Welcome to Reaktion’s new season of books.

According to Tom Shippey the myth of death-obsessed, battle-crazed Vikings is not a myth. Laughing Shall I Die: Lives and Deaths of the Great Vikings is an exploration of their three-century-long domination of the North. Enriched by incisive readings of Old Norse literature, Shippey’s is a bold and entertaining history.

The Dragon: Fear and Power by Martin Arnold tells the global story of this mythical titan, from Europe to China, from the Bible to Game of Thrones.

When were people scared to death of fairies? Richard Sugg’s Fairies: A Dangerous History strips back the sugar-coating of modern representations of folklore’s most beloved figure to reveal the darker story beneath.

Charles Watkins is a fascinating guide to Trees in Art: the earthy, the sacred, the mundane, the sacred, the mythical, and the magical. This is an essential and copiously illustrated book for anyone who loves trees and art.

In Hinterland: America’s New Landscape of Class and Conflict, Phil A. Neel journeys into the heart of a new America where hard work brings poverty and isolation, not opportunity and community. A powerful narrative in the tradition of James Agee’s Let Us Now Praise Famous Men and Barbara Ehrenreich’s Nickel and Dimed.

Beyond Asia, China’s ethnic diversity is little understood by all but a small number of specialists. Michael Dillon’s Lesser Dragons: Minority Peoples of China is invaluable, opening up the culture and religions of non-Han communities to readers interested in going beyond the official version of contemporary China.

The Ottoman Empire is one of the great crossroads of world food culture. Priscilla Mary I¸ın’s The Ottoman Empire is one of the great crossroads of world food culture. Priscilla Mary I¸ın’s Ottom an food from palace to street and beyond.

Let Us Now Praise Famous Men

Teatimes: A World Tour visits China for dim sum, Japan for cha kaiseki and England for afternoon tea, among many other pleasure-filled locations. A delightful and well-informed teatime tour genially conducted by Helen Saberi.

We trust that you will enjoy these books, and many more, in one of Reaktion’s most varied and stimulating programmes to date.

David Hayden, Managing Director
Michael R. Leaman, Publisher

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Unit 32, Waterside
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London N1 7UX, UK
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Please note: All prices in this catalogue are recommended retail prices and are subject to alteration without notice. Details given of illustrations, format, content and month of publication were as accurate as possible at the time the catalogue went to press.
In this superbly illustrated book, Charles Watkins explores the myth and magic of arboreal art. Enter the groves of the classical world, from Daphne’s metamorphosis into a laurel tree to the gardens of Pompeii. The tree in sacred art is represented in master works by Botticelli and Michelangelo. The oak as a symbol of nationhood and liberty across Europe is revealed. The mystery and drama of forest interiors, the formal beauty of avenues of trees, the representation of forestry over the ages and the world of ‘more than real’ trees in the fantastic and surreal art of Arcimboldo, William Blake, Arthur Rackham and Salvador Dalí are each illuminated in fascinating detail, coming right up to date with Giuseppe Penone and Ai Weiwei. Watkins also elucidates the practice of genius in how artists learned to draw trees.

Each thematic chapter takes a breathtaking journey through centuries of artists’ engagement and fascination with a natural form that seems to allegorize or mirror the human journey through life. Drawing on the author’s deep knowledge of the history and ecology of trees, Trees in Art shows that we can learn much about ourselves from the art of trees.
How dangerous were fairies? In the late seventeenth century, they could still scare people to death. Little wonder, as they were thought to be descended from fallen angels, and to have the power to destroy the world itself. Despite their modern image as gauzy playmates, the fairies feared by ordinary people caused them to flee their homes, to revere fairy trees and paths, and to abuse or even kill infants or adults held to be fairy changelings. Such beliefs, along with some remarkably detailed sightings, lingered on well into the twentieth century. Often associated with witchcraft and black magic, fairies were also closely involved with reports of ghosts and poltergeists.

In literature and art fairies often retained this edge of danger. From the wild magic of *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, through the dark glamour of Keats, to the improbably erotic poem ‘Goblin Market’ or the paintings inspired by opium dreams, the amoral otherness of the fairies ran side-by-side with the newly delicate or feminized creations of the Victorian world. In the past thirty years the enduring link between fairies and nature has been robustly exploited by eco-warriors and conservationists, from Ireland to Iceland. This book tells the story of the many fairy terrors which lay behind Titania or Tinkerbell.
Dragons are a global phenomenon, one that has troubled mankind for thousands of years. From the fire-breathing beasts of North European myth and legend to the Book of Revelation’s Great Red Dragon of Hell, from those supernatural agencies of imperial authority in ancient China to those dragon-women posing a threat to male authority, dragons have a wide variety of forms and meanings. But there is one thing they all have in common: our fear of their formidable power and, as a consequence, our need to overcome them, to appease them or in some way assume their power as our own. How can this be explained? Is it our need to impose order on chaos in the person of a dragon-slaying hero? Is it our terror of Nature unleashed in its most destructive form? Or is the dragon nothing less than an expression of that greatest and most disturbing mystery of all – our mortality?

Martin Arnold traces the history of ideas about dragons, from the earliest of times to Game of Thrones, and asks what exactly it might be in our imaginations that appears to have necessitated such a creature.
The Greeks
Lost Civilizations
PHILIP MATYSZAK

This is ancient Greece – but not as we know it. Few people today appreciate that Greek civilization was spread across the Middle East, and that there were Greek cities in the foothills of the Himalayas. This book tells the story of the Greeks outside Greece, such as Sappho, the poet from Lesbos; Archimedes, a native of Syracuse; and Herodotus, who was born in Asia Minor as a subject of the Persian Empire.

From the earliest times of prehistoric Greek colonies around the Black Sea, through settlements in Spain and Italy, to the conquests of Alexander and the glories of the Hellenistic era, Philip Matyszak illuminates the Greek soldiers, statesmen, scientists and philosophers who, though they seldom – if ever – set foot on the Greek mainland, nevertheless laid the foundations of what we call ‘Greek culture’ today. Instead of following the well-worn path of describing Athenian democracy and Spartan militarism, this book offers a fresh look at what it meant to be Greek by telling the story of the Greeks abroad, from India to Spain.

PHILIP MATYSZAK teaches ancient history for Cambridge University’s Institute of Continuing Education. He has written extensively on the ancient world, including Ancient Athens on 5 Drachmas a Day (2008), Greek and Roman Myths: A Guide to the Classical Stories (2010) and most recently Sparta: Fall of a Warrior Nation (2017).
Laughing Shall I Die
Lives and Deaths of the Great Vikings
TOM SHIPPEY

‘As tough and uncompromising as the Viking heroes whose lives and deaths it recounts, Tom Shippey’s book also shares their dark sense of humour . . . Shippey upsets entrenched positions, dissects legend from history, and reveals how the Vikings were able to dominate in the North for more than three centuries.’ – Carolyne Larrington, Professor of Medieval European Literature, University of Oxford

In this robust new account of the Vikings, Tom Shippey explores their mindset, and in particular their fascination with scenes of heroic death. Laughing Shall I Die considers Viking psychology by weighing the evidence of the sagas against the accounts of the Vikings’ victims. The book recounts many of the great bravura scenes of Old Norse literature, including the Fall of the House of the Skjoldungs, the clash between the two great longships Ironbeard and Long Serpent, and the death of Thormod the skald. The most exciting book on Vikings for a generation, Laughing Shall I Die presents them for what they were: not peaceful explorers and traders, but bloodthirsty warriors and marauders.

TOM SHIPPEY is Professor Emeritus of Saint Louis University, Missouri, and concurrently Senior Research Fellow of Trinity College, Dublin. His books include J.R.R. Tolkien: Author of the Century (2010), The Road to Middle Earth (4th revd edn, 2004) and Hard Reading: Learning from Science Fiction (2017).
The Modern Art Cookbook
MARY ANN CAWS

‘This book provides a rich fund of anecdotes and recipes, mined from the notebooks and journals of writers and artists who also liked to cook. Picasso’s charlotte au chocolat, Cézanne’s knockout bitter orange wine, David Hockney’s strawberry cake and Roy Lichtenstein’s grilled bass all figure here, illustrated by their own or other artists’ pictures.’ – Telegraph Magazine

‘The marriage of lookery and cookery is beguiling: the total effect is mouth-watering.’ – Alex Danchev, Times Literary Supplement

Food has always been a favourite subject of the world’s artists, from still-lifes by Matisse and Picasso to the works of Claes Oldenberg and Andy Warhol. But how do artists eat? The Modern Art Cookbook provides a window into how both great and lesser-known modern artists, writers and poets ate, cooked, depicted and wrote about food. A cornucopia of life in the kitchen and in the studio throughout the twentieth century and beyond, the book explores a wide-ranging panoply of artworks of food, cooking and eating from Europe and the Americas – from the early moderns through the Impressionists, Symbolists, Cubists, Futurists and Surrealists up to today’s art – as well as writing about food from contemporary novelists, writers and poets.

Beautifully illustrated and often surprising, this new paperback edition is a joyous guide to the art of food.

MARY ANN CAWS is Distinguished Professor of English, French and Comparative Literature, Graduate School, City University of New York. She is the author of several books for Reaktion, including Blaise Pascal: Miracles and Reason (2017), Pablo Picasso (2005) and Salvador Dali (2008).
In *Teatimes: A World Tour* food historian Helen Saberi takes us on a journey into the fascinating history of teatimes, from elegant afternoon teas, hearty high teas and delicious cream teas, to cricket and tennis teas, the funeral teas of Britain and much more – plus tea gardens, tea dances, tea gowns and tearooms. The reader is invited to spend time in the sophisticated *salons de thé* of Paris and the homely tearooms of the United States, and to enjoy the teatime traditions of Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, where housewives prided themselves on their ‘well-filled tins’. The tea parties of the Raj and Irani cafés in India, teatimes along the Silk Road where the samovar and chaikhana reign supreme, the tasty *dim sum* of China and the intricate tradition of *cha kaiseki* of Japan are all included in this sumptuous book.

Featuring appealing illustrations as well as recipes from around the world, *Teatimes* shows how tea drinking has become a global obsession, from American iced tea and Taiwanese bubble tea through to the now-classic English afternoon tea.

Empire of Tea
*The Asian Leaf that Conquered the World*
MARKMAN ELLIS, RICHARD COULTON AND MATTHEW MAUGER

’a stimulating and attractively illustrated history’
– *History Today*

‘For those tempted to begin the tale of British tea-drinking with the Opium Wars, or with the establishment of Indian tea plantations, this book offers a richly textured history of the “empire” that preceded, and long outgrew, those events.’
– *Times Literary Supplement*

Tea has a rich and well-documented past. The beverage originated in Asia long before making its way to seventeenth-century London, where it became an exotic, highly sought-after commodity. Over the subsequent two centuries, tea’s powerful psychoactive properties seduced British society, becoming popular across the nation from castle to cottage. Now the world’s most popular drink, tea was one of the first truly global products to find a mass market, with tea drinking now stereotypically associated with British identity.

The delicate flavour profile and hot preparation of tea inspired poets, artists and satirists. Tea was embroiled in controversy, from the gossip of the domestic tea table to the civil disorder occasioned by smuggling and the political scandal of the Boston Tea Party. Based on extensive original research, and now available in paperback, *Empire of Tea* provides a rich cultural history that explores how the British ‘way of tea’ became the norm across the Anglophone world.

MARKMAN ELLIS is Professor of Eighteenth-century Studies at Queen Mary, University of London. RICHARD COULTON is a lecturer in the Department of English, Queen Mary, University of London. MATTHEW MAUGER is a lecturer at Queen Mary, University of London.
Bountiful Empire
A History of Ottoman Cuisine
PRISCILLA MARY İŞIN

The Ottoman Empire was one of the largest and longest-lasting empires in history. In this powerful and complex empire, the production and consumption of food reflected the lives of people from sultans to soldiers. Food bound people of different classes and backgrounds together, defining identity and serving symbolic functions in the social, religious, political and military spheres. *Bountiful Empire: A History of Ottoman Cuisine* examines the foodways of the Ottoman Empire as they changed and evolved over more than five centuries.

The book starts with an overview of the earlier culinary traditions in which Ottoman cuisine was rooted, such as those of the Central Asian Turks, Abbasids, Seljuks and Byzantines, and goes on to focus on diverse aspects of this rich culinary culture, including etiquette, cooks, restaurants, military food, food laws and food trade. This meticulously researched account draws on more than six hundred primary and secondary sources, ranging from archive documents to poetry, and includes over one hundred illustrations. It is a fresh and lively insight into an empire that until recent decades has been sidelined or viewed through orientalist spectacles. Readers interested in food history and Ottoman history will enjoy this beautiful volume.

PRISCILLA MARY İŞIN is a food historian and researcher. Her publications include *A King’s Confectioner in the Orient* (2003) and *Sherbet and Spice* (2013), which traces the history of Turkish confectionery and desserts.
Ugliness
A Cultural History
GRETCHEN E. HENDERSON

‘Gretchen Henderson’s cultural history of ugliness skates, at an entertainingly high speed, across large swathes of territory, cultural, historical and biological, always fascinating.’
– Times Literary Supplement

‘Ugliness in Henderson’s generous handling becomes a synonym for whatever is shocking, difficult, displeasing in one moment but reveals itself as containing real value and delight in the next.’ – The Guardian

In this riveting book Gretchen E. Henderson explores perceptions of ugliness through history, from ancient Roman feasts to medieval grotesque gargoyles, from Mary Shelley’s monster cobbled from corpses to the Nazi Exhibition of Degenerate Art. Covering literature, art, music and even Uglydolls, Henderson reveals how ugliness has long posed a challenge to aesthetics and taste. Following ugly bodies and dismantling ugly senses across periods and continents, Ugliness: A Cultural History draws on a wealth of fields to cross cultures and times, delineating the changing map of ugliness as it charges the public imagination.

Now available in paperback, this book is illustrated with a range of artefacts and offers a refreshing perspective that moves beyond the surface to ask what ‘ugly’ truly is, even as its meaning continues to shift.

GRETCHEN E. HENDERSON is a Lecturer in English at Georgetown University and Affiliated Scholar in Art History at Kenyon College. Her recent books include Galerie de difformité (2011) and The House Enters the Street (2012).
Our bodies are not fixed; they change over time. They vary with alterations in diet, exercise and illness, and shift as we age. Our attitudes to bodies, and especially to posture – how people hold themselves, how they move – are also fluid. Our stance and gait are interpreted as healthy or ill, able or disabled, elegant or slovenly, beautiful or ugly. In *Stand Up Straight!: A History of Posture* Sander L. Gilman probes these shifting concepts of posture to show how society views who we are and what we are able to do by how our bodies appear.

From Neanderthal man to modern humans, Gilman shows how we have used our understanding of posture to define who we are – and who we are not. The book traverses theology and anthropology, medicine and politics, and ranges from discarded ideas of race to the most modern ideas of disability, and from theories of dance to concepts of national identity. Interweaving the history of posture with our developing knowledge of anatomy and cultural history, and fully illustrated with an array of striking images, *Stand Up Straight!* is the first comprehensive history of the upright body at rest and in movement.

Sander L. Gilman is Distinguished Professor of the Liberal Arts and Sciences as well as Professor of Psychiatry at Emory University. A cultural and literary historian, he is the author or editor of more than ninety books.
‘This paperback is filled with drawings and photographs of owls and our depictions of owls throughout time. An avid fan of art, I was especially enthralled by seeing Pablo Picasso’s paintings and ceramics of owls. Harry Potter fans will certainly enjoy this book.’ – The Guardian

From ancient Babylon to Edward Lear’s The Owl and the Pussycat and the grandiloquent, absent-minded Wol from Winnie-the-Pooh to David Lynch’s Twin Peaks, owls have woven themselves into the fabric of human culture from earliest times. Beautiful, silent, pitiless predators of the night, possessing contradictory qualities of good and evil, they are enigmatic creatures that dwell throughout the world yet barely make their presence known.

In this classic Reaktion title, now available in paperback, bestselling author and broadcaster Desmond Morris explores the natural and cultural history of one of nature’s most popular creatures. He describes the evolution, the many species and the wide spread of owls around the world, as well as their appearance in folk tales, myths and legends, art, film, literature and popular culture. Originally published in 2009, this new format edition features many telling illustrations from nature and culture and will appeal to the many devotees of this emblematic bird.

DESMOND MORRIS is a world-renowned zoologist and television presenter, and the author of many bestselling books on human and animal behaviour, including Cats in Art (Reaktion, 2017). He has also written four books in Reaktion’s Animal series.
For millennia corals were a marine enigma confounding classification and occupying a space between the animal and vegetable kingdoms. Ultimately their animal and symbiotic natures were recognized, and they remain the focus of intense fascination and research. The danger to seafarers posed by unseen underwater coral reefs led to their association with death and interment that has figured in literature, poetry, music and film. The bright redness of precious Mediterranean coral was associated with blood, including coral’s gory origin in European and Indian mythology, and its place in religion. Corals have long been prized as jewellery and ornament, and were a feature of many Kunstkammer collections during the Renaissance. Seen as ‘rainforests of the sea’, coral reefs have become greenly emblematic of fragile marine biodiversity, warning of human-driven global climate change.

This book uniquely treats the many manifestations of corals in biology and geology; how diverse corals came to figure in art, expeditionary accounts, medicine, folklore, geopolitics and international trade; and corals as builders of islands and protectors of coastlines, and as building materials themselves. Exceptionally illustrated with a wide range of natural history images, underwater photographs and fine art, this book provides a unique resource for all interested in ocean environments and the cultures that have flourished there.

J. MALCOLM SHICK is Professor Emeritus of Zoology and Oceanography at the University of Maine, where he conducted research and taught for forty years. Some of his early scientific works were synthesized with the wider literature in his first book, A Functional Biology of Sea Anemones (1981).
Jupiter
WILLIAM SHEEHAN AND
THOMAS HOCKEY

Jupiter is the grandest of all planets. It is by far the largest planet in the solar system and among the brightest objects in the night sky, and its calming presence has inspired humans for centuries. Jupiter was the ‘beloved star’ of the ancient Sumerians and Babylonians, the first serious observers of the planets, and the Pioneer and Voyager spacecraft visited it in the 1970s. Now it is being scrutinized as never before by NASA’s Juno spacecraft, as experts begin to have a comprehensive view of the origin, composition and structure of this gas giant.

This beautifully illustrated volume ranges across the entire history of Jupiter studies, from the naked-eye observations of the Babylonians and the Greeks, through the telescopic discoveries of Galileo and T.E.R. Phillips, to the explosion of information received from space probes. It brings our understanding of Jupiter right up to date and includes preliminary findings from the Juno space probe, while also providing valuable practical information for those who wish to make their own observations of the planet. Introducing planetary science in an accessible and engaging way, Jupiter will appeal to those who wish to have a better understanding of this magnificent planet and its unique place in the solar system.

WILLIAM SHEEHAN is a psychiatrist, noted historian of astronomy, writer and amateur astronomer. He has published twenty books on astronomy, including Planets and Perception (1988), The Immortal Fire Within: The Life and Work of Edward Emerson Barnard (1995), The Planet Mars (1996), Galactic Encounters and Celestial Shadows (both 2015). He lives in Arizona, and Asteroid 16037 is named Sheehan in his honour. THOMAS HOCKEY is a Professor of Astronomy at the University of Northern Iowa. He has written six previous books, including Galileo’s Planet (1999).
‘This book is a “must-have” for all observers and students of the Moon.’ – Martin Mobberley, President of the British Astronomical Association, 1997–9

Our nearest celestial neighbour, the Moon, has always been the most conspicuous feature in our night sky. It has compelled observers since the dawn of humankind, and all have tried to make sense in their own ways of the puzzles it poses and the questions it raises. It provided our ancient ancestors with one of the earliest means of keeping and measuring time, and many early religions had cults that worshipped the Moon. It regulates the tides and has been held accountable for numerous human conditions, most notably madness and psychological disorders.

Drawing on many years of practical observation, Bill Leatherbarrow provides an illuminating insight into the history and evolution of this enthralling astronomical body. He describes how and why the study of the Moon has evolved, particularly in the age of the telescope, and offers an overview of developments in lunar science since the advent of the space age. Leatherbarrow also provides practical advice on how to make your own observations of the Moon. Extensively illustrated with images of the lunar surface, *The Moon* is an accessible introduction that will appeal to both amateur and professional astronomers and all those fascinated by Earth’s natural satellite.

**PROFESSOR BILL LEATHERBARROW** is a lifelong amateur astronomer and observer of the Moon. A former President of the British Astronomical Association (2011–13), he is currently Director of the association’s Lunar Section. He is the author and editor of over a dozen books and in 2016 minor planet 95852 was named after him by the International Astronomical Union.
Imagine Patrick Leigh Fermor and Karl Marx on a road trip through the hubs and corridors of rust-belt America . . . Ambitious, polemical, brilliant.’ – Arlie Hochschild, author of Strangers in Their Own Land: Anger and Mourning on the American Right

‘Phil A. Neel’s dazzling journeys through the burned-over landscapes of end-time capitalism – the despoiled remnants of rural America, the exfoliating zones of suburban poverty – compel us to rethink what class conflict looks like not only in America, but around the world.’ – Steve Fraser, author of The Age of Acquiescence: The Life and Death of American Resistance to Organized Wealth and Power

Over the last forty years, the landscape of the United States has been fundamentally transformed. It is partially visible in the ascendance of glittering, coastal hubs for finance, infotech and the so-called ‘creative class’. But this is only the tip of an economic iceberg, the bulk of which lies in the darkness of the declining heartland or on the dimly lit fringe of sprawling cities. This is America’s Hinterland, populated by towering grain-threshing machines and hunched farmworkers, where labourers drawn from every corner of the world crowd into factories and ‘fulfilment centres’. Driven by an ever-expanding crisis, America’s class structure is recomposing itself in new geographies of race, poverty and production.

Drawing on his direct experience of recent popular unrest, Phil A. Neel provides a close-up view of this landscape in all its grim but captivating detail, and tells the intimate story of a life lived within America’s Hinterland.

PHIL A. NEEL was raised in a mobile home in the Siskiyou Mountains, on the border of California and Oregon. He writes regularly on diverse topics and currently lives in Seattle.
In 1600 the Catholic Inquisition condemned the philosopher Giordano Bruno for his heretical beliefs. He was then burned alive in a public place in Rome. Historians, scientists and teachers usually deny that Bruno was condemned for his beliefs about the universe and that his trial was linked to the later confrontations between the Inquisition and Galileo in 1616 and 1633. Based on new evidence, Burned Alive asserts that Bruno’s beliefs about the universe were indeed the primary factors that led to Bruno’s condemnation: his beliefs that the stars are suns surrounded by planetary worlds like our own, and that the Earth moves because it has a soul.

Alberto A. Martínez shows how some of the same Inquisitors who judged Bruno also confronted Galileo in 1616. Ultimately the one clergyman who wrote the most critical reports used by the Inquisition to condemn Galileo in 1633 immediately wrote an unpublished manuscript, in which he denounced Galileo and other followers of Copernicus for believing that many worlds exist and that the Earth moves because it has a soul. This book challenges the accepted history of astronomy and shows how cosmology led Bruno bravely to his death.

ALBERTO A. MARTÍNEZ is Professor of History of Science at the University of Texas at Austin. He is the author of several books, including Kinematics: The Lost Origins of Einstein’s Relativity (2009), Science Secrets: The Truth About Darwin’s Finches, Einstein’s Wife, and Other Myths (2011) and The Cult of Pythagoras (2012).
Lesser Dragons
Minority Peoples of China
MICHAEL DILLON

*Lesser Dragons* is a timely introduction to the fascinating and complex world of China’s ‘national minorities’. Based on detailed research, including the author’s first-hand fieldwork in several minority areas, it introduces the major non-Han peoples of China, including the Mongols, the Tibetans, the Uyghurs of Xinjiang and the Manchus, and traces the evolution of their relationship with the Han Chinese majority. Each chapter discusses one of the most important minority groups, while an additional chapter is devoted to the parallel but different world of inter-ethnic relations in Taiwan.

*Lesser Dragons* will interest anyone who wishes to understand the reality behind the region’s conflicts that are increasingly being reported in the Western media, including the tense security situation in Xinjiang, China’s attitude to Tibet and the Dalai Lama, and the resistance of Mongolian herders to the loss of their grasslands. It examines clichés, such as those found in the Chinese press that portray the ethnic minorities as colourful but marginal people, and shows how their religions, cultures and above all their languages mark them out as distinct from the Chinese majority yet endangered by forces of integration.

MICHAEL DILLON was founding director of the Centre for Contemporary Chinese Studies at Durham University and has been a visiting professor at Tsinghua University. He is a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society and the Royal Asiatic Society, and a member of the Royal Institute of International Affairs.
The humble soybean is the world’s most grown and most traded oilseed. But it is also a poorly understood crop that is often viewed in extreme terms as a superfood or poison. Christine M. Du Bois reveals its hugely significant role in human history, as she traces the story of soy from its domestication in ancient Asia to the promise and perils it offers in the twenty-first century. This illuminating book travels across the globe and includes a vast cast of fascinating figures who applaud, experiment with or despise soy, from Neolithic villagers, Buddhist missionaries, European colonialists, Japanese soldiers and Nazi strategists, to George Washington Carver, Henry Ford, Monsanto, Greenpeace, landless peasants, petroleum refiners and countless others.

The story covers the impact of soy on international conflicts, its role in large-scale meat production and disaster relief, its troubling ecological impacts and the nutritional controversies swirling around soy today. It describes its genetic modification, the scandals and pirates involved in the international trade in soybeans and the use of soy as an intriguing renewable fuel. Featuring compelling historical and contemporary photographs, The Story of Soy reveals the importance of soy throughout history, and why it should never be underestimated.

With Sidney Mintz, CHRISTINE M. DU BOIS is a former manager of the Johns Hopkins Project on Soybeans. She is a co-author and editor of The World of Soy (2008), as well as the author of Images of West Indian Immigrants in Mass Media: The Struggle for a Positive Ethnic Reputation (2004). She lives in Pennsylvania.
A History of Language
STEVEN ROGER FISCHER
With a new preface

‘Steven Fischer’s intriguing and ambitious study explores a vast terrain . . . Throughout, he addresses hard questions that bear directly on fundamental and distinctive aspects of human nature and achievement. A stimulating and highly informative inquiry.’ – Noam Chomsky

‘[A] delightful and unexpectedly accessible book . . . a virtuoso tour of the linguistic world.’
– The Economist

‘Few who read this remarkable study will regard language in quite the same way again.’ – The Good Book Guide

It is tempting to take the tremendous rate of contemporary linguistic change for granted. What is required, in fact, is a radical reinterpretation of what language is. Steven Roger Fischer charts the history of language from the times of Homo erectus, Neanderthal humans and Homo sapiens through to the nineteenth century, when the science of linguistics was developed, as he analyses the emergence of language as a science and its development as a written form. He considers the rise of pidgin, creole, jargon and slang, as well as the effects radio and television, propaganda, advertising and the media are having on language today. Originally published in 1999, this new format edition, which includes a new preface by the author, also shows how digital media will continue to reshape and reinvent the ways in which we communicate.

What is dirt? What does it really mean to be dirty? Or clean? Dirt and cleaning are often associated with ideas of guilt, otherness and social control, but also with living responsibly and in harmony with the environment. In this learned, witty and groundbreaking study, Olli Lagerspetz offers a persuasive discussion of dirt and its ramifications in philosophy and culture. He argues that questions of dirt and soiling can neither be reduced to hygiene nor to ritual pollution. Instead, they are part and parcel of almost every human activity. As participants in material culture, we produce things and dispose of them but we also engage with them practically, aesthetically and morally.

The book ranges through subjects and times, from Heraclitus of Ephesus, through the Renaissance, via Ludwig Wittgenstein, Martin Heidegger and Mary Douglas, to the hygienic products of modernity, ending with abject art. Lagerspetz constantly questions current thinking on the subject, and proposes a new view of dirt based on our physical engagement with the world. *A Philosophy of Dirt* is essential reading for scholars and students of philosophy, as well as all who feel soiled and want to know why.
In remembering the murder of the Jews during the period of National Socialism in Germany, the contribution made by artists in the first twenty years after the end of the war has been largely ignored. But how did artists deal with their own experiences and relate these to what they saw, heard and read about the Holocaust? What images of the Jews were presented to the Germans after the end of the brutal regime? And did works of art in Germany contribute to a re-education process, new ways of thinking in both East and West Germany, and the culture of memory?

Judenmord is the first collection of works of art specifically by German artists from the end of the war to the end of the 1960s, and beyond in the case of Gerhard Richter, that comment on the Holocaust. It presents paintings, drawings and etchings that bring to light the persecution of the Jews, and examines how artists reacted to injustice in a social situation where the majority stayed silent. Featuring an unfamiliar array of works by artists such as Otto Pankok, Lea Grundig, Ludwig Meidner, Werner Tübke, Wolf Vostell, Joseph Beuys and Gerhard Richter, and including those by former camp inmates, this is essential reading for all those interested in the history of art and the Holocaust.
Mirages have long astonished travellers and beguiled thirsty desert voyagers. Chinese and Japanese poetry and images depicted mirages as the exhalations of clam-monsters. Indian sources related them to the ‘thirst of gazelles’, a metaphor for the futility of desire. From the late eighteenth century to the present, mirages became a symbol of ‘Oriental despotism’, a malign, but also enchanted, emblem. But the mirage motif is rarely simply condemnatory. More commonly it conveys a sense of escape, of fascination, of a desire to be deceived.

*The Waterless Sea* is the first book devoted to the theories and history of mirages. Christopher Pinney navigates a sinuous pathway through a mysterious and evanescent terrain, showing how mirages have impacted politics, culture, science and religion, and how we can continue to learn from their sublimity.

Ice has played a prominent role in the history of the Earth and its living communities for millennia. We have had fun with and on ice, battled over ice, imagined ice, struggled with ice and made money out of ice. It has transformed our relationship with food, and our engagement with ice has been captured in art, literature, popular film and television, as well as made manifest in sport and leisure. Our lakes, mountains and coastlines have been indelibly shaped by the advance and retreat of ice and snow. Beyond Planet Earth, ice can be found in meteors, planets and moons, and scientists think that ice-rich asteroids played a pivotal role in bringing water to Earth.

In *Ice: Nature and Culture* Klaus Dodds provides a wide-ranging exploration of the cultural, natural and geopolitical history of ice, revealing how throughout history human communities have made sense of ice. For those who are intrigued about our relationship with ice, this book will provide an informative and thought-provoking guide.

KLAUS DODDS is Professor of Geopolitics at Royal Holloway, University of London, and a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences. He has travelled and worked for many years in cold places, including the Arctic, Antarctica and mountainous areas of the world. His previous books include a co-authored volume, *The Scramble for the Poles* (2016).
The rainbow is a compelling spectacle in nature – a rare bridge between subjective experience and objective reality – and no less remarkable as a cultural phenomenon. A symbol of the Left since the German Peasants’ War of the 1520s, it has been adopted by movements for gay rights, the environment, multiculturalism and peace around the globe, and inspired poets, artists and writers including John Keats, Caspar David Friedrich, Edgar Allan Poe and Nathaniel Hawthorne. The scientific ‘discovery’ of the rainbow is a remarkable tale that takes in ancient Greece and Rome, medieval Persia and Islamic Spain. Rainbows have also been regarded as ominous or even dangerous in myth and religion, while the twentieth century saw their emergence as kitsch, from the musical film version of *The Wizard of Oz* to 1980s sitcoms and children’s cartoons.

Daniel MacCannell’s enlightening and instructive guide to the rainbow’s relationship with humanity is the first book of its kind. It describes what rainbows are and how they work, how we arrived at our current scientific understanding of rainbows, and how they have been portrayed in myths, the arts, politics and popular culture.

An honorary research fellow in History at the University of Aberdeen, DANIEL MACCANNELL UE FRGS has written nine books, including *How to Read Scottish Buildings* (2015) and *Oxford: Mapping the City* (2016).
Leonard Bernstein (1918–1990) was one of twentieth-century music’s most successful and recognizable figures. In a career spanning five decades he conducted many of the world’s leading orchestras, and composed scores for landmark musicals such as Candide and West Side Story. Published to tie in with the 100th anniversary of Bernstein’s birth, this engaging new biography provides a concise overview of the life and work of this prodigiously talented, fascinating and controversial musician.

Drawing on over thirty years of study, leading scholar Paul R. Laird describes Bernstein’s work as a conductor, composer, music educator and commentator, evaluating all his major compositions. Laird explores the impact of his complicated personal life on his professional work, including his homosexuality and many affairs with men, and his strong yet difficult marriage. The author also describes Bernstein’s iron self-belief, which enabled him to negotiate risky and challenging musical situations that resulted in passionate, if sometimes mixed, reviews.

Featuring original insights into Bernstein’s life, including the author’s interview with Bernstein in 1982, this is an ideal introduction to Bernstein’s eclectic musical style, showing where it fits in the larger world of twentieth-century music.

Paul R. Laird is Professor of Musicology at the University of Kansas School of Music, where he has taught since 1994. His previous books include The Chichester Psalms of Leonard Bernstein (2010), with co-author Hsun Lin Leonard Bernstein: A Research and Information Guide (2015), and with co-editor William A. Everett The Cambridge Companion to the Musical (2017).
Günter Grass (1927–2015) was Germany’s foremost writer for more than half a century, and his books were and remain bestsellers across the world. The Tin Drum was made into an Oscar-winning film in 1979 and the memoir Peeling the Onion in 2006 astounded readers by revealing that Grass had been drafted into the most criminal component of the Nazi war machine, the Waffen SS, in the closing months of the Second World War. He wrote memorably about the student movement, feminism and German reunification, and was a key influence on magic realist authors such as Gabriel García Márquez and Salman Rushdie, as well as the popular novelist John Irving. Grass redefined the role of ‘literary commitment’, campaigning as a citizen for the German Social Democrats and helping the anti-Nazi Willy Brandt become Chancellor in 1969.

Günter Grass is the first biographical study in English of this Nobel Prize-winning writer. Julian Preece introduces Grass’s key works and chronicles his interaction with major figures from literary and public life, including Chancellor Helmut Kohl and co-founder of the Red Army Faction Ulrike Meinhof, and places his fiction and public campaigning in the context of Cold War European politics and post-unification Germany.

Julian Preece is Professor of German Studies at Swansea University. His other books include The Life and Work of Günter Grass: Literature, History, Politics (2nd edn, 2004) and Baader-Meinhof and the Novel: Narratives of the Nation, Fantasies of the Revolution (2012).
The Danish philosopher, theologian and author Søren Kierkegaard (1813–1855) is widely considered to be one of the most important religious thinkers of the modern age. He is known as the ‘father of existentialism’, but his work was also influential on theories of modernism, theology, Western culture, Church politics and the Christian faith. His wit, imagination and humour have inspired a generation of followers from Franz Kafka to Woody Allen. But how did this inattentive schoolboy rise to critique the work of great thinkers such as Hegel and the German Romantics? Who was the unusual person writing behind the many pseudonyms? And in what way are Kierkegaard’s concepts still relevant today?

In this absorbing new biography Alastair Hannay unravels the mystery of Søren Kierkegaard’s short but momentous career. Kierkegaard’s key concepts and major works are described alongside the major incidents in his private and public life, from his longing for selfhood expressed at the age of 22, to a verbal assault on the Church in the months prior to his early death at the age of 42. Søren Kierkegaard is a story of a man destined to become a thorn in the side of society.

'In this elegant and perceptive biography, one of the leading scholars of Isaac Newton’s career provides a clear and often startling summary of the life of one of the greatest early modern scholars and philosophers of nature. With considerable intellectual balance and literary vigour, this book... offers a fascinating introduction to the aims and achievements of a towering figure of European intellectual culture.’ – Simon Schaffer, Professor of History of Science, University of Cambridge

Isaac Newton is generally regarded as one of the greatest scientists in history, yet the spectrum of his interests was much broader than that of a contemporary scientist. He was deeply involved in alchemical, religious and biblical studies, and in the later part of his life he played a prominent role in British politics, economics and the promotion of scientific research. Newton’s pivotal work *Philosophiae naturalis principia mathematica*, which sets out his laws of universal gravitation and motion, is regarded as one of the most important works in the history of science.

Niccolò Guicciardini’s enlightening biography offers an accessible introduction to Newton’s celebrated work in mathematics, optics and astronomy, and to how Newton viewed these scientific fields in relation to his quest for the deepest secrets of the universe, matter theory and religion. Guicciardini sets Newton the natural philosopher in the troubled context of the religious and political debates that took place during Newton’s life, which spanned from the years of the Civil War to the Restoration, the Glorious Revolution and the Hanoverian succession.

Taking into account the latest Newtonian scholarship, this fast-paced biography will appeal to all those with an interest in this iconic figure and the great scientific revolution of the early modern period.

Niccolò Guicciardini teaches history of science at the University of Bergamo, Italy. He has devoted many years to studying Newton’s mathematical thought and its reception, and is the author of *Reading the Principia: The Debate on Newton’s Mathematical Methods for Natural Philosophy from 1687 to 1736* (1999) and *Isaac Newton on Mathematical Certainty and Method* (2009).
Palm
FRED GRAY

The extraordinary palm: diverse, prolific, essential, symbolic and often sacred, exotic – and at times erotic – exploited and controversial. The signature plant of the tropics and subtropics, these record-breaking botanicals produce the world’s biggest and heaviest seed, the longest leaf and the longest stem. Over thousands of years, palms sustained rainforest communities and were bound up with the development of ancient civilizations. They gained mystical and religious meanings and became a plant of abstractions and fantasies, a symbol of being at leisure, away from civilization and closer to nature – and at times of danger and devastation. In the nineteenth century capitalism used palm products to lubricate industry and cleanse empires. Iconic palm houses put on show this exceptional vegetative performer. Far from its natural homelands, it nowadays clothes and glamorizes an astonishing diversity of landscapes. Today oils from palms are consumed daily by millions of people worldwide. The plant is embedded in modern consumer societies, but mired in environmental controversy over the destruction of rainforests.

In Palm Fred Gray portrays the cultural and historical significance of this iconic and controversial plant over thousands of years. Superbly illustrated, this lively and engaging book is the first of its kind.
Sunflowers are the most recognizable members of the world’s largest family of plants, Asteraceae, which includes lettuce, chrysanthemums, asters, dahlias and weeds. The sunflower family is found in almost all habitats, from the driest deserts through grasslands and the tallest mountains to urban wastelands, and includes more than 32,000 species. The family has become a part of our literary and visual cultures, inspiring artists such as Vincent van Gogh, and is used by advertisers to promote countless products. It produces hugely popular and economically valuable ornamental flowers, as well as familiar flavourings such as tarragon and artemisia, and sunflowers are also used in the production of antimalarial drugs, artificial sweeteners, insecticides and fish poisons.

Sunflowers unravels the interplay between the biology of sunflowers and human cultures over the last 6,000 years. It explores our fascination with the family and how our uses of the plants have changed over millennia. Illustrated with many rarely seen images of the sunflower family, this beautiful volume will appeal to those looking for a new, surprising perspective on familiar flowers.

**Sunflowers**

**STEPHEN HARRIS**

STEPHEN HARRIS has been Druce Curator of Oxford University Herbaria since 1995 and a University Research Lecturer since 2002. His books include *The Magnificent Flora Graeca* (2007), *Grasses* (Reaktion, 2014) and *What Have Plants Ever Done for Us?* (2015).
Zebra
CHRISTOPHER PLUMB
AND SAMUEL SHAW

Common and exotic, glamorous and ferocious, sociable and sullen: zebras mean many things to many people. The extraordinary beauty of their striped coats makes them one of the world’s most recognizable animals. They have been immortalized in paint by artists including George Stubbs and Lucian Freud, and zebra-print designs permeate contemporary society – on beanbags and bikinis, car seats and pencil cases. Zebras even have a road crossing named after them. But the natural and cultural history of the zebra remains a mystery to most. Few know that there are three species of zebra, or that one of these is currently endangered, or that the quagga, an animal that once roamed southern Africa in large numbers before dying out in the 1880s, is among the zebra’s many subspecies.

Zebra is a comprehensive and wide-ranging study of the natural and cultural history of this popular animal. Using a diverse array of sources and stories, it shows how the zebra’s history engages and intersects with various topics, including eighteenth-century humour, imperialism and camouflage technologies. Including more than a hundred illustrations, many previously unpublished, it offers a new way of thinking about this much-loved but frequently misunderstood animal.

CHRISTOPHER PLUMB is a cultural historian and his first book was The Georgian Menagerie: Exotic Animals in Eighteenth-century London (2015). SAMUEL SHAW is an artist, writer and art historian. He teaches at the University of Birmingham.
Bat
TESSA LAIRD

Bats have been misunderstood and maligned in the West for centuries. Unfair associations with demons have seen their leathery wings adorn numerous evil characters, from the Devil to Bram Stoker’s Dracula. But these amazing animals are ecological superheroes. Nectar-feeding bats pollinate important crops like agave; fruit-eating bats disperse seeds and encourage reforestation; and insect-eating bats keep down mosquito populations and other pests, saving agricultural industries billions of dollars. Ranging from the size of a bumblebee to those with a wingspan the length of an adult human, they are the only mammals possessing true flight and are found on all continents except Antarctica.

In Bat Tessa Laird challenges preconceptions about these remarkable animals, combining fascinating facts of bat biology with engaging portrayals of bats in mythology, literature, film, popular culture, poetry and contemporary art. She also provides a sobering reminder of the risks bats face worldwide, from heatwaves and human harassment to wind turbines and disease. Illustrated with incredible photographs and artistic representations of bats from many different cultures and eras, this celebration of bats contains much to enthral converts and sceptics alike.

TESSA LAIRD is Lecturer in Critical and Theoretical Studies at the School of Art, Victorian College of the Arts, University of Melbourne. Tessa was a noted New Zealand art critic for over twenty years, where she founded two important art magazines in the 1990s, Monica Reviews Art and LOG Illustrated. Her book A Rainbow Reader appeared in 2013.
Berries are enmeshed with human history. Widely available in nature, they have been part of the human diet for millennia, and today they inspire everything from lip-gloss flavours to amusement parks. However diminutive their size, berries are of such significance to Northern and Eastern Europeans that picking them in the wild is ‘everyman’s right’, interwoven with their cultural identity, but some berries can be deadly.

In *Berries: A Global History*, Heather Arndt Anderson relates the story of how humans came to love these tiny, bewildering fruits. Readers meet the inventor of thornless brambles, learn ancient fables and berry-lore, and discover berries’ use in poisonous witches’ brews and modern superfood health crazes. Featuring a selection of historic and original recipes for berry-lovers to try, this is a witty and lushly illustrated ramble through the curious history of our favourite fruits, which will appeal to food lovers and social historians alike.

With eye-catching shapes, interesting flavours and enticing textures, sweets and candy are much loved worldwide by people of all ages. They provide treats, lessons in economics for children, and colourful novelties to mark festivities. Methods for making sweets can be traced back to the importance of sugar in Arabic medicine and the probable origin of this in ancient India. But these seemingly inconsequential items are freighted with centuries of changing cultural attitudes, social and economic history, emotional attachments and divergent views on the role of sugar in health. How did confectionery become so popular? Why do we value concentrated sweetness in such varied forms? Why persist in eating sweets?

From marzipan pigs and nutty nougat to bubblegum and bonbons, Sweets and Candy looks behind the glamour and sparkle to explore the sticky history of confectionery. Laura Mason describes many of the bewildering varieties and the fascinating ways in which different cultures have made, consumed, valued and adored sweets and candy throughout history. Featuring a selection of scrumptious recipes to try at home, this global history will appeal to sweet-toothed readers, as well as all those interested in the history of food.

LAURA MASON is a food historian and writer with a special interest in British foods and food customs. Her books include Sugar Plums and Sherbet (2003), Pine (Reaktion, 2013) and several recipe books for the National Trust, and she also contributed to The Oxford Companion to Sugar and Sweets (2015). She lives in Yorkshire.
Pickles
A Global History
JAN DAVISON

Pickles are a global food: from the fiery *kimchi* of Korea and America’s dill pickles to the spicy *āchār* of India, the *ceviche* of Latin America and Europe’s sauerkraut, brined herrings and chutneys. Across continents and throughout history, pickling has been relied upon to preserve foods and add to their flavour. They are a cherished food of the elite as well as a staple of the masses, and have acquired a new significance in these health-conscious times: traditionally fermented pickles are probiotic and possess anti-ageing and anti-cancer properties, while pickle juice prevents muscle cramps in athletes and reduces sugar spikes in diabetics. It also cures hangovers.

In *Pickles*, Jan Davison explores the cultural and gastronomic importance of pickles from the earliest civilizations to the twenty-first century. Discover the art of pickling mastered by the ancient Chinese, find out how the astronaut Yi So-yeon took pickled cabbage into space in 2008, learn how the Japanese pickle the deadly pufferfish, and uncover the pickling provenance of that most popular of condiments, tomato ketchup. In this globetrotting book, Davison discovers how pickles have been omnipresent in our common quest not only to conserve, but to create foods with relish.

San Francisco
*Instant City, Promised Land*
MICHAEL JOHNS

A local rock star once said, ‘San Francisco is 49 square miles surrounded by reality.’ Michael Johns’s *San Francisco: Instant City, Promised Land* portrays the sensibilities of this small city with an outsized personality.

No American city has such a broad sweep of staggering views – of the ocean, of a huge bay, of surrounding hills – or such a high opinion of its own worth. San Francisco has always been rich, too: the city’s great wealth underwrites the broadmindedness so vital to its charm. Despite its obvious sophistication, San Francisco retains a frontier quality that has always attracted seekers – of fortune, power, pleasure, refuge, rebellion. Yet the city is more than irreverent, independent and a bit outside the law: it is also progressive, innovative and open to all kinds of people and ideas, making it an easy place to be different. Think of the Beats and the hippies, the LGBT community and the left-wingers, the rise of Burning Man and the creation of technologies that make today’s San Francisco the world’s ‘City of Apps’. With its historical narrative, reflections on the city today and treasure trove of images, this book shows that, if history is any guide, there is much more to come in San Francisco.

Listening to Design
A Guide to the Creative Process
ANDREW LEVITT

*Listening to Design* leads readers into the unique world of the creative process. Drawing on his experience as a teacher, psychotherapist and architect, Andrew Levitt breaks down the creative process, from the moment an idea appears through to the final presentation of a project. Using stories, examples and insights, Levitt offers a rarely seen glimpse into the rich and often turbulent creative process of a working designer. He highlights the importance of active listening and the essential role of empathy in solving problems and overcoming obstacles, revealing how the process of design is a vehicle for personal growth and development.

The wide range of anecdotes and practical advice of *Listening to Design* will engage readers working in all creative fields. Through sections on ‘Storytelling and the Big Idea’, ‘Listening and Receiving’, ‘Getting Stuck’, ‘Empathy and Collaboration’ and ‘Presenting and Persuading’, the book signals a shift towards staying true to our creative instincts and learning to trust the power and surprising resilience of the creative process. This timely book is essential reading for designers, architects and creatives everywhere.

ANDREW LEVITT teaches in the design studios at the University of Waterloo School of Architecture, Canada. He has also trained and practised as a psychotherapist. He is the author of *The Inner Studio: A Designer’s Guide to the Resources of the Psyche* (2006).
When Artists Curate
Contemporary Art and the Exhibition as Medium
ALISON GREEN

An increasing proportion of exhibitions are curated by artists rather than professional curators. In this groundbreaking book Alison Green provides the first critical history of visual artists curating exhibitions. The artist emerges as someone who carries a special responsibility for critiquing art’s institutions, brings considerable creativity to the craft of making exhibitions and, through experimentation, has changed the way exhibitions are understood to be authored and experienced. But the book also establishes a curious ubiquity to the artist-curated exhibition. Rather than being exceptional or rare, artists curate all the time and in all kinds of places: in galleries and in museums, in studios, in borrowed spaces such as shopfronts or industrial buildings, in front rooms and front windows, in zoos or concert halls, on streets and in nature. Seen from the perspective of artists, showing is a part of making art. Once this idea is understood, the history of art starts to look very different.

With extensive explorations of well-known artists such as Daniel Buren, Goshka Macuga, Thomas Hirschhorn, Rosemarie Trockel, Hito Steyerl, Andy Warhol and Félix González-Torres, this book will change the way readers think about and look at exhibitions.

ALISON GREEN is an art historian, critic and curator and Course Leader of MA Culture, Criticism and Curation at Central Saint Martins, London.
The Mummy’s Foot and the Big Toe
Feet and Imaginative Promise
ALAN KRELL

‘Alan Krell’s observations and commentary are worthy of the array of literature and art he discusses – creative, imaginative, incisive. He picks up where notables such as Théophile Gautier, Georges Bataille, and Charlie Chaplin left off, exploring the cultural implications of what we do about feet: from fetishizing them, to binding them, to racing with them shoeless, to perceiving their nakedness as innocence.’ – Professor Richard Shiff, The University of Texas at Austin

In this quirky and surprising history, Alan Krell addresses the absurd and abject, the banal and the nastily subversive, and the romantic and fetishistic, as he describes the appearance of the foot in literature, photography, art, sport and film. Discover the gothic tales of French writer Théophile Gautier, the disturbing photographs of Jacques-André Boiffard and the religious paintings by Giotto, Tintoretto and Caravaggio that exalt the foot. Marvel at the sporting exploits of elite runners such as Abebe Bikila and Zola Budd, and the surprising representation of the foot in films such as The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn (1939) and Kill Bill: Vol. 1 (2003). Presenting new images and ideas of the foot in a tantalizing way, The Mummy’s Foot and the Big Toe is for all those with an interest in the humanities, languages, social sciences and anthropology.

ALAN KRELL was recently Associate Professor in Art History at UNSW Art and Design, Sydney, where he worked for over two decades. He now lives in London. His books include Manet and the Painters of Contemporary Life (1996), The Devil’s Rope: A Cultural History of Barbed Wire (Reaktion, 2002) and Burning Issues: Fire in Art and the Social Imagination (Reaktion, 2011).
Public sculpture is a big draw in today’s cities. Nowhere is this more the case than in New York, where urban art has become synonymous with the municipal ‘brand’, highlighting the metropolis as vibrant, creative, tolerant, orderly and, above all, safe. *Sculpture in Gotham* tells the story of how the City of New York became committed to public art patronage, beginning in the mid-1960s. In that moment of political turbulence, cultural activists and city officials for a time shifted away from traditional monuments, and joined forces to sponsor ambitious sculptural projects as an instrument for urban revitalization.

Focusing on specific people, agencies and organizations, and both temporary and permanent projects over the decades since the 1960s, *Sculpture in Gotham* reveals the changing forms and meanings of municipal public art. It illustrates how all this happened at a time when art theories and styles were changing markedly, and when municipalities were reeling from racial unrest, economic decline and countercultural challenges to culture and the state. Connecting public art activity to agendas of urbanism, *Sculpture in Gotham* offers new contexts for tracking national cultural trends through the exploration of one specific locality. It also provides a new understanding of civic activism and collaboration as a cultural force in urban America.
Trading Territories
*Mapping the Early Modern World*
JERRY BROTTON

‘A beautifully illustrated account of the status, construction and purposes of maps in the Early Modern world.’ – History Today

‘Jerry Brotton’s elegant Trading Territories shows how historically maps were about facilitating trade and celebrating (and exerting) influence.’ – The Independent

*Trading Territories* tells the compelling story of maps and geographical knowledge in the early modern world from the fifteenth to the early seventeenth century. Examining how European geographers mapped the territories of the Old World – Africa and Southeast Asia – this book shows how the historical preoccupation with Columbus’s ‘discovery’ of the New World of America in 1492 obscured the ongoing importance of mapping territories that have since been defined as ‘eastern’, especially those in the Muslim world.

In this book, now available in paperback and updated with a new preface by the author, Jerry Brotton shows that trade and diplomacy defined the development of maps and globes in this period, far more than the disinterested pursuit of scientific accuracy and objectivity, and challenges our preconceptions about not just maps, but the history and geography of what we call East and West.

Mapping the Middle East explores the many perspectives from which people have visualized the vast area lying between the Atlantic Ocean and the Oxus and Indus river valleys over the past millennium. By analysing maps produced from the eleventh century on, Zayde Antrim emphasizes the deep roots of mapping in a world region too often considered unexamined and unchanging before the modern period. Indeed, maps from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, coinciding with the eras of European colonialism and the rise of the nation-state, have obscured this deeper past and constrained future possibilities.

Mapping the Middle East is organized chronologically to contextualize and interpret compelling maps from each period. Chapters address the medieval ‘Realm of Islam’, the sixteenth- to eighteenth-century Ottoman Empire, French and British colonial mapping over the long nineteenth century, national mapping traditions in modern Turkey, Iran and Israel/Palestine, and alternative geographies in twentieth- and twenty-first-century maps. Vivid colour illustrations allow readers to follow the argument on the surface of the maps. Rather than a conventional history of cartography, Mapping the Middle East is an incisive critique of the changing relationship between maps and belonging in a dynamic world region over the past thousand years.
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