shedding light on the ways in which experts and lay actors’ interpretations of “pathological” mental states influenced trial verdicts in capital cases. She shows that despite mounting pressures from advocates of the “rehabilitative penology,” Texas courts maintained a punitive approach towards defendants allegedly affected by severe mental disabilities, while allowing for moralized views about personalities, habits, and lifestyle to influence psycho-legal assessments, in potentially prejudicial ways.

Chloé Deambrogio is a Junior Research Fellow in Law at Merton College, Oxford. Her research sits at the intersection of critical legal theory, death penalty scholarship, mental disability law, and race and gender studies.
LEGAL PHANTOMS
Executive Action and the Haunting Failures of Immigration Law

SUSAN BIBLER COUTIN, JENNIFER M. CHACÓN, and STEPHEN LEE

The 2012 Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program was supposed to be a stepping stone, a policy innovation announced by the White House designed to put pressure on Congress for a broader, lasting set of legislative changes. Those changes never materialized, and the people who hoped to benefit from them have been forced to navigate a tense and contradictory policy landscape ever since, haunted by these unfulfilled promises. Legal Phantoms tells their story.

After Congress failed to pass a comprehensive immigration bill in 2013, President Obama pivoted to supplementing DACA with a deferred action program (known as DAPA) for the parents of citizens and lawful permanent residents and a DACA expansion (DACA+) in 2014. But challenges from Republican-led states prevented even these programs from going into effect. Interviews with would-be applicants, immigrant-rights advocates, and government officials reveal how such failed immigration-reform efforts continue to affect not only those who had hoped to benefit, but their families, communities, and the country in which they have made an uneasy home. Out of the ashes of these lost dreams, though, people find their own paths forward through uncharted legal territory with humor and resistance.

Jennifer M. Chacón is Bruce Tyson Miller Professor of Law at Stanford School of Law.

Susan Bibler Coutin is Professor in the Department of Criminology, Law, and Society at the University of California, Irvine.

Stephen Lee is Professor of Law at the University of California, Irvine School of Law.

ENVIRONMENTAL HUMANITIES ON THE BRINK
The Vanitas Hypothesis

VINCENT BRUYERE

In this experimental work of ecocriticism, Vincent 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. Sometimes even featuring the illusion that their canvases are peeling away, 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, when the accumulated human record could well outlast the climate conditions for our survival. Staging a series of unsettling encounters with early modern texts and images whose claims of relevance have long since expired, Bruyere experiments with the interpretive affordances of allegory and fairytale, still life and travelogues. 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.

Vincent Bruyere is Associate Professor of French at Emory University. He is the author of Perishability Fatigue: Forays in Environmental Loss and Decay (2018).
A VIRTUOSIC, WITTY BOOK THAT ASKS, SERIOUSLY, WHAT VALUE IS THERE IN TAKING THINGS SERIOUSLY?

Being serious demands serious kinds of work. In *Styles of Seriousness*, Steven Connor 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. The central claim of the book is human beings are capable of taking things seriously in a way that nonhuman animals are not, for the unexpected reason that human beings are so much more versatile than most animals at not being completely serious. One always, in fact, has a choice about whether or not to take seriously something that is supposed to be so. As a consequence, seriousness depends on different kinds of formalization or stylized practice. 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.

Steven Connor is Grace 2 Professor of English Emeritus at the University of Cambridge. He is the author of *Giving Way: Thoughts on Unappreciated Dispositions* (Stanford, 2019), *The Madness of Knowledge: On Wisdom, Ignorance and Fantasies of Knowing* (2019), *Dream Machines* (2017), and over a dozen other books.
A PRIMER ON THE SOCIOLOGY OF LITERATURE BY ONE OF THE DISCIPLINE’S LEADING EXPERTS.

The Sociology of Literature is a pithy primer on the history, affordances, and potential futures of this growing field of study, which finds its origins in the French Enlightenment, and its most salient expression as a sociological pursuit in the work of Pierre Bourdieu. Addressing the epistemological premises of the field at present, the book 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, articulating the way in which it draws on literary history, sociology, postcolonial studies, book history, gender studies, and media studies, among others, 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. The quality and breadth of Sapiro’s scholarship is excellent. We would have to go back to a thinker like Adorno for a scholar as proficient in both literary research and sociological theory.”

—Bridget Fowler, University of Glasgow

Gisèle Sapiro is CNRS Research Director and Professor of Sociology at the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (EHESS). She is the author of The French Writers’ War (1940–1953) (2014).
THE GROUNDS OF THE NOVEL

DANIEL WRIGHT

What grounds the fictional world of a novel? Or is such a world peculiarly groundless? In a powerful engagement with the latest debates in novel theory, Daniel Wright investigates how novelists reckon with the ontological status of their works. 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.

Daniel Wright is Associate Professor of English at the University of Toronto and the author of Bad Logic: Reasoning about Desire in the Victorian Novel (2018).

SENSITIVE WITNESSES

Feminist Materialism in the British Enlightenment

KRISTIN M. GIRTEN

Kristin M. Girten tells a new story of feminist knowledge-making in the Enlightenment era by exploring the British female philosophers who asserted their authority through the celebration of profoundly embodied observations, experiences, and experiments.

This book explores the feminist materialist practice of sensitive witnessing, establishing an alternate history of the emergence of the scientific method in the eighteenth century. Francis Bacon and other male natural philosophers regularly downplayed the embodied nature of their observations. They presented themselves as modest witnesses, detached from their environment and entitled to the domination and exploitation of it. In contrast, the philosopher-authors that Girten takes up asserted themselves as intimately entangled with matter—boldly embracing their perceived close association with the material world as women. Girten shows how Lucy Hutchison, Margaret Cavendish, Aphra Behn, Eliza Haywood, and Charlotte Smith took inspiration from materialist principles to challenge widely accepted “modest” conventions for practicing and communicating philosophy.

Forerunners of the feminist materialism of today, these thinkers recognized the kinship of human and nonhuman nature and suggested a more accessible, inclusive version of science. 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.

Kristin M. Girten is Associate Professor of English at the University of Nebraska, Omaha.
THE REEDUCATION OF RACE
Jewishness and the Politics of Antiracism in Postcolonial Thought
SONALI THAKKAR

World War Two produced a fundamental shift in modern racial discourse. In the postwar period, racism was situated for the first time at the center of international political life, and race’s status as conceptual common sense and a justification for colonial rule was challenged with new intensity. In response to this crisis of race, the UN and UNESCO initiated a project of racial reeducation. This global antiracist campaign was framed by the persecution of Europe’s Jews and anchored by UNESCO’s epochal 1950 Statement on Race, which redefined the race concept and canonized the midcentury liberal antiracist consensus that continues to shape our present.

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.

Sonali Thakkar is Assistant Professor of English at New York University.

THE LABOR OF HOPE
Meritocracy and Precarity in Egypt
HARRY PETTIT

Technological advancements, expanding education, and unfettered capitalism have encouraged many around the world to aspire to better lives, even as declines in employment and widening inequality are pushing more and more people into insecurity and hardship. In Egypt, a generation of young men desire fulfilling employment, meaningful relationships, and secure family life, yet find few paths to achieve this. The Labor of Hope follows these educated but underemployed men as they struggle to establish careers and build satisfying lives. In so doing, this book reveals the lived contradiction at the heart of capitalist systems—the expansive dreams they encourage and the precarious lives they produce.

Harry Pettit follows young men as they engage a booming training, recruitment, and entrepreneurship industry that sells the cruel meritocratic promise that a good life is realizable for all. He considers the various ways individuals cultivate distraction and hope for future mobility: education, migration, consumption, and prayer. These hope-filled practices are a form of emotional labor for young men, placing responsibility on the individual rather than structural issues in Egypt’s economy. Illuminating this emotional labor, Pettit shows how the capitalist economy continues to capture the attention of the very people harmed by it.

Harry Pettit is Assistant Professor in Economic Geography at Radboud University Nijmegen.
The United States integrated counterterrorism mandates into its aid flows in the West Bank and Gaza Strip during the early years of the global war on terror. Some two decades later, this securitized model of aid has become normalized across donor intervention in Palestine. *Elastic Empire* traces how foreign aid, on which much of the Palestinian population is dependent, has multiplied the sites and means through which Palestinian life is regulated, surveilled, and policed—this book tells the story of how aid has also become war.

Drawing on extensive research conducted in Palestine, *Elastic Empire* offers a novel accounting of the US security state. The US war chronicled here is not one of tanks, grenades, and guns, but a quieter one waged through the interlacing of aid and law. It emerges in the infrastructures of daily life—in a greenhouse and library, in the collection of personal information and mapping of land plots, in the halls of municipal councils and in local elections—and indelibly transfigures lives. Situated in a landscape where the lines between humanitarianism and the global war on terror are increasingly blurred, *Elastic Empire* reveals the shape-shifting nature of contemporary imperial formations, their realignments and reformulations, their haunted sites, and their obscured but intimate forms.

Lisa Bhungalia is Assistant Professor of Geography at Kent State University.

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Iran’s prison system is a foundational institution of Iranian political modernity. *The Incarcerated Modern* traces the transformation of Iran from a decentralized empire with few imprisoned persons at the turn of the twentieth century into a modern nation-state with over a quarter million prisoners today. In policing the line between “bad criminal” and “good citizen,” the carceral system has shaped and reshaped Iranian understandings of citizenship, freedom, and political belonging.

Golnar Nikpour explores the interplay between the concrete space of the Iranian prison and the role of prisons in producing new public cultures and political languages in Iran. From prison writings of 1920s leftist prisoners and communiqués of 1950s militant Islamists, to paintings of 1970s revolutionary guerrillas and mapping projects organized by contemporary dissident prisoners, carceral confinement has shaped modern Iranian political movements.

Today, mass incarceration is a global phenomenon. *The Incarcerated Modern* connects Iranian history to transnational carceral histories to illuminate the shared architectures, economies, and techniques of modern punishment.

Golnar Nikpour is Assistant Professor of History at Dartmouth College.
Between the 1850s and World War I, about one million North Caucasian Muslims sought refuge in the Ottoman Empire. This resettlement of Muslim refugees from Russia changed the Ottoman state. Circassians, Chechens, Dagestanis, and others established hundreds of refugee villages throughout the Ottoman Balkans, Anatolia, and the Levant. Most villages still exist today, including what is now the city of Amman. Muslim refugee resettlement reinvigorated regional economies, but also intensified competition over land and, at times, precipitated sectarian tensions, setting in motion fundamental shifts in the borderlands of the Russian and Ottoman empires.

Empire of Refugees reframes late Ottoman history through mass displacement and reveals the origins of refugee resettlement in the modern Middle East. Vladimir Hamed-Troyansky offers a historiographical corrective: the nineteenth-century Ottoman Empire created a refugee regime, predating refugee systems set up by the League of Nations and the United Nations. Grounded in archival research in over twenty public and private archives across ten countries, this book contests the boundaries typically assumed between forced and voluntary migration, and refugees and immigrants, rewriting the history of Muslim migration in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Vladimir Hamed-Troyansky is Assistant Professor of Global Studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

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.

Each of the musicians studied in this book re-created or appropriated non-European forms of expression as they conceived music ontologically, often thinking music as something immediate and immersive: from Satie’s dabblings with mysticism and exoticism in bohemian Montmartre of the 1890s to Varèse’s experience of ethnographic exhibitions and surrealist poetry in 1930s Paris, and from Boulez’s endeavor to theorize a kind of musical writing that would “absorb” the sounds of non-European musical traditions to Cage, who took inspiration from Eastern thought as he wrote about sound, silence, and chance. These modernist artists believed that the presence effects of sound in their moment were more real and powerful than the outmoded norms of the European musical past. 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.

Edmund Mendelssohn is Lecturer in Music at the University of California, Berkeley.
In Anteaesthetics, Rizvana Bradley begins from the proposition that blackness cannot be represented in modernity’s aesthetic regime, but is nevertheless foundational to every representation. Troubling the idea that the aesthetic is sheltered from the antiblack terror that lies just beyond its sanctuary, Bradley insists that blackness cannot make a home within the aesthetic, yet is held as its threshold and aporia. The book problematizes the phenomenological and ontological conceits that underwrite the visual, sensual, and abstract logics of modernity.

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. Foregrounding the negativity of black art, Bradley shows how each of these artists disclose the racialized contours of the body, form, and medium, even interrogating the form that is the world itself. Drawing from black critical theory, Continental philosophy, film and media studies, art history, and black feminist thought, Bradley explores artistic practices that inhabit the negative underside of form. Ultimately, Anteaesthetics asks us to think philosophically with black art, and with the philosophical invention black art necessarily undertakes.

Rizvana Bradley is Assistant Professor of Film & Media Studies at the University of California, Berkeley.

In Of Effacement, David Marriott endeavors to demolish established opinion about what blackness is and reorient our understanding of what it is not in art, philosophy, autobiography, literary theory, political theory, and psychoanalysis. With the critical rigor and polemical bravura which he displayed in Whither Fanon? Marriott here considers the relationships between language, judgement, and effacement, and shows how effacement has become the dominant force in anti-blackness.

Both skeptically and emphatically, Marriott presents a series of radical philosophical engagements with Fanon’s “is not” (n’est pas) and its “black” political truth. How does one speak—let alone represent—that which is without existence? Is blackness n’est pas because it has yet to be thought as blackness? And if so, when Fanon writes of blackness, that it is n’est pas (is not), where should one look to make sense of this n’est pas? Marriott anchors these questions 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.

UNPUBLISHED FRAGMENTS FROM THE PERIOD OF DAWN (WINTER 1879/80–SPRING 1881)

Volume 13

FRIEDERICH NIETZSCHE, Translated, with an Afterword, by J. M. BAKER, JR. and CHRISTIANE HERTEL

THE COMPLETE WORKS OF FRIEDRICH NIETZSCHE WILL PUBLISH IN ITS ENTIRETY, FOR THE FIRST TIME, AN ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF THE FULL CONTENTS OF THE KRITISCHE STUDIENAUSGABE.

This volume provides the first English translation of Nietzsche’s unpublished notes from late 1879 to early 1881, the period in which he authored Dawn, the second book in the trilogy that began with Human, All Too Human and concluded with The Joyful Science.

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. Here, Nietzsche assesses Christianity’s role in the determination of moral values as the highest values and of redemption as the representation of humanity’s highest aspirations. 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—Napoleon, Schopenhauer, and Wagner—who represented challenges to hitherto existing morals and culture—challenges that remained exemplary for Nietzsche precisely in their failure.

Presented in Nietzsche’s aphoristic style, Dawn is a book that must be read between the lines, and these fragments are an essential aid to students and scholars seeking to probe this work and its partners.

John M. Baker, Jr. is Professor Emeritus at The University of the Arts in Philadelphia.

Christiane Hertel is Professor Emeritus in the History of Art Department at Bryn Mawr College. Her most recent book is Siting China in Germany: Eighteenth-century Chinoiserie and its Modern Legacy (2019).
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, the book examines indeterminacy in such instances as a walk that is at once leisurely and purposeful, a sound piece that is at once joyous and mournful and mechanical, or a sculpture that at once draws one in and shuts one out. Because it has irresolution as its point, aesthetic action presents itself as an unsettling of ourselves, our ways, our very sense of who we are. As performers of such action, we don’t recognize one another as bearers of a shared human form as we normally would, but find ourselves tasked anew with figuring out what sharing a form would mean.

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. It will appeal to those working in philosophy, art, and political thought.

Florian Klinger is Associate Professor in Germanic Studies and the College at the University of Chicago. He is the author of Theory of Form: Gerhard Richter and Art in the Pragmatist Age (2022).

WALTER BENJAMIN AND THE IDEA OF NATURAL HISTORY

ELI FRIEDLANDER

In this incisive new work, Eli Friedlander demonstrates that Walter Benjamin’s entire corpus, from early to late, comprises a rigorous and sustained philosophical questioning of how human beings belong to nature.

Across seemingly heterogeneous writings, Friedlander argues, 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.

Eli Friedlander is Laura Schwarz-Kipp Professor of Modern Philosophy at Tel Aviv University. His previous books include Walter Benjamin: A Philosophical Portrait (2015).
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. What are we talking about when we define a totalitarian political and social situation? When did we start using the word as both adjective and noun? And, what totalitarian ghosts haunt the present?

Philosopher Simona Forti seeks to answer these questions by reconstructing not only the genealogy of the concept, but also by clarifying its motives, misunderstandings, and the controversies that have animated its current resurgence. Taking into account political theories and historical discussions, Totalitarianism especially focuses on philosophical reflections, from the question of totalitarian biopolitics to the alleged totalitarian drifts of neoliberalism. The work invites the relentless formulation of a radical question about the democratic age: the possibilities it has opened up, the voids it leaves behind, the mechanisms it activates, and the “voluntary servitude” it produces. 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 20th and 21st centuries promises to provoke much-needed discussion and debate among those in philosophy, politics, ethics, and beyond.

Simona Forti is Professor of Political Philosophy at the Scuola Normale Superiore in Pisa, Italy. She has been Part-Time Faculty at the The New School for Social Research, Visiting Professor at Columbia University, and Fulbright Distinguished Chair Professor at Northwestern University. She is the author of New Demons: Rethinking Power and Evil Today (Stanford, 2014).

“I believe that, in the pages that follow, Forti has offered us the best map we have of the concept of totalitarianism and its deep implications, uses, history and controversies.”
—Paul A. Kottman, The New School
IN DEFENSE OF SOLIDARITY AND PLEASURE
Feminist Technopolitics from the Global South
FIRUZEH SHOKOOH VALLE

Including women in the global South as users, producers, consumers, designers, and developers of technology has become a mantra against inequality, prompting movements to train individuals in information and communication technologies and foster the participation and retention of women in science and technology fields. In this book, Firuzeh Shokooh Valle argues that these efforts have given rise to an idealized, female economic figure that combines technological dexterity and keen entrepreneurial instinct with gendered stereotypes of care and selflessness. Narratives about the “equalizing” potential of digital technologies spotlight these women’s capacity to overcome inequality using said technologies, ignoring the barriers and circumstances that create such inequality in the first place as well as the potentially violent role of technology in their lives. In Defense of Solidarity and Pleasure examines how women in the Global South experience and resist the coopting and depoliticizing nature of these scripts. Drawing on fieldwork in Costa Rica and a transnational feminist digital organization, Shokooh Valle explores the ways that feminist activists, using digital technologies as well as a collective politics that prioritize solidarity and pleasure, advance a new feminist technopolitics.

Firuzeh Shokooh Valle is Assistant Professor of Sociology at Franklin and Marshall College. Previously, she was a journalist in Puerto Rico covering violence against women, the LGBTQI+ community, migration, racism, and social movements, and earned numerous national awards for her investigative work.

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Sociology

GOFAILME
The Unfulfilled Promise of Digital Crowdfunding
ERIK SCHNEIDERHAN and MARTIN LUKK

The gaping holes in the U.S. and Canadian social safety nets mean that many people live in a state of financial precarity that can instantly become untenable in the face of another big expense, such as a large medical bill or damaged property. Historically, people have turned to their communities, neighbors, families, and loved ones for help in these situations. Today, asking for money on the internet through crowdfunding is among the most popular ways of seeking and donating to charity, and for-profit enterprises have realized that tapping into this instinct for helping is extremely good business. GoFailMe reveals how these sites, most notably GoFundMe, enjoy massive revenue, without providing the help they promise. They fail most of their users while putting them through an emotional rollercoaster and using sneaky tactics to obscure that reality. With unprecedented access to interviews, surveys, and hundreds of thousands of crowdfunding cases across North America, Erik Schneiderhan and Martin Lukk take on pressing questions with critical insight: When do we turn to others for help? Who succeeds and who fails in the digital crowd? Whom do these sites benefit? Ultimately, the failure of GoFundMe and others is emblematic of the inability of the for-profit sector and Big Tech to engineer an end to social inequality.

Erik Schneiderhan is Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of Toronto, with appointments at the University of Toronto at Mississauga and at St. George.

Martin Lukk is a Ph.D. candidate in sociology at the University of Toronto. His research investigates the political consequences of economic inequality.

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Sociology
Since the 1990s, a growing number of criminal courts around the world have been using expert assessments based on behavioral genetics and neuroscience to evaluate the responsibility and dangerousness of offenders. Despite this rapid circulation, however, we still know very little about the scientific knowledge underlying these expert evaluations. *Hereditary* traces the historical development of biosocial criminology in the United States from the 1960s to the present, showing how the fate of this movement is intimately linked to that of the field of criminology as a whole. In claiming to identify the biological and environmental causes of so-called “antisocial” behaviors, biosocial criminologists are redefining the boundary between the normal and the pathological. Julien Larregue examines what is at stake in the development of biosocial criminology. Beyond the origins of delinquency, Larregue addresses the reconfiguration of expertise in contemporary societies, and in particular the territorial struggles between the medical and legal professions. For if the causes of crime are both biological and social, its treatment may call for medical as well as legal solutions.

Julien Larregue is Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology at Université Laval.

At a time when movements for racial justice are front and center in U.S. national politics, this book provides essential new understanding to the study of race, its influence on people’s lives, and what we can do to address the persistent and foundational American problem of systemic racism. Knowledge about race and racism changes as social and historical conditions evolve, as different generations of scholars experience unique societal conditions, and as new voices from those who have previously been kept at the margins have challenged us to reconsider our thinking about race and ethnicity. In this collection of essays by prominent sociologists whose work has transformed the understanding of race and ethnicity, each reflects on their career and how their personal experiences have shaped their contribution to understanding racism, both in scholarly and public debate.

Merging biography, memoir, and sociohistorical analysis, these essays provide vital insight into the influence of race on people’s perspectives and opportunities both inside and outside of academia, and how racial inequality is felt, experienced, and confronted.

**Contributors:** Elijah Anderson, Eduardo Bonilla-Silva, Enobong Hannah Branch, Evelyn Nakano Glenn, Pierrette Hondagneu-Sotelo, Elizabeth Hordge-Freeman, Aldon Morris, Michael Omi, Mary Romero, Rogelio Sáenz, Denise A. Segura, C. Matthew Snipp, and Bonnie Thornton Dill.

Margaret L. Andersen is the Edward F. and Elizabeth Goodman Rosenberg Professor Emerita of Sociology at the University of Delaware.

Maxine Baca Zinn is Professor Emeritus of Sociology at Michigan State University.
As developing states adopt neoliberal policies, more and more working-class women find themselves pulled into the public sphere. They are pressed into wage work by a privatizing and unstable job market. Likewise, they are pulled into public roles by gender mainstreaming policies that developing states must sign on to in order to receive transnational aid. Their inclusion into the political economy is very beneficial for society, but is it also beneficial for women? In The Stigma Matrix Fauzia Husain draws on the experiences of policewomen, lady health workers, and airline attendants, all frontline workers who help the Pakistani state, and its global allies, address, surveil, and discipline veiled women citizens. These women, she finds, confront a stigma matrix: a complex of local and global, historic, and contemporary factors that work together to complicate women's integration into public life. The experiences of the three groups Husain examines reveal that inclusion requires more than quotas or special seats. This book advances critical feminist and sociological frameworks on stigma and agency showing that both concepts are made up of multiple layers of meaning, and are entangled with elite projects of hegemony.

Fauzia Husain is Assistant Professor of Sociology at Queens University. Her work has been published in Signs and Poetics.

Women, and particularly poor women, have become essential cogs in the wheel of financialized capitalism. Globally, women are responsible for managing household debt, and that debt has exploded over the last decade, reaching an all-time high after the COVID-19 pandemic. Across various categories of loans, including subprime lending, microcredit policies, and consumer loans, as well as rent and utilities, women are overrepresented as clients and managers, and are being enfolded into the system. The Indebted Woman discusses the crucial yet invisible roles poor women play in making and consolidating debt and credit markets. Isabelle Guérin, Santosh Kumar, and G. Venkatasubramanian spent over two decades observing a credit market that specifically targets women in the Indian countryside of east-central Tamil Nadu. They found that paying off debts required labor, frequently involved sexual transactions, and shaped women’s bodies and subjectivities. Bringing together ethnography, statistical surveys, and financial diaries, they offer for the first time a comprehensive theory for this sexual division of debt that goes far beyond the Indian case, exposing the ways capitalism transforms womanhood, and how this transformation in turn fuels capitalism.

Isabelle Guérin is Senior Research Fellow at the French Institute of Research for Sustainable Development, and Associate at the French Institute of Pondicherry.

G. Venkatasubramanian is a sociologist and Research Fellow at the French Institute of Pondicherry.

Santosh Kumar is a researcher at the French Institute of Pondicherry.
NOT MY TYPE
Automating Sexual Racism in Online Dating
APRYL WILLIAMS, with a Foreword by SAFIYA UMOJA NOBLE

SWIPLING RIGHT IN A DATING APP SEEMS LIKE A PERSONAL CHOICE - BUT REALLY, IT PUTS SEXUAL RACISM AT YOUR FINGERTIPS.

In the world of online dating, race-based discrimination is not only tolerated, but encouraged, as part of a pervasive belief that it is simply a neutral, personal choice about one’s romantic partner. Indeed, it is so much a part of our inherited wisdom about dating and romance that it actually directs the algorithmic infrastructures of most major online dating platforms, such that they openly reproduce racist and sexist hierarchies. In Not My Type: Automating Sexual Racism in Online Dating, Apryl Williams presents a socio-technical exploration of dating platforms’ algorithms, their lack of transparency, the legal and ethical discourse in these companies’ community guidelines, and accounts from individual users in order to argue that sexual racism is a central feature of today’s online dating culture. She discusses this reality in the context of facial recognition and sorting software as well as user experiences, drawing parallels to the long history of eugenics and banned interracial partnerships. Ultimately, Williams calls for both a reconceptualization of the technology and policies that govern dating agencies, and also a reexamination of sociocultural beliefs about attraction, beauty, and desirability.

Apryl Williams is a jointly appointed Assistant Professor at the University of Michigan in the Department of Communication & Media and the Digital Studies Institute. She is also a Senior Fellow in Trustworthy AI and a Faculty Associate at Harvard University’s Berkman Klein Center for Internet and Society.
The establishment of the Great Ming dynasty in 1368 was a monumental event in world history. A century before Columbus, Beijing sent a series of diplomatic missions across the South China Sea and Indian Ocean that paved the way for China's first modern global era. 1368 maps China's ascendance from the embassies of Admiral Zheng He to the arrival of European mariners and the shock of the Opium Wars. In Ali Humayun Akhtar’s new picture of world history, China's current rise evokes an earlier epoch, one that sheds light on where Beijing is heading today.

Spectacular accounts in Persian and Ottoman Turkish describe palaces of silk and jade in Beijing’s Forbidden City. Malay legends recount stories of Chinese princesses arriving in Melaka with gifts of porcelain and gold. During Europe’s Age of Exploration, Iberian mariners charted new passages to China, which the Dutch and British East India Companies transformed into lucrative tea routes.

But during the British Industrial Revolution, the rise of steam engines and factories allowed the export of the very commodities once imported from China. By the end of the Opium Wars and the arrival of Commodore Perry in Japan, Chinese and Japanese reformers called for their own industrial revolutions to propel them into the twentieth century.

What has the world learned from China since the Ming, and how did China reemerge in the 1970s as a manufacturing superpower? Akhtar’s book provides much-needed context for understanding China’s rise today and the future of its connections with both the West and a resurgent Asia.

Ali Humayun Akhtar is a global historian and Professor of Asian Studies at Bates College. He is the author of *Philosophers, Sufis, and Caliphs: Politics and Authority from Cordoba to Cairo and Baghdad* (2017).

**IN THE NATION’S SERVICE**

The Life and Times of George P. Shultz

**Philip Taubman**

Deftly solving critical but intractable national and global problems was the leitmotif of George Pratt Shultz’s life. No one at the highest levels of the United States government did it better or with greater consequence in the last half of the 20th century, often against withering resistance. His quiet, effective leadership altered the arc of history. While political, social, and cultural dynamics have changed profoundly since Shultz served at the commanding heights of American power in the 1970s and 1980s, his legacy and the lessons of his career have even greater meaning now that the Shultz brand of conservatism has been almost erased in the modern Republican Party.

This book, from longtime *New York Times* Washington reporter Philip Taubman, restores the modest Shultz to his central place in American history. Taubman reveals Shultz’s gift for forging relationships with people and then harnessing the rapport to address national and international challenges, under his motto “trust is the coin of the realm”—as well as his difficulty standing up for his principles, motivated by a powerful sense of loyalty that often trapped him in inaction. Based on exclusive access to Shultz’s personal papers, housed in a sealed archive at the Hoover Institution, *In the Nation’s Service* offers a remarkable insider account of the behind-the-scenes struggles of the statesman who played a pivotal role in unwinding the Cold War.

Philip Taubman is a lecturer at Stanford University’s Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC). He is author of *The Partnership: Five Cold Warriors and Their Quest to Ban the Bomb* (2012) and *Secret Empire: Eisenhower, the CIA, and the Hidden Story of America’s Space Espionage* (2003).
Dances and balls appear throughout world literature as venues for young people to meet, flirt, and form relationships, as any reader of *Pride and Prejudice* or *Romeo and Juliet* can attest. While traditional Jewish law prohibits men and women from dancing together, Jewish mixed-sex dancing was understood as the very sign of modernity—and the ultimate boundary transgression. In Jewish literature of the long nineteenth century, dance scenes become a charged and complex arena for understanding the limits of acculturation, the dangers of ethnic mixing, and the implications of shifting gender norms and marriage patterns. Combining cultural history with literary analysis, Sonia Gollance illustrates how mixed-sex dancing functions as a flexible metaphor for the concerns of Jewish communities in the face of cultural transitions.

Sonia Gollance is Lecturer in Yiddish at University College London. She has previously held appointments at the University of Vienna and The Ohio State University.

**WINNING AND LOSING THE NUCLEAR PEACE**

*The Rise, Demise, and Revival of Arms Control*

MICHAEL KREPON

Winning and Losing the Nuclear Peace tells a remarkable story of high-wire acts of diplomacy, close calls, dogged persistence, and extraordinary success. Michael Krepon brings to life the pitched battles between arms controllers and advocates of nuclear deterrence, the ironic twists and unexpected outcomes from Truman to Trump. What began with a ban on atmospheric testing and a nonproliferation treaty reached its apogee with treaties that mandated deep cuts and corralled “loose nukes” after the Soviet Union imploded. The definitive guide to the history of nuclear arms control, Winning and Losing the Nuclear Peace is an engaging account of how the practice of arms control was built from scratch, how it was torn down, and how it can be rebuilt.

Michael Krepon was the cofounder of the Stimson Center, a prolific author, and the winner of a lifetime achievement award from the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace for his work to reduce nuclear dangers.

**CHINA’S RISE IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH**

*The Middle East, Africa, and Beijing’s Alternative World Order*

DAWN C. MURPHY

As China and the U.S. increasingly compete for power in key areas of U.S. influence, great power conflict looms. Yet few studies have looked to the Middle East and Africa, regions of major political, economic, and military importance for both China and the U.S., to theorize how China competes in a changing world system. China’s Rise in the Global South examines China’s behavior as a rising power in two key Global South regions, the Middle East and Sub-Saharan Africa. From the Belt and Road initiative to the founding of new cooperation forums and special envoys, this book offers an in-depth look at China’s foreign policy approach to the countries it considers its partners in South-South cooperation. Murphy contends that China is constructing an alternate international order to interact with these regions, and provides policymakers and scholars of international relations with the tools to analyze it.

Dawn C. Murphy is Associate Professor of International Security Studies at the U.S. Air War College.
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