ABOUT

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ACP publishes titles in 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.

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The specifics of ecological destruction often take a cruel turn, affecting those who can least resist its impacts and who are least responsible for it. This book 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. A multisensory, artistic-archival supplement to the University of Colorado Boulder’s 2020-2022 Mellon Sawyer Environmental Futures Project, the volume enriches current conversations by bridging the environmental humanities and affect theory with insights from Native and Indigenous philosophies. It highlights artistic practices that make legible the long-term durational effects of ecological catastrophe, inviting readers and viewers to consider the emotional resonance of poems, nonfiction texts, sound-texts, photographs, and other artworks that grapple with the less visible loss and prospects of environmental transformation. 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.


Erin Espelie is a filmmaker whose works have shown at the New York Film Festival, the British Film Institute, the Whitechapel Gallery, Anthology Film Archive, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, and more.

Bonnie Etherington’s work has been published in The Contemporary Pacific, Native American and Indigenous Studies, and Studies in the Novel. Her novel, The Earth Cries Out (Vintage NZ), was short-listed for the William Saroyan International Prize for Writing and long-listed for the Ockham New Zealand Book Awards.
Dismantling the Nation
Contemporary Art in Chile

Dismantling the Nation offers radical new visions toward Chilean art that take into account the structures of local and global power that govern the country while also recognizing art and culture as potentially disruptive agents within those structures. The time is right for a book like this one. Socially engaged artists are responding with offerings of healing and hope before our increasingly troubled world and Chile is playing a key role in that project. This book gives us a glimpse into these exciting arts movements.”

—Guisela Latorre, Ohio State University

October 2023
Open access: 978-1-943208-58-6
Paper: 978-1-943208-57-9

The first volume to theorize and historicize contemporary artistic practices and culture from Chile in the English language, Dismantling the Nation takes as its point of departure a radical criticism against the nation-state of Chile and its colonial, capitalist, heteronormative, and extractivist rule, proposing other forms of inhabiting, creating, and relating in a more fluid, contingent, ecocritical, feminist, caring, and decolonial world. The book contributes to a broad scholarly discussion around decolonial methodologies, including the acknowledgment of geographical epistemic locations. The authors attend to practices from distinct and distant locations in Chile—they decentralize their approach by discussing art and visual culture from the Atacama Desert to Araucanía, from Tierra del Fuego to the Andean Region to Valparaíso, as well as beyond its modern borders. Analyzing how these practices refer to issues such as the environmental and cultural impact of extractivism, this volume also provides valuable insight for the fields of social science, Indigenous studies, and linguistics for Chile and other regions of the world, envisioning art history and visual culture from a transnational and transdisciplinary perspective.

Florencia San Martín is an assistant professor of art history at Lehigh University. She is the co-editor of The Routledge Companion to Decolonizing Art History.

Carla Macchiavello Cornejo is an associate professor of art history at The Borough of Manhattan Community College. She is coeditor of Turba Tol Hol-Hol.

Paula Solimano is the head of the museography and exhibitions department at the Museum of Memory and Human Rights in Santiago, Chile.
Abiayalan Pluriverses
Bridging Indigenous Studies and Hispanic Studies

edited by Gloria E. Chacón, Juan G. Sánchez Martínez, & Lauren Beck

“A timely intervention that has the potential to profoundly alter and decolonize the way Hispanic studies, Native studies, and Latinx studies are currently conceptualized and practiced. Envisioned as a bilingual text (with all chapters available to readers in English and Spanish), Abiayalan Pluriverses bridges a language divide that has itself been an expression of coloniality and has long made it difficult for non-Spanish readers to familiarize themselves with the rich insights offered by Indigenous and other authors publishing in Spanish.”

—Freya Schiwy, University of California, Riverside

Abiayalan Pluriverses: Bridging Indigenous Studies and Hispanic Studies looks for pathways that better connect two often siloed disciplines. This edited collection brings together different disciplinary experiences and perspectives to this objective, 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. Each chapter brings rich context that bears on some aspect of the Indigenous Americas and its crossroads with Hispanic Studies, from Canada to Chile. Such a hemispheric and interdisciplinary approach offers innovative and significant means of challenging the coloniality of Hispanic Studies.

Gloria Elizabeth Chacón is associate professor in the Literature Department at UCSD. She is the author of Indigenous Cosmolectics: Kab’awil and the Making of Maya and Zapotec Literatures (University of North Carolina) and coeditor of Indigenous Interfaces: Spaces, Technology, and Social Networks in Mexico and Central America (Arizona) and Teaching Central American Literature in a Global Context (MLA).

Juan G. Sánchez Martínez is associate professor in the Department of Indigenous Learning at Lakehead University, Canada. He is the author of Memoria e invención en la poesía de Humberto Ak’abal (Ediciones AbyaYala). He is the co-editor of Muyurina y el presente profundo, Indigenous Message on Water (Pakarina Ediciones).

Lauren Beck holds the Canada Research Chair in Intercultural Encounter and teaches in the Visual and Material Culture Studies program at Mount Allison University, Canada. Her recent books are Canada’s Place Names and How to Change Them (Concordia) and Mitij! Let’s Eat: Mi’kmaq Recipes from Sikniktuk (Nimbus Publishing).

January 2024
Open access: 978-1-943208-60-9
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This is the first book to examine the work of Tania El Khoury, a new media and performance artist deeply engaged in the politics and histories of the South West Asia and North Africa (SWANA) region. Since the 2011 Syrian uprisings, El Khoury has conceived and created works about lived experiences at and across international borders in collaboration with migrants, refugees, and displaced persons as well as other artists, performers, and revolutionaries. All of Khoury’s works cross boundaries: between forms of artistic practice, between artist and audience, and between art and activism. Facilitating critical dialogue about the politics of SWANA and the impact of globalization, her performances and installations also test the boundaries of aesthetic, political, and everyday norms. 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.

Laurel V. McLaughlin is the Director of Curatorial Affairs at Artspace New Haven and a Ph.D. candidate in the History of Art at Bryn Mawr College.

Carrie Robbins, Ph.D. is Curator/Academic Liaison for Art & Artifacts in Special Collections at Bryn Mawr College.

“The editors have gathered an exciting list of researchers from many fields and areas of expertise to contribute. A document of the artist’s 2018 residency at Bryn Mawr, Tania El Khoury’s Live Art also makes the conversations happening during that residency teachable for others by matching documentary images to essays of critical theory, art history, archaeology, and more, in ways that allow El Khoury’s work to be readily slotted into courses on contemporary art, on diaspora, on art and migrancy, on the middle east as site of ethnography, etc.”

—Anneka Lenssen, University of California, Berkeley
Ultima and Worldbuilding in the Computer Role-Playing Game

Carly A. Kocurek and Matthew Thomas Payne

“[This book] offers readers a detailed and thoughtful reflection on authorship and world-building in gaming. The authors guide readers through a rich description of not only Garriott and Ultima’s early history, but also through the major influences and conversations that shaped the series. In addition to providing an informative meditation on a highly influential game and game designer, the work offers an interesting sample methodology for how to approach the study of influential designers and landmark games.”

—Wendi Sierra, Texas Christian University

Ultima and Worldbuilding in the Computer Role-Playing Game is the first scholarly book to focus exclusively on the long-running Ultima series of computer role-playing games (RPG) and to assess its lasting impact on the RPG genre and video game industry. Through archival and popular media sources, examinations of fan communities, and the game itself, this book historicizes the games and their authors. 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. Moving beyond the game itself, the authors assess how marketing materials and physical collectibles amplified its immersive hold and how the series’ legions of fans have preserved the series. Game designers, long-time gamers, and fans will enjoy digging into the games’ production history and mechanics while media studies and game scholars will find this book a useful extension of inquiry into authorship, media history, and the role of fantasy in computer games design.

Carly A. Kocurek is a professor of digital humanities and media studies at the Illinois Institute of Technology. She is the author of Coin-Operated Americans: Rebooting Boyhood at the Video Game Arcade (Minnesota) and Brenda Laurel: Pioneering Games for Girls (Bloomsbury).

Matthew Thomas Payne is an associate professor of film, television, and theatre at the University of Notre Dame. He is the author of Playing War: Military Video Games after 9/11 (NYU Press), and is a co-editor of How to Play Video Games (NYU Press) and Joystick Soldiers: The Politics of Play in Military Video Games (Routledge).
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 postsecondary educational settings, ranging in topics from ancient to modern languages, classical and contemporary art, and reenvisioned historical scenes and events presented in ways never seen before. The studies also contemplate how this novel medium can enhance and supplement learning in classrooms and other formal or informal learning environments. The volume as a whole is intended to demonstrate to educators, scholars, and researchers in higher education the potential value of integrating XR technology into their classrooms and to provide a strong argument for college and university administrators to invest in training and development of new research and content for classrooms inside and outside of STEM.

**Brian Beams** is the manager of the Virtual Human Interaction Lab (VHIL) at Stanford University. He assisted in the development of creative anatomy virtual reality applications, interactive performance art, and research in the application of new technologies for art and education.

**Lissa Crofton-Sleigh** is a lecturer in the Classics Department at Santa Clara University, where she also serves on the advisory council of the Digital Humanities Initiative. Her research spans from Latin literature and ancient Roman culture to classical reception in music, especially opera and heavy metal.
COMING SOON

Beyond Mestizaje
Contemporary Debates on Race in Mexico

edited by Tania Islas Weinstein and Milena Ang, with selected translations by Ellen Jones

“This book makes a valuable contribution to the growing scholarship on racism and anti-racism in Latin America. It brings to English-speaking audiences recent work on Mexico that adds significantly to the existing literature in English; it also brings work by a diverse range of Mexican scholars and activists, early career and more established, Indigenous and non-Indigenous. It is refreshing to encounter work that really interrogates the relationship between race and class, or racism and classism, in detail and in depth using a variety of methods, including the recent quantitative work that has been done in Mexico, which is at the cutting edge of such work in Latin America and elsewhere.”

—Peter Wade, University of Manchester

Racism has historically been a taboo topic in Mexico and is rarely publicly acknowledged or discussed. In response to the state project of mestizaje, many Mexicans are convinced that there is no racism in the country because everyone is racially mixed. This has changed in recent years and conceptualizations of race, the relationship between phenotypical traits and racialization, and the intersections between race, class, mestizaje, and capitalism have become matters of public and scholarly debate. This book brings these debates to English-speaking readers and includes at times conflicting views about how race should be conceptualized and measured and how its relationship to class should be analyzed. The volume includes contributions by scholars and activists from across disciplines and areas of expertise, ranging from cultural anthropologists, linguists, historians, quantitative sociologists, and economists.

Tania Islas Weinstein is an assistant professor in the Department of Political Science at McGill University, where she writes about struggles over who gets to be politically represented, how, and by whom and how these shape constructions of gender, race, and class, with a primary geographical focus on Latin America.

Milena Ang is assistant professor of political and social science at Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona. Her research interests include democratization, transitional justice, and inequality in the Mexican criminal justice system.
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.”
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.

**Volume 5: Game Arts Curators Kit**

*Coming March 2024*

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 Arts 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.
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.

Italy to Argentina: Travel Writing and Emigrant Colonialism  
Tullio Pagano

*Italy to Argentina* 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. Tullio 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.

Judicial Rhapsodies: Rhetoric and Fundamental Rights in the Supreme Court  
Doug Coulson

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.

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. 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.
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. 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 Andalucía 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 televusional 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.
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 between 15,000 and 40,000 words 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. We actively seek proposals for translations of works and bilingual editions that explore timely and pressing matters such as the climate crisis, forms of inequality, and responses to extractivism. 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. Game Poems: Videogame Design as Lyric Practice by Jordan Magnuson is the first book in this series.

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. Titles in this series include Race and the Law in South Carolina: From Slavery to Jim Crow by John W. Wertheimer and Judicial Rhapsodies: Rhetoric and Fundamental Rights in the Supreme Court by Doug Coulson.
Russian Travelogues, *edited by Sergey Glebov*

Russian Travelogues introduces 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 Kovalovsky. Masterfully translated into English for the first time by Anna Aslanyan, this volume 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.

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.

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.