Money Shot

RAE ARMANTROUT

Pulitzer Prize–winning poet searches for new ways to understand the world
in the wake of the Great Recession

The poems in Money Shot are forensic, and explore questions of revelation and concealment. What is seen, what is hidden, and how do we know? Money Shot’s investigation occurs in the context of the suddenly revealed market manipulation and subsequent “great recession” of 2008–2009. Looking at sex, botany, cosmology, and death through the dark lens of “disaster capitalism,” Armantrout finds evidence of betrayal, grounds for rebellion, moments of possibility, and even pleasure, in a time of sudden scarcity and relentless greed. This stunning follow-up to Versed—winner of the 2010 Pulitzer Prize and the 2009 National Book Critics Circle Award, and a finalist for the 2009 National Book Award—is a stringent exploration of how deeply our experience of everyday life is embedded in capitalism.

RAE ARMANTROUT is a professor of writing in the literature department at the University of California at San Diego, and the author of ten books of poetry, including Next Life and Veil: New and Selected Poems.

the new black

EVIE SHOCKLEY

A profound and uplifting meditation on the meanings of race and belonging in America

Smart, grounded, and lyrical, Evie Shockley’s the new black integrates powerful ideas about “blackness,” past and present, through the medium of beautifully crafted verse. the new black sees our racial past inevitably shaping our contemporary moment, but struggles to remember and reckon with the impact of generational shifts, speaking to the changes we have experienced as a society in the last few decades—changes that often challenge our past strategies for resisting racism and, for African Americans, ways of relating to one another.

“Her synthesis of poetic styles (the sonnet, the epistle, the tarot, the diagram) produces a poetry that is recognizable and strange, engaging and revolutionary. the new black is a book of stunning urgency and invention.”

TERRANCE HAYES, author of Lighthead

EVIE SHOCKLEY is an assistant professor of English at Rutgers University and the author of a half-red sea and the forthcoming study Renegade Poetics: Black Aesthetics and Formal Innovation in African American Poetry.
Solar Throat Slashed
The Unexpurgated 1948 Edition

AIMÉ CÉSAIRE

TRANSLATED AND EDITED BY
A. JAMES ARNOLD AND CLAYTON ESHLEMAN

The only bilingual edition of this radically original collection

Soleil cou coupé (Solar Throat Slashed) is Aimé Césaire’s (1913–2008) most explosive collection of poetry. Animistically dense, charged with eroticism and blasphemy, and imbued with an African and Vodun spirituality, this book takes the French surrealist adventure to new heights and depths. Until now, only the revised 1961 edition, called Cadastre, has been translated. Cadastre, however, lacks the radical originality of Soleil cou coupé—Césaire had eliminated 31 of the 72 poems, and edited another 29. This bilingual edition includes an introduction by A. James Arnold and notes by Clayton Eshleman.

“For poets, Solar Throat Slashed may well ignite new poetry and will surely complicate and enlarge our sense of Césaire’s greatness.”

ADRIENNE RICH

A. JAMES ARNOLD is editing Césaire’s complete works in French. CLAYTON ESHLEMAN is the author of The Grindstone of Rapport / A Clayton Eshleman Reader.

Address

ELIZABETH WILLIS

New poems from an original and challenging American voice

Address draws us into visible and invisible architectures, into acts of intimate and public address. These poems take personally their politics and in the process reveal something about the way civic structures inhabit the imagination. Poisonous plants, witches, anthems, bees—beneath their surface, we glimpse the fragility of our founding, republican aspirations and witness a disintegrating landscape artfully transformed.

“How does the poem address both self and world? How does it address at once the light and the dark of things as they are? And from what site—or address—can it possibly speak in the profoundly unstable currents of our time? Such are among the eternal issues Elizabeth Willis movingly explores here by means of an unflinching ‘devotion / to the ungoverned,’ that is, by means of the poetic imagination itself.”

MICHAEL PALMER, author of The Lion Bridge

ELIZABETH WILLIS is the author of four previous books including Meteoric Flowers, Turneresque, and The Human Abstract. She is Shapiro-Silverberg Associate Professor of Creative Writing at Wesleyan University.
Things Come On
an amneoir
JOSEPH HARRINGTON

National and family disasters converge in this radically new kind of memoir

Things Come On combines poetry, prose, primary documents, dramatic dialogue, and pictures. The narrative is woven around the almost exact concurrence of the Watergate scandal and the dates of the poet’s mother’s illness and death from breast cancer. The resulting “amneoir” (a blend of “memoir” and “amnesia”) explores a time for which the author must rely largely on testimony and documentary evidence—not unlike the Congress and the nation did during the same period.

“Joseph Harrington’s arresting Things Come On is an aesthetically complex text, through whose compositional innovations the author proves once again the inseparability of the personal from the political. He explores two synchronous, metaphorically entwined events—real events of which historical documentation exists but full of gaps and rife with bad communication as well as lies. Cognitive disarray becomes cognitive dismay—this is the political truth of grief. And with discovery of this truth, Harrington restores dignity and beauty to the personal.”

LYN HEJINIAN, author of My Life

JOSEPH HARRINGTON is an associate professor of English at the University of Kansas and the author of Poetry and the Public.

After Spicer
Critical Essays
EDITED BY JOHN EMIL VINCENT

The first critical book dedicated to the work of poet Jack Spicer

After Spicer brings together work by ten eminent literary scholars to provide a long overdue exploration of Spicer’s legacy even as it continues to unfold. This volume extends the conversation between poet and reader that Spicer considered essential to the composition and survival of poems. Incisive essays by Maria Damon, Norman Finkelstein, Kelly Holt, Catherine Imbriglio, Kevin Killian, Michael Snediker, Anita Sokolsky, and Keith and Rosmarie Waldrop provide an overview of Spicer’s oeuvre—his poetry, letters, plays, and his only novel—and explore his work in relation to queer theory, audience, religion, the lyric, and seriality.

“After Spicer is an important collection of essays on a figure of increasing interest to all readers of American poetry. Vincent has gathered a range of vibrant thinkers—almost all of them poets themselves as well as critics. I found myself newly interested in the poetry of Spicer.”

JAY PARINI, Axinn Professor of English, Middlebury College

JOHN EMIL VINCENT is the author of John Ashbery and You and Queer Lyrics, and associate editor of The Massachusetts Review. He lives in central Massachusetts.
Hiking the Horizontal
Field Notes from a Choreographer

LIZ LERMAN

Award-winning choreographer shares insights and methods for making real art in the real world

The unique career of choreographer Liz Lerman has taken her from theater stages to shipyards, and from synagogues to science labs. In this wide-ranging collection of essays and articles, she reflects on her life-long exploration of dance as a vehicle for human insight and understanding of the world around us. Lerman has been described by the Washington Post as “the source of an epochal revolution in the scope and purposes of dance art.” Here, she combines broad outlooks on culture and society with practical applications and accessible stories. Her expansive scope encompasses the craft, structure, and inspiration that bring theatrical works to life as well as the applications of art in fields as diverse as faith, aging, particle physics, and human rights law—always bringing a horizontal focus to bear on a hierarchical world.

LIZ LERMAN is founding artistic director of the Dance Exchange, a dance company featuring a multigenerational ensemble that creates, performs, teaches, and engages people in making art.

Silence in the Snowy Fields
Mini-book edition

ROBERT BLY

Limited edition of this beloved collection

Wesleyan University Press is pleased to present a special miniature edition of this best-selling volume of poetry by Robert Bly. Originally published in 1962, Silence in the Snowy Fields was Bly’s first book, and one of the first volumes of poetry published by Wesleyan. Silence in the Snowy Fields disarmed readers and critics with its clear-sighted intelligence and apparent simplicity. Unlike much of the academically based American poetry of its time, this poetry aimed at a kind of Eastern balance in which human beings participate in but do not dominate nature. Many still find this one of Bly’s most healing books. The entire book is reproduced in this irresistible small format.

“Mr. Bly’s poems name delicate, humble things, and at the same time describe man assuming his existence, beginning over again the test of illusions. At the end of each poem there is silence, without complaint.”

WALLACE FOWLIE, New York Times Book Review

ROBERT BLY is an American poet, author, activist, and leader of the Mythopoetic Men’s Movement.
**Connecticut in the American Civil War**

**Slavery, Sacrifice, and Survival**

**MATTHEW WARSHAUER**

*A riveting account of Connecticut’s involvement in the Civil War*

This book offers readers a remarkable window into the state’s involvement in a conflict that challenged and defined the unity of a nation. The war is traced through many facets and stories of battlefield, home front, and factory. Matthew Warshauer masterfully reveals the varied attitudes toward slavery and race, Connecticut’s reaction to the firing on Fort Sumter, the raising of troops, the sacrifice of those who served, and the need for closure after the war. Everyone interested in this period of American history will appreciate this important contribution to our national and local stories.

“Warshauer’s account puts political parties and questions about racial policy at the heart of Connecticut’s wartime history. I hope that every state’s commemoration of the sesquicentennial of the Civil War produces a study as good as this one.”

*M. E. Neely Jr.*, author of *The Fate of Liberty: Abraham Lincoln and Civil Liberties*

**MATTHEW WARSHAUER** is a professor of history at Central Connecticut State University. He is the author of *Andrew Jackson and the Politics of Martial Law*.

The Driftless Connecticut Series is funded by the Beatrice Fox Auerbach Foundation Fund at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving. For more information about The Driftless Connecticut Series, please visit: www.wesleyan.edu/wespress/driftless.

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**Connecticut’s Fife and Drum Tradition**

**JAMES CLARK**

*The first full account of this beloved American music tradition*

The state of Connecticut boasts an extensive and active community of fife and drum groups, which have their origins in the small military bands maintained by standing armies in Britain and Europe in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries—the drum was especially important as it helped officers train soldiers how to march and communicate with troops across battlefields. Today fifers and drummers gather at conventions called “musters,” which may include a parade and concerts featuring the various participating corps. Musician and historian James Clark is the first to detail the colorful history of this unique music through anecdotes, biographies, photographs, and musical examples.

“At last, the definitive history of Connecticut fifing and drumming, from Baron von Steuben’s Revolutionary War drill manual, to its zenith in the Civil War, to the decline (but never the fall) of today’s Ancients’ continuation of the craft.”

*John Moon*, former director of music, The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation

**JIM CLARK** is a founding member of Connecticut Valley Field Music, a fife and drum band based in Middletown, Connecticut. He gives lectures and demonstrations to a wide array of audiences around the state, across the nation, and in Europe.

The Driftless Connecticut Series is funded by the Beatrice Fox Auerbach Foundation Fund at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving. For more information about The Driftless Connecticut Series, please visit: www.wesleyan.edu/wespress/driftless.
Crowbar Governor
The Life and Times of Morgan Gardner Bulkeley

KEVIN MURPHY

First biography of one of Connecticut’s most colorful statesmen

While president of Aetna Life from 1879 to 1922, Morgan Bulkeley served four terms as mayor of Hartford, two as Connecticut’s governor, and one as a United States senator. His friends and acquaintances included Samuel Clemens, J. P. Morgan, Samuel and Elizabeth Colt, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Leland Stanford, General Sherman, Oliver Wendell Holmes, Katharine Hepburn, and every president from Ulysses Grant to Warren Harding. Bulkeley earned his nickname when he used a crowbar to remove a lock on his office door after refusing to vacate the governor’s chambers on a technicality.

“With its wealth of information and anecdotes, Crowbar Governor fills a long-standing need for a biography of Morgan G. Bulkeley, a pivotal figure in early twentieth century Connecticut politics. This book is for the historian and general reader alike.”

DAVID J. CORRIGAN, curator, Museum of Connecticut History

KEVIN MURPHY is an independent historian who lives in Rocky Hill, Connecticut. He is the author of Water for Hartford.

The Driftless Connecticut Series is funded by the Beatrice Fox Auerbach Foundation Fund at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving. For more information about The Driftless Connecticut Series, please visit: www.wesleyan.edu/wespress/driftless.

The Peopling of New Connecticut
From the Land of Steady Habits to the Western Reserve

EDITED BY RICHARD BUEL JR.

New insight into the settlement of Connecticut’s Western Reserve in Ohio

In 1784 Connecticut laid claim to a territory stretching from Pennsylvania’s western border 120 miles along Lake Erie. The Peopling of New Connecticut presents primary documents that define Connecticut’s complex relationship with this territory, known then as the Western Reserve. This Acorn Club publication, edited by Richard Buel Jr., illuminates not only the experience of the emigrants as they journeyed to Ohio and settled in the Western Reserve but also the effect that the emigrants’ departure had on the society they left behind, giving us a vital, enlightening record into early westward movement after the Revolutionary War.

“An extraordinary collection of letters, diaries, sermons, and newspaper articles written by federalist and republican leaders, ministers, lawyers, women, promoters, and detractors. This is a superb narrative about a central but neglected aspect of Connecticut’s history.”

HOWARD R. LAMAR, Sterling Professor Emeritus of History, Yale University

RICHARD BUEL JR. is a professor of history emeritus at Wesleyan University and the editor of the Acorn Club, an organization founded in 1899 to publish books of enduring value about Connecticut history.
Soul Searching
Black-Themed Cinema from the March on Washington to the Rise of Blaxploitation

CHRISTOPHER SIEVING

An engrossing look at black-themed films in pre-blaxploitation Hollywood

Soul Searching examines a subject that, despite its significance to African American film history, has gone largely unexplored until now. By revisiting films produced between the march on Washington in 1963 and the dawn of the “blaxploitation” movie cycle in 1970, Christopher Sieving reveals how race relations influenced black-themed cinema before it was recognized as commercially viable by the major studios. This is essential reading for anyone interested in the politics and cultural movements of the 1960s, or cinematic trends like blaxploitation and the American “indie film” explosion.

“Soul Searching is an original and thoroughly necessary project, giving the reader a nuanced understanding of a barely critiqued ‘gap’ in black American cinema’s industrial and critical history.”

ED GUERRERO, cinema studies, New York University

CHRISTOPHER SIEVING is an assistant professor in the Department of Theatre and Film Studies at the University of Georgia. His articles have appeared in various journals, including The Velvet Light Trap and Screening Noir.

Brutal Intimacy
Analyzing Contemporary French Cinema

TIM PALMER

A major survey of contemporary French cinema’s leading films and filmmakers

Brutal Intimacy is the first book to explore the fascinating array of films being made in France today, from mainstream genre spectaculars to edgy arthouse experiments. Tim Palmer investigates France’s growing population of women filmmakers, its buoyant vanguard of first-time filmmakers, the rise of the controversial cinéma du corps, and France’s cinema icons: auteurs like Olivier Assayas, Claire Denis, Bruno Dumont, Gaspar Noé, and stars such as Vincent Cassel and Jean Dujardin. Drawing on interviews and the testimony of leading film artists, Brutal Intimacy promises to be an influential treatment of French cinema today.

“Surveying the film d’auteur of the last decade or so, Brutal Intimacy accomplishes something rare and noteworthy: to study contemporary art works with the critical distance of a cultural historian. This is truly a ‘history of the present time.’”

ALAN WILLIAMS, author of Republic of Images: A History of French Filmmaking

TIM PALMER is an associate professor of film studies at the University of North Carolina–Wilmington. His articles have appeared in journals such as Cinema Journal, Journal of Film and Video, Studies in French Cinema, and the French Review.
The Emergence of Latin American Science Fiction

RACHEL HAYWOOD FERREIRA

A fantastic voyage through the early science fiction of Latin America

Early science fiction has often been associated almost exclusively with Northern industrialized nations. In this groundbreaking exploration of the science fiction written in Latin America prior to 1920, Rachel Haywood Ferreira traces how and why the genre quickly reached Latin America, and analyzes how writers in Argentina, Brazil, and Mexico adapted science fiction to reflect their own realities. Among the texts discussed are one of the first defenses of Darwinism in Latin America, a tale about a time-traveling history book, and a Latin American Frankenstein. The book includes a chronological bibliography of science fiction published from 1775 to 1920 in all Latin American countries.

“This tour-de-force is extraordinarily thorough and innovative, bringing both canonical and little-known works from Spanish America and Brazil into a different light—that of the science fiction genre.”

MARY ELIZABETH GINWAY, author of Brazilian Science Fiction: Cultural Myths and Nationhood in the Land of the Future

RACHEL HAYWOOD FERREIRA is an associate professor of Spanish and Portuguese at Iowa State University. Her articles have appeared in Science Fiction Studies, Hispania, Journal of the Fantastic in the Arts, and Extrapolation.

The Seven Beauties of Science Fiction

ISTVAN CSICSERY-ROMAY JR.

A major critical work from one of the preeminent voices of science fiction scholarship

However much science fiction texts vary, they share in a mass social energy and a desire to imagine a collective future for the human species and the world. At this moment, a strikingly high proportion of films, commercial art, popular music, video and computer games, and non-genre fiction have become what Csicsery-Ronay calls science fictional, stimulating science-fictional habits of mind. The Seven Beauties of Science Fiction describes science fiction as a constellation of seven diverse cognitive attractions that are particularly formative of science-fictionality: fictive neology, fictive novums, future history, imaginary science, the science-fictional sublime, the science-fictional grotesque, and the Technologiade, or the epic of technsocience’s development into a global regime.

“Those who take their SF seriously will revel in the attention a keen mind has lavished upon their favourite genre.”

BOB RICKARD, Fortean Times

ISTVAN CSICSERY-ROMAY JR. is a professor of English at DePauw University. He is coeditor of the journal Science Fiction Studies and the book Robot Ghosts and Wired Dreams.
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