

AMHERST COLLEGE PRESS

2022

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ABOUT

Amherst College Press produces path-breaking, peer-reviewed long and medium length scholarly books and makes them available to readers everywhere as digital, open-access work and affordable paperbacks.

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.

The press publishes work in Art History and Visual Studies, Latin American Studies, Law and Culture, Literary Studies, Music and Sound Studies, and Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies, with a deep interest in interdisciplinary scholarship.

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Netprov

Networked Improvised Literature

For the Classroom and Beyond

Rob Wittig

December 2021

Open access: 978-1-943208-29-6

Paper: 978-1-943208-28-9

This book is an exploration, a critical reflection, and a how-to of a new digital art form that combines the quick spontaneity of social media with the enduring methods of traditional culture. Netprov is collaborative fiction-making in available media. Netprov is role-playing characters in writing and images. Netprov is storytelling in real time. Netprov is a great game for students and friends. Netprov shares the same easy, creative energy as the proliferating chains of songs and dances on TikTok.

This book presents many inspiring examples of how netprov creators have used everyday platforms to build a structure and invites netprov players to enjoy collaborating on substantial works of narrative fiction. “Try This” sections are recipes for netprovs, perfect for classrooms or a game night with friends. It takes a scholarly, historical look at five creative fields and what each contributes to netprov.

Rob Wittig is an assistant professor in the Art & Design and English, Linguistics and Writing Studies departments of the University of Minnesota Duluth. He is the author of *Invisible Rendezvous* (Wesleyan University Press). Alongside his writing projects, he has led research and development teams in Chicago publishing and graphic design firms.

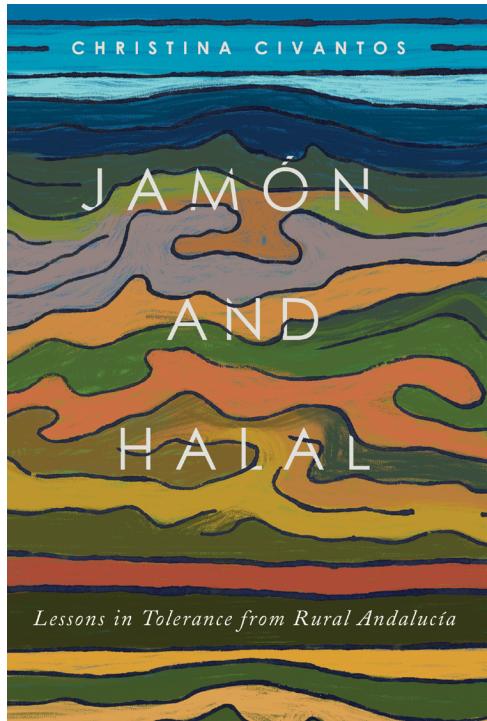
Netprov

Networked Improvised Literature for the Classroom and Beyond

Rob Wittig

“Jargon-free and ambitious in scope, *Netprov* meets the needs of several types of readers. Casual readers will be met with straightforward and easy-to-follow definitions and examples. Scholars will find deep wells of information about networked roleplay games. Teachers and students will find instructions for how-to play, and a ready-made academic context to make their play meaningful and memorable.”

—**Kathi Inman Berens**,
Portland State University



April 2022

Open access: 978-1-943208-37-1

Paper: 978-1-943208-36-4

Jamón and Halal

Lessons in Tolerance from Rural Andalucía

Christina Civantos

“This is a book that is both a personal account and a rigorous academic study. It is a model for the kind of engaged humanistic work we are now beginning to see as a hallmark of the post-theory moment, and one that remembers the hard lessons of ethnographic fieldwork as well as the challenging foundational work from philosophically-tinged theory.”

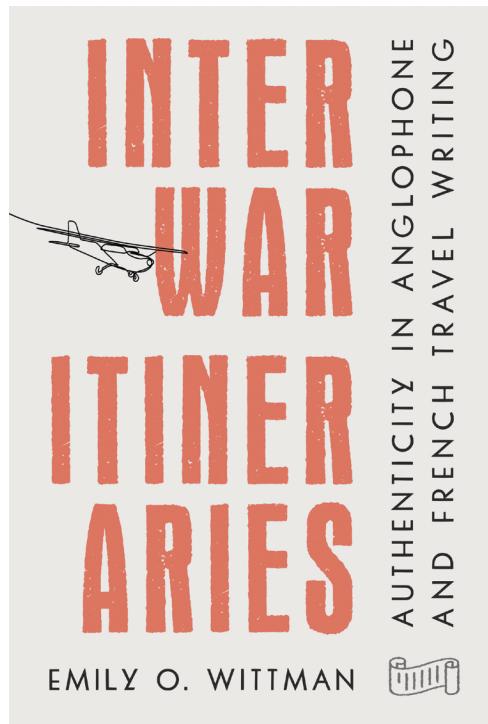
—**Debra A. Castillo**, Stephen H. Weiss Presidential Fellow and Emerson Hinckley Professor of Hispanic Studies, Cornell University

“Filled with rich descriptions and interwoven personal anecdotes of both Civantos and her interlocutors that complement scholarly analysis.”

—**Jessica R. Boll**, Carroll University

Contemporary Spain reflects broader patterns of globalization and has been the site of tensions between nationalists and immigrants. This case study examines a rural town in Spain’s Andalucía in order to shed light on the workings of coexistence. The town of Órgiva’s diverse population includes hippies from across Europe, European converts to Sufi Islam, and immigrants from North Africa. Christina Civantos combines the analysis of written and visual cultural texts with oral narratives from residents. In this book, we see that although written and especially televisual narratives about the town highlight tolerance and multiculturalism, they mask tensions and power differentials. Toleration is an ongoing negotiation and this book shows us how we can identify the points of contact that create robust, respect-based tolerance.

Christina Civantos is a professor in the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures at the University of Miami. She is the author of *Between Argentines and Arabs: Argentine Orientalism, Arab Immigrants, and the Writing of Identity* (SUNY) and *The Afterlife of al-Andalus: Muslim Iberia in Contemporary Arab and Hispanic Narratives* (SUNY).



May 2022

Open access: 978-1-943208-31-9

Paper: 978-1-943208-30-2

Interwar Itineraries

Authenticity in Anglophone
and French Travel Writing

Emily O. Wittman

“This book offers a valuable account of literary activity in a genre still inadequately covered in literary-critical history. Emily Wittman organizes her material through pairings and contextualizing that are instructive and illuminating and often exciting . . . This is comparative literature at its best.”

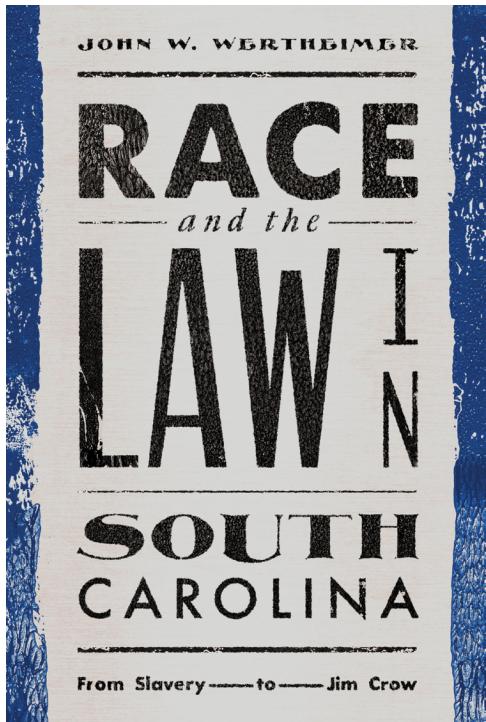
—**Vincent Sherry**, Howard Nemerov
Professor in the Humanities,
Washington University

How people traveled, and how people wrote about travel, changed in the interwar years. Novel technologies eased travel conditions, breeding new iterations of the colonizing gaze. The sense that another war was coming lent urgency and anxiety to the search for new places and “authentic” experiences. *Interwar Itineraries* identifies a diverse group of writers from two languages who embarked on such quests. For these writers, authenticity was achieved through rugged adventure abroad to economically poorer destinations.

Using translation theory and new approaches in travel studies and global modernisms, Wittman links and complicates the symbolic and rhetorical strategies of writers including André Gide, Ernest Hemingway, Michel Leiris, Isak Dinesen, Beryl Markham, among others, that offer insight into the high ethical stakes of travel and allow us to see in new ways how models of the authentic self are built and maintained through asymmetries of encounter.

Emily O. Wittman is an associate professor of English at the University of Alabama. She is the author of *The New Midlife Self-Writing* (Routledge) and the co-editor (with Maria DiBattista) of the *Cambridge Companion to Autobiography and Modernism and Autobiography* (Cambridge). She is a translator of the French philosopher Félix Guattari.

COMING SOON



July 2022

Open access: 978-1-943208-33-3

Paper: 978-1-943208-32-6

Race and the Law in South Carolina

From Slavery to Jim Crow

John W. Wertheimer

“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

“This book and its concomitant student project is an exciting endeavor. . . . The cases are captivating and accessibly written, making this a possible college classroom read.”

—**Vanessa Blanck,**
Rowan University

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 U.S. South from slavery through Jim Crow. The first two cases—one criminal, one civil—both illuminate the extreme oppressiveness of slavery. The third explores labor relations between newly emancipated Black agricultural workers and white landowners during Reconstruction. The remaining cases investigate three prominent features of the Jim Crow system: segregated schools, racially biased juries, and lynching, respectively. Throughout the century under consideration, South Carolina’s legal system obsessively drew racial lines, always to the detriment of non-white people, but it occasionally provided a public forum within which racial oppression could be challenged.

John W. Wertheimer is the William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor of History at Davidson College. He researches the legal history of the United States and Latin America. He is the author of *Law and Society in the South: A History of North Carolina Court Cases* (University Press of Kentucky).

VIDEO GAME ART READER

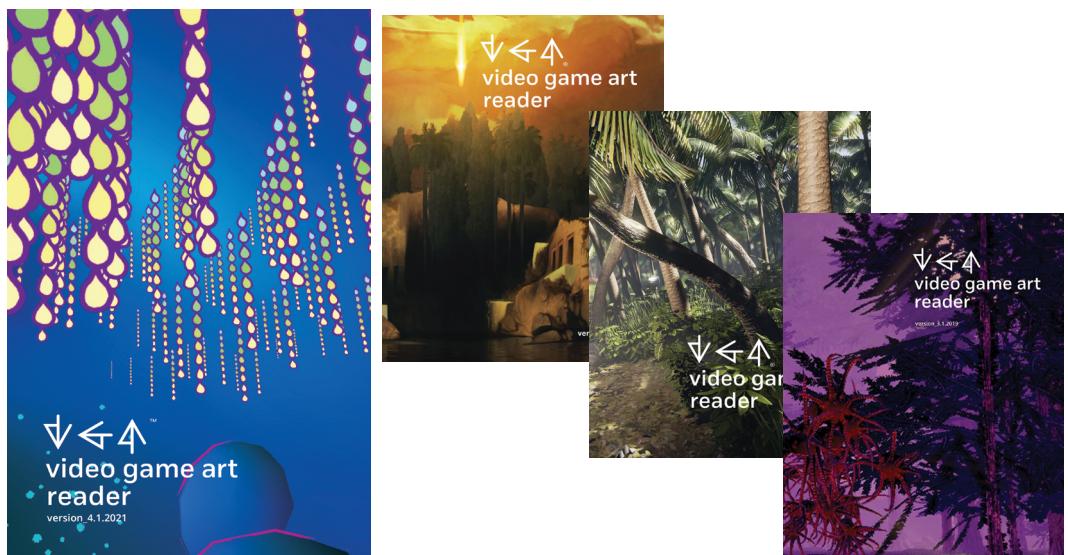
Editor-in-Chief: Tiffany Funk

Managing Editor: Michael Reed

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 and Managing Editor Michael Reed. Its editorial board comprises artists, scholars, and video game enthusiasts from cultural and educational institutions throughout the United States.

Volume 4: In computing, overclocking refers to the common practice of increasing the clock rate of a computer to exceed that certified by the manufacturer. The concept is seductive but overclocking may destroy your motherboard or system memory, even irreparably corrupt the hard drive. Volume 4 of the *Video Game Art Reader* (VGAR) proposes overclocking as a metaphor for how games are produced and experienced today, and the temporal compressions and expansions of the many historical lineages that have shaped game art and culture. Contributors reflect on the many ways in which overclocking can be read as a means of oppression but also a strategy to raise awareness of how inequities have shaped video games.



AMHERST COLLEGE PRESS & THE VERA LIST CENTER FOR ART AND POLITICS

Amherst College Press and the Vera List Center for Art and Politics at The New School are pleased to announce a publishing partnership launching in 2022. The partnership will further each institution's commitment to advancing the understanding of the intersection of art and politics and combine their extensive networks, centering exciting contemporary publishing on art and politics in an international discourse. All titles under this imprint will be available in print and, for free, digitally, thus opening the important research of both institutions to an entirely new generation of scholars and readers throughout the world.

The Vera List Center for Art and Politics is a research center and a public forum for public scholarship on art, culture, and politics. It was established at The New School in 1992, and is now known for its dynamic interdisciplinary public programs, conferences, artist fellowships and residencies, and the Jane Lombard Prize for Art and Social Justice, as well as exhibitions and publications that build solidarity, expand knowledge, and spark social and political empowerment through art.

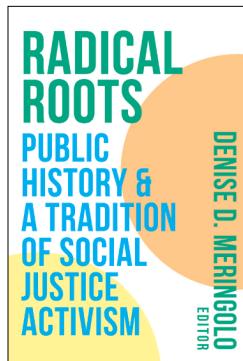
Coming May 2022

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. Ultimately, this publication provocatively questions whether true communication is ever attainable.



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.” Designed by Nontsikelelo Mutiti and Julia Novitch, the book itself plays with the concept of darkness as both a tonal variation and a factor of legibility, a space from which truth can be extracted or hindered.



Radical Roots: Public History and a Tradition of Social Justice Activism

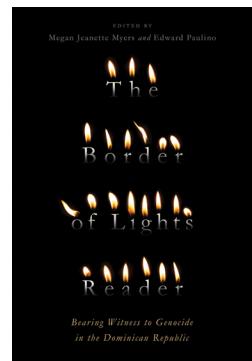
Edited by Denise D. Meringolo

This groundbreaking collection addresses major topics such as museum practices, oral history, grassroots preservation, and community-based learning. It demonstrates the core practices that have shaped radical public history, how they have been mobilized to promote social justice, and how public historians can facilitate civic discourse in order to promote equality.

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

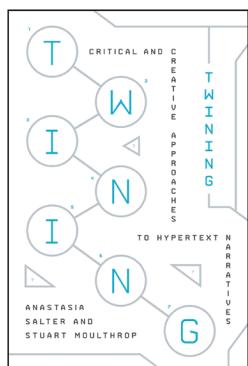
Edited by Megan Jeanette Myers and Edward Paulino

A multimodal, multi-vocal space for activists, artists, scholars, and others connected to the BOL movement, this book provides an alternative to the dominant narrative that positions Dominicans and Haitians as eternal adversaries. 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.



Twining: Critical and Creative Approaches to Hypertext Narratives

Anastasia Salter and Stuart Moulthrop

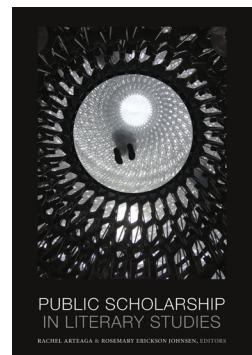


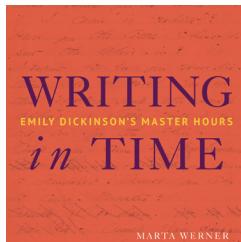
In *Twining*, Anastasia Salter and Stuart Moulthrop lead readers on a journey at once technical, critical, contextual, and personal. The book's chapters alternate careful, stepwise discussion of adaptable Twine projects, offer commentary on exemplary Twine works, and discuss Twine's technological and cultural background. Beyond telling the story of Twine and how to make Twine stories, *Twining* reflects on the ongoing process of making.

Public Scholarship in Literary Studies

Edited by Rachel Arteaga and Rosemary Erickson Johnsen

Public Scholarship in Literary Studies demonstrates that literary criticism has the potential not only to explain, but to actively change our terms of engagement with current realities. Rachel Arteaga and Rosemary Johnsen bring together accomplished public scholars who make significant contributions to literary scholarship, teaching, and the public good.





Writing in Time: Emily Dickinson's Master Hours

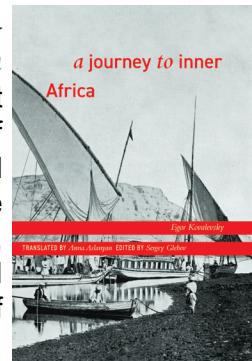
Marta Werner

Rather than presenting the “Master” documents as quarantined from Dickinson’s larger scene of textual production, Marta Werner’s innovative new edition proposes reading them next to Dickinson’s other major textual experiment in the years between ca. 1858–1861: the Fascicles. A major event in Dickinson scholarship, this book proposes new constellations of Dickinson’s work as well as exciting new methodologies for textual scholarship as an act of “intimate editorial investigation.”

A Journey to Inner Africa

Egor Kovalevsky, translated by Anna Aslanyan

In 1847, Egor Petrovich Kovalevsky embarked on a journey through what is today Egypt, Sudan, Eritrea, and Ethiopia, recording his impressions of a region in flux. Kovalevsky captured the social milieu of both elites and ordinary people as well as compiled a rich record of the Upper Nile’s climate and natural resources. The first title in the “Russian Travelogues” series, *A Journey to Inner Africa* is both a tale of encounter between Russia and northern Africa and an important document in the history and development of the Russian imperial project.



A SENSE



A Sense of Brutality: Philosophy after Narco-Culture

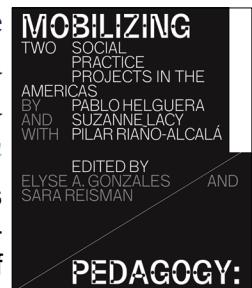
Carlos Alberto Sánchez

Carlos Alberto Sánchez uses Mexican narco-culture as a point of departure for thinking about the nature and limits of violence, culture, and personhood. *A Sense of Brutality* argues that violent cultural modalities, of which narco-culture is but one, call into question our understanding of “violence” as a concept. The reality of narco-violence suggests that “violence” itself is insufficient to capture it, that we need to redeploy and reconceptualize “brutality” as a concept that better captures this reality.

Mobilizing Pedagogy: Two Social Practice Projects in the Americas by Pablo Helguera with Suzanne Lacy and Pilar Riaño-Alcalá

Edited by Elyse A. Gonzales and Sara Reisman

In this volume, the work of two social practice artists of different generations and different social locations are brought into creative tension by two visionary curators. Working together, Gonzales and Reisman bring the work of these two engaged and activist artists into dialogue, showing how art can be not merely the mirror of society but the means of making it more just, more inclusive, and more humane.



PEDAGOGY:

New 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.

New 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.

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. We 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.

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. This series includes *A Journey to Inner Africa* by Egor Petrovich Kovalevsky.

Mammoth Records, *edited by Darryl Harper*

Mammoth 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. Mammoth 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.

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.

