



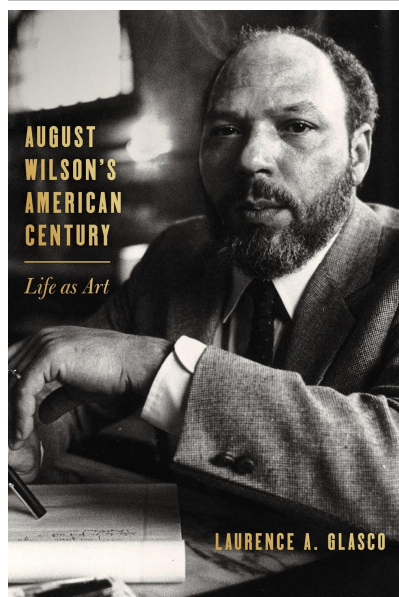
UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH PRESS

SPRING & SUMMER 2026



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University of Pittsburgh Press
Pub Date: 2/10/2026

9780822948544
\$35.00/£26.00 UK
Discount Code: t
Hardcover

360 Pages
47 images
Biography & Autobiography
/ Entertainment & Performing Arts
Series: Regional

August Wilson's American Century

Life as Art

Laurence A. Glasco

A Revelatory Exploration of Pittsburgh's Influence on One of America's Most Acclaimed Playwrights

Summary

Listed in *Pioneer Press* (Minneapolis-St. Paul) Most Anticipated of 2026

Playwright August Wilson is best known for his American Century Cycle, a sequence of ten plays—including the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Fences* and *The Piano Lesson*—that chronicle the lives of Black Americans in each decade of the twentieth century. But behind the celebrated plays stands a complex man shaped by his hometown's vibrant Black culture. In *August Wilson's American Century: Life as Art*, Laurence A. Glasco, one of the foremost historians of Black life in Pittsburgh, draws on Wilson's early poetry, archival material, and original interviews with family members, neighbors, and friends to show how the city and its residents shaped the playwright and his work. Wilson's overlapping identities as an outsider, warrior, race man, and poet helped him persevere in the face of setbacks, weave real-life observations with his poetry to craft memorable dialogue and compelling characters, and portray the realities of race in America in ways that have resonated with theatergoers and readers ever since. Glasco uncovers the story of how the people and places of Pittsburgh remained with Wilson after he left his hometown, shining through in a body of work that brought the struggles and triumphs of the Black experience to a wide audience and changed American theater for the better.

Contributor Bio

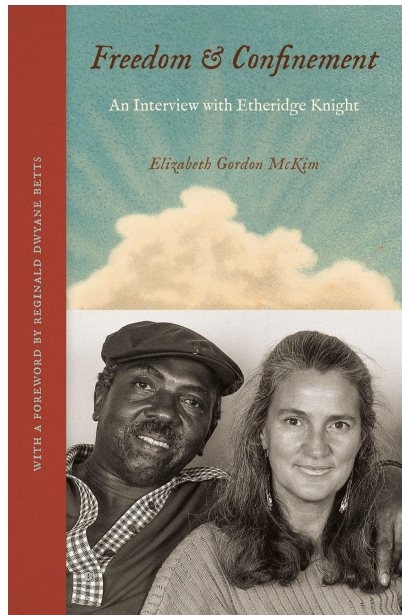
Laurence A. Glasco is professor emeritus of history at the University of Pittsburgh. He is the author or coauthor of five books, including *August Wilson: Pittsburgh Places in His Life and Plays* (with Christopher Rawson).

Quotes

"Historian Glasco meticulously chronicles the life of 20th-century playwright August Wilson through the prism of his home city.... Drawing on interviews with Wilson's former neighbors, classmates, and relatives, Glasco paints a richly detailed portrait of how the playwright's relationship to his home—as both native son and outsider—shaped the settings and thematic preoccupations of his plays. It's a fresh angle on the oeuvre of a preeminent American dramatist." —*Publishers Weekly*

"A well-written biography that will persuade Wilson's admirers to revisit his plays and introduce his work to a new generation of fans." —*Kirkus*

"The world knows how August Wilson mythologized the Hill District of Pittsburgh, but far less about how that city shaped America's greatest Black playwright. Drawing on decades of archival research and scores of original interviews, historian Laurence A. Glasco has now given the definitive biographical answer to that question. Glasco's study of how Wilson's early life in Pittsburgh shaped his outlook as an 'outsider, warrior, race man, and poet' is full of fascinating personal details—and sheds invaluable light on the timeless art that Wilson went on to create." —Mark Whitaker, author of *Smoketown: The Untold Story of the Other Great Black Renaissance*



Freedom and Confinement

An Interview with Etheridge Knight

Elizabeth Gordon McKim, Reginald Dwayne Betts

A Previously Unreleased Interview That Enhances Our Understanding of Etheridge Knight's Public and Private Life

Summary

Freedom and Confinement is a powerful, book-length conversation between poets Elizabeth Gordon McKim and Etheridge Knight, recorded in 1990 as Knight was dying of cancer. The interview traces Knight's life from his childhood in Paducah, Kentucky, to his time in the Army and his injury in Korea, to his drug addiction and incarceration, and finally, to his poetic rebirth. The dialogue includes a 1984 exchange with McKim's daughter, Jenifer McKim, offering a rare intergenerational glimpse into Knight's world. McKim captures the man behind the legend—complex, contradictory, soulful. From prison yards to the Library of Congress, Knight lived and performed poetry across the country. This conversation revives his stories and energies, blending trickster wit with hard-won wisdom, making the mythic poet vividly human once more.

Contributor Bio

Elizabeth Gordon McKim is the author of several collections of poetry, including *The Red Thread* and *Lovers in the Freefall*.

Quotes

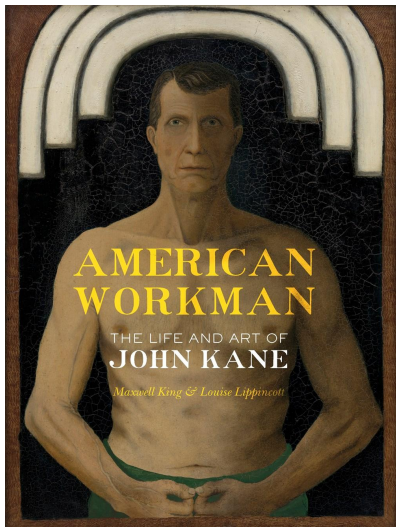
"Knight has always been a chronicler. Without effort, he turns anecdotes from his childhood memories into scenes in a novel he's yet to write. And here, in *Freedom and Confinement*, we get a glimpse of a differently refracted Knight. Elizabeth Gordon McKim brings us memories of Knight that would have otherwise been lost, and in doing so, the poet that sometimes appears to be more myth than man, becomes, again, a bit of both."

—Reginald Dwayne Betts, from the preface

University of Pittsburgh Press
Pub Date: 6/30/2026

9780822967927
\$24.00/£18.00 UK
Discount Code: t
Paperback

124 Pages
Literary Collections /
Interviews



University of Pittsburgh Press
Pub Date: 4/28/2026

9780822968078
\$24.00/£18.00 UK
Discount Code: t
Trade Paperback

308 Pages
125 images
Biography & Autobiography
/ Artists, Architects,
Photographers
Series: Regional

American Workman

The Life and Art of John Kane

Maxwell King, Louise Lippincott

A Richly Illustrated Exploration of John Kane's Life, the Value and Dignity of Labor, and Who Decides What Is Art and What Is Not

Summary

American Workman presents a comprehensive, novel reassessment of the life and work of one of America's most influential self-taught artists, John Kane. With a full account of Kane's life as a working man, including his time as a steelworker, coal miner, street paver, and commercial painter in and around Pittsburgh in the early twentieth century, the authors explore how these occupations shaped his development as an artist and his breakthrough success in the modern art world. A rough-and-tumble blue-collar man prone to brawling and drinking, Kane also sought out beauty in the industrial world he inhabited. This Kane paradox—brawny and tough, sensitive and creative—was at the heart of much of the public's interest in Kane as a person. The allure of the Kane saga was heightened all the more by the fact that he did not achieve renown until he was at the age at which most people are retiring from their professions. Kane's dedication to painting resulted in a fascinating body of work that has ended up in some of America's most important museums and private collections. His dramatic life story demonstrates the courage, strength, and creativity of his generation of workmen. They may be long gone, but thanks to Kane they cannot be forgotten.

Contributor Bio

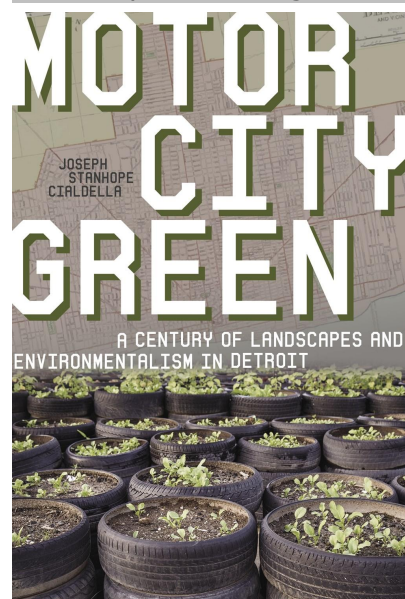
Maxwell King is the former editor of the *Philadelphia Inquirer* and president of the Heinz Endowments. He is the author of the poetry collection *Crossing Laurel Run* and the *New York Times*-bestselling Mister Rogers biography *The Good Neighbor: The Life and Work of Fred Rogers*. King also served as chairman of the board of the national Council on Foundations. His most recent job was president of The Pittsburgh Foundation.

Louise Lippincott is a historian and former curator specializing in American and European art from the Enlightenment to the modern era. She focuses on artists outside the mainstream, and the historical contexts that give meaning to their work. As curator of fine arts at Carnegie Museum of Art, she managed the largest John Kane collection in the United States. Previously she occupied curatorial positions at the J. Paul Getty Museum and Philadelphia Museum of Art.

Quotes

"An exhaustive biography as well as a deep critical appreciation of Kane's art, *American Workman* should bring new attention to this artist's remarkable work."
—*Pittsburgh Magazine*

"*American Workman* revisits the life and works of John Kane, a significant figure in the intersecting histories of self-taught art and American modernism. King and Lippincott offer a thorough, accessible account of the artist from his Scottish childhood through his years working as a laborer in Pittsburgh, PA, to his reception as an artist celebrated on a national stage. The work offers first a chronicle of Kane's life and then segues into a discussion of his art and its reception. Commitment to a generous exploration of Kane's life and times unites the authors' narratives, enabling readers to grasp the extraordinary arc of Kane's career. . . . The authors' primary goal for *American Workman* is the recuperation of Kane's legacy for future histories of American art, and they succeed in a historical moment when the larger impacts of a diverse array of self-taught artists—William Edmondson, Grandma Moses, Morris Hirshfield, Bill Traylor—are being reassessed. Highly recommended." —*Choice*



University of Pittsburgh Press
Pub Date: 3/17/2026

9780822968085
\$24.00/£18.00 UK
Discount Code: s
Paperback

246 Pages
25 b&w photographs
Social Science / Sociology
Series: History of the Urban
Environment

Motor City Green

A Century of Landscapes and Environmentalism in Detroit

Joseph Stanhope Cialdella

Sheds light on the ways social and political history intersect with urban and environmental history as a new way to tell the history of Detroit

Summary

Winner, 2021 CCL J. B. Jackson Book Prize Winner, 2020 Jon Gjerde Prize from the Midwestern History Association

Motor City Green is a history of green spaces in metropolitan Detroit from the late nineteenth to the early twenty-first century that focuses on the creation and use of parks, gardens, yards, and other designed landscapes. Joseph Stanhope Cialdella argues that generations of residents and communities in the region turned to these outdoor spaces to relieve problems created by the city's industrial rise and decline, racial segregation, and economic inequality. As Detroit continues toward a green future, *Motor City Green* looks to the past to demonstrate how the city's urban gardens of today evolved from, but are also distinct from, the urban green spaces that came before them.

Contributor Bio

Joseph Stanhope Cialdella is assistant director for experiential learning at the University of Michigan and an independent scholar.

Quotes

"Joseph Stanhope Cialdella's fine book, *Motor City Green*, relates a surprising tale that is perhaps not so surprising. Across the 130-year rise and decline history of America's archetypal industrial city, Detroiters—even the most economically challenged among them, immigrants and African Americans—insisted on relationships of various kinds with the natural world." —*The Michigan Historical Review*

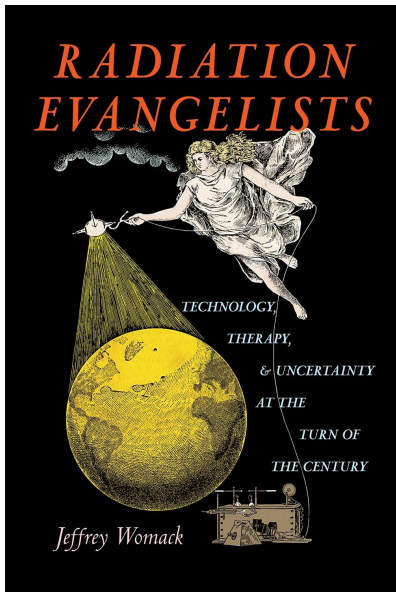
"*Motor City Green* is a fascinating look into Detroit's history through the lens of environmentalism, the 'ways in which urban residents made and gave meaning to green spaces.' This book will appeal to a wide audience. It certainly gives a creative, factual picture of the frustrations experienced by African Americans because of governments, policies, and practices that have systematically excluded or forgotten them. . . . Cialdella shows that there is a lot of green in this rustbelt city." —*International Journal of Environmental Studies*

"*Motor City Green* puts the city's current moment in a larger context by showing that urban gardening has a long history in Detroit. Artfully drawing connections between rusty industrial spaces with lush urban green spaces, Cialdella shows readers how the two are inherently related rather than opposed." —Catherine McNeur, Portland State University

"*Motor City Green* is the most comprehensive published history of parks or urban agriculture in Detroit. Since the historiography of urban agriculture remains relatively underdeveloped, Cialdella's book should attract more attention to the topic within the fields of urban history and urban environmental history." —Josiah Rector, Northland College

"Projects to green cities strike many as new and innovative. In this excellent book, Joseph Cialdella challenges this assumption by showing that urban environmentalism in Detroit has a long and fascinating history. Immigrant, working-class, and African-American Detroiters used nature to grow food, play, ameliorate a harsh industrial setting, build community, and reimagine urban life." —Colin Fisher, University of San Diego

RADIATION EVANGELISTS



Radiation Evangelists

Technology, Therapy, and Uncertainty at the Turn of the Century

Jeffrey Womack

Raises Important Questions About Medical Experimentation and the "Golden Rule" of Medical Ethics

Summary

Radiation Evangelists explores X-ray and radium therapy in the United States and Great Britain during a crucial period of its development, from 1896 to 1925. It focuses on the pioneering work of early advocates in the field, the "radiation evangelists" who—motivated by their faith in a new technology, trust in new energy sources, and hope for future breakthroughs—turned a blind eye to the dangers of radiation exposure. Although ionizing radiation effectively treated diseases like skin infections and cancers, radiation therapists—who did not need a medical education to develop or administer procedures or sell tonics containing radium—operated in a space of uncertainty about exactly how radiation worked or would affect human bodies. And yet radium, once a specialized medical treatment, would eventually become a consumer health product associated with the antibacterial properties of sunlight. In this cautionary tale of technological medical progress, Jeffrey Womack reveals how practitioners and their patients accepted uncertainty as a condition of their therapy in an attempt to alleviate human suffering. In this cautionary tale of technological medical progress, Jeffrey Womack reveals how practitioners and their patients accepted uncertainty as a condition of their therapy in an attempt to alleviate human suffering.

Contributor Bio

Jeffrey Womack earned his PhD in history from the University of Houston in 2016. He regularly collaborates with the College of Physicians of Philadelphia's Historical Medical Library and Mütter Museum. He resides and teaches in Philadelphia.

Quotes

"Womack's book presents a captivating account of the early history of the contentious practice of radiation medical practitioners in Britain and America between 1895 and 1925." —*British Journal for the History of Science*

"Womack provides a portrait of a technology that inspired optimism and enthusiasm, while killing some of its primary proponents. His engaging study effectively conveys the processes whereby medical innovations are often applied before they are understood. It is a story not so much of failure—radiation therapies have been effectively used for more than a century—but of the tangled path to success." —*Isis*

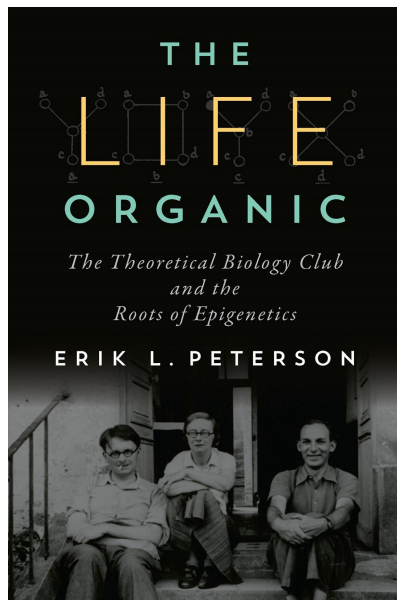
"This is a very readable book. There are plenty of quirky characters, absorbing plot-lines, and riddles to solve. Womack takes clear delight in his subject matter, and he is an engaging writer. His real skill, however, and the thing that will make this book invaluable for undergraduate and graduate-level courses alike, is his ability to take a narrow slice of medical history and use it to unpack big, thorny problems such as medical professionalization and specialization, the boundary line between orthodoxy and quackery in nineteenth-century healthcare, and why certain technologies prove popular when others do not. You do not need to have a special interest in radiation therapies to find this book illuminating." —*Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences*

"Although much has been written about the history of X-ray diagnosis, relatively little has been written about early radiation therapy. This impressive book helps to fill that gap. Drawing from a rich array of sources, Jeffrey Womack shows how early adopters navigated an uncertain world and used their experiences to argue for skepticism in the face of new technology." —Joel D. Howell, University of Michigan

University of Pittsburgh Press
Pub Date: 3/17/2026

9780822968092
\$24.00/£18.00 UK
Discount Code: s
Paperback

288 Pages
11 b&w illustrations
Medical / History



University of Pittsburgh Press
Pub Date: 1/20/2026

9780822968153
\$40.00/£18.00 UK
Discount Code: s
Paperback

352 Pages
Science

The Life Organic

The Theoretical Biology Club and the Roots of Epigenetics

Erik L. Peterson

Tells the Forgotten Story of the Pursuit of a Third Way in Biology, "The Organic Philosophy"

Summary

As scientists debated the nature of life in the nineteenth century, two theories predominated: vitalism, which suggested that living things contained a "vital spark," and mechanism, the idea that animals and humans differed from nonliving things only in their degree of complexity. Erik L. Peterson tells the forgotten story of the pursuit of a Third Way in biology, known by many names, including "the organic philosophy," which gave rise to C. H. Waddington's work in the subfield of epigenetics: an alternative to standard genetics and evolutionary biology that captured the attention of notable scientists from Francis Crick to Stephen Jay Gould. *The Life Organic* chronicles the influential biologists, mathematicians, philosophers, and biochemists from both sides of the Atlantic who formed Joseph Needham's Theoretical Biology Club, defined and refined Third-Way thinking through the 1930s, and laid the groundwork for some of the most cutting-edge achievements in biology today. By tracing the persistence of organicism into the twenty-first century, this book also raises significant questions about how we should model the development of the discipline of biology going forward.

Contributor Bio

Erik L. Peterson is associate provost and professor at the University of Alabama.

Quotes

"This is an excellent history of a debate that continues today. . . . *The Life Organic* is an excellent tour of the evolution of "reductionist" and "systems" approaches to biology in the 20th century." —*Choice*

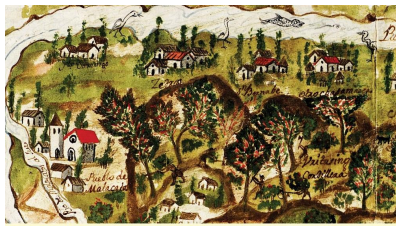
"Peterson's *The Life Organic* is a fascinating history of the development of the theoretical biology of organicism in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries." —*Process Studies*

"From the perspective of history, *The Life Organic* provides much-needed answers to what should be a proverbial question but is not: What went missing in science and its history with the rise of genetics and gene triumphalism over the past century, starting in 1909, the year the 'gene' was named by Wilhelm Johannsen, Peterson's book answers this question and is thus a major contribution to the history of biology in the twentieth century, explaining to hungry readers who seek to know the origins of lines of thinking and areas of expertise of more recent time." —*Interdisciplinary Science Reviews*

"Peterson has made an important contribution to the literature on twentieth century organicism, and one that no one interested in the subject can afford to ignore. Historians, philosophers, and biologists will all find something to enjoy (and to disagree with) in this book." —*Journal of the History of Biology*

"*The Life Organic* is clearly a landmark in the history of organic biology and philosophy and a must-read for anyone interested in 20th-century biology in general." —*Centaurus*

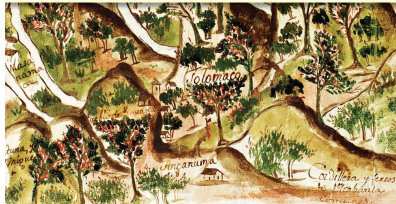
"The book is highly recommended, especially for all those intrigued by overlooked figures and traditions in the history of biology in the 'age of extremes.'" —*Isis*



The Andean Wonder Drug

Cinchona Bark and Imperial Science
in the Spanish Atlantic, 1630-1800

Matthew James Crawford



University of Pittsburgh Press
Pub Date: 1/13/2026

9780822968146
\$40.00/£29.00 UK
Discount Code: s
Paperback

296 Pages
Science

The Andean Wonder Drug

Cinchona Bark and Imperial Science in the Spanish Atlantic, 1630-1800

Matthew James Crawford

How the Imperial Politics of Knowledge in the Spanish Atlantic Undermined Efforts to Transform European Science into a Tool of Empire

Summary

In the eighteenth century, malaria was a prevalent and deadly disease, and the only effective treatment was found in the Andean forests of Spanish America: a medicinal bark harvested from cinchona trees that would later give rise to the antimalarial drug quinine. In 1751, the Spanish Crown asserted control over the production and distribution of this medicament by establishing a royal reserve of "fever trees" in Quito. Through this pilot project, the Crown pursued a new vision of imperialism informed by science and invigorated through commerce. But ultimately this project failed, much like the broader imperial reforms that it represented. Drawing on extensive archival research, Matthew James Crawford explains why and shows how indigenous healers, laborers, merchants, colonial officials, and creole elites contested European science and thwarted imperial reform by asserting their authority to speak for the natural world. *The Andean Wonder Drug* uses the story of cinchona bark to demonstrate how the imperial politics of knowledge in the Spanish Atlantic ultimately undermined efforts to transform European science into a tool of empire.

Contributor Bio

Matthew James Crawford is associate professor in the Department of History at Kent State University.

Quotes

"*The Andean Wonder Drug* in question is *quina*, the lifesaving bark of the cinchona tree, whose forests in Ecuador, Colombia, and Peru were supposedly squandered by the Spanish Crown; whose alkaloids were isolated as quinine by French pharmacists in 1820; and whose seeds were replanted in Asia by late nineteenth-century British and Dutch agents of science, profit, and empire. Or so the story is often told. Matthew James Crawford's book offers a forceful rewriting of its history." —*Environmental History*

"*The Andean Wonder Drug* is a welcome addition to the literature on quina, the bark from the cinchona tree. Quina is the natural source of quinine, an invaluable drug used to reduce fevers, especially those associated with malaria. Matthew James Crawford's work adds substantially to the epistemic location of quina within the Atlantic world by describing the tortured efforts of Bourbon officials to acquire both scientific knowledge and commercial gains from the drug." —*American Historical Review*

"*The Andean Wonder Drug* boldly challenges historiographical consensus. The book offers an alternative to the facile narrative connecting science to empire. It shows that an empire that invested inordinate amounts of resources in botanical expeditions and clinical trials was not necessarily effective at increasing agricultural productivity. Unlike "scientists" in the British and Dutch Empires, who came to be seen as ideologically detached from the social and political contexts in which their practices were embedded, "scientists" in the Spanish Empire did not enjoy any greater cultural epistemic authority than did other social actors. Bark collectors, local healers, merchants, and bureaucrats wielded as much epistemic power as did leading court physicians, metropolitan naturalists, and worldly chemists. In fact, Matthew Crawford's book shows that the Enlightenment scientists became bark collectors, merchants, bureaucrats, and policy advisors themselves. By untangling the "epistemic culture" of the early modern Spanish global monarchy, Crawford offers a sweeping counternarrative to any simplified account of the rise of scientific modernity as a tool of empire." —*Isis*



University of Pittsburgh Press
Pub Date: 2/3/2026

9780822968016
\$20.00/£15.00 UK
Discount Code: t
Trade Paperback

120 Pages
Poetry / American
Series: Pitt Poetry Series

Winter Stars

Revised Edition

Larry Levis, Paisley Rekdal

First published in 1985, Larry Levis's Bestselling Classic Gets a Fresh Cover, New interior design, and an Introduction by Paisley Rekdal

Summary

Included in *LitHub's* Most Anticipated Poetry of 2026

Since the appearance of his first book in 1972, Larry Levis has been one of the most original and most highly praised of contemporary American poets. In *Winter Stars*, a book of love poems and elegies, Levis engages in a process of relentless self-interrogation about his life, about losses and acceptances. What emerges is not merely autobiography, but a biography of the reader, a *representative life* of our time.

Contributor Bio

Larry Levis was born in Fresno, California, in 1946. His first book of poems, *Wrecking Crew*, won the United States Award from the International Poetry Forum, and was published in the Pitt Poetry Series in 1972. His second book, *The Afterlife*, won the Lamont Award from the American Academy of Poets in 1976. In 1981, *The Dollmaker's Ghost* was a winner of the Open Competition of the National Poetry Series. Among his other awards were three fellowships in poetry from the National Endowment for the Arts, a Fulbright Fellowship, and a Guggenheim Fellowship. Larry Levis died in 1996.

Quotes

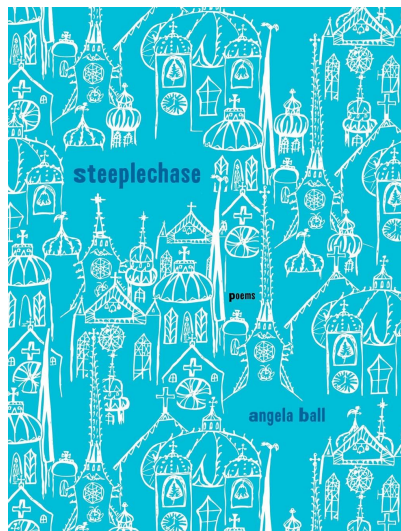
"The poems are as alive on the page as if they were being spoken to us directly as we read." —*Publishers Weekly*

"All of Levis's previous three collections have won awards, and *Winter Stars* continues to demonstrate his power. The best poems here contemplate childhood and adolescence, what is lost and what is carried away to be discovered in adulthood. The specter of the father is especially felt." —*Library Journal*

"The poems of Larry Levis are linear; they progress down the page in a casual, almost chatty fashion, gathering ideas, images, scenes, events, and anecdotes as they occur to the speaker—a harried man, haunted by death and squandered love. . . . He handles his materials with an understated authority, a streetwise *savoir faire*." —*Poetry*

"A sprawling psalmic line carries these poems forward as they show off that new interest in discursive meditation which has surfaced in the '80s. Levis's ability to cast his poems out from the self and then reel them in is impressive indeed." —*The North American Review*

"There are few contemporary poets who can do what Larry Levis does. . . . There are few others who can combine so artfully the skills of the novelist and those of the poet. Levis's gift in this, perhaps his finest work, reveals itself in that attention to detail that is the novelist's creed, and the compulsion to say what must be said, even if one has stopped believing, that marks the poet's calling. . . . There are wonderfully fresh moments that blossom within poems. . . . In his best poems Levis touches something dreamlike, the horror and beauty that can exist within the commonplace. . . . Levis's poems have that sharp clarity, that pain, that haunting resonance." —*Kliat Paperback Book Guide*



Steeplechase

Poems

Angela Ball

Poetry That Celebrates the Inexhaustibility of Language

Summary

Included in *LitHub's* Most Anticipated Poetry of 2026

Steeplechase explores multiple landscapes, including Mississippi and its many church steeples; countries known and unknown; cities and inhabitants both aspirational and lost. Its voice is humorous, bewildered, disillusioned, hopeful. The book's temporal setting is the two years of extra life granted a partner after catastrophic illness and surgery: love's last compelling season.

Contributor Bio

Angela Ball's poems, translations, and essays have appeared in *Poetry*, *Oxford American*, *The Paris Review*, *Atlantic Monthly*, *Ploughshares*, *North American Review*, *The New Yorker*, *Field*, *Colorado Review*, *The New Republic*, *The Bennington Review*, and elsewhere. She is the author of seven books of poetry, most recently *Talking Pillow*. The recipient of an Individual Artist's Grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, she teaches in the Center for Writers at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg, where she lives with her dogs, Miss Bishop and Boy.

Quotes

"Beginning with the first few words of *Steeplechase*, 'Not mine but I'll take some— / not too much,' you can be sure Angela Ball will engage you with care, with wit, with every magical thing a poem can do. Her way forward always includes a few back and forth and sideways steps. She offers us 'Belief / that no knowledge is permanent / or impossible.' If it's an autobiography you want, if it's biography, if it's how to grieve, if it's romance, you will find it in Ball's *Steeplechase*. You will also find yourself smack dab in the middle of poetry unlike any other, with 'play kisses that are real,' and where smiles can be camouflage, and a steeple may be raised high up to show the faithful the way to church. I love to give a book like this to a friend, to read it with me, to keep it close by." —Dara Barrois/Dixon, author of *Tolstoy Killed Anna Karenina*

"In *Steeplechase*, Angela Ball lifts the act of selection into a true sacrament. And in that sacramental action, the ethical and the aesthetic miraculously combine. These are poems in which memory is not merely a substance, but a principle—one whose sole criterion is Goodness, which in Ball's unfailing vision, proves to be identical with Beauty. How splendid it is to read a poet in whom one may place absolute trust! And who would have imagined that simple trust could be so absolute a pleasure? *Steeplechase* is a book that makes me dare to hope for the future of our poetry." —Donald Revell, author of *Canandaigua*

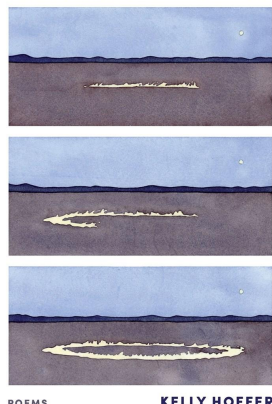
"Again and again, I am shocked by Angela Ball's breathtaking imagination. The poems in these pages don't remind me of another poet's work, but they do sometimes make me think of the novelist Milan Kundera, who like Ball could explore the weightiest subject matter with playfulness and grace. *Steeplechase* is not just Ball's best book. It's the most memorable poetry collection I have read in many years." —Steve Yarbrough, author of *Stay Gone Days*

University of Pittsburgh Press
Pub Date: 2/10/2026

9780822967651
\$20.00/£15.00 UK
Discount Code: t
Trade Paperback

94 Pages
Poetry
Series: Pitt Poetry Series

FIRE SERIES / // ///



POEMS KELLY HOFFER

University of Pittsburgh Press
Pub Date: 2/17/2026

9780822967682
\$20.00/£15.00 UK
Discount Code: t
Trade Paperback

136 Pages
Poetry
Series: Pitt Poetry Series

Fire Series

Poems

Kelly Hoffer

A Poetic Experiment That Uses the Specialized Diction of Fire Investigators to Explore Gender, Anger, and Nationality

Summary

Fire is both destructive and regenerative; at times vengeful, at others cleansing. The first mention of fire in Genesis comes after Adam and Eve's expulsion from Eden. In Greek mythology, Prometheus steals fire from the gods for humankind. Fire becomes metaphorically layered—as knowledge, as desire, as anger. The book entertains the many strands of this fiery lineage as it undertakes a poetic investigation into grief and sex, loneliness and restlessness within intimacy, and language's ability to make, unmake, and remake things. Hoffer engages in questions of gender, anger, and nationality—how women are made subject to expectations of care and fidelity. How Americans are called into conflicts that defy sense, that defy humanist values. The voice is angry as she struggles with the limitations of her agency and further frustrated that "speaking directly" does not seem to furnish progress or power. The book, then, tries to speak otherwise—it moves sonically, associatively, obsessively.

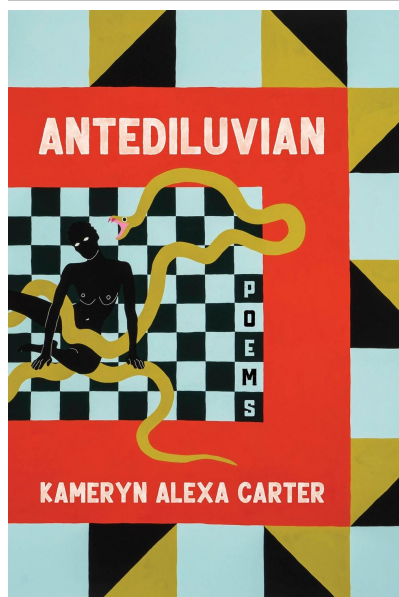
Contributor Bio

Kelly Hoffer is a poet and book artist. Her debut collection of poetry, *Undershore*, was the winner of the Lightscatter Press Prize. Her chapbook, *the photo I don't write about*, was a Tilted House Netsuke Micro Series selection. Her poetry was recognized as a finalist for the National Poetry Series in both 2020 and 2021. She is Helen Zell Visiting Professor in Poetry at the University of Michigan.

Quotes

"Reading Kelly Hoffer's *Fire Series*, I am reminded that Anne Carson, a poet as attentive to contradiction wrought within a feeling as Hoffer is, once declared in an interview: 'If prose is a house, poetry is a man on fire running quite fast through it.' And verse, as printing traditions go, is the field slashed and furrowed for that human life fleeing a feeling only to meet it at the exit of an expression. Composed as curious and patient acts of devotion, Hoffer's poems are evidence for how she has remained interested in her own grieving as a way of attending another's, and as a way of practicing the life-long arc of witness for the loss of both language and love that we all must learn. 'How,' she asks, 'do I protect my mother from my lyric tendency?' This is a collection that frets between mute grief and vociferous, feral desire to envision these not only as adventures of cognition and the nervous system, but also as gauntlets thrown to a feckless language that betrays us at the slightest provocation. Hoffer has turned, here, an ear to those wailing sounds of weeping and ecstasy until they combust into music. *Fire Series* is ablaze with lyrical demonstrations that a thought can only warm us if it flickers between certainty and doubt." —Divya Victor, author of *CURB*

"Kelly Hoffer's *Fire Series* is an unruly, yet often elegant, set of variations on poetic combustibility. Cause and effect, transposed into language and reference—or maybe it's the other way around—run up to and alongside the firebreak trails of landscapes and mindscapes alike. Fiery transfiguration is more than ever now the condition for life, for relation, for creativity. *Fire Series* inhabits this condition with zeal, an almost religious commitment to its terms for poesis as recombinant metamorphosis. Hoffer plays simultaneously on sound and vision, offers irruptions of slashes (in multiple senses) that tease decoding, and yokes erotics uncomfortably yet deliciously to morality. The most beautiful page in the book scatters into ash then ends with two words that trap us dancing between desire and grief." —Jennifer Nelson, author of *Civilization Makes Me Lonely*



University of Pittsburgh Press
Pub Date: 2/24/2026

9780822967675
\$20.00/£15.00 UK
Discount Code: t
Trade Paperback

72 Pages
Poetry
Series: Pitt Poetry Series

Antediluvian

Poems

Kameryn Alexa Carter

Jazzy, Surreal Poems That Tackle Desire, Mental Illness, Spirituality, and the Ecstatic

Summary

Antediluvian engages with themes of the ecstatic, desire, mental illness, and spirituality. Written in part during the COVID-19 pandemic, the book's speaker calls on an intertextual constellation of artists as they attempt to wade through agoraphobia, parse out their relationship with God, and navigate falling in love. Overall, the landscape of the collection is a deep dive into the speaker's psyche, and what it means to push past the confines of one's oppressive interior.

Contributor Bio

Kameryn Alexa Carter is a poet and founding coeditor of *Emergent Literary*, a journal for the work of black and brown artists. She was a visiting teaching artist at the Poetry Foundation and is a Pushcart Prize winner. Her work has appeared in *Bennington Review*, *Phoebe Journal*, *Torch Literary Arts*, *Bat City Review*, *The Best American Poetry 2023*, and elsewhere. She is the author of *Erykah Badu's New Amerykah Part Two: Return of the Ankh*.

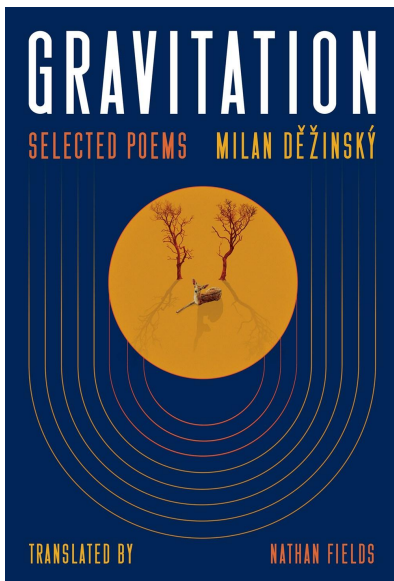
Quotes

"The opening poems in this collection hit me right in the heart. Carter understands human want and desire better than anyone." —*Debutiful*

"Kameryn Alexa Carter casts an unforgettable spell in the divine and decadent *Antediluvian*. As she writes in "Theoria": 'I'm a practical mystic: / approachable at the grocery or in line / at the movies.' An incantatory musicality governs this collection, and it's as delicious to read aloud as it is to experience on the page. Carter marshals her impressive gifts in poems inspired by art history, Biblical figures, and Black literary forebears. She explores physical and spiritual longing as well as mental and physical health with candor and verve. This is a poet unafraid to sing in the dark and to listen for what calls back." —Derrick Austin, author of *Tenderness*

"Kameryn Alexa Carter's *Antediluvian* is a linguistically sinuous and feral series of intimate cries from the heart along with demonstrations of the resilience of the spirit that are at once devotional and mutinous. She begins the first of her eleven addresses to God with the dead-serious pun, 'Lord, this languish is dedicated to the project of my salivation— / long hungry . . .' Carter writes of the soul in extremis, the mind at risk, of survival and of awe. Her forebears include John Donne, Gerard Manley Hopkins, John Berryman, Bob Kaufman, Lucie Brock-Broido, and Reginald Shepherd. Reading this electrifying collection made me feel as if the top of my head were taken off." —Michael Dumanis, author of *Creature*

"In Kameryn Alexa Carter's *Antediluvian*, the garden of Eden blossoms in a brain that also blossoms toward its highest self. God and psyche converge discordantly and amorously. Pills and hallucinations gird the speaker to the intangible and concrete, the body both a haunting and impossible to let go. *Antediluvian* is the field in which the mind and flesh go carmine with desire, the husband an anchor, dissociation and the church a liquid mirror into which the speaker smirks while disturbing the surface with a finger. Red lips. Red nail beds. These poems are blood and nectar." —Phillip B. Williams, author of *Ours: A Novel*



University of Pittsburgh Press
Pub Date: 3/3/2026

9780822967699
\$20.00/£15.00 UK
Discount Code: t
Trade Paperback

92 Pages
Poetry
Series: Pitt Poetry Series

Gravitation

Selected Poems

Milan Dežinský, Nathan Fields

The Selected Poetry of the Celebrated Czech Poet Masterfully Translated by Nathan Fields

Summary

Translated by Nathan Fields

The selected poetry of Milan Dežinský, translated by Nathan Fields, including many poems previously not published in English by the celebrated Czech poet.

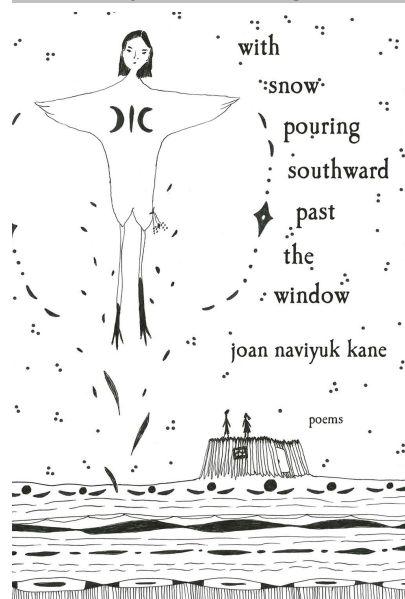
Contributor Bio

Milan Dežinský is a Czech poet and the author of eight collections of poetry. In 2018, he won the Magnesia Litera Award for poetry, the most prestigious annual literary prize in the Czech Republic. His work has been translated into English, German, and Polish, and several of his poems have appeared in US and UK magazines, including *The New York Review of Books*, *Poetry London*, *Modern Poetry in Translation*, *The Dark Horse*, and *PN Review*, as well as the Prague-based *B O D Y*. He lives in Roudnice nad Labem in the Czech Republic.

Quotes

"Milan Dežinský's poems probe what lives in the shadows. They're alert to the echoes and whispers of history, to what's heard through walls, and to secrets forests keep. They speculate about the wonder of a woman's tongue, peer into the composition of matter, question who is prey and who is predator. And perhaps most importantly, these poems are attentive to every kind of messenger: injured animals, apparitions, 'the mathematical beauty of frost,' a wall containing a still-trembling 'tear of builder's sweat.' Deep and dark as chasms, sometimes wry, sometimes chilling, they demand repeated readings. Dear translator, can we please have some more?" —Amy Gerstler, author of *Is This My Final Form?*

"Milan Dežinský's poems embrace immediacy. They arrive on the page as if from a vast silence. Aware of the cost of history, claiming no place in the world, Dežinský inhabits contingency: 'I gaze into the sun and I'm already someone else.' Then a poem will slip, who-me, into the infinite, without a trace of rhetoric, with no comment on the distance traveled: 'We look into the fire / as if again witnessing / the creation of the world.' Searching for a language freed of hierarchies, intimacy without a template, Dežinský's vision is radically open. You might think of James Baldwin's insight that 'The purpose of art is to lay bare the questions hidden by the answers.' In an age that bows to absolutes, *Gravitation* is beautifully autonomous, intuitive, human." —D. Nurkse, author of *A Country of Strangers: New and Selected Poems*



with snow pouring southward past the window

Poems

Joan Naviyuk Kane

Poems That Move Across Seas and Oceans, Continents and Nations, Languages and Histories

Summary

Included in *LitHub's* Most Anticipated Poetry of 2026

The poems in *with snow pouring southward past the window* turn with and for relatives and beloveds across seas and oceans, continents and nations, languages and histories. In this collection, public and personal archives work with literary translations across several dialects of the Inupiaq language, and re-complexify Arctics at a time when empires once again seem interested in flattening and erasing millennia of Indigenous inhabitation, care, and situatedness. It was written between Massachusetts, Inuit Nunaat, Sápmi, the "Old World" and through waves of overlapping pandemics, political and social exigencies, and solidarities.

Contributor Bio

Joan Naviyuk Kane is the author of the poetry collections *The Cormorant Hunter's Wife*, *Hyperboreal*, *Milk Black Carbon*, and *Dark Traffic*. Her edited volumes include *The Griffin Poetry Prize 2017 Anthology* and *Circumpolar Connections: Creative Indigenous Geographies of the Arctic*. A Guggenheim Fellow, Radcliffe Fellow, Native Arts and Cultures Foundation National Artist Fellow, Whiting Award winner, and Paul Engle Prize recipient, she's a 2025 United States Artists Fellow based in Oregon, where she's an associate professor at Reed College.

Quotes

"These poems move ferociously through landscapes of rupture, wielding exacting, rigorous vocabularies that feel scraped from the wary and hoarfrosted voice of a poet-seer who spares no bullshit: 'No more I want to go home. No more I want to go into another time. No more want, just need.' Kane's word is urgent throughout, marked by an insistent naming of plants, people, places—an act of preservation against all that slips away: 'gather them—my eyes are brimming with tears.' Even as everything edges toward loss, this collection builds something lasting and vibrant: 'for the sorrow to become something islandic. / Someplace we can travel back to together / if we have to, if we make it through these days.' This book will gut you and sweep you clean." —Stephanie Adams-Santos, author of *Dream of Xibalba*

"Obtaining the necessary language,' Joan Naviyuk Kane writes in her astonishing new collection of poems, *with snow pouring southward past the window*, 'one of my children reminds me / that we continue to grow things here / where nothing fallows.' What the poet discovers on her journeys into the fraught wildernesses of her Native lands and complicated family dramas, of history and desire, is a language capable of documenting and interrogating incalculable losses, in a range of forms conceived afresh and certain to leave her readers hungry for more. 'A poem, / too, holds secrets that it cannot tell,' she suggests, and in her telling, these secrets are transformed into the kinds of truth that will endure." —Christopher Merrill, author of *Self-Portrait with Dogwood*

"Joan Kane's collection, *with snow pouring southward past the window*, is a brilliant, philosophically informed constellation that masterfully navigates trauma, violence, and grief with extraordinary lyricism. The speaker navigates a complex universe in this singular collection. This series of poems both shows and enacts how a self is brought to being through the abyss." —Cynthia Cruz, author of *Sweet Repetition*

University of Pittsburgh Press
Pub Date: 3/3/2026

9780822967668
\$20.00/£15.00 UK
Discount Code: t
Trade Paperback

88 Pages
Poetry / Native American
Series: Pitt Poetry Series

THE BOLSHEVIKS SURVIVE

PETROGRAD 1919

ALEXANDER RABINOWITCH



University of Pittsburgh Press
Pub Date: 4/28/2026

9780822967910
\$40.00/£29.00 UK
Discount Code: s
Paperback

9780822949039
\$120.00/£89.00 UK
Discount Code: x
Hardcover

312 Pages
20 b&w illustrations
History / Russia
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The Bolsheviks Survive

Petrograd 1919

Alexander Rabinowitch

In This Capstone Work, an Esteemed Historian of the Russian Revolution Explores the Dynamics of the Upheaval in Petrograd That Changed World History

Summary

Petrograd, the imperial capital and the urban stage upon which virtually the entire Russian Revolution was enacted, in 1919 struggled through a year of civil war, hunger, social upheaval, and political and economic challenges. Based on exhaustive research in previously closed Russian archives, Alexander Rabinowitch authoritatively presents an in depth look at how Petrograd's local Soviet government and Bolshevik Party organizations struggled to implement the Bolshevik Party program, fight domestic and foreign counterrevolutionaries, quiet labor unrest, and provide food, fuel, and education to the local population. The methods and strategies used by the government and party organizations to organize public life and fight enemies, domestic and foreign, not only preserved the infant Soviet regime but proved to be the first manifestation of what would become the one-party authoritarian Soviet political system.

Contributor Bio

Alexander Rabinowitch is emeritus professor of history at Indiana University. He is also an affiliated research scholar for the Saint Petersburg Institute of History and Russian Academy of Sciences.

Quotes

"A lifetime of curiosity, research, and reflection propel this highly readable journey through 'Red Petrograd,' the former Russian imperial capital that became the launchpad for Vladimir Lenin's epoch-defining revolution. I cannot think of a more reliable guide to the twists and turns of Bolshevik power than the eminent Alexander Rabinowitch."

—Benjamin Nathans, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *To the Success of Our Hopeless Cause: The Many Lives of the Soviet Dissident Movement*

"Taking power in a revolution is one thing, but hanging on and establishing a functioning government is quite another. In the fourth of his meticulously documented histories of the Bolshevik Party in Petrograd, doyen of US historians of the Russian Revolution Alexander Rabinowitch sets out the formidable problems and costs of revolutionary survival as democratic instincts withered in the face of economic crisis and military threat." —Sheila Fitzpatrick, distinguished service professor emerita, University of Chicago

"Alexander Rabinowitch has likely done more than any other historian to overturn entrenched postrevolutionary and Cold War interpretations of the Russian Revolution. In this concluding volume of his landmark tetralogy on Red Petrograd, he shows how the crucible of civil war not only eroded the city's once-central role in national and international politics but also corroded the Communist Party's egalitarian ideals and the flexible political practices of 1917 and 1918—features so vital to Lenin's rise to power. Essential reading for students of the Revolution and for anyone seeking to understand the origins of Stalinist governance." —Donald J. Raleigh, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



**RESOURCES AND
EVERYDAY CONFLICTS
IN RURAL UKRAINE**
THEORIZING SOCIAL CHANGE
DEEMA KANEFF



University of Pittsburgh Press
Pub Date: 2/3/2026

970822967736
\$35.00/£26.00 UK
Discount Code: s
Paperback

9780822948773
\$120.00/£89.00 UK
Discount Code: x
Hardcover

300 Pages
History / Europe
Series: Russian and East
European Studies

Resources and Everyday Conflicts in Rural Ukraine

Theorizing Social Change

Deema Kaneff

New Ways to Understand Post-Socialist Change in Rural Ukraine

Summary

Social change is a topic of central interest in the social sciences. The upheavals and reforms that swept across former socialist states in Eurasia offer a rich array of case studies to deepen our understanding of this phenomenon. Based on ethnographic fieldwork in an ethnically Bulgarian community in rural Ukraine, Deema Kaneff uniquely brings to light a range of hidden conflicts and everyday tensions, as well as new alliances and solidarities resulting from the redistribution of resources following Ukrainian independence. A focus on five key resources provides a means to explore the way in which relationships were contested and renegotiated in this small community, with implications that go far beyond those boundaries.

Contributor Bio

Deema Kaneff is a reader in social anthropology at the University of Birmingham in the UK and an associate at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology in Halle, Germany. She is the series editor for the book series Anthropologies of Eurasia: Ethnographic Encounters of Social Change and a member of the editorial board for the book series European Studies in Socio-Cultural Anthropology and Ethnology. She is the author of *Who Owns the Past? The Politics of Time in a "Model" Bulgarian Village*, as well as numerous other edited volumes and journal publications.

Quotes

"When the Bulgarian minority in Bessarabia was exposed to the dual forces of globalizing political economy and the nationalizing Ukrainian state, life-worlds and resource use changed radically. Kaneff's study is both an important addition to the literature on postsocialist transformation and, with its sophisticated conceptualization of resources, a truly original contribution to the analysis of social change generally."
—Chris Hann, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology

"In this finely grained, historically grounded ethnographic study of a village in Ukraine, Deema Kaneff focuses on resources—economic, social, material, and immaterial—as the core of her theoretical approach to social change. Resources may have use value, exchange value, or both, and may change and fluctuate according to context, political circumstance, and economic shifts. Kaneff examines different kinds of resources, ranging from land and water to identity, ethnicity, and language, as they move from a position of use and consumption to exchange value, or gain monetary value. She describes the changes in political economy and social relations of the ethnically Bulgarian village prior to and throughout the Soviet period, through the collapse of the Soviet Union, and with establishment of an independent Ukraine. Her last fieldwork in the village was in 2014, the beginning of the first Russian invasion, but the ensuing war is foreshadowed in discussions of increasing Ukrainian nationalism and exclusions based on ethnic identity and language. Kaneff paints a vivid portrait of a village reacting to, and being deeply changed by, events in the wider world—the end of the Soviet Union, economic restructuring, changing national and global markets, migration, new inequalities, and war. But it also tells a story of resilience, of adaptation to change, and of new possibilities opening through education, mobility, and networks of kinship and friendship." —Frances Pine, Goldsmiths, University of London



Rethinking Latin America's Left Turn

A Historical and Theoretical Approach

Paul W. Posner

A Reexamination of the Pink Tide That Swept Across Latin America in the Early Twenty-First Century

Summary

Around the turn of the century, a wave of leftist governments spread across Latin America. Paul W. Posner revisits this movement and diagnoses the reasons for its failure to achieve traditional leftist goals, such as reducing inequality, increasing inclusion of marginalized groups, and strengthening social solidarity. He investigates two sets of paired comparisons of paradigmatic cases: the moderate leftist regimes of Chile and Uruguay and the radical leftist regimes of Ecuador and Venezuela. He then compares their rhetoric with their actual practices and policies. Too often, these governments betrayed their self-avowed principles. Posner identifies the shortcomings in the conceptualizations used to understand this pink tide, provides the conceptual and empirical basis for challenging the established thinking regarding leftist governance in Latin America, and constructs the foundation for rethinking what an authentic left turn in Latin America might look like.

Contributor Bio

Paul W. Posner is associate professor in the Department of Political Science at Clark University. He directs the Latin American and Latinx Studies program and teaches courses on Latin American politics, U.S. – Latin American relations, comparative environmental politics, and democratic theory.

Quotes

"Thorough and cogent, I have never seen a better exploration of the nature of the political systems and specific policies in the four countries that are analyzed by the author." —Silvia Borzutzky, Carnegie Mellon University

"In this sweeping analysis, Paul W. Posner re-examines the left turn in Latin America through a meticulously crafted set of controlled comparisons: Ecuador to Venezuela and Chile to Uruguay. With the benefit of hindsight, Posner delves into four distinct leftist governments, offering an analysis that is both empirically and conceptually rich. This work is poised to reshape our understanding of the political forces that defined the region during that pivotal era. Posner forcefully argues that the prevailing interpretations of the left turn are inadequate. He proposes a more nuanced framework, drawing a crucial distinction between rentier populism (Ecuador and Venezuela), neoliberal democracy (Chile), and true social democracy (Uruguay). This compelling argument will undoubtedly influence how we look back at the left turn and its profound implications for democracy and social incorporation in the region. More fundamentally, Posner's analysis will have a significant say in how a plausible leftist project might be envisioned and pursued in the years to come." —Juan Pablo Luna, McGill University

University of Pittsburgh Press
Pub Date: 2/24/2026

9780822968009
\$35.00/£26.00 UK
Discount Code: s
Trade Paperback

9780822948865
\$120.00/£89.00 UK
Discount Code: x
Hardcover

264 Pages
Political Science / World
Series: Pitt Latin American Series



University of Pittsburgh Press
Pub Date: 4/21/2026

9780822967989
\$35.00/£26.00 UK
Discount Code: s
Paperback

9780822948919
\$120.00/£89.00 UK
Discount Code: x
Hardcover

208 Pages
8 b&w
Political Science / World
Series: Pitt Latin American Series

Narco-Democratization

Organized Crime and Political Transition in Bolivia

Allan Gillies

How State-Narco Networks Shaped Bolivia's Political Transition and Limited Violence

Summary

The development of the global illicit drug trade has posed significant challenges to democracy throughout Latin America. Scenes of violence and disorder linked to organized crime and the "war on drugs" are imprinted in the popular consciousness. The case of Bolivia, though, shows that the dominant narrative wasn't the only one. Following decades of authoritarian government, Bolivia democratized in 1982. Its cocaine economy grew rapidly, and the United States made Bolivia a focus of its war on drugs. Such factors are often associated with increased violence in Latin America, yet Bolivia largely avoided a similar fate. State-narco networks—relations of patronage between state actors and Bolivia's organized crime groups—played an important role in suppressing violent competition in the cocaine trade. These networks were established during the country's authoritarian period and reflected the historic clientelistic functions of the Bolivian state. As Bolivia democratized, state-narco networks evolved and became bound to a fragile post-transition settlement between the main political actors. Allan Gillies reveals how these networks shaped Bolivia's political transition while controlling violence, but also limited the function of democracy by reinforcing authoritarian and corrupt practices.

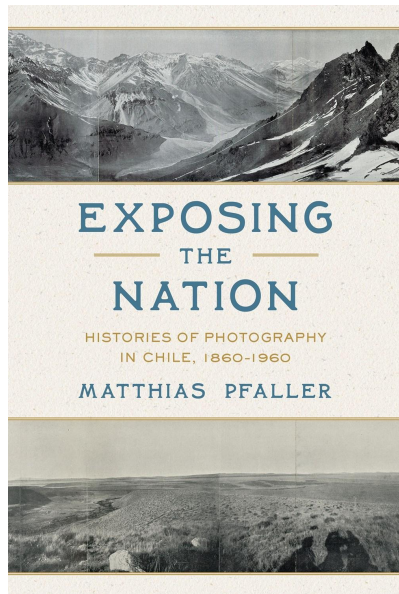
Contributor Bio

Allan Gillies is lecturer of political and international studies in the School of Social and Political Sciences at the University of Glasgow. Previously, he held an Economic and Social Research Council Global Challenges Research Fund Fellowship and received a Lord Kelvin/Adam Smith Scholarship, also at Glasgow.

Quotes

"*Narco-Democratization* is a must read for students and scholars of violence and crime in Latin America. Allan Gillies employs deep archival research to expertly trace the emergence of state-narco networks during Bolivia's military dictatorship, then shows how these relationships evolved during the country's transition to democracy. The result, unlike in other prominent cases, was the containment of violence at the expense of democratic consolidation. This book forces us to reconsider some of the prevailing assumptions about the Latin American state, its transition to democracy, and the drug wars that ensued." —Nicholas Barnes, University of St. Andrews

"Grounded in nuanced political and historical research, *Narco-Democratization* offers a solid, empirically grounded analysis of relationships between political leaders and drug trafficking organizations in Bolivia. The book's analytical framework offers a new way of thinking about complex patterns of state-criminal relations that can inform broader discussions about corruption and criminalization patterns in authoritarian and democratic systems. This is an important contribution to debates not just about crime and violence, but also about democracy and authoritarianism in Latin America." —Enrique Desmond Arias, City University of New York



University of Pittsburgh Press
Pub Date: 3/3/2026

9780822967767
\$40.00/£29.00 UK
Discount Code: s
Paperback

9780822948650
\$120.00/£89.00 UK
Discount Code: x
Hardcover

376 Pages
96 illustrations, mix of color
and b&w
History / Latin America
Series: Illuminations

Exposing the Nation

Histories of Photography in Chile, 1860–1960

Matthias Pfaller

A Study of Chilean Photography, History, and Nation as Interwoven Discourses

Summary

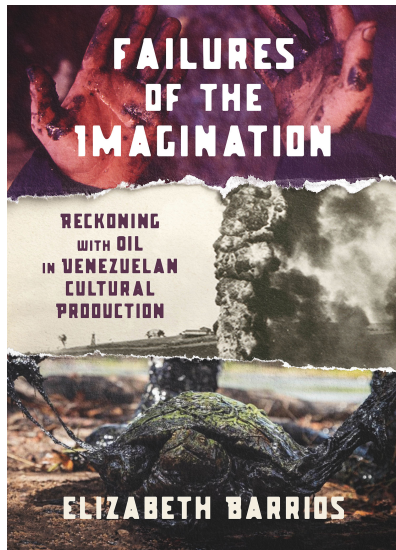
Is photography a Eurocentric practice that others its subjects? In *Exposing the Nation*, Matthias Pfaller makes the case with a review of a national historiography of photography and images produced in Chile over the course of a century. There are multiple photographies, and they have a variety of uses: science, politics, tourism, family traditions, ethnology, art. They appear in a diverse array of media: government albums, family albums, mass-produced postcards, exhibition prints, scientific records, and published books. Pfaller demonstrates the versatility of photography on the one hand, and the ways in which the national paradigm and modern historiography influenced the production and reception of photographic images on the other. It becomes clear that “national photography” is not a genre of its own, manifest solely in specific discourses. Rather, the nation, photography, and history are meta-discourses that pervade the very idea of Chile as represented through photography and the photographic image.

Contributor Bio

Matthias Pfaller is assistant curator of photographs at the Musée National d’Art Moderne de Paris, Centre Georges Pompidou.

Quotes

"Meticulously researched and documented, *Exposing the Nation* makes an original and interdisciplinary contribution to the fields of photography studies, Latin American studies, and nation building. Pfaller has gathered stunning visual materials from archives, museums, albums, and the business and scientific sector, disseminating them for a specialized as well as a general readership." —Marcy Schwartz, Rutgers University



University of Pittsburgh Press
Pub Date: 4/7/2026

9780822967965
\$40.00/£29.00 UK
Discount Code: s
Paperback

9780822948902
\$120.00/£89.00 UK
Discount Code: x
Hardcover

376 Pages
6 b&w
Literary Criticism / Caribbean &
Latin American
LIT004100
Series: Illuminations

Failures of the Imagination

Reckoning with Oil in Venezuelan Cultural Production

Elizabeth Barrios

Reframing the Venezuelan Petroculture Narrative

Summary

Despite the precariousness of an oil-based economy and the government's professed concern about climate change, a failure of imagination regarding alternatives continues to trap Venezuela in an oil-fueled status quo. Elizabeth Barrios examines the ideologies that helped normalize oil production in Venezuela, which further made oil-led development appear to be the only path to prosperity. Anchored in analyses of literature and media from the 1930s to the 2000s, Barrios argues that the creation of post-oil societies is not simply a question of economics or technology; it is a cultural issue that requires engaging the artistic imagination. She calls for new ways of reading that re-situate Venezuelan cultural production within a planetary ecology of oil. With interdisciplinary reach across energy humanities, environmental studies, and Latin American cultural analysis, *Failures of the Imagination* challenges readers to confront the narrative infrastructures of extractivism and to imagine life beyond the logic of oil.

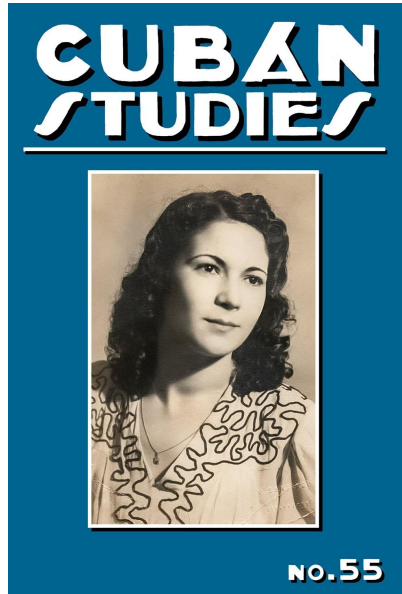
Contributor Bio

Elizabeth Barrios is associate professor in the Department of Modern Languages and Cultures at Albion College. Her research explores ecology, energy humanities, and Latin American and Latina/o literature and media, with an emphasis on Venezuela and its global diaspora.

Quotes

"*Failures of the Imagination* sets the record straight about how petro-narratives in Venezuela and beyond deform our own understanding of history, space, and nature. It is a timely and urgent call to reevaluate our position in relation not only to an extractivist global economy, but also to the material realities of a planetary ecology upon which it is reliant." —Sean Nesselrode Moncada, Rhode Island School of Design

"*Failures of the Imagination* is a groundbreaking ecological critique of Venezuelan culture. Elizabeth Barrios fearlessly explores what it would mean to loosen oil's hold on our collective imagination by developing new conceptual habits that allow us to confront the overlooked contexts, temporalities, and destructive violence at play in the oil economy. This is an indispensable book, not only for the outstanding quality of its research but also for its contribution toward broadening the scope of Venezuela studies." —Irina R. Troconis, Cornell University



Cuban Studies 55

Lillian Guerra

Summary

Cuban Studies is the preeminent journal for scholarly work on Cuba. Each volume includes articles in English and Spanish and a large book review section. In publication since 1970, this interdisciplinary journal covers all aspects of Cuban history, politics, culture, diaspora, and more.

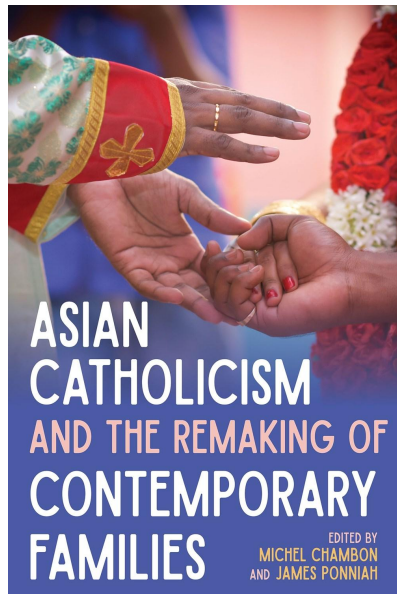
Contributor Bio

Lillian Guerra is the author of many scholarly articles, works of public history, creative writing and five books of history: *Popular Expression and National Identity in Puerto Rico* (University Press of Florida, 1998), *The Myth of José Martí: Conflicting Nationalisms in Early Twentieth-Century Cuba* (University of North Carolina Press, 2005), and *Visions of Power in Cuba: Revolution, Redemption and Resistance, 1959-1971* (University of North Carolina Press, 2012), which received the 2014 Bryce Wood Book Award from the Latin American Studies Association, its most prestigious prize for a book on Latin America across all fields. Dr. Guerra's fourth book, published by Yale University Press in 2018, is titled *Heroes, Martyrs and Political Messiahs in Revolutionary Cuba, 1946-1958*. In 2023, Guerra published *Patriots and Traitors in Revolutionary Cuba, 1961-1981*, the third of her trilogy on the Cuban Revolution, with the University of Pittsburgh Press. From 2013-2024, she served as the Book Review Editor of the journal *Cuban Studies*.

University of Pittsburgh Press
Pub Date: 1/27/2026

9780822948711
\$95.00/£70.00 UK
Discount Code: s
Hardcover

376 Pages
22 b&w
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Series: Cuban Studies



University of Pittsburgh Press
Pub Date: 6/23/2026

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9780822949015
\$120.00/£89.00 UK
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256 Pages
11 b/w illustrations
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Series: Contemporary Asian
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Asian Catholicism and the Remaking of Contemporary Families

Michel Chambon, James Ponniah

An Ethnographic Exploration of Catholicism and Family Life in Contemporary Asia

Summary

Foreword by José Casanova

Asian Catholicism and the Remaking of Contemporary Families attends to the ways in which Asian Catholics navigate and negotiate the ethical ideals, normative discourses, and devotional practices of their religion as they construct and reconstruct their understandings of the family in contemporary society. In addition to family structures based on biological ties, contributors to this volume also examine other kinship groups based on systems of mutual care, highlighting the multiple perspectives and diverse values shared by Asian Catholics who produce and define social groupings that are recognized as families. Featuring case studies from South, Southeast, and East Asia, these chapters complicate the conventional view that Catholicism disrupts local cultures, considering not only how Asian families and Catholicism mutually constitute and transform each other in terms of interfaith dialogue, ethnic identity, and clergy-laity dynamics, but also how marriage, kinship, and filial piety become sites of active engagement and constant negotiation with their faith in the shaping and living of their family relations.

Contributor Bio

Michel Chambon is a research fellow in the Asia Research Institute at the National University of Singapore and a coordinator of the Initiative for the Study of Asian Catholics. He is author of *Making Christ Present in China: Actor-Network Theory and the Anthropology of Christianity*.

James Ponniah is assistant professor and head of the Department of Christian Studies at the University of Madras. He is author of *Culture, Religion, and Home-Making in and Beyond South Asia* and coeditor of *Democratization of Indian Christianity: Hegemony, Accessibility, and Resistance*. He also serves as editor in chief of the *International Journal of Asian Christianity*.

Quotes

"Despite being home to more than 140 million Catholics, Asia remains marginalized in Catholic studies. This excellent volume breaks new ground by showing how Catholicism both shapes and is shaped by kinship systems which affect marriage, intergenerational transmission, and even anti-Christian persecutions. Chambon and Ponniah's collection provides a much-needed corrective to Western-centric accounts of Catholicism."
—Brandon Vaidyanathan, Catholic University of America

"*Asian Catholicism and the Remaking of Contemporary Families* offers a comprehensive and innovative analysis of how faith, culture, daily lived experiences, community, and society intersect in contemporary Catholic families in different parts of Asia. It invites us to rethink and re-envision the diversity and plurality of the ways in which Asian families are inculturating the Catholic faith in ways that are deeply rooted in—and flow out of—indigenous, local, and subaltern voices across Asia." —Jonathan Y. Tan, Case Western Reserve University



THE CORRESPONDENCE OF
JOHN TYNDALL

15

The Correspondence of John Tyndall, Volume 15

The Correspondence, November 1875-December 1877

Richard England, Tanya O'Sullivan

Tyndall Continues Scientific Experiments and Marries Louisa Hamilton

Summary

The fifteenth volume of *The Correspondence of John Tyndall* contains 466 letters covering the period from November 1875 to December 1877. Tyndall was by now an established man of science with a far-reaching reputation. The most significant work he undertook in this period involved his experiments on spontaneous generation and his consulting for Trinity House on lighthouse illuminations and sound-signaling. Alongside these projects, he married Louisa Hamilton in a small ceremony in London on February 29, 1876. This event offers a brief respite from the intense scientific and technical communications that dominate his life in the mid-1870s, and subsequent letters reveal his newfound domestic happiness.

Contributor Bio

Richard England is a professor of philosophy and dean of the Pine Honors College at Eastern Illinois University. With Bernard Lightman and Catherine Marshall, he edited the *Papers of the Metaphysical Society* (2015) as well as a volume of essays about them (2019). His current projects focus on science and the Bible in the nineteenth century, and on technology and distraction in twenty-first-century higher education.

Tanya O'Sullivan is an independent researcher based in Northern Ireland. She is the author of *Geographies of City Science: Urban Lives and Origin Debates in Late Victorian Dublin*.

Quotes

"A vivid glimpse into the exhausting and exhilarating life of one of Victorian science's most interesting figures." —*H-Net Reviews*

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THE CORRESPONDENCE OF
JOHN TYNDALL

16

The Correspondence of John Tyndall, Volume 16

The Correspondence, January 1878–November 1881

Richard D. Bellon, Donald L. Opitz, Jessica Avery

An Aging Tyndall Battles Illness amid Scientific Work and Rising Personal and Political Turmoil

Summary

The 500 letters in this sixteenth volume of *The Correspondence of John Tyndall* document the period from January 1, 1878, to December 31, 1881. They chart a defining stage in the later life and career of an aging John Tyndall with unprecedented detail. Key developments evidence the fragility of a self-fashioned Carlylean hero, one whose sustenance increasingly relied on the companionate, domestic partnership that he enjoyed with his wife, Louisa. While they vacationed in the new summer home they built together in the Swiss Alps, where they experienced a shared reverence for nature, Louisa immersed herself daily in the business of Tyndall's scientific work, directly assisting with experiments like the action of freshly fallen snow on the transmission of sound. But his failing bodily health—cascades of sickness, chronic insomnia above all else—disturbed his daily labors, transforming routine tasks into exhausting slogs. He also feared that growing forces of disorder—in his native Ireland most distressingly—threatened political, social, and economic stability.

Contributor Bio

Richard D. Bellon is a historian of science who holds a joint appointment with Lyman Briggs College and the Department of History at Michigan State University.

Donald L. Opitz is associate professor in the School of Continuing and Professional Studies at DePaul University.

Jessica Avery is a graduate student in philosophy at DePaul University.

University of Pittsburgh Press
Pub Date: 6/30/2026

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Wallace in the Field

Ethnographic Expeditions and the Rise of Anthropology

Victor Rafael Limeira-DaSilva

How Alfred Russel Wallace Advanced the New Science of Anthropology Through Global Travel and Ethnographic Study

Summary

A man of many talents—naturalist, geographer, anthropologist, and political commentator—Alfred Russel Wallace made seminal contributions to science in the nineteenth century. With *Wallace in the Field*, Victor Rafael Limeira-DaSilva unpacks the early life of one of the most beloved and famous Victorian scientific figures. Focusing on Wallace's significant contribution to the emergence of anthropology, Limeira-DaSilva traces the peripatetic trajectory of Wallace's field work, from his humble beginnings in the suburbs of London to his travels through the Brazilian Amazon and Asia. Challenging traditional portrayals that cast Wallace as Darwin's sidekick or a casual ethnographer, the book demonstrates how he built a deliberate and ambitious career as a field observer of human diversity. It offers a fresh perspective on the intersections between ethnographic encounters, racial science, and knowledge production, revealing how Wallace's pursuit of recognition helped redefine the standards of scientific authority in British anthropology.

Contributor Bio

Victor Rafael Limeira-DaSilva is an historian of science and researcher at the Museu de Astronomia e Ciências Afins (MAST) in Brazil. His research focuses on the Brazilian and British contexts in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, with special attention to the history of ethnological studies on Indigenous peoples in Brazil; the history of anthropology and "racial" science; the history of scientific cultures; the history of scientific explorers in South America; scientific collecting and anthropological museums; and the production of scientific knowledge within imperial globalization.

Quotes

"We know a lot about Alfred Russell Wallace. But the way his career was shaped by his early interests in the developing Victorian 'science of man' is much less well appreciated. In *Wallace in the Field*, Victor Rafael Limeira-DaSilva carefully traces the importance of Wallace's anthropological work, especially in the Amazon but also in Wales and southeast Asia. Giving both a new perspective on a well-known historical figure and a fascinating study of the links between fieldwork, career-building, and the ideas and politics around the study of human diversity, this book will interest readers from across fields of study." —Chris Manias, King's College London

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Mapping Medical Modernity

Urban Space and Public Health in Tokyo, 1868–1920

Susan L. Burns

Visualizing the Transformation of Tokyo's Modern Healthscape

Summary

Mapping Medical Modernity explores the history of medical modernization and public health in late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century Tokyo, a city undergoing rapid transformation from the seat of power of the Tokugawa shoguns of the Edo period to the capital of a modern nation-state and its expanding empire in the Meiji period. Tracing the development of institutions and policies designed to improve medical care and public health in a dense urban environment, Susan L. Burns examines tensions between the involved parties—including doctors and policymakers, police and civil officials, residents and those who governed them—and provides case studies focused on three of the city's major challenges in public health: syphilis, cholera, and mental illness. Drawing upon a wide range of archival materials and contemporary accounts, Burns also employs geographic information system analysis in mapping the complicated relationships interlinking aspects of the urban environment, social life, public policy, and commercialized medical culture to demonstrate visually how policy decisions and medical capitalism gradually reshaped existing spatial arrangements in the city as well as the social relations that unfolded within them.

Contributor Bio

Susan L. Burns is professor of Japanese History and East Asian Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago. Burns received her PhD from the University of Chicago in 1994 and after teaching at the University of Texas, she returned to the University of Chicago in 2002 as an associate professor of History. In addition to numerous articles, Burns is the author of *Before the Nation: Kokugaku and the Imagining of Community in Early Modern Japan* and *Kingdom of the Sick: A History of Leprosy and Japan*, and co-editor of *Gender and Law in the Japanese Imperium*.

Quotes

"This marvelous book reconstructs the medical world of turn-of-the-century Tokyo. Susan L. Burns deftly balances attention to individual experiences of health and disease with comprehensive overviews of state policy and professional formation at a crucial moment in the making of the modern world. This book is indispensable for anyone concerned with the history and politics of Tokyo and urban public health." —Mary Augusta Brazelton, University of Cambridge

"Susan L. Burns's wonderful *Mapping Medical Modernity* lives up to its ambitious title, combining an erudite survey of the evolution of public health ideas and institutions over the course of the nineteenth century with a granular study of the distribution and treatment of syphilis, mental health, and cholera in Tokyo." —David L. Howell, Harvard University

"*Mapping Medical Modernity* offers a socio-spatial history of health governance in Tokyo. Susan L. Burns explores the interplay of the built environment, administrative efforts to manage disease, legal regulation and policing, and the pathogens themselves. She reveals how efforts to control the disease too easily turned into criticism of the poor and reinforcement of social hierarchies. Combining innovative historical methods with textured accounts of lived experience, Burns illuminates the complex entanglement of medicine, governance, and urban life in the making of modern Tokyo." —Amy Borovoy, Princeton University

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FORDISM and the CITY

HOW AN INDUSTRY
SHAPED
URBANIZATION
IN AMERICA



JAY CEPHAS

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Fordism and the City

How an Industry Shaped Urbanization in America

Jay Cephas

How Fordism Remade the Urban in the Image of Industrial Production

Summary

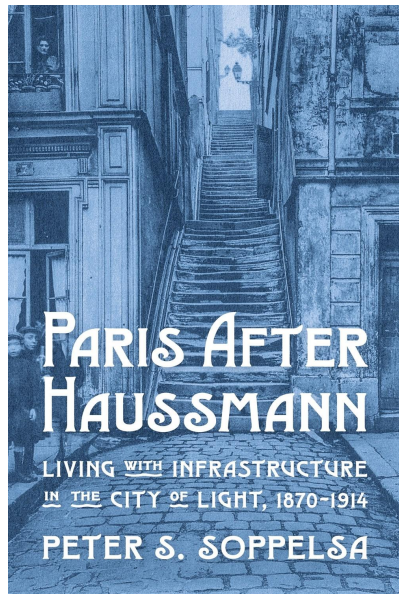
In the early twentieth century, the Ford Motor Company built an industrial empire with massive factory complexes and associated infrastructures. Henry Ford's 1915 plan to decentralize industrial manufacturing relied on moving key technical processes closer to sites of resource extraction while distributing elements of production. In *Fordism and the City*, Jay Cephas analyzes key infrastructures—from factories and mills to roads, rail lines, and canals—to trace the impact of automated, assembly-line production on the urban and rural landscapes of Michigan. The overwhelming scale of the Ford Motor Company's plant in Dearborn, the idyllic setting of its small village factories throughout the Rouge River corridor, and the remoteness of the company's iron ore mines and hardwood forests in the Upper Peninsula all played an important role. Under the rubric of "the industrial city," Fordism sought to replace conventional urbanism, reconfiguring factory production and then making its practices visible and intelligible to a consuming public through an industrial aesthetic. In doing so, Cephas shows, Fordism functioned as a normalizing force that helped to usher in the new industrial society.

Contributor Bio

Jay Cephas is a historian who studies the impact of labor, technology, and social identity on the built environment. He is assistant professor in the history and theory of architecture at Princeton University, where he is also a research director of the Princeton-Mellon Initiative in Architecture, Urbanism, and the Humanities. Cephas is also the founding director of the *Black Architects Archive*, an interactive repository that documents the physical, intellectual, and creative labor deployed by the Black architects, builders, landscape architects, and contractors who helped shape the American built environment across the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Cephas was recently named a Conserving Black Modernism Fellow at the African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Cephas is a member of the African American Intellectual History Society, Urban History Association, Society for American City and Regional Planning History, Labor and Working Class History Association, Society for the History of Technology, and Society of Architectural Historians.

Quotes

"In this fascinating study, architectural historian Jay Cephas shows that Fordism was never confined to the assembly line, the factory complex, or the industrial city. It was, rather, a territorial formation that linked the machinery of production to landscapes of extraction and circulation through a vast industrial metabolism that included mines, forests, fields, waterways, highways, railroads, urban networks, and metropolitan centers. *Fordism and the City* is an essential scholarly resource for anyone interested in the interplay between labor, urbanism, technology, territory, and environment."
—Neil Brenner, University of Chicago



University of Pittsburgh Press
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Paris After Haussmann

Living with Infrastructure in the City of Light, 1870–1914

Peter S. Soppelsa

Challenges the Myth of Paris as a Model Metropolis in which Infrastructures Deliver Universal Social Progress

Summary

Modern Paris is often hailed as a capital of urban infrastructure. Baron Georges-Eugène Haussmann's rebuilding of Paris in 1853–1870, branded "Haussmannization," helped define urban modernity for cities worldwide. But even as infrastructures expanded and modernized, some Parisians were left behind: as late as 1928, 18 percent of houses still lacked direct sewerage. Haussmannization often hid infrastructures behind walls and floors, under streets, or in peripheral districts. In the forty years after 1870, a period that Peter Soppelsa calls "secondary Haussmannization," Parisians inverted them—revealed their hidden components to scrutinize their workings and costs for society, environment, and health—and in turn politicized them. Drawing on French government archives, engineers' maps, the illustrated press, and a collection of over 100 photographic postcards, Soppelsa charts the diverse embodied, emotional, and everyday experiences of living with expanding urban infrastructures—streets, housing, tramways, subways, the water supply, sewers, and rivers—in Paris from 1870 to 1914. Parisians learned that infrastructures were not simply technical solutions for the social and environmental problems of city life but could also bring about new dangers and dependencies.

Contributor Bio

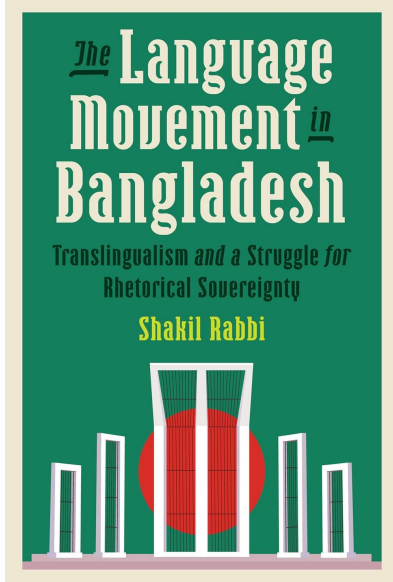
Peter S. Soppelsa is an assistant professor in the University of Oklahoma Department of History of Science, Technology, and Medicine. His research combines environmental and urban history with the history of technology to explore the past of infrastructures, public works, public health, and the everyday experience of urban environments and technologies.

Quotes

"This marvelous book provides critical insight into the relationships between technology, society, and the urban environment in a modernizing Paris. Peter S. Soppelsa lays bare the visible and invisible aspects of the infrastructure that shaped both the form and the human experience of the city's vertical, spatial, and subterranean geographies. The result is an essential portrait of the uneven reach of Paris's infrastructures of transportation, sanitation, and organization, which both reflected and reinforced novel inequalities." —Richard C. Keller, University of Wisconsin–Madison

"Well-written and conceived, *Paris After Haussmann* presents an original perspective on the making of an iconic modern city, and will make an important contribution to historical studies of nineteenth-century Paris specifically, as well as the fields of French history, science and technology studies, and modern urban history more generally." —Min Kyung Lee, Bryn Mawr College

"*Paris after Haussmann* offers key insight into the ideal and reality of living with urban modernity in the City of Light. Peter Soppelsa lays bare the entanglement of infrastructure, environment, health, and society. A groundbreaking analysis and a great read." —Rosemary Wakeman, Fordham University



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The Language Movement in Bangladesh

Translingualism and a Struggle for Rhetorical Sovereignty

Shakil Rabbi

An Interdisciplinary Study of the Rhetorics of the Bangla Language Movement in Bangladesh

Summary

The Language Movement in Bangladesh charts the Bangla Language Movement from a rhetorical perspective. Following Partition in 1947, major conflicts over land, religion, power, and language characterized the newly independent nations of India and Pakistan. The debate over recognizing Bangla as a state language in East Pakistan was particularly consequential. Lasting nearly a decade, it upended Pakistan's political and social order and set the stage for Bangladeshi independence in 1971. Shakil Rabbi investigates the rhetorical facets of this debate and its takeaways for critical conversations around translingualist perspectives and rhetorical sovereignty. Rabbi analyzes the role of traditional, modernist, and folk ideologies during this era of subcontinental history through a combination of digital humanities and translingualist methodologies. *The Language Movement in Bangladesh* adds to scholarship around language rights and language ideologies with an examination of a politically explosive debate in a non-Western and postcolonial context.

Contributor Bio

Shakil Rabbi is assistant professor in the Department of English at Virginia Tech, where he teaches courses in rhetoric, writing studies, and research methods.

Quotes

"While translingualism is widely known for deconstructing monolithic ideologies and labeled languages, Shakil Rabbi demonstrates how fluid semiotic resources can help construct a national identity and 'mother tongue' for Bangladesh. This is a much-needed work on the ways translingualism can achieve rhetorical sovereignty for newly independent postcolonial communities in the Global South." —Suresh Canagarajah, Pennsylvania State University

"A welcome contribution to conversations around translingualism and transnationalism in the field. Shakil Rabbi presents a refreshing range of archival materials and rich sociocultural perspectives to unpack the complex politics and ideologies of language and literacy in twentieth-century Bangladesh." —Nancy Bou Ayash, University of Washington

"Shakil Rabbi's meticulously researched exploration of the Bengali Language Movement bridges translingual and rhetorical frameworks, archival and digital humanities methodologies, Islamic rhetorics, and multiliterate rhetorical practices. In addition to emphasizing how translingual theory can be a productive framework for historical scholarship, Rabbi suggests new ways of understanding how language itself, as topoi, can index multiple spatiotemporalities in the struggle for rhetorical sovereignty." —Amber Engelson, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts

"This book is a rare gift: a story of a language movement that succeeded, so much so that it led to UNESCO's International Mother Language Day. By taking us inside the work of people who started, sustained, and died for the movement for the Bangla language, Shakil Rabbi shows readers that it is often some of the most precarious people—students, artists, workers—who end up changing the world." —Katherine Flowers, University of Massachusetts–Lowell

NONVIOLENT RESPONSE



SHERI RYSDAM AND JT TORRES

University of Pittsburgh Press
Pub Date: 5/19/2026

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Nonviolent Response

Strategies for Responding to Writing

Sheri Rysdam, JT Torres

A Nonviolent Philosophical Framework in Response to Writing

Summary

The words teachers write on student work have the power to help students think critically and to hone and project their voices with confidence. They also have the power to shut students down. These words may affect student identity, motivation, and improvement of writing skills. Research suggests that many of the types of comments teachers and other reviewers write on student papers are negative, nonsensical, unhelpful, and even potentially harmful, especially for first-generation, working-class, and otherwise disenfranchised students. This harm can be understood as a form of violence. *Nonviolent Response*, which is centered on tenets for nonviolent teaching practices, presents an approach to writing responses that helps eliminate harmful affect and integrates efficient, carefully crafted, and clear guidance to writers. Sheri Rysdam and JT Torres offer evidence-based methods for effective, timesaving, motivational responses useful to teachers of writing and other responders or reviewers in professional and public contexts.

Contributor Bio

Sheri Rysdam is associate professor in English/Writing and director of the Writing Center at Eastern Oregon University. Her work has most recently appeared in *Women's Health Advocacy: Rhetorical Ingenuity for the 21st Century* and *Inclusive Aims: Rhetoric's Role in Reproductive Justice*.

JT Torres is director of the Houston H. Harte Center for Teaching and Learning at Washington and Lee University. He is the coeditor of *How to Incorporate Equity and Justice in Your Teaching* and the coauthor of *How to Use Writing for Teaching and Learning* and the arts-based ethnography *Situated Narratives and Sacred Dance: Performing the Entangled Histories of Cuba and West Africa*.

Quotes

"Drawing on Indigenous theories of listening, connectedness, and equality, Sheri Rysdam and JT Torres offer a model of nonviolent response with powerful implications for teachers and others committed to empathetic engagement with writing. Striking the perfect balance between theory and practice, the book makes a compelling case for this approach to response, and its reflective prompts equip readers to undertake this valuable work." —Ellen C. Carillo, University of Connecticut

"*Nonviolent Response* offers a framework to not only revise the ways teachers think about response strategies and techniques in relation to student writing (especially marginalized students), but also to rethink the craft and delivery of personal, professional, and civic response. Notably, the authors draw on current learning science, in addition to contemporary composition theory, to offer a fresh understanding of familiar material." —Steven Corbett, Methodist University

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