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- *My Life and My Life in the Nineties*, by Lyn Hejinian
- *Seasonal Works with Letters on Fire*, by Brenda Hillman
- *Public Figures*, by Jena Osman
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**NEW:**
- *The Tatters*, by Brenda Coultas
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- *Testimony*, by Yusef Komunyakaa
- *Favor of Crows*, by Gerald Vizenor

**Fiction**
- *Blue Ravens*, by Gerald Vizenor

**Science fiction**

**History**
- *Connecticut in the American Civil War*, by Matthew Warshauer

**Government**
- *Local Government in Connecticut*, by Frank Connolly (teacher’s guide)

... more titles in coming soon! Check the web page for new titles.
John Cage Was

JAMES KLOSTY

*Intimate portraits and remembrances of one of the most influential artists of the twentieth century*

It is difficult to imagine a world without John Cage. His playful, challenging spirit remains pervasive—a formative force in the lives of those in the forefront of today’s arts. This special book combines iconic photographs of Cage by James Klosty with eclectic testimony the author commissioned from people the world over, each asked to contribute their thoughts on Cage’s influence on their lives and work with one-hundred-word statements. These remembrances range from humorous to reverent, to irreverent, and are from artists including Laurie Anderson, John Ashbery, Gavin Bryars, Jasper Johns, Harry Mathews, Meredith Monk, Mark Morris, Ron Padgett, Yoko Ono, Yvonne Rainer, Steve Reich, Peter Sellars, Stephen Sondheim, Twyla Tharp, Michael Tilson Thomas, Anne Waldman, Robert Wilson, and many more.

The evocative duotone photographs show John Cage alone and in association with Merce Cunningham, Marcel Duchamp, Octavio Paz, Aaron Copland, and many others. The book provides public and private glimpses into the man who transformed chance from an inescapable inevitability of life into disciplined creativity through music, writing, philosophy, printmaking, and, on the largest scale of all, living. *John Cage Was* gives us a privileged view of an irreplaceable man who had few enemies and innumerable disciples.

“With enviable intimacy this book captures the wit, the wicked genius, and infectious curiosity of the great John Cage. It is a testament to his power as an artist, and to his lasting legacy as inspiration to anyone with a few ‘crazy’ ideas.”

MIKHAIL BARYSHNIKOV

JAMES KLOSTY is a photographer, actor, and organic gardener. He is the photographer/author of *Merce Cunningham*, and his work has been shown at the Leo Castelli Gallery and the ICP/International Center of Photography. Klosty lives in Millbrook, New York.

Also of Interest

Silence

Lectures and Writings, 50th Anniversary Edition

JOHN CAGE

Paper, $24.95 • 978-0-8195-7365-0
The Logbooks
Connecticut’s Slave Ships and Human Memory

ANNE FARROW

Three long-neglected logbooks from Connecticut’s slave trade raise questions about memory and collective forgetting.

In 1757, a ship owned by an affluent Connecticut merchant sailed from New London to the tiny island of Bence in Sierra Leone, West Africa, to buy slaves. In 2004, writer Anne Farrow discovered the forgotten logbook from that voyage and unearthed new realities of Connecticut’s role in the Atlantic slave trade, eventually revisiting the haunted island in Sierra Leone. She began to wonder how we could have forgotten this part of our past so completely. Because her mother was beginning a descent into dementia at the same time, Farrow grapples with the idea that if our history is incomplete, then collectively we have forgotten who we are. Forthright, well researched, and warmly recounted, The Logbooks reads like a novel, rich with detail as it charts a journey into the past. The multiple narratives weave together into a compelling meditation on how slavery still affects us.

“A powerful story, heartbreaking, revealing, and redemptive. The Logbooks invites us to join a voyage of discovery into the ‘triangles’ of the trans-Atlantic slave trade—a deeply personal and empathetic exploration of history, memory, and identity. To lose our grasp on the past, Farrow reminds us, is to become unmoored from our selves.”

JOHN WOOD SWEET, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

ANNE FARROW is coauthor of the bestseller Complicity: How the North Promoted, Prolonged and Profited from Slavery. She lives in Haddam, Connecticut.

The Driftless Connecticut Series is funded by the Beatrice Fox Auerbach Foundation Fund at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving.

www.wesleyan.edu/wespress/driftless
Homegrown Terror
Benedict Arnold and the Burning of New London

ERIC D. LEHMAN

A new look at the quintessential traitor

On September 6, 1781, Connecticut native Benedict Arnold and a force of 1,600 British soldiers and loyalists took Fort Griswold and burnt New London, Connecticut, to the ground. The brutality of the invasion galvanized the new nation, and “Remember New London!” would become a rallying cry for troops under General Lafayette. In Homegrown Terror, Eric D. Lehman chronicles the events leading up to the attack and highlights this key transformation in Arnold—the point where he went from betraying his comrades to massacring his neighbors and destroying their homes. This defining incident forever marked him as a symbol of evil, turning an antitheroic story about weakness of character and missed opportunity into one about the nature of treachery itself. Homegrown Terror draws upon a variety of perspectives, from the traitor himself to his former comrades like Jonathan Trumbull and Silas Deane, to the murdered Colonel Ledyard. Lehman sheds light on the ethics of the dawning nation and the way colonial America responded to betrayal and terror.

“Eric Lehman’s Homegrown Terror is the biography of evil personified by America’s greatest antihero. It is a tour de force of research, showing that evil can draw a society—or nation—together as effectively as can good.”

CHRISTOPHER COLLIER, author of Decision in Philadelphia: The Constitutional Convention of 1787

ERIC D. LEHMAN is a professor at the University of Bridgeport. His fiction, travel stories, essays, and nonfiction have appeared in dozens of online and print journals and magazines. He is the author of several books, including Becoming Tom Thumb: Charles Stratton, P. T. Barnum, and the Dawn of American Celebrity.

The Driftless Connecticut Series is funded by the Beatrice Fox Auerbach Foundation Fund at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, www.wesleyan.edu/wespress/driftless.

ALSO OF INTEREST

The British Raid on Essex
The Forgotten Battle of the War of 1812

JERRY ROBERTS

Cloth, $27.95 • 978-0-8195-7476-3
Ebook, $21.99 • 978-0-8195-7477-0
The Director Within
Storytellers of Stage and Screen

ROSE EICHENBAUM
EDITED BY ARON HIRT-MANHEIMER

Intimate portraits of famous directors of stage and screen

In Rose Eichenbaum’s latest book on the confluence of art making and human expression, she sits down with thirty-five modern day storytellers—the directors of theater, film, and television. Eichenbaum’s subjects speak with revealing clarity about the entertainment industry, the role and life of the director, and how theatrical and cinematic storytelling impacts our culture and our lives. The Director Within includes interviews with Peter Bogdanovich (The Last Picture Show), Julie Taymor (The Lion King), Mel Brooks (Blazing Saddles), Tim Van Patten (The Sopranos, Boardwalk Empire), Hal Prince (The Phantom of the Opera), Barry Levinson (Rain Man), and many others. The accompanying portraits demonstrate Eichenbaum’s mastery of photography and convey the truth, depth, and intimacy of their subjects. The Director Within is an inspirational and entertaining resource for anyone interested in creativity, art making, and artistic collaboration. The book includes a listing of works from each of the directors.

“What a treat to read these interviews with so many directors I have known and to learn more about them, their courage, individuality, compassion, vision, insight, and wisdom and to hear the shared theme of love for the media and love as a theme in their lives and their work.”

JEREMY KAGAN, film and television director

ROSE EICHENBAUM is an award-winning photographer and photojournalist. Her work has appeared in several national magazines and has been the subject of numerous exhibitions. Eichenbaum is the author of four books and lives in Encino, California. ARON HIRT-MANHEIMER is the editor of numerous books and articles, including Eichenbaum’s The Dancer Within and The Actor Within. He lives in Ridgefield, Connecticut.
The Little Edges

FRED MOTEN

Poems that play in the sonic texture of discourses

The Little Edges is a collection of poems that extends poet Fred Moten’s experiments in what he calls “shaped prose”—a way of arranging prose in rhythmic blocks, or sometimes shards, in the interest of audio-visual patterning. Shaped prose is a form that works the “little edges” of lyric and discourse, and radiates out into the space between them. As occasional pieces, many of the poems in the book are the result of a request or commission to comment upon a work of art, or to memorialize a particular moment or person. In Moten’s poems, the matter and energy of a singular event or person are transformed by their entrance into the social space that they, in turn, transform. An online reader’s companion will be available.

“The poetic vision, or sound, of The Little Edges is remarkable in its range of reference, deep music, surprise at every turn, softness of lyric address coupled with political meditation, and undeniable beauty.”

Maggie Nelson, author of Bluets and The Art of Cruelty: A Reckoning

“The poems in The Little Edges work the margins of language—the African American vernacular with its powerfully kinetic resources as well as the more elevated and elegant language of the academy—blending and juxtaposing them in ways that result in an utterly fresh poetic idiom.”

M. NourbeSe Philip, author of Zong!

FRED MOTEN is a professor of English at the University of California, Riverside. He is the author of Arkansas, Poems (with Jim Behrle), I ran from it but was still in it, Hughson’s Tavern, B Jenkins, The Feel Trio, and the critical works In the Break: The Aesthetics of the Black Radical Tradition and The Undercommons: Fugitive Planning and Black Study (with Stefano Harney).

This project is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.

ALSO OF INTEREST

the new black

EVIE SHOCKLEY

Paper, $15.95 · 978-0-8195-7287-5
Ebook, $12.99 · 978-0-8195-7288-2
A Momentary Glory
Last Poems

HARVEY SHAPIRO
EDITED BY NORMAN FINKELSTEIN

The passionate testament of a brilliant poet in the face of age, illness, and mortality

The distinguished poet Harvey Shapiro passed away in 2013. The poems in this book, many of them previously unpublished and discovered only after his death, are a great gift, and the final confirmation of his extraordinary talent. Edited by Shapiro’s literary executor, the poet and critic Norman Finkelstein, these last poems bear an unprecedented gravitas, and yet they are as supple, jazzy, and edgy as Shapiro’s earlier work. All the themes for which he is known are beautifully represented here. There are poems of his experiences in World War II, the erotic life, and of daily moments in Brooklyn and Manhattan, all in search of a worldly wisdom and grace that the poet calls “a momentary glory.” As Shapiro tells us, the poem “Is an Egyptian / ship of the dead, / everything required / for life stored / in its hold.” The book includes an introduction by the editor. An online reader’s companion will be available.

“In these last poems Shapiro plays for keeps. This is a brave book that looks death in the eye and does not flinch.”

HUGH SEIDMAN, author of Somebody Stand Up and Sing


This project is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.
In *Just Saying*, improbable and even untenable speakers are briefly constituted—only to disappear. The result is part carnival, part nightmare. A television pundit’s rhetoric segues into an unusual succulent with writhing maroon tongues. The poems in *Just Saying* may be imagined as chimeras, creatures that appear when old distinctions break down and elements generally kept separate combine in new ways. An online reader’s companion is available.

“No poet gets caustic, or self-critical, or sarcastic, as well as Armantrout, whose quick stanzas—half Twitter, half Emily Dickinson—say a lot about how language, money, love, and memory can fail us, and in very little space. This collection, in particular, might give readers still on the outside of Armantrout’s brilliance a set of new ways in.”

*Publishers Weekly*

**RAE ARMANTROUT** is a professor of writing at the University of California at San Diego, and the author of ten books of poetry.

This project is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.

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In the fourth and final book in Brenda Hillman’s masterful series on the elements, she evokes fire as metaphor and as event to chart subtle changes of seasons during financial breakdown, environmental crisis, and street movements for social justice. The poet fuses the visionary, the political, and the personal to summon music and fire at once, calling the reader to be alive to the senses and to reimagine a common life. An online reader’s companion is available.

“Hillman’s fast-moving, energetic, and ample 10th collection blazes with indignation, gathers together motifs as for mass demonstration, and blazes among its topics…”

*Publishers Weekly*, starred review

**BRENDA HILLMAN** is the winner of the Los Angeles Times Book Award for Poetry for her collection, *Practical Water*. She teaches at Saint Mary’s College in Moraga, California.
The American Shore
Meditations on a Tale of Science Fiction
by Thomas M. Disch—“Angouleme”

SAMUEL R. DELANY
INTRODUCTION BY MATTHEW CHENEY

NEW EDITION
A keystone text in literary theory and science fiction


“The American Shore is an important offering in the history of science fiction criticism, rich with Delany’s poetic skills and insight as a tremendous, formidable reader. It is a one of a kind book, really, and very clearly attempts a genre of its own.”

LOUIS CHUDE-SOKEI, University of Washington

SAMUEL R. DELANY, novelist and critic, teaches at Temple University, lives in New York City, and is the author of Through the Valley of the Nest of Spiders and About Writing. MATTHEW CHENEY is a columnist for Strange Horizons and writes regularly for his weblog, The Mumpsimus.

How Reading Is Written
A Brief Index to Gertrude Stein

ASTRID LORANGE

A critical guide to the poetics and philosophy of Gertrude Stein

This book is a study of Gertrude Stein in relation to contemporary philosophy, science studies, queer theory, and literary theory. It is structured as an index and is organized according to key themes that recur throughout Stein’s oeuvre. Astrid Lorange considers how to read a body of work that is resistant to conventional interpretation-based literary criticism. In its methodology and argument, this book constructs a new critical episteme for Stein’s work.

“How Reading Is Written is a vastly generative text, in its methodology as in its insights. Lorange situates the multiple creative concepts of Stein’s writings in networks of vivacious comprehending. This book is essential for contemporary engagements with Gertrude Stein.”

LYN HEJINIAN, University of California, Berkeley

ASTRID LORANGE is a poet and associate lecturer at the College of Fine Arts, UNSW Australia.
**Between Nostalgia and Apocalypse**

Popular Music and the Staging of Brazil

**DANIEL B. SHARP**

Chronicling the entanglement of *samba de coco* tradition and the iconoclastic pop music of Cordel do Fogo Encantado, Daniel B. Sharp explores how festivals, museums, television, and tourism steep performances in national-cultural nostalgia, providing musicians and dancers with opportunities for cultural entrepreneurship yet hindering their efforts to be seen as part of the Brazilian here-and-now. A multimedia app will also be available.

“This is an intelligent and well-researched book. The narratives that emerge are not only well-chosen, but are articulated to preserve the multiple complexities in play.”

ALEXANDER SEBASTIAN DENT, author of *River of Tears: Country Music, Memory, and Modernity in Brazil*

**DANIEL B. SHARP** is an assistant professor of ethnomusicology at Tulane University.

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**Planet Beethoven**

Classical Music at the Turn of the Millennium

**MINA YANG**

Perusing events, projects, programs, writings, musicians, and compositions, Mina Yang makes the compelling case that classical music is as vibrant and relevant as ever—but with significant changes that give us insight into the major cultural shifts of our day. The book covers an array of topics, and is global in its outlook. The book is sure to be of interest to students, professionals, and aficionados.

“In her brilliant account of classical music in the twenty-first century, Yang offers a series of case studies demonstrating how this music permeates contemporary culture, often in ways that would seem alien to its traditional advocates. This is an exceedingly timely book.”

SUSAN McCLARY, Case Western Reserve University

**MINA YANG** is the author of *California Polyphony: Ethnic Voices, Musical Crossroads*. She has taught at universities and music schools throughout California and currently resides in Los Angeles.
Music 109
Notes on Experimental Music
ALVIN LUCIER
FOREWORD BY ROBERT ASHLEY

A Connecticut Yankee in Lincoln’s Cabinet
Navy Secretary Gideon Welles Chronicles the Civil War
EDITED BY J. RONALD SPENCER

In *Music 109*, Alvin Lucier combines anecdote, history, and musicology to reflect on his own work and to discuss more than a hundred groundbreaking musical works, including those of Robert Ashley, John Cage, Charles Ives, Morton Feldman, Philip Glass, Pauline Oliveros, Steve Reich, Christian Wolff, La Monte Young, and others. He explains in detail how each piece is made, unlocking secrets of the composers’ style and technique.

“Though the book has much to offer relative experts on the topic, it’s also the perfect introduction—breezy, but not dumbed-down—to the head-spinning innovations and intellectual breakthroughs that took place in the world of contemporary classical music from the 1940s to the 1980s, explained largely through stories and firsthand accounts.”

*Los Angeles Review of Books*

**ALVIN LUCIER** is the author of *Reflections/Reflexionen* and coauthor of *Chambers*. **ROBERT ASHLEY** was a contemporary American composer.

Gideon Welles was an architect of Union victory and a shrewd observer of people and events. This book brings together 250 important excerpts from his wartime diary to illuminate such crucial topics as Lincoln’s leadership, emancipation, cabinet rivalries, the character of major political and military leaders, the blockade of the Confederacy, and the death of Lincoln.

“J. Ronald Spencer has judiciously selected the most historically significant passages from Welles’s invaluable diary...[and] created a compact, user-friendly edition which will be welcomed by everyone interested in Lincoln and the Civil War.”

**MICHAEL BURLINGAME**, author of *Abraham Lincoln: A Life*

**J. RONALD SPENCER** taught Civil War Era courses at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut, for forty-two years.

August
236 pp., 10 musical examples, 5½ x 8½”
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MUSIC / EXPERIMENTAL MUSIC

August
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HISTORY / AMERICAN HISTORY - 19TH CENTURY

**The Acorn Club**
Making Beats
The Art of Sample-Based Hip-Hop

JOSEPH G. SCHLOSS
FOREWORD BY JEFF CHANG

Winner of the 2005 IASPM Book Award, this was the first scholarly work to explore the goals, methods, and values of a surprisingly insular community. Joseph G. Schloss focuses on a variety of subjects—from the Afrodiasporic roots of the sampling process to the social significance of “digging” for rare records. This new edition includes a foreword by Jeff Chang and an afterword by the author.

“The best thing about Making Beats is its assiduous in-depth coverage of the topic. The breadth of Schloss’s work is remarkable.”

PHILIP EWELL, Popular Music

JOSEPH G. SCHLOSS is an adjunct associate professor of Black and Latino studies and sociology at City University of New York. He is the author of Foundation: B-Boys, B-Girls and Hip-Hop Culture in New York. JEFF CHANG is the author of Can’t Stop Won’t Stop, winner of the American Book Award.

Running with the Devil
Power, Gender, and Madness in Heavy Metal Music

ROBERT WALSER
FOREWORD BY HARRIS M. BERGER

Heavy metal music continues to attract and embody cultural conflicts. In this classic study, Robert Walser explores how and why heavy metal works, both musically and socially, and uses metal to investigate contemporary formations of identity, community, gender, and power. This new edition includes a foreword by Harris M. Berger and an afterword by the author.

“Walser belongs to a small but influential group of academics trying to reconcile ‘high theory’ with a streetwise sense of culture . . . an excellent book.”

ROLLING STONE

ROBERT WALSER is a professor and director of the Center of Popular Music Studies at Case Western Reserve University and has published extensively on popular music. HARRIS M. BERGER is a professor of music and performance studies at Texas A&M University and is the author of Stance.
Wesleyan Welcomes Books by J. A. Rogers

Wesleyan University Press/University Press of New England now distributes these titles published by Helga M. Rogers. Shown below, they are authored by Joel Augustus Rogers (1880–1966), a Jamaican-American author, journalist, and historian who contributed to the history of Africa and the African diaspora, especially the history of African Americans in the United States. His research spanned the academic fields of history, sociology and anthropology, and challenged prevailing ideas about race, demonstrated the connections between civilizations, and traced African achievements. Rogers was one of the greatest popularizers of African history in the twentieth century. A respected historian and gifted lecturer, he was a close personal friend of the Harlem-based intellectual and activist Hubert Harrison.

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Front cover image: Photograph of Mr. Bangura, the caretaker of Bence Island, from The Log Books (see page 2). Photograph by Thomas Brown/Hartford Courant.