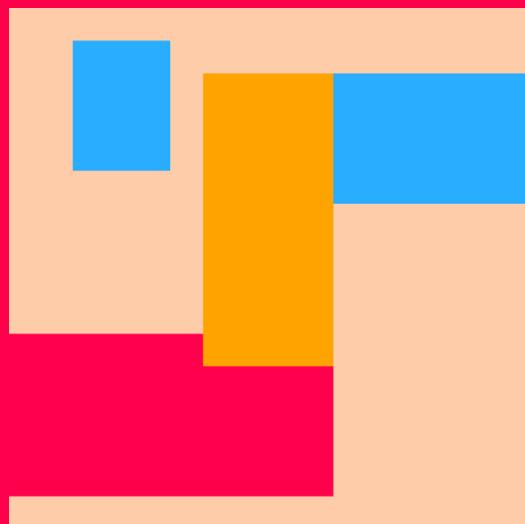
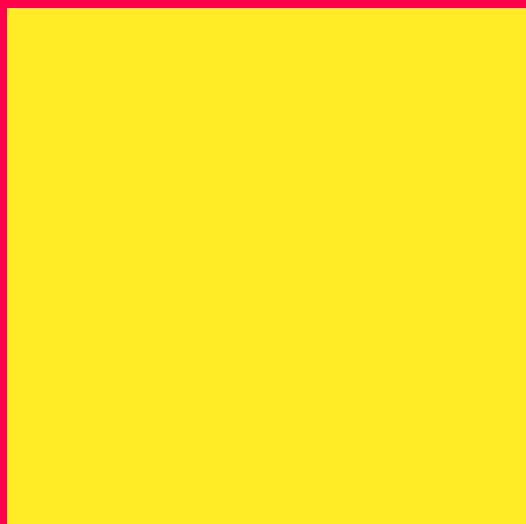


Amherst

College

Press



2023

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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 works 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.

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

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# CONNECT

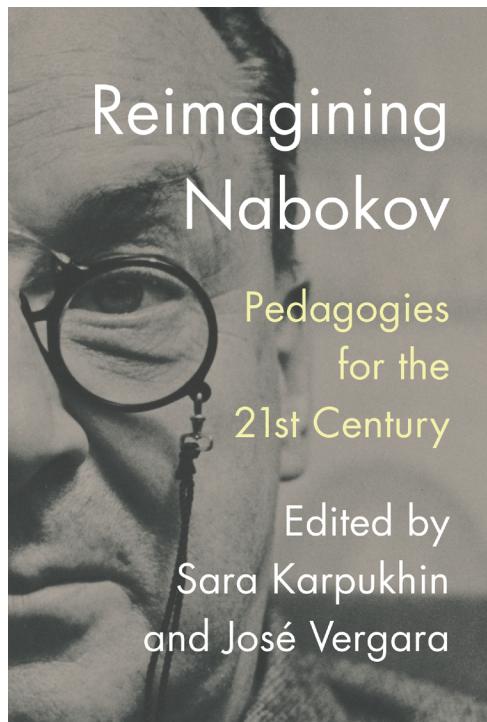
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# Reimagining Nabokov

Pedagogies for the  
21st Century

*edited by Sara Karpukhin  
and José Vergara*

“It is both timely and refreshing to have an influx of teacher-scholars who engage Nabokov from a variety of perspectives. This volume does justice to the breadth of Nabokov’s literary achievements, and it does so with both pedagogical creativity and scholarly integrity.”

—Dana Dragunoiu, Carleton University

November 2022

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

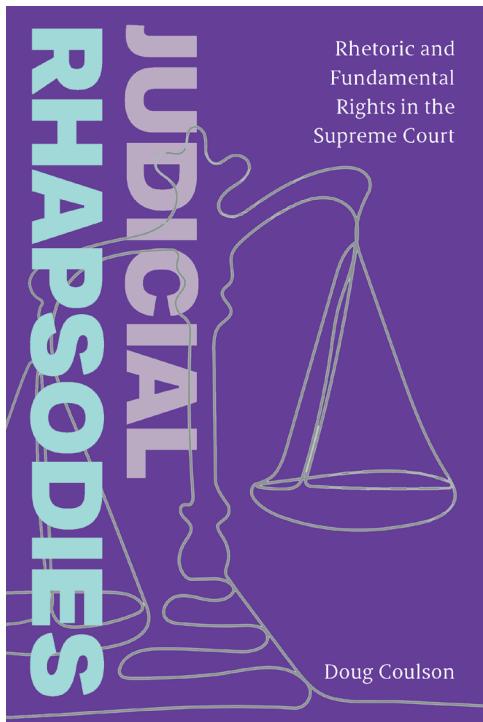
Paper: 978-1-943208-48-7

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. Practical and insightful, this volume features exciting methods through which to reimagine the literature classroom as one of shared agency between students, instructors, and the authors they read together.

**Sara Karpukhin**, born and raised in eastern Siberia, currently lives in Madison, Wisconsin, where she teaches undergraduate courses as a lecturer in Russian at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Her research and pedagogy interests include Nabokov, contemporary eastern European art, the uses of history and aesthetics, cultural trauma, clarifying boundaries of individual action and agency, and queering the canon. She also writes fiction and essays.

**José Vergara** is assistant professor of Russian on the Myra T. Cooley Lectureship at Bryn Mawr College. He specializes in prose of the long twentieth century with an emphasis on experimental works. His first book, *All Future Plunges to the Past: James Joyce in Russian Literature* (NIU Press), examines the reception of Joyce's fiction among Russian writers, including Vladimir Nabokov.

COMING SOON



February 2023

Open access: 978-1-943208-47-0

Paper: 978-1-943208-46-3

Law, Literature, & Culture Series

# Judicial Rhapsodies

## Rhetoric and Fundamental Rights in the Supreme Court

*Doug Coulson*

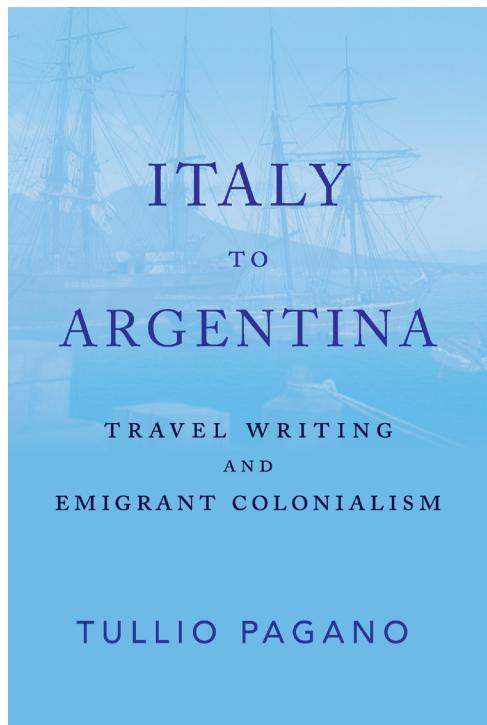
*Judicial Rhapsodies* is both compelling and important. Coulson brings his well-developed knowledge of rhetoric to bear on one of the most central (and most democratically fraught) means of governance in the United States: the Supreme Court opinion. He demonstrates that the epideictic, far from being a dispensable or detestable element of judicial rhetoric, is an essential feature of how the Court operates and seeks to persuade.”

—Keith Bybee, Syracuse University

All judges legitimize their decisions in writing, but US Supreme Court justices depend on public acceptance to a unique degree. Previous studies of judicial opinions have explored rhetorical strategies that produce legitimacy, but none have examined the laudatory, even operatic, forms of writing Supreme Court justices have used to justify fundamental rights decisions. Doug Coulson demonstrates that such “judicial rhapsodies” are not an aberration but a central feature of judicial discourse.

First examining the classical origins of divisions between law and rhetoric, Coulson tracks what he calls an epideictic register—highly affective forms of expression that utilize hyperbole, amplification, and vocabularies of praise—through a surprising number of landmark Supreme Court opinions. *Judicial Rhapsodies* recovers and revalues these instances as significant to establishing and maintaining shared perspectives that form the basis for common experience and cooperation.

**Doug Coulson** is an associate professor of English at Carnegie Mellon University, where he teaches in the areas of legal rhetoric, argument, and the history of rhetoric. Before entering academia, he practiced business and commercial litigation for nearly a decade. He is the author of *Race, Nation, and Refuge: The Rhetoric of Race in Asian American Citizenship Cases* (SUNY), and his articles on legal rhetoric and writing have appeared in many journals, including *Rhetorica*, the *Scribes Journal of Legal Writing*, and the *Yale Journal of Law and the Humanities*.



April 2023

Open access: 978-1-943208-55-5

Paper: 978-1-943208-54-8

# Italy to Argentina

## Travel Writing and Emigrant Colonialism

*Tullio Pagano*

“*Italy to Argentina* shows meticulous bibliographic work and is attentive to both fundamental and marginal texts in a double task, on the one hand, of textual analysis, and on the other, of rescuing and recovering a corpus forgotten by critics even when it is highly significant. It is, then, a research work that addresses the Italian emigration to Argentina from an original point of view, linking texts that have not been studied or that have not been sufficiently analyzed.”

—**Fernanda Elisa Bravo Herrera**, author of *Huellas y recorridos de una utopía: La emigración italiana en la Argentina*

In this book, Tullio Pagano examines Italian emigration to Argentina and the Rio de la Plata region through the writings of Italian economists, poets, anthropologists, and political activists from the 1860s to the beginning of World War I. Pagano shows that Italians played an important role in the so-called conquest of the desert, which led to Argentina’s economic expansion and the suppression and killing of the remaining indigenous population. Pagano questions the opposition between diaspora and empire and argues that there was a continuity between the “peaceful conquest” though spontaneous emigration envisioned by Italian liberal intellectuals at the turn of the century and the military colonialism of Italian nationalists and fascists.

Pagano shows that racist assumptions about Native American and “creole” cultures were present in the work of progressive authors like Edmondo de Amicis, whose writings became enormously popular in Argentina, and anarchist militants and legal scholars like Pietro Gori, who founded the first revolutionary unions in Buenos Aires while remaining dangerously attached to Cesare Lombroso’s theories of atavism and primitivism. The “growl” of Italian emigrants about to land in Argentina, found in Dino Campana’s poem “Buenos Aires” (1907), echoes throughout Pagano’s book, and encourages the reader to explore the apparent oxymoron of “emigration colonialism” and the role of literature and public media in the formation of our social imaginary.

**Tullio Pagano** is an associate professor of Italian at Dickinson College. He is the author of *Experimental Fictions: From Emile Zola’s Naturalism to Giovanni Verga’s Verism* (Fairleigh Dickinson) and *La civiltà del castagno: Storia e immaginario del borgo di Cisiano, in Val Lento* (Frilli).

COMING SOON



June 2023

Open access: 978-1-943208-53-1

Paper: 978-1-943208-52-4

Electronic Communities of Making

## Game Poems

### Videogame Design as Lyric Practice

*Jordan Magnuson*

“Everyone who loves the true power of games will benefit from the treasure trove of insights in *Game Poems*.”

—**Jesse Schell**, author of *The Art of Game Design*

“Magnuson shines a sensitive and incisive light on small, often moving, videogames.”

—**D. Fox Harrell**, Ph.D., Professor of Digital Media, Computing, and Artificial Intelligence, MIT

“[*Game Poems*] tells a new story about games—that games can be lyrical, beautiful, emotionally challenging—to inspire creators and critics alike.”

—**Noah Wardrip-Fruin**, author of *How Pac-Man Eats*

Scholars, critics, and creators describe certain videogames as being “poetic,” yet what that means or why it matters is rarely discussed. In *Game Poems: Videogame Design as Lyric Practice*, independent game designer Jordan Magnuson explores the convergences between game making and lyric poetry and makes the surprising proposition that videogames can operate as a kind of poetry apart from any reliance on linguistic signs or symbols.

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. The result is a lively account of poetic game-making praxis.

**Jordan Magnuson** is an independent game designer and new media scholar whose games explore subjective experiences, difficult topics, and complex emotions. His work has been featured by *Wired*, *PC Gamer*, *Le Monde*, and others, shown at festivals and exhibits around the world, and nominated for awards like the New Media Writing Prize and the IndieCade Grand Jury Award.

# ACP & THE VERA LIST CENTER FOR ART AND POLITICS

## Maria Thereza Alves: Seeds of Change

*Edited by Carin Kuoni and Wilma Lukatsch*



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' 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

**Carin Kuoni** is a curator and writer, assistant professor for Visual Studies, and the senior director/chief curator of the Vera List Center for Art and Politics at The New School. She is the editor of several anthologies.

**Wilma Lukatsch** is a gallerist, publisher, and author. In 2016–17, Lukatsch organized the artistic archive of Maria Thereza Alves and developed the archival website [www.mariatherezaalves.org](http://www.mariatherezaalves.org).



Open access: 978-1-943208-39-5  
Paper: 978-1-943208-38-8

## 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."

## VIDEO GAME ART READER

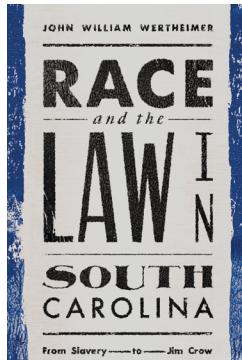
*Editor-in-Chief: Tiffany Funk*

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 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.





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

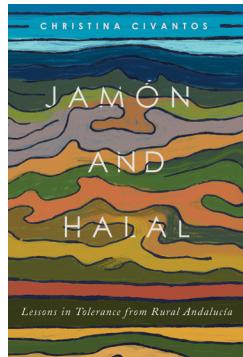
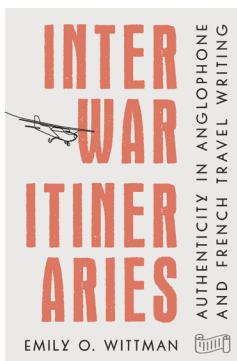
*John William Wertheimer*

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. 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.

## Interwar Itineraries: Authenticity in Anglophone and French Travel Writing

*Emily O. Wittman*

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.



## Jamón and Halal: Lessons in Tolerance from Rural Andalucía

*Christina Civantos*

This case study examines a rural town in Spain’s Andalucia in order to shed light on the workings of coexistence. 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.

## Netprov: Networked Improvised Literature for the Classroom and Beyond

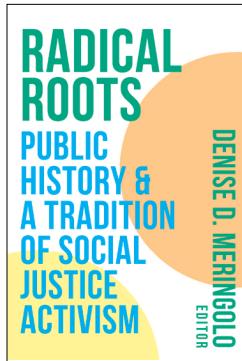
*Rob Wittig*

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 inspiring examples of how netprov creators have used everyday platforms to build structure and invites netprov players to enjoy collaborating on narrative fiction.

**Netprov  
Networked  
Improvised  
Literature  
For the  
Classroom  
and  
Beyond**

*Rob Wittig*

# RECENT RELEASES

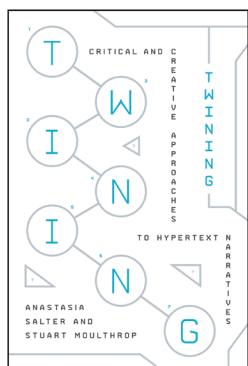
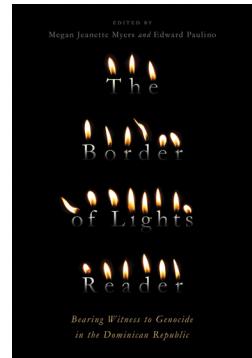


## Radical Roots: Public History and a Tradition of Social Justice Activism *Edited by Denise D. Meringolo*

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 Border of Lights 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.

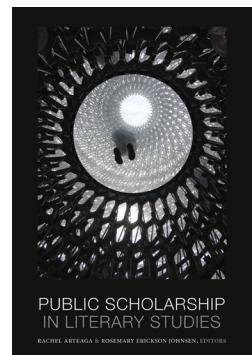


## Twining: Critical and Creative Approaches to Hypertext Narratives *Anastasia Salter and Stuart Moulthrop*

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 Erickson Johnsen bring together accomplished public scholars who make significant contributions to literary scholarship, teaching, and the public good.



## **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.

## **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.

## **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.

## **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.

