



Fall 2024 + Spring 2025

Amherst  
College  
Press





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# ABOUT

Amherst College Press publishes pathbreaking, peer-reviewed, long- and medium-length scholarly books and makes them available to readers everywhere as digital, open-access works and print books.

The press is housed in the Frost Library at Amherst College. We have been at the forefront of efforts to increase the transparency of both standards and practices in peer review on the part of scholarly publishers.

Our areas of focus include art history and visual studies; digital and game studies; Latin American studies; literary and media studies; music and sound studies; and Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies. We also have deep interests in activist studies, environmental and energy humanities, multilingualism and translation, public and community humanities, and all forms of justice-oriented scholarship and methodology.

We publish our books on Fulcrum, a platform created by Michigan Publishing, allowing narrative to be richly integrated with multimedia and optimized for long-term preservation and accessibility.

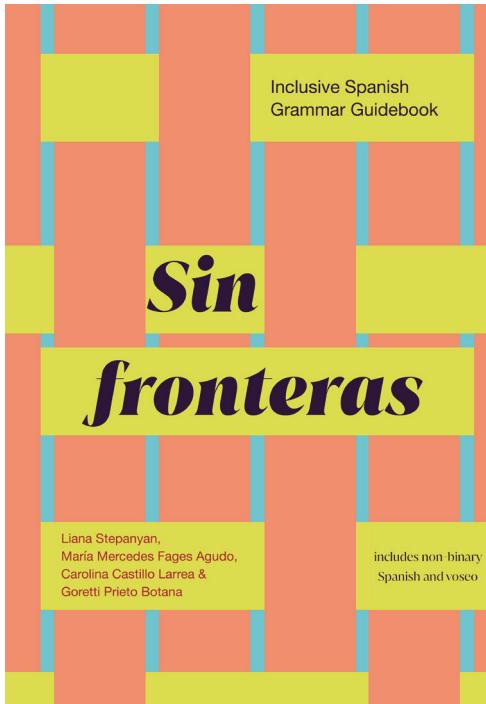
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July 2024

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# Sin fronteras

## Inclusive Spanish Grammar Guidebook

Liana Stepanyan, María Mercedes Fages Agudo, Carolina Castillo Larrea and Goretti Prieto Botana

"*Sin fronteras* is unique as it takes into consideration how the Spanish language is changing. It reflects changes happening in society with younger generations. This book can be used in beginning and intermediate levels courses, and any chapter will be a great resource to review independently in class."

—Angélica Amezcuia,  
University of Washington

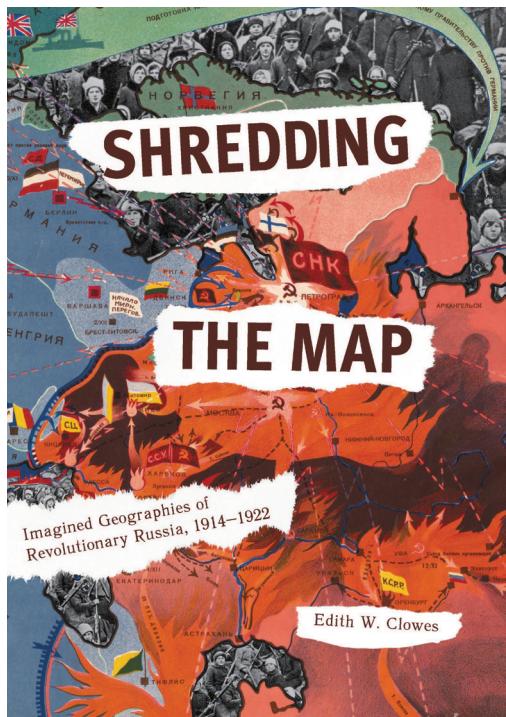
*Sin fronteras: Inclusive Spanish Grammar Guidebook* is the first ever Spanish language textbook to teach non-binary and gender-neutral language. It is an invaluable resource for intermediate and advanced learners that offers concise explanations and exercises for all major clausal structures, tenses, and moods. Along with including non-binary and gender-neutral language, the volume also incorporates the *voseo*, or the use of *vos* as a second-person singular pronoun that is common in many Latin American countries. This book expands the scope of traditional grammar instruction by including reading, writing, discussions, and independent research tasks that support the development of the competencies necessary to thrive in an increasingly interconnected and diverse world. *Sin fronteras* is suitable for independent study or for supplemental use in conversation classes, classes for heritage speakers, classes with a focus on the professions (e.g., medical Spanish, Spanish for business), and literature classes.

**Liana Stepanyan** is professor (teaching) of Spanish and coordinator of Spanish III at the University of Southern California.

**María Mercedes Fages Agudo** is master lecturer and coordinator of Spanish II at the University of Southern California. Fages Agudo is also the director of Feliz en la Comunidad, a service-learning program.

**Carolina Castillo Larrea** is associate professor (teaching) of Spanish at the University of Southern California.

**Goretti Prieto Botana** is director of the Spanish language program at the University of Southern California.



September 2024

Open access: 978-1-943208-78-4

Paper: 978-1-943208-77-7

# Shredding the Map

## Imagined Geographies of Revolutionary Russia, 1914–1922

*Edith Clowes*

"*Shredding the Map* is an exciting project that uses a creative mix of geographical, network, and linguistic analysis...this book will provide a wonderful model for future digital work in the Slavic field."

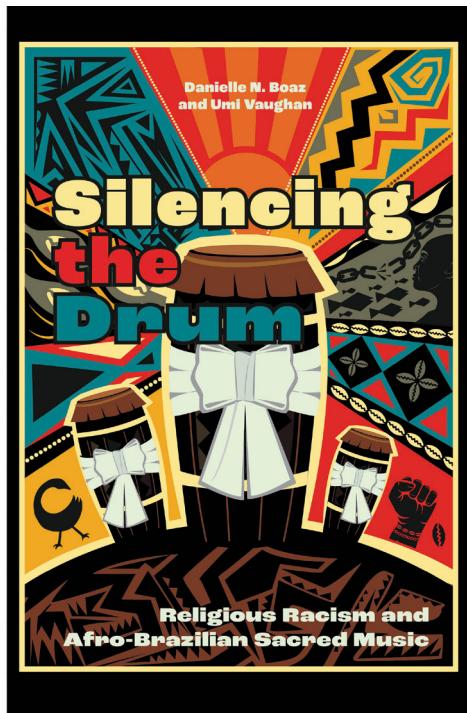
—Seth Bernstein,  
University of Florida

"*Shredding the Map* shows how a combination of digital humanities and traditional scholarship, of distant and close reading, can work."

—Schamma Schahadat,  
*University of Tübingen*

*Shredding the Map* investigates Russian place consciousness in the decade between the start of World War I and the end of the Russian civil war. Attachment to place is a vital aspect of human identity, and connection to homeland, whether imagined or real, can be especially powerful. Drawing from a large digital database of period literature, *Shredding the Map* investigates the metamorphic changes in how Russians related to places—whether abstractions like “country” or concrete spaces of borders, fronts, and edgelands—during these years. An innovative, digitally aided study of Russia’s “imagined geography” during the early decades of the twentieth century, *Shredding the Map* uncovers varying emotional patterns and responses to Russian ideas of place, some familiar and some quite new. The book includes new visualizations that connect otherwise invisible networks of shared place, feeling, and perception among dozens of writers in order to trace patterns of geospatial identity. A scholarly companion to the Mapping Imagined Geographies of Revolutionary Russia website and database, this book offers an innovative analysis of place and identity beyond the centers of power, enhancing our perceptions of Russia and encouraging debate about the possibilities for digital humanities and literary analysis.

**Edith W. Clowes** holds the Brown-Forman Chair in the Humanities in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures at the University of Virginia, where she teaches Russian language, literature, and culture, and Czech literature and film. She is author or editor of fifteen books, volumes, and special journal issues, including *Russia on the Edge: Imagined Geographies and Post-Soviet Identity* (Cornell, 2011; Russian translation, 2020), and, with Shelly Jarrett Bromberg, the volume *Area Studies in the Global Age: Community, Place, Identity* (Northern Illinois University Press, 2016).



# Silencing the Drum

## Religious Racism and Afro-Brazilian Sacred Music

Danielle N. Boaz and  
Umi Vaughan

*"Silencing the Drum is invaluable. The issues it brings forth and the decolonial manner in which it does so are exciting and groundbreaking."*

—Michael Iyanaga,  
William & Mary

October 2024

Open access: 978-1-943208-76-0

Paper: 978-1-943208-75-3

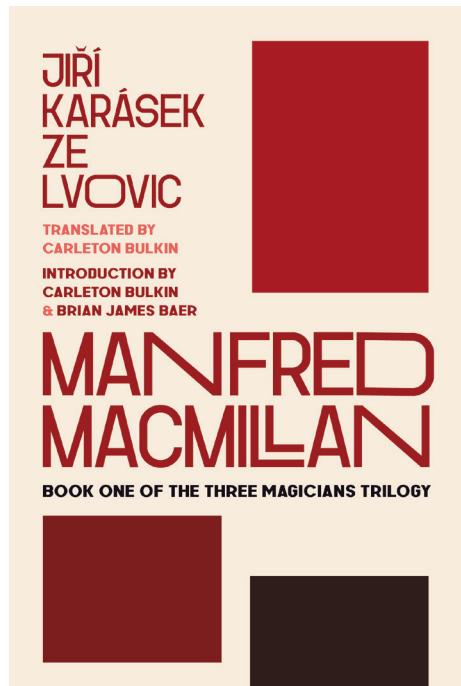
Hardcover: 978-1-943208-90-6

*Silencing the Drum* exposes the profound struggle of Afro-Brazilian sacred music against escalating intolerance. Danielle N. Boaz and Umi Vaughan blend legal scholarship with ethnomusicology, offering a compelling narrative rooted in interviews with religious leaders, musicians, and activists across Brazil. This multidisciplinary exploration examines the relentless attacks against the practitioners of Afro-Brazilian religions—from discriminatory noise complaints in Bahia to vigilante violence in Rio de Janeiro.

The volume integrates multimedia elements including musical samples to vividly illustrate the struggles and resilience of Afro-Brazilian communities in the face of discrimination. As *Silencing the Drum* confronts the larger global issues of racism and religious freedom, it provides essential insights for scholars, activists, and anyone passionate about human rights and cultural preservation.

**Danielle N. Boaz** is professor of Africana studies at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte focusing on human rights, social justice, and the law. She is the author of *Banning Black Gods: Law and Religions of the African Diaspora* (Penn State University Press, 2021) and *Voodoo: The History of a Racial Slur* (Oxford University Press, 2023). She runs [www.religiousracism.org](http://www.religiousracism.org), which provides information about discrimination and violence against African diaspora religions.

**Umi Vaughan** is an independent scholar and musician. He taught at California State University Monterey Bay. He is the author of *Carlos Aldama's Life in Batá: Cuba, Diaspora, and the Drum* (Indiana University Press, 2012) and *Rebel Dance, Renegade Stance: Timba Music and Black Identity in Cuba* (University of Michigan Press, 2012).



October 2024

Open access: 978-1-943208-80-7

Paper: 978-1-943208-79-1

# Manfred Macmillan

## Book One of the *Three Magicians* Trilogy

Jiří Karásek ze Lvovic,  
Translated by Carleton Bulkin,  
Introduction by Carleton Bulkin  
& Brian James Baer

"This English-language edition of *Manfred Macmillan* is compelling and important and timely."

—Jan Seidl,  
Society for Queer Memory, Prague

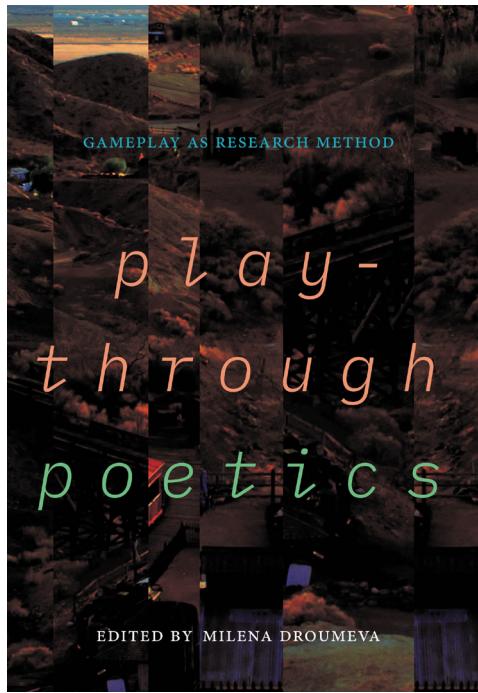
"An erudite, readable, informative introduction contextualizes the novel but also will be an excellent teaching text in thinking about the geopolitical parameters of queer literature."

—Michelle Woods, SUNY New Paltz

Decadence meets gothic in *Manfred Macmillan* (1907), a carefully constructed tale of doppelgängers, magical intrigue, and the rootless scion of a noble house. This annotated, first-ever English translation presents an early queer novel long unavailable except in the original Czech. Author Jiří Karásek ze Lvovic (1871–1951) was a major cultural figure in his native Bohemia and cultivated ties with fellow artists from across Central Europe. Translator Carleton Bulkin and translation scholar Brian James Baer situate the novel within longer histories of gay literature, fascinations with the occult, and the cultural and linguistic politics of so-called peripheral European nations, persuasively framing Karásek as a queer author and cultural disruptor in the fin de siècle Habsburg space. A colonized subject, a literary decadent, and a sexual outlaw, Karásek's complex responses to his own marginalization can be traced through his fantastically strange novel trilogy *Three Magicians*. As the first volume in that series, *Manfred Macmillan* is a gorgeous, compelling, and important addition to expanding canons of LGBTQI+ literature.

**Carleton Bulkin** is an independent scholar and translator who holds a master's degree in Slavic languages and literatures from Indiana University. Among his publications is the first bidirectional Dari-English/English-Dari dictionary.

**Brian James Baer** is professor of Russian and translation studies at Kent State University. His recent publications include *Queer Theory and Translation Studies: Language, Politics, Desire* (Routledge, 2021). He is founding editor of the journal *Translation and Interpreting Studies* and coeditor of book series on translation studies for Bloomsbury and Routledge.



November 2024

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Paper: 978-1-943208-67-8

Electronic Communities of Making

# Playthrough Poetics

## Gameplay as Research Method

Edited by Milena Droumeva

“As someone who has been involved in livestreaming and video games for many years now, this is the book I’ve been waiting for.”

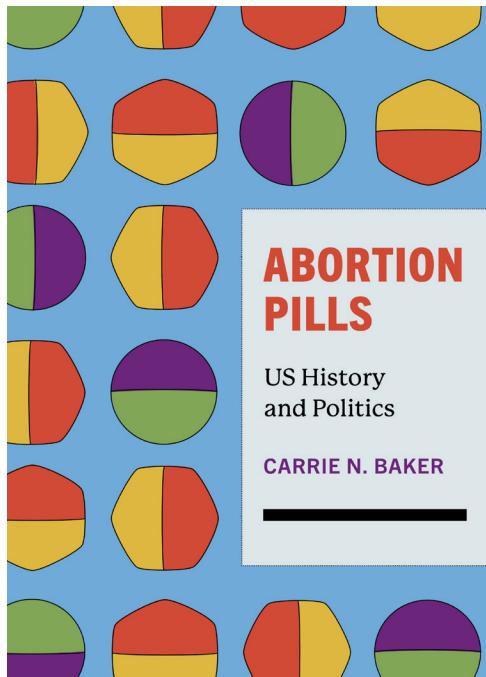
—Stuart Moulthrop,  
*University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee*

“There is great variety in the issues addressed in this volume—it isn’t a video game book that assumes that games are all one thing and that players are all one type, which is a great strength. This book could easily be used in both graduate and undergraduate classrooms, and its readability makes it quite accessible to non-academic audiences as well.”

—Shira Chess, *University of Georgia*

Game streamers and live commentators are producing increasingly comprehensive analyses of gameplay, yet scholarship still tends to flatten the experiential media of video games into text for close reading. By shifting focus toward the immersiveness of video games, *Playthrough Poetics* makes the case for gameplay as a necessary, alternate method. Contributors to this volume engage widely with the activity of play through autoethnographies, meta-analyses of self-broadcasting, new procedural methods like gamespace soundwalking, as well as the affective aspects of games research. In doing so, they model new possibilities for academic players and gamers alike. Rigorous scholarship meets cultural practice in this innovative, multimodal edited collection that includes video essays and offers transcripts of the playthroughs themselves. Readers (and viewers) will come away with a toolkit of models, case studies, and conceptual frameworks for analyzing video games through gameplay. This volume is a fresh return to the joy of play: the poetics of games as contemporary forms of storytelling and interactivity.

Milena Droumeva is associate professor of communication and the Glenfraser Endowed Professor in Sound Studies at Simon Fraser University, specializing in mobile technologies and multimodal ethnography with a long-standing interest in game cultures and gender. Droumeva co-edited the volume *Sound, Media, Ecology* (Palgrave, 2019) and has worked extensively in educational research on game-based learning, as well as in interaction design for responsive environments and sonification.



December 2024

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# Abortion Pills

## US History and Politics

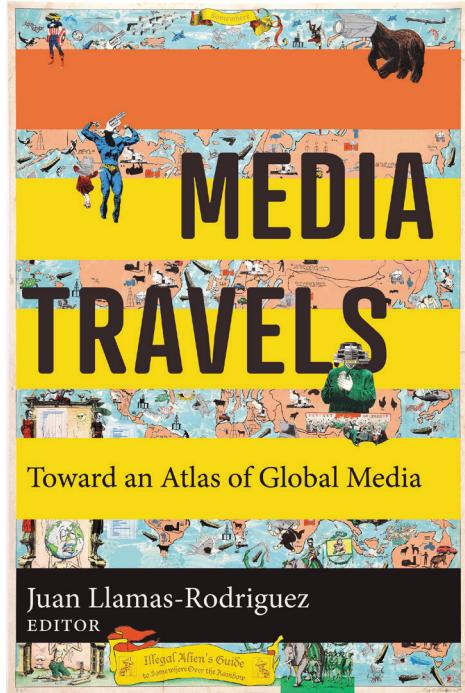
*Carrie N. Baker*

"Carrie Baker's deep and granular knowledge about the politics of abortion in general and abortion pills specifically provides a captivating and moving analysis of what women face in an environment hostile to their human rights. We can all benefit from learning more, even as seasoned activists, and her powerful book about the history of medication abortion compels us to think more deeply about the attacks on abortion rights and access as part of a multi-generational campaign to prevent women from controlling their lives."

—**Loretta J. Ross,**  
*Co-founder of the SisterSong Women of Color Reproductive Justice Collective*

*Abortion Pills* is the first comprehensive history of abortion pills in the United States. Public intellectual and lawyer Carrie N. Baker shows how courageous activists waged a decades-long campaign to establish, expand, and maintain access to abortion pills. Weaving their voices throughout her book, Baker recounts both dramatic and everyday acts of resistance. These activists battled anti-abortion forces, overly cautious policymakers, medical gatekeeping, and fearful allies in their four-decade-long fight to free abortion pills. In post-Roe America, abortion pills are currently playing a critically important role in providing safe abortion access to tens of thousands of people living in states that now ban and restrict abortion. Understanding this struggle will help to guarantee continued access into the future.

**Carrie N. Baker** is the Sylvia Dlugasch Bauman Professor of American Studies and the chair of the Program for the Study of Women and Gender at Smith College. She has written four previous books and scores of peer-reviewed scholarly articles on gender, law, and social movements for women's rights. She is a regular writer and contributing editor at *Ms. magazine*, covering abortion politics, sexual harassment, and the Equal Rights Amendment.



March 2025

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# Media Travels

## Toward an Atlas of Global Media

Edited by

Juan Llamas-Rodriguez

"*Media Travels* explores globalized mediascapes—the flows, connections, disjunctions, intermedial transfigurations, and encounters between macro and micro-level forces that shape these."

—Manishita Dass,

Royal Holloway, University of London

"In the best tradition of global media scholarship, it brings together chapters that think across locations, histories, genres, and objects of analysis to challenge familiar frameworks and generate new and grounded insights."

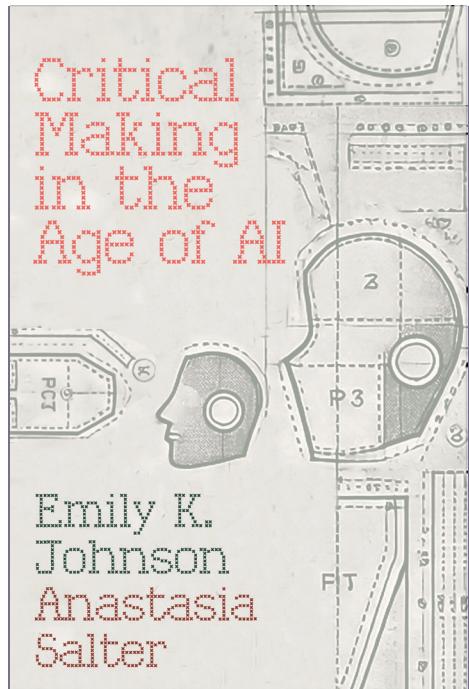
—Hatim El-Hibri,

George Mason University

*Media Travels: Toward An Atlas of Global Media* fills a significant gap in global media scholarship by offering short, readable articles covering different types of media from around the world. Through careful and informed analysis, these eleven accessibly written chapters illustrate the particularities of different media practices and situate them within social, historical, and geographical contexts. Examples range from South African video games to Korean TV series popular in Latin America to Indigenous film and media from the US and Canada.

Media studies courses, particularly introductory courses, are often narrowly focused on US and Western European canons. Instructors for introductory media studies courses wishing to expand the offerings in their curricula will find in these essays new ways of approaching foundational concepts and issues in the field, including globalization, social difference, and diverse media cultures. Scholars wishing to expand their research into specific media forms or representational issues can also turn to these case studies for approaches from beyond the US. By including a variety of media and several geographical areas, *Media Travels* introduces readers to the formal, technological, and cultural diversity of global media studies.

**Juan Llamas-Rodriguez** is assistant professor in the Annenberg School for Communication and associate director of the Center for Advanced Research in Global Communication at the University of Pennsylvania. He is author of *Border Tunnels: A Media Theory of the US-Mexico Underground* (University of Minnesota Press, 2023) and *Y Tu Mamá También: A Queer Film Classic* (McGill-Queen's University Press, 2025).



April 2025

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Hardcover: 978-1-943208-97-5

[Electronic Communities of Making](#)

# Critical Making in the Age of AI

Emily Johnson and

Anastasia Salter

"*Critical Making in the Age of AI* offers a vital shot of optimism by insisting that creativity can have (and always has had) a critical disposition.

And vice versa. Moreover, the pedagogical framing of the books' argument makes that creative/critical juxtaposition persuasively accessible to those teachers and learners curious about expanding their digital-critical toolset but intimidated by technical barriers."

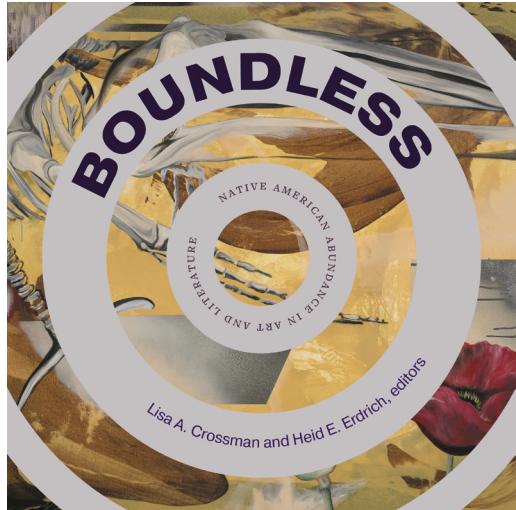
—Zach Whalen,  
*University of Mary Washington*

*Critical Making in the Age of AI* invites students, teachers, learners, and digital humanists to explore making as scholarship. Inspired by the craft traditions of textile arts, this book combines a survey of forms of alternative scholarly communication—such as comics, GIFs, maps, games, and generative AI—and a pattern book, where patterns serve as starting points that makers can reimagine and remix. Firmly grounded in the humanities and utilizing free tools and platforms (including Twine, Voyant, and Tracery) wherever possible, this engaging and accessible guide to digital methods introduces and puts into practice concepts that are essential to preparing students to navigate a changing landscape of media and information without investing in proprietary software, dedicated lab space, or expensive creative tools. By centering critical making through a design-justice and feminist lens, the coauthors model how inclusive and expansive approaches to making in research and teaching are vital to shaping the humanities of the future.

**Emily K. Johnson** is assistant professor in the Department of English (Technical Communication and Digital Humanities), graduate faculty in the Technical Communication MA Program, and core faculty in the Texts and Technology Program at the University of Central Florida.

**Anastasia Salter** is professor of English and director of the Texts and Technology program at the University of Central Florida. Salter is the author of numerous books including *Twining: Critical and Creative Approaches to Hypertext Narratives* (with Stuart Moulthrop, Amherst College Press, 2021).

COMING SOON



May 2025

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# Boundless Native American Abundance in Art and Literature

*Edited by*  
**Lisa A. Crossman and**  
**Heid E. Erdrich**

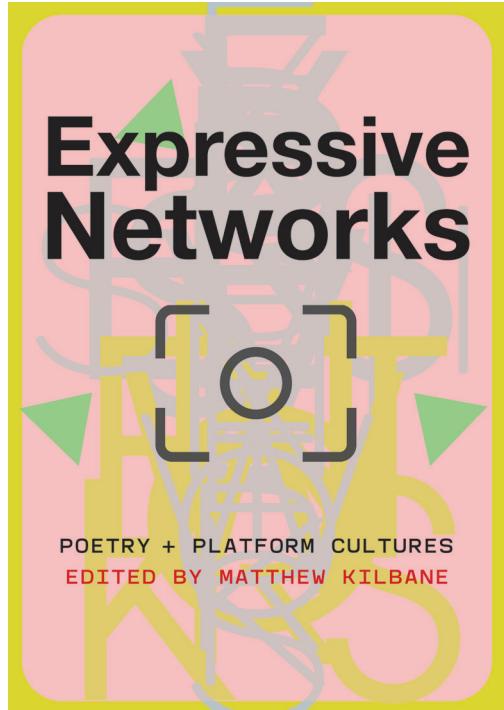
“This book and exhibit establish an Indigenous sense of place. It links territory, community, aesthetics, and history. Anyone interested in poetry, art, colonization, religion, water, the environment, Massachusetts, Indigenous culture, and the long history of settlement and contact in New England will be drawn to this fantastic project.”

—**Dean Rader,**  
*University of San Francisco*

*Boundless* expands conversations on Native and Indigenous art and literature by presenting words and images in kinship. Starting in the collections of the Mead Art Museum and the Collection of Native American Literature at Amherst College, and centered on the creative production of Native peoples of the Northeast, the project follows relationships between Indigenous authors and artists across the United States and beyond borders. *Boundless* presents an engagement of Indigenous curatorial methods as practiced by guest curator Heid E. Erdrich (Ojibwe) in an exhibition in two iterations hosted by the Mead in 2023 and 2024. Advisors to *Boundless* include Mohegan, Nipmuc, Shinnecock, and Wampanoag artists and scholars, along with others, who supported Erdrich in her urge to center the project in the Northeast. Advisors contributed both visual art and writing to the exhibition and publication. *Boundless* brings artists and writers together across generations, often drawing together works by members of the same tribe or even the same family to show the history, presence, and futurity of Native American creative and intellectual production.

**Lisa A. Crossman** is director of curatorial affairs at the Mead Art Museum, Amherst College.

**Heid E. Erdrich (Ojibwe)** is author of *Little Big Bully* (Penguin, 2019) and many books of poetry and prose. She is an interdisciplinary artist who has curated dozens of Native arts exhibitions. Erdrich is an enrolled member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa and lives in Minnesota.



June 2025

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Hardcover: 979-8-89506-002-5

# Expressive Networks

## Poetry and Platform Cultures

*Edited by Matthew Kilbane*

"This important volume offers literary criticism augmented for the age of networked platforms. From its plugged-in introduction to its well-tuned chapters, *Expressive Networks* offers a collection of timely readings of digital poetic objects."

—Mark Marino,  
*University of Southern California*

"This volume will be a big deal."

—Stephanie Burt,  
*Harvard University*

*Expressive Networks* convenes an urgent conversation on digital media and the social life of contemporary poetry. Tracing how poems circulate through online spaces and how capitalized platforms have come to pattern the reading and writing of poetry, contributors emphasize both the expressivist cast of digital literary culture and the deep-running ambivalence that characterizes aesthetic and critical responses to platformed cultural production. The volume features chapters on Pan-African spoken word programs, Singaporean Facebook groups, decolonial hemispheric networks, and Japanese media-critical poetries as well as platforms such as Twitter/X, Instagram, and Amazon.

Though contributors write from a variety of methodological positions and address themselves to a range of archives, they share the primary conviction that the impact of Web 2.0 on literary practice is far-reaching, far from self-evident, and far more variegated and unpredictable than easy summations of social media's influence suggest. *Expressive Networks* asks after poetry's present and future by examining what poems themselves express about the social make-up of networked platforms.

**Matthew Kilbane** is assistant professor in the English Department at the University of Notre Dame. A scholar of modern and contemporary poetry, media studies, and the digital humanities, he is author of *The Lyre Book: Modern Poetic Media* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2024).



September 2024

Open access: 979-8-89506-012-4

ACP Records

NEW ALBUM  
**Re-entry**

*Marianne Solivan*

"The wide-ranging set of songs is held together neatly by the sound world this tight ensemble has created: their musicianship speaks for itself."

—Thomas M. Welsh

"*Re-entry* explores many genres that have become a part of the jazz lexicon, bossa nova, Afro-Cuban, samba, waltz, swing, and funk. All of these are common styles, but the ensemble does a great job exploring them through the lens of their sound crafted during the pandemic."

—Jonathan Whitney

*Re-entry* is acclaimed musician Marianne Solivan's fifth jazz album. Working with a group of musicians including Leandro Pellegrino (guitar), Steve Wood (bass), Jay Sawyer (drums), and Alex Terrier (saxophones) over the early years of the COVID-19 pandemic, Solivan first rehearsed a varied repertoire in an empty neighborhood bar, recording just as New York City was coming out of lockdown. In her words, "Everyone brought in music they loved, and we all jumped in on every song. Arrangements were shaped and reshaped until we all felt they were right. We had no allegiances to style or genre but only to our own musicianship and musicality."

The resulting album is the first in ACP Records, a pathbreaking series that draws on musicians to vet and peer review new jazz recordings. Utilizing Solivan's powerful, celebrated voice as an instrument in the ensemble, *Re-entry* is a must listen for anyone interested in jazz performance, jazz theory and improvisation, jazz voice, and jazz composition and arranging.

**Marianne Solivan** is a highly respected and celebrated jazz vocalist, known for her dynamic range, expressive delivery, and fearless improvisation skills. Solivan has collaborated with many of the biggest names in jazz, including Christian McBride, Lewis Nash, Peter Bernstein, and countless others. She has also released several critically acclaimed albums, including *Prisoner of Love*, which features her own interpretations of jazz standards, and *Spark*. Solivan is a professor of voice at Syracuse University's Setnor School of Music.

# As for Protocols

*Edited by Re'al Christenson, Carin Kuoni, and Eriola Pira*

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AS FOR PROTOCOLS

Notes on Methodology

Fragile Glass at the Apple:

Economic, Academic, and Artistic Practices in US Contemporary Art Museums

Of the Invisible

Protocol of Transparency

Contemporary Art Practices and Politics

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & CREDITS

March 2025

Open access: 978-1-943208-99-9

Paper: 978-1-943208-98-2

"*As for Protocols* touches on so many of the perspectives, vocalities, and literacies that the project of art attuned to social and ecological justice needs right now. It is wide-ranging, smart, diverse, attentive to constitutive difference, and productive of generative confluence."

—Natalie Loveless,  
University of Alberta

"This is an important book because it explores protocol in ways that render the concept beautifully and horribly present contrary to the ways protocols often disappear into the background of our lives and ways of being social. The assembled authors define, embody, examine, and contest the world-making power of protocols."

—Kelli Moore,  
New York University

Explicitly—or not—protocols determine much of what we do. Far exceeding traditional notions of “good manners,” protocols are systems of language that regulate how we relate to each other, to our cultural, social, and political environments, and to the technologies that create them. The first publication to look at protocols across a wide range of disciplines, *As for Protocols* brings together contributions by twenty-two international artists, writers, scholars, musicians, architects, and scientists who explore protocols across various fields, foregrounding opportunities for creating new protocols that are inclusive and equitable. Through essays, artworks, interviews, and scores, the book speaks to protocols as practice—neither conventional mannerisms nor abstract concepts, but material processes, relational affinities, shared responsibilities, and mutual care.

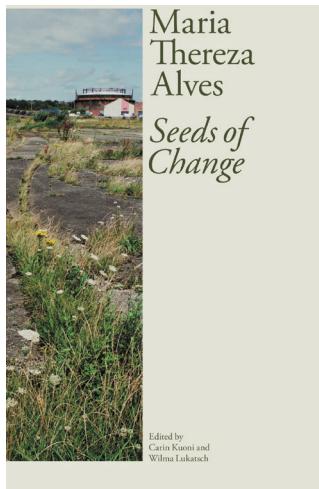
**Re'al Christian** is assistant director of editorial initiatives at the Vera List Center for Art and Politics and the co-editor of Maria Hupfield's *Breaking Protocol*, published by the VLC and Inventory Press.

**Carin Kuoni** is senior director and chief curator of the Vera List Center for Art and Politics and assistant professor of visual studies. She is co-editor of *Studies into Darkness: On the Perils and Promise of Freedom of Speech* and *Maria Thereza Alves: Seeds of Change* for the Vera List Center and Amherst College Press.

**Eriola Pira** is a researcher, curator, and director of programs at the Vera List Center for Art and Politics, working with artists to explore new ideas and present exhibitions, performances, and publications on art and its politics.

## Maria Thereza Alves: Seeds of Change

Edited by Carin Kuoni and Wilma Lukatsch



In a career spanning fifty years, Brazilian artist Maria Thereza Alves has focused on questions of belonging in an era of extractivist economies, forced mobility, and climate change. This is the first comprehensive documentation of Alves's most iconic, generative, and expansive work, "Seeds of Change," a twenty-year project that delves into the rich history and legacy of ballast flora, the displaced plant seeds found in the soil used to balance shipping vessels. By focusing on ballast flora, Alves reveals the entangled relationship between these "alien" species and the colonial maritime trade of goods and enslaved peoples, inviting us to de-border post-colonial historical narratives and consider a "borderless history." Each chapter delves into one iteration of "Seeds of Change," which has materialized at port cities across several continents. Introductions by the artist are augmented by material and artifacts from her studio. The intimacy of Alves's personal accounts then gives way to illuminating contributions by a range of scholars, curators, other artists, and historians.

March 2023

Open access: 978-1-943208-49-4

Paper: 978-1-943208-48-7

## Studies into Darkness: The Perils and Promise of Freedom of Speech

Edited by Carin Kuoni and Laura Raicovich



There have been few times in American history when the very concept of freedom of speech—its promise and its contradictions—has been under greater scrutiny. *Studies into Darkness* provides a practical and historical guide to free speech discourse combined with poetic responses to the crises present in contemporary culture and society around expression. *Studies into Darkness* emerged from a series of seminars guided by acclaimed artist, filmmaker, and activist Amar Kanwar at the Vera List Center for Art and Politics at The New School. This collection of newly commissioned texts, artist projects, and historic resources examines aspects of freedom of speech informed by recent debates around hate speech, censorship, sexism, and racism. "Darkness" here holds the promise of complexity, discovery and, in Kanwar's words, "visions from within the depths."

June 2022

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# VIDEO GAME ART READER

*Editor-in-Chief: Tiffany Funk*

The *Video Game Art Reader* (VGAR) is a peer-reviewed annual series for video game audiences and video game practitioners interested in the history, theory, and criticism of video games, explored through the lens of art history and visual culture. Video games are culturally and historically critical vehicles for expression: they are both performative and material, and they communicate meaning through a complex of visual, audio, and embodied methods. VGAR contributes to the breaking down of barriers often restraining video game discourse by acknowledging and celebrating the many disciplines and methodologies engaging in video game discourse. We seek to advocate for video games as art and to create an inclusive, multivalent, diversified conversation about the past, present, and possible futures of video games.

The *Video Game Art Reader* is helmed by Editor-in-Chief Tiffany Funk. Its editorial board comprises artists, scholars, and video game enthusiasts from cultural and educational institutions. Current board members include: James Conley, Loyola University Chicago; Kishonna Gray, University of Kentucky; Reem Hilu, Washington University St. Louis; Carly Kocurek, Illinois Institute of Technology; Stephan Moore, Northwestern University; Whitney Pow, New York University; Joyce Rudinsky, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Maureen Ryan, University of South Carolina; Victoria Szabo, Duke University; Chris Totten, Kent State University; Kelli Wood, University of Tennessee Knoxville

## Volume 5: Game Arts Curators Kit

*Edited by Tiffany Funk, María Luján Oulton, Chaz Evans, Rene G. Cepeda and Tim Kwasny*



March 2024

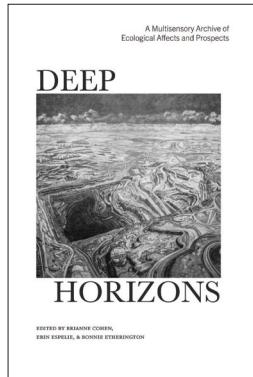
Open access: 978-1-943208-64-7

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Many ambitious and experimental game forms don't fit into the digital download or retail distribution channels that support so-called "traditional" video games. Instead, these games are supported by a new global movement in video game curation. This special edition of the *Video Game Art Reader* features an international collaboration of video game professionals working together to create a resource for game exhibition organization, design, and curation.

Professionals, artists, and others who organize and curate video game exhibitions and events act within a rhizomatic network of methods, missions, and goals. They establish organizations like galleries, collectives, and non-profits. Methods of sharing video games as critical cultural phenomena continue to evolve and expand. Conceived during the first meeting of GAIA (Game Arts International Assembly), the *Game Art Curators Kit* documents and shares the collective experience of an international network of video game curators and organizers. Sharing practical tips on everything from accessibility to preservation, the book also serves as a guide to support a new global movement in video game curation.

## FEATURED BACKLIST



### Deep Horizons: A Multisensory Archive of Ecological Affects and Prospects

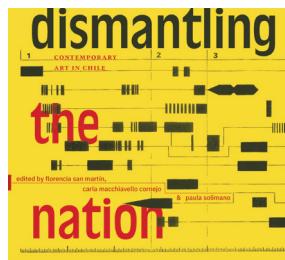
Edited by Brianne Cohen, Erin Espelie, and Bonnie Etherington

*Deep Horizons: A Multisensory Archive of Ecological Affects and Prospects* gathers contributions from multiple disciplines to investigate intersectional questions of how the changing planet affects specific peoples, communities, wildlife species, and ecosystems in varying and inequitable ways. This multimodal, multisensorial volume pushes the boundaries of scholarship with an experimental, born-digital format that offers a set of responses to collective traumas such as climate change, environmental destruction, and settler colonialism.

### Dismantling the Nation: Contemporary Art in Chile

Edited by Florencia San Martín, Carla Macchiavello Cornejo, and Paula Solimano

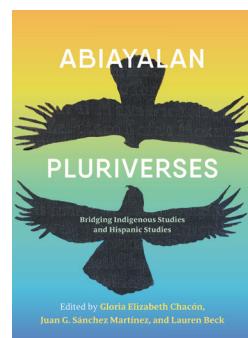
The first volume to theorize and historicize contemporary artistic practices from Chile in the English language, *Dismantling the Nation* begins from a position of radical criticism against the nation-state of Chile and its capitalist, heteronormative, and extractivist rule. The authors attend to practices from distinct locations in Chile, reconceptualizing geographical borders from a transnational and transdisciplinary perspective while engaging with ecocriticism and Indigenous epistemologies.



### Abiayalan Pluriverses: Bridging Indigenous Studies and Hispanic Studies

Edited by Gloria E. Chacón, Juan G. Sánchez Martínez, and Lauren Beck

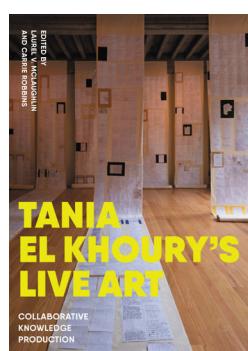
This edited collection brings together different disciplinary experiences and perspectives to connect two often siloed disciplines. Weaving together researchers, artists, instructors, and authors who have found ways of bridging Indigenous and Hispanic studies through trans-Indigenous reading methods, intercultural dialogues, and reflections on translation and epistemology, the volume brings rich context to the Indigenous Americas and its crossroads with Hispanic studies.



### Tania El Khoury's Live Art: Collaborative Knowledge Production

Edited by Laurel V. McLaughlin and Carrie Robbins

The first book to examine the work of Tania El Khoury, an artist deeply engaged in the politics and histories of the South West Asia and North Africa (SWANA) region, this interdisciplinary and multimedia reader features essays by artists, curators, and scholars who explore the dynamic possibilities and complexities of El Khoury's art. From social workers to archeologists to archivists, contributing authors engage with the radical epistemological and political revolutions that El Khoury and her collaborators invite us all to join.





## Ultima and Worldbuilding in the Computer Role-Playing Game

*Carly A. Kocurek and Matthew Thomas Payne*

This is the first scholarly book to focus exclusively on the long-running *Ultima* series of computer role-playing games (RPGs) and to assess its lasting impact on the RPG genre and video game industry. By attending to the salient moments and sites of game creation throughout the series' storied past, authors Carly A. Kocurek and Matthew Thomas Payne detail the creative choices and structural forces that brought *Ultima*'s celebrated brand of role-playing to fruition.

## Beyond Mestizaje: Contemporary Debates on Race in Mexico

*Edited by Tania Islas Weinstein and Milena Ang with translations by Ellen Jones*

Racism has historically been a taboo topic in Mexico. This is largely due to the nationalist project of *mestizaje*, which contends that because all Mexicans are racially mixed, race is not a salient political issue. This book introduces readers to a sample of these diverse and sometimes conflicting views that also intersect with discussions of class. The activists and scholars included in the volume come from fields such as anthropology, linguistics, history, sociology, and political science.



## Past and Future Presence: Approaches for Implementing XR Technology in Humanities and Art Education

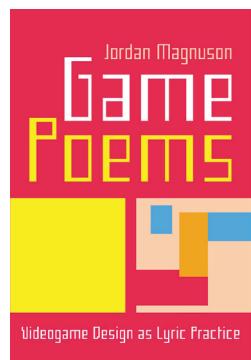
*Edited by Lissa Crofton-Sleigh and Brian Beams*

While uses and studies of XR technology within STEM-based education have been plentiful in recent years, there has been lesser or even, at times, a lack of coverage for this novel learning tool in the arts and humanities. *Past and Future Presence* aims to bridge some of that gap by presenting research-based theory and case studies of successful application and implementation of XR technology into post-secondary educational settings.

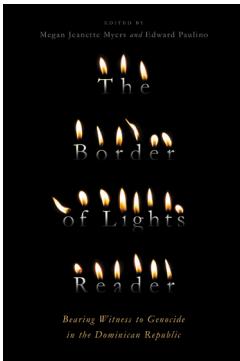
## Game Poems: Videogame Design as Lyric Practice

*Jordan Magnuson*

This rigorous and accessible short book first examines characteristics of lyric poetry and explores how certain videogames can be appreciated more fully when read in light of the lyric tradition—that is, when read as “game poems.” Magnuson then lays groundwork for those wishing to make game poems in practice, providing practical tips and pointers along with tools and resources. Rather than propose a monolithic framework or draw a sharp line between videogame poems and poets and their nonpoetic counterparts, *Game Poems* brings to light new insights for videogames and for poetry by promoting creative dialogue between disparate fields.



## FEATURED BACKLIST



### The Border of Lights Reader: Bearing Witness to Genocide in the Dominican Republic

*Edited by Megan Jeanette Myers and Edward Paulino*

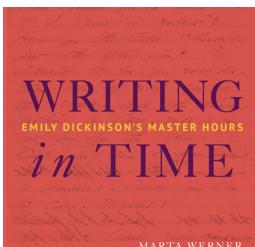
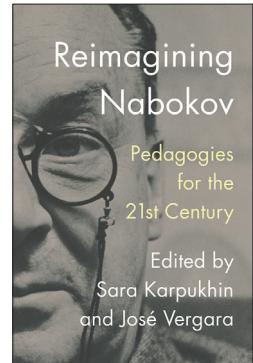
**WINNER of the inaugural Anthology Prize from the Latin American Studies Association (LASA) Haiti-Dominican Republic Section**

A multimodal, multi-vocal space for activists, artists, scholars, and others connected to the Border of Lights movement, this innovative anthology emphasizes cross-border and collaborative histories and asks large-scale, universal questions regarding historical memory and revisionism that countries around the world grapple with today.

### Reimagining Nabokov: Pedagogies for the 21st Century

*Edited by Sara Karpukhin and José Vergara*

Here, eleven teachers of Vladimir Nabokov describe how and why they teach this notoriously difficult, even problematic, writer to the next generations of students. Contributors offer fresh perspectives and embrace emergent pedagogical methods, detailing how developments in technology, translation and archival studies, and new interpretative models have helped them to address urgent questions of power, authority, and identity.



### Writing in Time: Emily Dickinson's Master Hours

*Marta Werner*

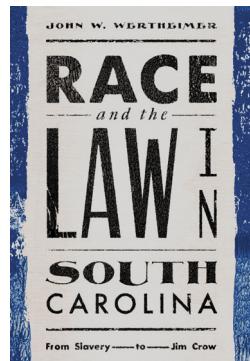
**WINNER of the 2023 Richard J. Finneran Award for the best book about editorial theory or practice**

"The most important aspect of Werner's editorial intervention ... is the print rendition of Dickinson's handwritten texts, their ordering and their contextualization. Through this re-dynamization of Dickinson's texts we thus get a glimpse into her thinking. We get to read less a series of discrete poems but the becoming of a poem. That is the most precious gift of Werner's *Writing in Time*." —Branka Arsic, Columbia University

### Race and the Law in South Carolina: From Slavery to Jim Crow

*John William Wertheimer*

This first title in the Law, Literature & Culture series uses six legal disputes from the South Carolina courts to illuminate the complex legal history of race in the US South from slavery through Jim Crow. "Recent arguments in African American History have emphasized the theme of continuity ... Race and Law in South Carolina recovers the theme of change over time by showing just how things have changed, and it does so through patient, thick description." —H. Robert Baker, Georgia State University



## **Emergent Ideas: Lateral Books in Cultural Studies,**

*Edited by Robert Carley, Anne Donlon, Eero Laine, SAJ, and Chris Alen Sula*

Emergent Ideas: Lateral Books in Cultural Studies publishes concise analyses and interpretations of contemporary and emergent cultural phenomena. Titles in the series explore the objects, events, artifacts, and practices that shape and structure communities, politics, and movements. We are especially interested in work that explores cultural phenomena and ideas on the cusp of articulation: the beginnings of a new theory, for example, or the identification of meanings, relations, and practices that are constitutive of a cultural moment or movement. We invite sharp, speculative, and radically novel analyses, critiques, and theories that advance interdisciplinary conversations across the field of cultural studies internationally.

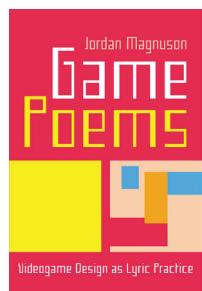
### **Urgent Knowledges, Edited by Paul Schroeder Rodríguez**

Urgent Knowledges is a translation series that highlights Indigenous, Afro-descendant, and similarly marginalized intellectual traditions in the geocultural area known as Latin America, including the Caribbean. The series will consider texts from a variety of periods and genres, in both fiction and nonfiction, that center concepts and practices such as suma qamaña (Aymara for ‘convivial living’) and ubuntu (Nguni for ‘I am because we are’). Urgent Knowledges will thus amplify voices that offer an expansive horizon of living in harmony with oneself, with other human and non-human beings, and with the diverse ecosystems that sustain us all.

### **Electronic Communities of Making,**

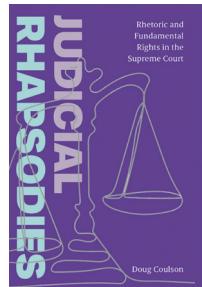
*Edited by Anastasia Salter and Stuart Moulthrop*

Electronic Communities of Making promotes thoughtful reflection on the communities and practices driving electronic creativity by publishing works that reach across electronic literature, game studies, and internet research to explore the intersection of theory, practice, and pedagogy. We particularly hope to encourage engagement with open-source tools that invite and encourage inclusive making: from established platforms for interactive fiction to alternative game platforms redefining play to artistic communities shaping procedural expression.



### **Law, Literature & Culture, Edited by Austin Sarat**

Law and literature have for millennia been closely allied as means of persuasion and the creation of cultural norms. This series sets law, literature, and culture in new dialogues, exploring the textual dimensions and cultural work of law and the legal frameworks of literature. The editors seek work that brings literary, legal, and/or cultural analysis together to explore specific social and political problems and that attends carefully to historical contexts and issues. Of particular interest are works that define and argue a thesis drawing on both textual and non-textual sources for which a multimodal, digital presentation offers unique expressive power.



### **Music & Material Encounters, Edited by Amy Coddington and Jake Johnson**

This series publishes long-form essays and traditional monographs that examine music and materiality. Projects in this series may draw upon music’s intersections with print, visual art, and architecture; musical practices of embodiment through studies of anatomy or choreography; and music’s interactions with legal and militaristic policies throughout the world. Authors are encouraged to consider how music and musical practices develop alongside the various media they encounter and how their scholarship itself engages with the materiality of this media.

## SERIES

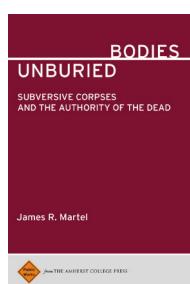
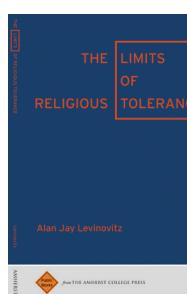
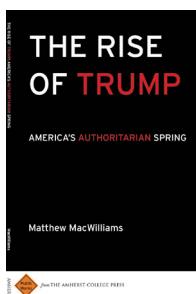
### Re/verse

*Edited by Brian Glavey, Kamran Javadizadeh, and Johanna Winant*

Re/verse is a series of compact introductions to individual books of poetry. Poems are often understood in relation to their canonization in anthologies and *Collected Works*, or, more recently, through forms of viral circulation on social media and other digital platforms. Re/verse proposes that the poetry collection itself is a significant unit of meaning and that studying a collection brings new insights to our reading of the poems it contains. These short, accessibly-written books will appeal to nonacademic readers and writers as well as teachers and students in literary studies and creative writing classes.

### Public Works, Edited by Austin Sarat

Public Works seeks out the perspective of leading scholars in the humanities and humanistic social sciences on emergent questions that have long-term significance in our public conversations. Shorter than monographs, these works offer the freedom of long-form essays and the tools of digital media. Existing titles in this series include *The Rise of Trump: America's Authoritarian Spring* (2016), by Matthew MacWilliams; *The Limits of Religious Tolerance* (2017), by Alan Jay Levinovitz; *Sentencing in Time* (2017), by Linda Ross Meyer; and *Unburied Bodies: Subversive Corpses and the Authority of the Dead* (2018), by James R. Martel.



### ACP Records, Edited by Darryl Harper

ACP Records is an academic record label focusing on new jazz recordings. In music today, the means of production are increasingly accessible yet distribution has become tightly controlled by a few actors. ACP Records employs the structure of open-access scholarly publishing to rectify the music industry's neglect of "new knowledge" by utilizing digital formats, peer review as a collaborative process, and limited distribution rights associated with Creative Commons licensing. The series models a commitment to the liberal arts by cultivating discovery through analysis, interpretation, and connecting ideas across disciplines.



### Russian Travelogues, Edited by Sergey Glebov

Russian Travelogues introduces to the English-speaking world narratives of exploration, travel, and conquest produced by representatives of the military, missionary, and scholarly communities in imperial Russia. Books in this series "provide a revealing entree into problems of empire, difference, hierarchical relations, and other complexes of ideas and practices that characterized nineteenth-century approaches to rulership." —David McDonald, University of Wisconsin, Madison



