

Vertov from Z to A

edited by Peggy Ahwesh and Keith Sanborn, translations by Sanborn
EDICIONES LA CALAVERA

Dziga Vertov—or “Spinning Top,” the nom de film adopted by David Abelevich Kaufman—was a Russian-Jewish maker of newsreels and documentaries during and immediately following the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917. His *Man with a Movie Camera* is still regarded as a definitive modernist statement in film. Editors Peggy Ahwesh, associate professor of film and electronic arts, and Keith Sanborn, faculty in the Milton Avery Graduate School of the Arts, have assembled 40 essays by noted critics, poets, and filmmakers, each responding to a single frame of Vertov’s cinematic magnum opus.



The Writer’s Toolbox

by Jamie Cat Callan ’75
CHRONICLE BOOKS

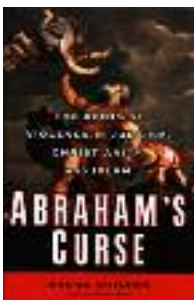
This toolbox—for it contains cards, a timer, and “Non Sequitur Sticks” in addition to an instruction book—is for anyone who needs “a little jump start into creativity,” says Jamie Cat Callan. The games for which she provides directions are visual and tactile, so she also encourages dancers, scientists, and “anyone who wants to think outside the box” to use them. Callan is a teaching artist with the Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism and lives in Woods Hole, Massachusetts.



Trick of the Mind: A Mystery

by Cassandra Chan ’78
ST. MARTIN’S MINOTAUR

From her home in Port St. Lucie, Florida, Cassandra Chan transports her readers to London and Paris. *Trick of the Mind* is her third mystery featuring the team of Scotland Yard Sergeant Detective Jack Gibbons and man-about-world Phillip Bethancourt, who shadows his friend on Gibbons’s more interesting cases. In this book Gibbons has been injured in a shooting he doesn’t remember, and Bethancourt must retrace his friend’s steps, which may put him, too, in the line of fire.



Abraham’s Curse: The Roots of Violence in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam

by Bruce Chilton ’71
DOUBLEDAY

Theologians and laypeople alike have struggled with the implications of the biblical story of Abraham’s willingness to kill his son Isaac as a show of faith. Bruce Chilton, Bernard Iddings Bell Professor of Philosophy and Religion and chaplain of the college, examines ideas of sacrifice and martyrdom in three religions. He seeks to discover how understanding the binding of Isaac could lead to confronting a source of the violence that still plagues our societies, and what is needed to end the brutality.



Spanish Politics: Democracy after Dictatorship

by Omar G. Encarnación
POLITY

Introducing his latest book, Omar Encarnación notes that his Bard course on contemporary Spanish politics inspired it. In nine chapters, with numerous figures and tables, *Spanish Politics* looks at the remarkably successful process of democratization of Spain since the regime of Francisco Franco and presents a lucid, essential text for students of comparative politics. Encarnación is associate professor of political studies.

Heart Matters

by Jonathan Greene '65

BROADSTONE BOOKS

Poems commenting on nature, culture (from Tennessee to Japan and China), and, as the title suggests, matters of the heart populate the latest collection from Jonathan Greene. In poems that often are short and direct (“During the barn dance/ the barn/ dances”), Greene explores memory, sensory perception, war, and social injustice. Greene, an award-winning book designer and publisher, lives and works in Kentucky.

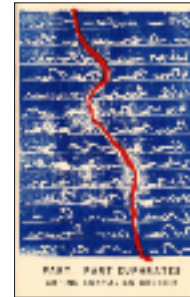


Part, Part Euphrates

by Arpine Konyalian Grenier MFA '98

NEO PEPPER PRESS

Images of Turkey, Lebanon, and other parts of the Middle East appear throughout this chapbook of poems like shards of pottery washed up on a beach: “a Salonica pebble,” “the wall between east and west Beirut.” Arpine Konyalian Grenier, who was born in Beirut and studied there, explores her relationships to people and places in surrealistic, impressionistic terms. The author of several poetry collections, Grenier lives in Tucson, Arizona.



Death Notices

by Meg Hamill '01

FACTORY SCHOOL

Many of the poems in this collection appear as unpunctuated, nonstop newspaper death notices for victims of the war in Iraq, military and civilian alike, with and without names. “i want to create a bridge between all the different types of humans,” Meg Hamill writes, her style conveying urgency and a frantic need to try to repair the damages of war. Hamill is assistant education director at LandPaths, a land advocacy group in Santa Rosa, California.



Priestess of the Forest: A Druid Journey

by Ellen Evert Hopman '74

LLEWELLYN PUBLICATIONS

This historical fantasy focuses on a woman living at the time of transition from the Celtic Europe of the Druids to the era of Roman-influenced Christianity. Ellen Evert Hopman calls the love story a “Bardic teaching tale,” as it involves Druidic rituals, herbology, and lore and contains a Celtic glossary. Hopman, an herbalist and homeopath involved in American Druidism, lives in Amherst, Massachusetts.



Infectious Disease Ecology: Effects of Ecosystems on Disease and of Disease on Ecosystems

edited by Richard S. Ostfeld, Felicia Keesing, and Valerie T. Eviner

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY PRESS

Examples of environmental effects on the transmission of a range of diseases, from Rift Valley fever in Kenya to Lyme disease in the northeastern United States, have proliferated in recent years. Felicia Keesing and her coeditors here collect essays by 40 experts on the ecological links between ecosystems and disease, essays that examine causes and “preemptive” alleviating actions. Keesing is associate professor of biology.





Threads

by Robert Kelly

FIRST INTENSITY PRESS

Poet Robert Kelly calls *Threads* “my fealty to the tyranny of the sentence,” and nearly every one of its poems is one sentence long. Sentences are “the bones of meaningfulness on which scraps of flesh or silks might drape for a moment,” Kelly writes in a short foreword that precedes poems that twist and turn back on themselves “to meet/ the meaning of encounter.” Kelly is Asher B. Edelman Professor of Literature.



Fantasies

by Lisa Kereszi '95

DAMIANI

Photographer Lisa Kereszi examines the seamier side of sex, sexuality, and the female body in her latest book, which focuses on strip clubs and other nocturnal haunts. She portrays the burlesque showgirls, as she calls them, on and off stage, in poses ranging from powerful to poignant. In an afterword, Kereszi describes being “drawn to the bravery of these girls of all sizes.” Kereszi lives in Brooklyn and teaches at Yale University School of Art.

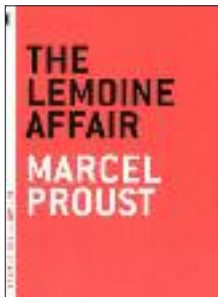


Obedience

by Will Lavender MFA '02

SHAYE AREHEART BOOKS

This debut novel begins in the Logic and Reasoning 204 class at Winchester University, taught by the mysterious Professor Williams. He posits a puzzle that demands the use of logic: solve the disappearance of a hypothetical 18-year-old named Polly within six weeks, or she will be murdered. The plot twists ominously, and as supposedly fictional characters begin to appear in students’ lives, the lines between theory and reality become dangerously blurred. Will Lavender teaches writing and lives in Louisville, Kentucky.



The Lemoine Affair

by Marcel Proust, translated by Charlotte Mandell '90

MELVILLE HOUSE PUBLISHING

This book marks the first appearance in English of Proust’s novella, which is based on the true story of a notorious French con artist who claimed he could manufacture diamonds from coal. Each chapter spoofs the style of a different French writer; Balzac, Chateaubriand, Flaubert, and St. Simon, among others, are all nimbly skewered. Charlotte Mandell, a preeminent translator of French poetry and prose, is best known for her award-winning translations of the novels and essays of Maurice Blanchot.



The Grounding of Positive Philosophy: The Berlin Lectures

by F.W.J. Schelling, translated by Bruce Matthews

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK PRESS

Friedrich Wilhelm Joseph von Schelling was a scholar and philosopher “whose long life was dedicated to the continuous development of his philosophy,” according to Bruce Matthews, who translated this book and wrote its introduction and notes. Schelling’s Berlin lectures, beginning in 1842, highlighted his view of the “positive science” that intrigued Marx, Kierkegaard, and Bakunin, among others. Matthews is a faculty member in philosophy at Bard High School Early College.

Life in Paradox: The Story of a Gay Catholic Priest

by Paul Murray '71

O BOOKS

“Homosexuality and Catholicism provide the texts and contexts of my life’s story,” writes Paul Murray in this memoir that examines his life against the backdrop of sea changes in Catholic thought and practice since Vatican II. Murray, accused of heresy for his “divergence” from church teachings, says that he tells his story out of a desire to reach others in analogous circumstances. He is visiting assistant professor of religion.

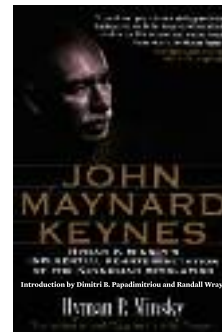


John Maynard Keynes: Hyman P. Minsky’s Influential Reinterpretation of the Keynesian Revolution

by Hyman P. Minsky, introduction by Dimitri B. Papadimitriou and L. Randall Wray

MCGRAW-HILL

Economist Hyman Minsky, writing about Keynes’s economic theories in the 1970s, determined that the theories were still relevant, even while they were being abandoned. In their new introduction, Dimitri B. Papadimitriou and L. Randall Wray say the current financial crisis might cause economists—whose interest in Minsky’s writing “has reached an all-time peak”—to reexamine Keynes. Papadimitriou is Jerome Levy Professor of Economics and president of The Levy Economics Institute of Bard College, and Wray is a senior scholar at the Levy Institute.

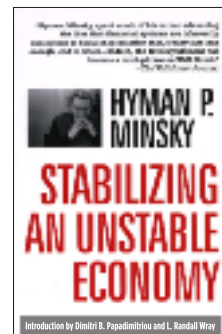


Stabilizing an Unstable Economy

by Hyman P. Minsky, introduction by Dimitri B. Papadimitriou and L. Randall Wray

MCGRAW-HILL

First published in 1986, this most comprehensive of Hyman Minsky’s works has “no equal,” write Dimitri B. Papadimitriou and L. Randall Wray in their introduction. What’s more, interest in Minsky’s work has increased in light of the recent meltdown in mortgage-backed securities. Papadimitriou, Jerome Levy Professor of Economics and president of The Levy Economics Institute, and Wray, a senior scholar at the Institute, point out how Minsky’s proposals to reduce financial instability and encourage full employment have policy implications for today’s economy.

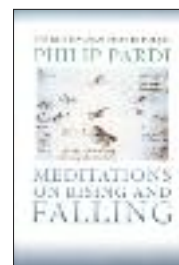


Meditations on Rising and Falling

by Philip Pardi

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN PRESS

This first collection, winner of the University of Wisconsin’s Brittingham Prize in Poetry, looks at reality through flights of imagination. Philip Pardi, director of college writing and visiting instructor of writing, examines birds, angels, dying men, and falling roofers with strong but contained emotion, and he offers solace even in the most painful moments (“those who fear joy / will be found by it”).



My Brother’s Madness: A Memoir

by Paul Pines '64

CURBSTONE PRESS

Paul Pines has written the story of life with his younger brother, Claude, a sensitive boy who gradually descended into delusion and paranoia. In flashbacks from his adult life as a screenwriter visiting Paris, Pines, tortured by Claude’s cryptic phone calls and disappearances, describes their troubled childhood in Brooklyn and their father’s remarriage. Pines, a poet and psychotherapist, lives in Glens Falls, New York.





Gertrude Stein: Selections

edited by Joan Retallack

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA PRESS

This edition of Gertrude Stein's work from the decades between 1905 and 1936 is prefaced by Joan Retallack's comprehensive introduction that begins with Stein's triumphant tour of the United States in 1934. Retallack examines the critical and popular reaction—"a combination of acclaim and puzzlement"—to Stein's abstruse writing and speaking style, and sheds light on the life of the woman who claimed intellectual kinship with Einstein. Retallack is John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Professor of Humanities and director of the Workshop in Language and Thinking.



Bottlemania: How Water Went on Sale and Why We Bought It

by Elizabeth Royte '81

BLOOMSBURY

In her latest comprehensive and lively inquiry, Elizabeth Royte examines bottled water as the focus of environmental, as well as political, attention. While multinational corporations jockey for our thirst dollars (Nestlé, the world's largest food-processing company, owns Poland Spring), questions arise about who has rights to water and how those ubiquitous plastic bottles affect our landfills and lives. Royte, who lives in Brooklyn, received Bard's John Dewey Award for Distinguished Public Service in 2007.



Kill All Your Darlings: Pieces 1990–2005

by Luc Sante

YETI

Cultural critic Greil Marcus, in his introduction to this book, calls Luc Sante "hard-boiled," as in a detective "poking around in a place where something happened." In these essays, Sante revisits the Lower East Side of the 1970s; New Jersey, the "ampersand" of a state where he grew up; the rise and fall of mobster John Gotti; and the writings of Bob Dylan, viewing these people and places (and many others) with an eye to descriptive truth without hyperbole. Sante is visiting professor of writing and photography.

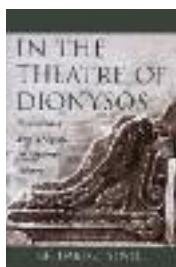


Schapiro's Heroes

by Steve Schapiro '55

POWERHOUSE BOOKS

Renowned documentary photographer Steve Schapiro here features his 1960s photographs of Robert Kennedy, Martin Luther King Jr., James Baldwin, Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, and others who changed the course of American politics and culture. Arresting images—from Muhammad Ali in his parents' living room to Andy Warhol lifting weights—are accompanied by Schapiro's recollections about that hero's personality and impact. Schapiro, based in Chicago, is represented in the collections of the National Portrait Gallery and Smithsonian Institution.



In the Theatre of Dionysos: Democracy and Tragedy in Ancient Athens

by Richard C. Sewell '56

MCFARLAND & COMPANY

Richard Sewell, a founding director of The Theater at Monmouth in Maine, examines the parallel lives of Greek democracy and drama from the viewpoint of a theatrical practitioner, not a historian. He considers the elements of religion, philosophy, competition, and poetry that fused to create Athenian tragedy, and imagines the authors, performers, backers, and audiences that forged the new dramatic form. Sewell writes and directs in Maine.

A Road Trip Journal

by Stephen Shore

PHAIDON

Stephen Shore's latest book of photographs commemorates the 35th anniversary of his landmark drive across the country in 1973. The book documents that trip in a comprehensive time capsule. Postcards, yellowed receipts, handwritten lists, and newspaper clippings accompany Shore's hundreds of photographs of daily life in America. Shore is Susan Weber Professor in the Arts.



Watching for the Morning: Selected Sermons

by Sheila Shulman '58

PRONOUN PRESS

When she entered rabbinical school at the age of 48, Sheila Shulman endured hurdles such as age discrimination and objections to her lesbianism and radical feminism. As founding rabbi of Beit Klal Yisrael, a liberal congregation in London, she has discovered ways—as these sermons indicate—to render her experiences into occasions for compassion and insight. Shulman delivered most of the discourses collected in this book on the High Holy Days of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

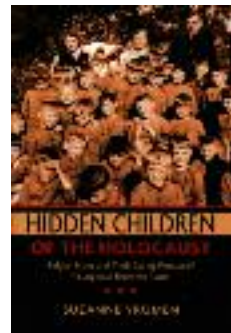


Hidden Children of the Holocaust: Belgian Nuns and Their Daring Rescue of Young Jews from the Nazis

by Suzanne Vromen

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

Personal reasons entered into Suzanne Vromen's choice of research topic: she and her family fled Belgium in 1941, a year into the Nazi occupation. When she returned to her native country in 2004 and 2006, she interviewed, with a sense of mission, adults who had been hidden as children and the nuns who had protected them. The adults, who as children had to switch identities and religions, tell moving stories, and the nuns provide many insights documented here for the first time. Vromen is professor emerita of sociology.



Pernicious Tolerance: How Teaching to "Accept Differences" Undermines Civil Society

by Robert Weissberg '65

TRANSACTION PUBLISHERS

Educators are teaching tolerance in an attempt to transform the United States into a paradise where everyone is respected and no one is stigmatized, but those efforts are "utopian," Robert Weissberg argues in his latest book. The exercise, even in early grades, underestimates the "inherently quarrelsome" nature of humanity, he writes, adding that "positive results" do nothing to improve overall social relations among contentious groups. Weissberg is professor emeritus of political science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.



From Dust to Diamonds: Stories of South African Social Entrepreneurs

by Beulah Thumbadoo and Gretchen L. Wilson '97

PAN MACMILLAN

Nineteen South African social entrepreneurs—activists who implement vital social change through innovative solutions—are profiled in *From Dust to Diamonds*. A "Lessons Learned" section at the end of each profile and overall insights detailed in the conclusion make this book as useful as it is inspiring. Wilson is a radio and print journalist who covers sub-Saharan Africa for international news outlets.

