



Lever Press

Fall & Spring
2019–2020



The Lever Press Editorial Program

Lever Press is a publisher of pathbreaking scholarship. Supported by a consortium of liberal arts institutions focused on excellence in research and teaching, we have founded our press on three essential commitments:

- To be a press aligned with the ethos and mission of liberal arts colleges
- To be a peer-reviewed, open access press that charges no fees to either authors or their institutions
- To publish rich media digital books simultaneously available in print

We seek out, identify, evaluate, and advocate for transformative scholarship that:

- Emerges from creative dialogue within and between traditional fields of inquiry, with an emphasis on disciplinary innovation and transformation
- Engages with issues of social and civic importance
- Transcends divisions between research and teaching by drawing from new models of collaborative inquiry addressing a broad audience

Lever Press seeks proposals that bring diverse perspectives to bear upon pressing issues of social, moral, political, and scientific concern. Such projects might be single-authored monographs; they might also involve interdisciplinary groups of scholars bringing a variety of perspectives to bear on a given question; discussions among scholars of contending, even irreconcilable, viewpoints, modeling civil discourse; or a constructive approach to a question from a discipline not ordinarily thought to be the obvious starting point.

Our works are published on Fulcrum, which provides a platform allowing narrative to be richly integrated with associated data (images, videos, audio files, visualizations, etc.), optimized for long-term preservation and accessibility.

To learn more about the Press, visit leverpress.org

To read books from Lever Press for free online, visit
fulcrum.org/leverpress

History without Chronology

Stefan Tanaka

June 2019

Paper / 978-1-64315-003-1 / \$12.99

Open access / 978-1-64315-004-8 / Read for free on fulcrum.org/leverpress

Although numerous disciplines recognize multiple ways of conceptualizing time, Stefan Tanaka argues that scholars still overwhelmingly operate on chronological and linear time that emerged during the Enlightenment. This short, approachable book implores the humanities and humanistic social sciences to embrace the richness of different times that are evident in non-modern societies and have become common in several scientific fields throughout the twentieth century. Tanaka shows we can move away from the chronology built on clocks and calendars by considering how contemporary scientific understandings of time might reconceive the present and pasts. This history without chronology also allows for incorporating the affordances of digital media.

History
without
Chronology

STEFAN TANAKA

Promissory
Notes

ON THE LITERARY
CONDITIONS OF DEBT

ROBIN TRUTH GOODMAN

Promissory Notes: On the Literary Conditions of Debt

Robin Truth Goodman

2018

Paper / 978-1-64315-000-0 / \$12.99

Open access / 978-1-64315-002-4 / Read for free on fulcrum.org/leverpress

Promissory Notes addresses how neoliberal finance has depended upon a linking of geopolitical inequality and financial representation that positions the so-called “Third World” as negative value, or debt. Goodman shows that the twentieth-century continues to apply literary innovations in character, subjectivity, temporal, and spatial representation to construct debt as the negative creation of value not only in reference to objects, but also houses, credit cards, students, and, in particular, “Third World” geographies, often leading to crisis. Goodman demonstrates how financial discourse is articulated through social inequalities and how literature can expose and contest the imposition of a morality of debt as a mode of anti-democratic control.

Being a Presence
for Students

Teaching as a Lived Defense of Liberal Education

JEFF FRANK

Being a Presence for Students: Teaching as a Lived Defense of Liberal Education

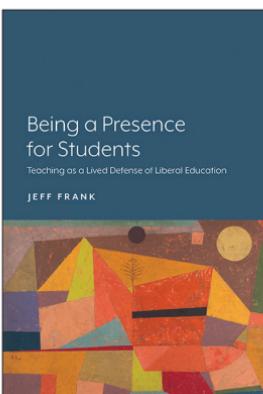
Jeff Frank

September 2019

Paper / 978-1-64315-007-9 / \$11.99

Open access / 978-1-64315-008-6 / Read for free on fulcrum.org/leverpress

This book offers a lived defense of liberal education. How does a college professor help students feel the value of liberal education and get the most from that education? In this book, Jeff Frank offers an extended commentary on one of the noted philosophy professor John William Miller’s unpublished essays, in which he expands his thinking on liberal education. Frank develops the idea that presence is central to liberal education. This book is an invitation to other professors to create their own lived defense of liberal education, each day, in their own classrooms.



Make It New: Reshaping Jazz in the 21st Century

Bill Beuttler

October 2019

Paper / 978-1-64315-005-5 / \$19.99

Open access / 978-1-64315-006-2 / Read for free on fulcrum.org/leverpress

As jazz enters its second century it is reasserting itself as dynamic and relevant. *Boston Globe* jazz writer and Emerson College professor Bill Beuttler reveals new ways in which jazz is engaging with society through the vivid biographies and music of Jason Moran, Vijay Iyer, Rudresh Mahanthappa, The Bad Plus, Miguel Zenón, Anat Cohen, Robert Glasper, and Esperanza Spalding. These musicians freely incorporate other genres of music into jazz—from classical (both western and Indian) to popular (hip-hop, R&B, rock, bluegrass, klezmer, Brazilian choro)—and other art forms (literature, film, photography, and other visual arts). This new generation of jazz is increasingly international and is becoming more open to women as instrumentalists and bandleaders. Contemporary jazz is a force for social change.

Make It New

RESHAPING JAZZ
IN THE 21ST CENTURY

BILL BEUTTLER



Extraordinary Partnerships

How the Arts and Humanities
Are Transforming America

CHRISTINE
HENSELER
EDITOR



Extraordinary Partnerships: How the Arts and Humanities are Transforming America

Christine Henseler, Editor

March 2020

Paper / 978-1-64315-009-3 / \$18.99

Open access / 978-1-64315-010-9 / Read for free on fulcrum.org/leverpress

This inspirational and hopeful collection demonstrates that the arts and humanities are entering a renaissance that stands to change the direction of our communities. Community leaders, artists, educators, scholars, and professionals from many fields show how they are creating responsible transformations through partnership in the arts and humanities. They teach us how to perceive our lives and our disciplines through a broader context, exemplifying how individuals, groups, and organizations use artistic and humanistic principles to explore new structures for reimagining society. They reinterpret how we have traditionally assigned space and value to the arts and humanities.

New Materials

Towards a History of Consistency

AMY E. SLATON, EDITOR



New Materials: Towards a History of Consistency

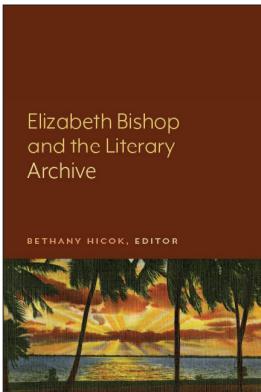
Amy E. Slaton, Editor

April 2020

Paper / 978-1-64315-013-0 / \$15.99

Open access / 978-1-64315-014-7 / Read for free on fulcrum.org/leverpress

This edited volume gathers eight cases of industrial materials development, broadly conceived, from North America, Europe, and Asia over the last 200 years. The production of physical novelty under industrial, imperial, and other cultural conditions has had a huge range of social effects, from accruals of status and wealth to demarcations of bodies and geographies. *New Materials* reflects upon circumstances not made clear when technological innovation is explained solely as a by-product of modernizing impulses or critiqued simply as a craving for profit. Proponents of new materials enact complex political ideologies, and the authors reveal that to produce a “new material” is invariably to preserve other things, to sustain existing values and social structures.



Elizabeth Bishop and the Literary Archive

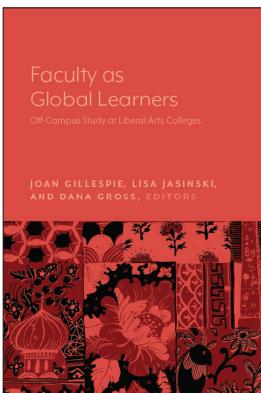
Bethany Hicok, Editor

January 2020

Paper / 978-1-64315-011-6 / \$50.00

Open access / 978-1-64315-012-3 / Read for free on fulcrum.org/leverpress

In a life full of chaos and travel, Elizabeth Bishop managed to preserve and partially catalog more than 3,500 pages of materials now housed at Vassar College. This book explores remarkable new acquisitions, such as Bishop's letters to her psychoanalyst, one of the most detailed psychosexual memoirs of any twentieth century poet, and the exuberant correspondence with her final partner, Alice Methfessel. The essays in this collection argue, for the first time, for the importance of working with and describing original documents in order to understand the relationship between this most archival of poets and her own archive. Lever Press's digital environment presents some of the visual experience of the archive in order to reveal aspects of the poet's complex composition process.



Faculty as Global Learners: Off-Campus Study at

Liberal Arts Colleges

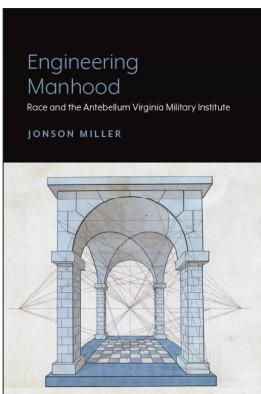
Joan Gillespie, Lisa Jasinski, and Dana Gross, Editors

June 2020

Paper / 978-1-64315-019-2 / \$15.99

Open access / 978-1-64315-020-8 / Read for free on fulcrum.org/leverpress

This collection reveals the impact of off-campus study on faculty leaders' teaching, research, service, and overall well-being. The authors address ways that liberal arts colleges can achieve their strategic goals for students' global learning by anticipating and supporting the needs of faculty leaders as they grow and change. This volume offers key findings and recommendations to stimulate conversations about concrete actions to explore and steps to take to support faculty leaders off-campus and advance strategic institutional goals for global learning. *Faculty as Global Learners* includes transferrable pedagogical insights and the perspectives of faculty members who have led off campus study programs in a variety of disciplines and geographic regions.



Engineering Manhood: Race and the Antebellum

Virginia Military Institute

Jonson Miller

May 2020

Paper / 978-1-64315-017-8 / \$15.99

Open access / 978-1-64315-018-5 / Read for free on fulcrum.org/leverpress

It is no accident that American engineering is disproportionately male and white. This book examines how engineers of the antebellum Virginia Military Institute (VMI) cultivated whiteness, manhood, and other intersecting identities as essential to an engineering professional's identity. VMI provided one of the earliest and most thorough engineering educations available in antebellum America. Officers of the school saw engineering work as intimately linked to a particular type of person. This white manhood they crafted drew upon a growing middle-class culture. These precedents impacted engineering education broadly in this country and we continue to see their legacy today.

Vinyl Theory

Jeffrey R. Di Leo

February 2020

Paper / 978-1-64315-015-4 / \$10.99

Open access / 978-1-64315-016-1 / Read for free on fulcrum.org/leverpress

Why are vinyl records making a comeback? How is their resurgence connected to the political economy of music? *Vinyl Theory* explores these and other questions using the intersection of vinyl records and critical theory. The young critical theorist and composer Theodor Adorno's work on the philosophy of the record and the political economy of music of the contemporary French public intellectual, Jacques Attali, are brought together with the work of other theorists to understand the fall and resurrection of vinyl records. By examining works of music through the lens of Michel Foucault's biopolitics, *Vinyl Theory* argues that vinyl records are central to understanding the resiliency of neoliberalism.



Existing series

ASIANetwork Books, series editors Erin McCarthy (St. Lawrence University) and Lisa Trivedi (Hamilton College)

This series publishes high-quality, original monographs embodying a rigorous liberal arts approach to Asian Studies. Manuscripts published in the ASIANetwork series are expected to raise broad questions of interest and potential classroom utility for Asian Studies scholars in the liberal arts. We encourage authors to discuss a work's pedagogical relevance when submitting their manuscript for consideration. While the ASIANetwork Series assists teachers in their own professional development and deepens the understanding of Asia within our campus communities, it is also intended to provide a broader reading public with reliable and accurate scholarship about Asia.

Multimodal Monographs, series editor Jason Mittell (Middlebury College)

Combining the possibilities of digital scholarship with the long-standing strengths of the print monograph, this series strives to publish works that convey ideas and expands knowledge via digital rhetorics. Multimodal Monographs will resemble traditional print books as accessed via an online e-reader, but use embedded media forms such as video, audio, and high-resolution images to convey ideas that could not be sufficiently expressed in static print. The published works will explore a wide range of topics and approaches, but be united through a commitment to born-digital publishing as structured through the stable, archivable, and library-optimized open-access Fulcrum platform, and the use of media assets as core components of intellectual expression, not just illustrations or examples.

Re-Editions: Literary and Cultural Texts, series editor Michelle Burnham (Santa Clara University)

The Re-Editions series is dedicated to recovering forgotten or overlooked texts from archives, special collections, and the dustbins of history. The series publishes quality critical digital editions of books with the potential to change the way we imagine and teach literary and cultural history, suitable for classroom use.



By the Numbers

LEVER
PRESS

- Nearly 50 institutions are in the consortium supporting the Lever Press mission
- A 10-person editorial board oversees acquisition, review, and redevelopment
- A 12-person oversight committee provides overall strategic guidance
- A six-person operations group is the production backbone