Syracuse University Press has partnered with Sound Beat: Access Audio to produce audiobooks. A true example of SU community partnership in action, Sound Beat: Access Audio also produces long-form audio projects including interviews, narrated journals, experiences and perspectives of unique Syracuse University community members. We are excited for this partnership and to expand our reach in this new way.

Reservoir Year
A Walker’s Book of Days
Nina Shengold
Narrated by Kathleen McNenny
“A comforting yet thought-provoking meditation on the human relationship with the natural world and how a connection with nature can deepen our awareness and empathy, no matter where we are in life.”
—Literary Ladies Guide
Audiobook 9780815690016
Duration (10:06)

Harry Haft
Survivor of Auschwitz, Challenger of Rocky Marciano
Alan Scott Haft
Narrated by Price Waldman
“A complete picture of a flawed yet courageous human being, a survivor beyond measure, and is highly recommended for biography and holocaust studies shelves.”
—Bookwatch
Audiobook 9780815690009
Duration (5:07)
Finding Judge Crater
A Life and Phenomenal Disappearance in Jazz Age New York
Stephen J. Riegel

“Riegel sheds new light on one of the most-sensational missing person’s cases in the US in the twentieth century. With his deep knowledge of New York politics and its judicial system, Riegel explains how Judge Crater rose to prominence, and what led to his disappearance.”

—Terry Golway, author of Machine Made: Tammany Hall and the Creation of Modern American Politics

On the night of August 6, 1930, Joseph Force Crater, a newly appointed judge and prominent figure in many circles of Manhattan, hailed a taxi in the heart of Broadway and vanished into thin air. Despite a decades-long international manhunt led by the New York Police Department’s esteemed Missing Persons Bureau, the reason for Crater’s disappearance remains a confounding mystery. In the early months of the investigation, evidence implicated and imperiled New York’s top officials, including then-Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt and Mayor Jimmy Walker, as well as the city’s Tammany Hall political machine, lawyers and judges, and a theater mogul.

Drawing on new sources, including NYPD case files and court records, and overlooked evidence discovered years later, Riegel pieces together the puzzle of what likely happened to Joseph Crater and why. To uncover the mystery, he delves into Crater’s ascension into the scintillating and corrupt world of Manhattan in the Roaring Twenties and Jazz Age. In turn, the story of the judge’s vanishing in the first year of the Great Depression unfolds as a harbinger of the disappearance of his lost metropolis and its transformation into modern-day New York City.

Stephen J. Riegel is a litigation attorney practicing in New York and New Jersey, of counsel to law firms, and a former federal prosecutor in Brooklyn.
**Hot Maroc**

A Novel

Yassin Adnan  
Translated from the Arabic by Alexander E. Elinson

**Paper $29.95**  9780815611356  
**Ebook** 9780815655398

6 x 9, 424 pages  
Series: Middle East Literature in Translation  
**MAY 2021**

*A dark comedy that shines a light on the struggles Moroccans face daily as they discover the virtual world of the internet.*

With an infectious blend of humor, satire, and biting social commentary, Adnan gives readers a portrait of contemporary Morocco—and the city of Marrakech—told through the eyes of the hapless Rahhal Laâouina, a.k.a. the Squirrel. Painfully shy, not that bright, and not all that popular, Rahhal somehow imagines himself a hero. With a useless degree in ancient Arabic poetry, he finds his calling in the online world, where he discovers email, YouTube, Facebook, and the news site Hot Maroc. Enamored of the internet and the thrill of anonymity it allows, Rahhal opens the Atlas Cubs Cyber Café, where patrons mingle virtually with politicians, journalists, hackers, and trolls. However, Rahhal soon finds himself mired in the dark side of the online world—one of corruption, scandal, and deception.

Longlisted for the International Prize for Arabic Fiction in 2017, *Hot Maroc* is a vital portrait of the challenges Moroccans, young and old, face today. Where press freedoms are tightly controlled by government authorities, where the police spy on, intimidate, and detain citizens with impunity, and where adherence to traditional cultural icons both anchors and stifles creative production, the online world provides an alternative for the young and voiceless. In this revolutionary novel that recalls Junot Díaz’s *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Woo* and Dave Eggers’s *The Circle*, Adnan fixes his lens on young Rahhal and his contemporaries as they navigate the perilous and changing landscape of the real and virtual worlds they inhabit.

**Yassin Adnan** is a Moroccan writer, editor, and journalist. He is the editor of *Marokkech Noir* and the author of four books of poetry and three short story collections. Since 2006, he has researched and presented his weekly cultural TV program *Masharef* (Thresholds) on Morocco’s Channel One, and he currently hosts *Boyt Yassin* (Yassin’s House) on Egypt’s Al-Ghad TV. *Hot Maroc* is his first novel.

**Alexander E. Elinson** is associate professor of Arabic language and literature, and head of the Arabic program at Hunter College, CUNY. His translations include two novels by Youssef Fadel: *A Beautiful White Cat Walks with Me* and *A Shimmering Red Fish Swims with Me.*
A collection of powerful and vivid stories by the influential Iraqi Kurdish author and activist Haifa Zangana.

“The themes and issues evoked in this collection are urgent, thought provoking and very real.”

—Michelle Hartman, author of *Breaking Broken English: Black-Arab Literary Solidarities and the Politics of Language*

The carefully crafted, subtle, and humorous stories in *Packaged Lives* show Zangana at her best as a fiction writer. She portrays her subjects keenly, sensitively, and lovingly but without compromise. Iraqis living in exile come to life in her narratives as men and women who are caught between two worlds. They cannot return to their homeland and are forced to wait for news of Iraq from afar. At the same time, they are unable to fully adjust to life in Britain and make a new home for themselves. The question “What is home?” is at the heart of each story in this collection. Her protagonists, who are stuck in ready-made lives, or “packaged lives,” struggle to set themselves free from a web of relationships in which they are entangled. Art, poetry, and nature provide lines of escape. The relief may be fleeting, but peace of mind and serenity are reached through the moment of epiphany at the end of each story, a much-needed balm.

**Haifa Zangana** is an Iraqi Kurdish writer and activist. She is the author of *Women on a Journey: Between Baghdad and London*, *City of Widows: An Iraqi Woman’s Account of War and Resistance*, *Dreaming of Baghdad*, and *Party for Thaera: Palestinian Women Writing Life*, among others.

**Wen-chin Ouyang** is professor of Arabic and comparative literature at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. She is the author of *Poetics of Love in the Arabic Novel: Nation-State, Modernity and Tradition*, and *Politics of Nostalgia in the Arabic Novel: Nation-State, Modernity and Tradition*. She has been working toward Arabic-Chinese comparative literary and cultural studies, including Silk Road studies.
From a Distant Relation
Mikhah Yosef Berdichevsky
Edited and Translated from the Yiddish by James Adam Redfield

Paper $34.95 9780815611363  
Ebook 9780815655404

6 x 9, 432 pages, 1 map, notes, glossary, index  
Series: Judaic Traditions in Literature, Music, and Art  
JUNE 2021

A lively collection of little-known short stories, monologues, and folktales by a major figure in modern Jewish literature and thought, translated from Yiddish.

“This work offers an important contribution, emphasizing connections between the spheres of Hebrew and Yiddish literary production that are often underexamined.”


In his short life (1865-1921), Berdichevsky was a versatile and influential man of letters: an innovative Hebrew prose stylist, a collector of Jewish folklore, a scholar of ancient Jewish and Christian history. He was at once a peer of the Brothers Grimm, Sholem Aleichem, Friedrich Nietzsche, and a diverse circle of Jewish writers in the Russian Empire and German-speaking countries. As a Yiddish writer, however, he remains largely unknown to general readers. Originally published in the 1920s, his stories were dismissed by prominent critics and viewed as out of step with the literary taste of his own time. Yet these vivid portraits of a small Jewish town (shtetl) in the southern Russian Empire can speak powerfully to audiences today.

With enchanting humor, social satire, and verbal dexterity, From a Distant Relation captures the world of the shtetl in a sharp realist prose style. Themes of repressed desire, poverty, relations with non-Jews, and historic upheavals echo in a cast of memorable characters. Many of the stories and monologues feature strong female protagonists, while others shed light on the misogynistic culture of the shtetl. At the border between fiction and reportage, with a gritty underbelly and a deceptive naïveté, Berdichevsky’s stories explore dynamics of wealth, power, and gender in an intimate setting that resonates profoundly with contemporary Jewish life.

Mikhah Yosef Berdichevsky was one of the most important European Jewish intellectuals of his time. He was a well-known translator and editor of Jewish folklore in both Hebrew and German.

James Adam Redfield is assistant professor of Biblical and Talmudic literatures in the Department of Theological Studies at Saint Louis University.
The Bear Tree and Other Stories from Cazenovia’s History

Erica Barnes and Jason Emerson

Hardcover $60.00 9780815637172
Paper $19.95 9780815611325
Ebook 9780815655428

6 x 9, 200 pages, 32 black-and-white illustrations, 1 map, notes, bibliography

APRIL 2021

A fascinating collection of stories about this beloved Central New York village.

“This well written book looks at Cazenovia’s most interesting and ‘juicy’ stories, and the origins of the facts and myths that surround them.”

—Matthew Urtz, Madison County Historian

The historic lakeside village of Cazenovia in the scenic Finger Lakes region is one of the jewels of Central New York, and yet very few books have told its story. Cazenovia is a town founded by wealthy men, and much of what has been written about it has focused on the elite and the grand lakeshore mansions in which they lived. In contrast, Barnes and Emerson’s new book chronicles the story of everyday Cazenovia: the fascinating people, places, and history of this 225-year-old community.

The Bear Tree and Other Stories from Cazenovia’s History explores the unheralded, inaccurately told, and long-forgotten tales of the town. Readers will encounter historical characters such as elephant and lion tamer Lucia Zora Card, “The Bravest Woman in the World”; educator Susan Blow, “The Mother of American Kindergarten”; and World War I soldier Cecil Donovan, whose letters home vividly depicted the experience of war for those awaiting his return in Cazenovia.

Erica Barnes, a teacher and historian, was a contributing writer for the Cazenovia Republican newspaper and is currently an educator in Okaloosa County, Florida.

Jason Emerson is an independent historian and journalist. He is the author or editor of seven books about Abraham Lincoln and his family, and the former editor of the Cazenovia Republican newspaper. Emerson has also published dozens of history articles in both popular magazines and academic journals, and he has been a history expert on multiple television shows, including Book TV, American History TV, and shows on the History Channel, H2, and CNBC.
Snakes and Babies
Poems
Jules Gibbs

Paper $15.00 9781937679897
6.5 x 9, 82 pages
Distributed for The Sheep Meadow Press
JANUARY 2021

“In Snakes and Babies, Jules Gibbs explores the self as alien and as intimate. Through her gendered lens she envisions psychological and mythic origins of the self. From that vantage her poems navigate the social and political landscapes that define some of the madness of our broken culture. Her poems engage conflicts between the inner life and the world—not to be resolved but to be savored as language probing life.”

—Peter Balakian, author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning collection Ozone Journal

“The poetry of Jules Gibbs never kneels but rises in its uncoiling of desire and power. Listen and repeat her truth: ‘No to the never forgetting. / No to the fat of yes.’”

—Rachel Eliza Griffiths, author of Lighting the Shadow

The one-word titles of Jules Gibbs’s Snakes and Babies are potentialities of immense expansion. These poems are incapable of being singular, inert, quiet. They are manifold, animated, agitated by energies of politics, dreams, and desires—systems of menace and pleasure. She obeys Celan’s advice to “speak, but keep yes and no unsplit,” but in all other ways is disobedient to “love’s old patterns.” The weather is rain. The ecology is woman. The time is violence. The angels are emus, flightless and endangered. The voice talks back to our alienation and annihilation. In Gibbs’s hands, poems are a “voodoo that eats through paper,” an alternate history that wounds as it cures.

Jules Gibbs is the author of the book of poems, Bliss Crisis, published by The Sheep Meadow Press. She was born in Clarks Summit, Pennsylvania, and lives in Syracuse, New York, where she teaches at Syracuse University and serves as vice president for the Adjuncts United teachers’ union, representing part-time faculty.

from SWIM [a sonnet series] . . .

There is an eye that is everywhere for which you have no name. A perpetual daughter like the wind or lichen, whatever hangs from these trees, the most seductive wisps. On a fault line somewhere in Nevada, the feds have buried their zombies. No one tells you about such things, or that the ocean is mostly disappointment, or who named the road Starvation. Do you want to be a doctor? a lawyer? Do you wake in the night and need to be fed? I’m kidding when I tell these tales. The nukes are safe in their cradles. The earth lulls them to cathedrals. They will never wake hungry. I will never be your mother.
This groundbreaking collection highlights stories of mentorship and leadership in the experiences of Latinas in K–16 education settings.

Latina Leadership focuses on the narratives, scholarly lives, pedagogies, and educational activism of established and emerging Latina leaders in K–16 educational environments. As the first edited collection foregrounding the voices of Latina educators who talk back to, with, and for themselves and the student communities with whom they work, this volume highlights the ways in which these leaders shape educational practices. Contributors illustrate, through their grounded stories, how they navigate institutionalized oppression while sustaining themselves and their communities both in and outside of the academy. The collection also outlines the many identities embedded within the term “Latina,” showcasing how Latina scholars grapple with various experiences while seeking to remain accountable to each other and to their families and communities. This book serves as a model and a source of support for emerging Latina leaders who can learn from the stories shared in this volume.

Laura Gonzales is assistant professor of digital writing and cultural rhetorics in the Department of English at the University of Florida. She is the author of Sites of Translation: What Multilinguals Can Teach Us about Digital Writing and Rhetoric. 

Michelle Hall Kells is associate professor in the Department of English at the University of New Mexico. Her most recent book is Vicente Ximenes, LBJ’s Great Society, and Mexican American Civil Rights Rhetoric.
“With ten essays and two interviews, this excellent volume gives a state-of-the-field presentation of Chinese feminist theory and praxis. Especially valuable is the inclusion of articles by and interviews of leading activists, scholars and writers from China.”

—Hu Ying, author of Tales of Translation: Composing the New Woman in China, 1898-1918

Feminisms with Chinese Characteristics

Edited by Ping Zhu and Hui Faye Xiao

Hardcover $80.00x 9780815637394
Paper $39.95s 9780815637257
Ebook 9780815655268

6 x 9, 330 pages, 12 black-and-white illustrations, notes, bibliography, index
Series: Gender and Globalization

MAY 2021

A timely examination of the special characteristics within a diversity of, sometimes clashing, Chinese feminisms.

The year 1995, when the Fourth World Conference on Women was held in Beijing, marks a historical milestone in the development of the Chinese feminist movement. In the decades that followed, three distinct trends emerged: first, there was a rise in feminist NGOs in mainland China and a surfacing of LGBTQ movements; second, social and economic developments nurtured new female agency, creating a vibrant, women-oriented cultural milieu in China; third, in response to ethnocentric Western feminism, some Chinese feminist scholars and activists recuperated the legacies of socialist China’s state feminism and gender policies in a new millennium. These trends have brought Chinese women unprecedented choices, resources, opportunities, pitfalls, challenges, and even crises.

In this timely volume, Zhu and Xiao offer an examination of the ways in which Chinese feminist ideas have developed since the mid-1990s. By juxtaposing the plural “feminisms” with “Chinese characteristics,” they both underline the importance of integrating Chinese culture, history, and tradition in the discussions of Chinese feminisms, and stress the difference between the plethora of contemporary Chinese feminisms and the singular state feminism.

The twelve chapters in this interdisciplinary collection address the theme of feminisms with Chinese characteristics from different perspectives rendered from lived experiences, historical reflections, theoretical ruminations, and cultural and sociopolitical critiques, painting a panoramic picture of Chinese feminisms in the age of globalization.

Ping Zhu is associate professor of Chinese literature at the University of Oklahoma. She is the author of Gender and Subjectivities in Early Twentieth-Century Chinese Literature and Culture and the coeditor of Maoist Laughter.

Hui Faye Xiao is associate professor of Chinese literature at the University of Kansas. She is the author of Family Revolution: Marital Strife in Contemporary Chinese Literature and Visual Culture and Youth Economy, Crisis, and Reinvention in Twenty-First-Century China: Morning Sun in the Tiny Times.
“This thoughtful ethnography, with its focus on masculinity, makes important interventions into the anthropological scholarship on gender, refugee studies, and state in the Middle East. There are direct voices of the interlocutors—also female interlocutors—which combine beautifully and often humorously with the author’s own voice and sensibility.”

—Nefissa Naguib, author of Nurturing Masculinities: Men, Food and Family in Contemporary Egypt

The Best of Hard Times explores the gendered identities of two generations of men in the Shatila Palestinian refugee camp in Beirut. Barbosa compares the fidā’iyyīn, the men who served as freedom fighters to reconquer Palestine in the 1970s, to the shabāb, their sons who lead seemingly mundane lives with limited access to power. While the fidā’iyyīn displayed their masculinity through active resistance and fighting to return to their homeland, the shabāb have a more nuanced relationship to Palestine and articulate their gender belonging in alternative ways.

Through vivid ethnographic stories, Barbosa critically engages with certain trends in feminism, calling attention to their limits and considering nimble views on gender. Instead of presenting the shabāb as emasculated or experiencing a crisis of masculinity, the book shows the pliability of masculinity in time and space and argues that “gender” has limited purchase to capture the experiences of today’s youth from Shatila. Based on two years of fieldwork, The Best of Hard Times answers the burgeoning demand for anthropological literature on Arab masculinities and portrays refugees as inventive actors rather than agentless victims of circumstances beyond their control. The Best of Hard Times is a tour de force combining highbrow theory with gripping ethnography, challenging many of the stereotypes on gender, power, statehood, and the role of Islam in the Middle East.

Gustavo Barbosa is an associate researcher at the Center for Middle Eastern Studies at Universidade Federal Fluminense (NEOM/UFF), in Niterói, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
Unaccompanied Traveler
The Writings of Kathleen M. Murphy
Edited and with an Introduction by Patrick Bixby

Hardcover $80.00x 9780815637479
Ebook 9780815655343
Paper $39.95s 9780815637332

6 x 9, 320 pages, 1 black-and-white illustration, 12 maps, notes, index
Series: Irish Studies
APRIL 2021

A series of twelve remarkable travelogues by the extraordinary Irish writer Kathleen M. Murphy.

“Bixby makes a convincing case for Murphy’s inclusion in the Irish canon of travel literature, a body of work he shows to be still wholly under-valued and under-examined.”
—Éadaoin Agnew, Kingston University, London

“The scope of this edited collection treads on new ground by looking at travelogues from the mid-twentieth century, a relevant period which saw the emergence of the Irish Republic, gender emancipation, as well as a second wave of colonial liberation across the world.”
—Marguérite Corporaal, Radboud University, the Netherlands

At the time of her death in 1962, Kathleen M. Murphy was recognized as “the most widely and most knowledgeably travelled Irish woman of her time . . . in so far as she let herself be known to the public at all.” An abiding interest in sacred sites and ancient civilizations took Murphy down the Amazon and over the Andes, into the jungles of Southeast Asia and onto the deserts of the Middle East, above the Arctic Circle and behind the Iron Curtain.

After the Second World War, Murphy began publishing a series of vivid, humorous, and often harrowing accounts of her travels in The Capuchin Annual, a journal reaching a largely Catholic and nationalist audience in Ireland and the United States. At home in the Irish midlands, Murphy may have been a modest and retiring figure, but her travelogues shuttle between religious devotion and searching curiosity, primitivist assumptions and probing insights, gender decorum and bold adventuring. Unaccompanied Traveler, with its wide-ranging introduction, detailed notes, and eye-catching maps, retrieves these remarkable accounts from obscurity and presents them to a new generation of readers interested in travel and adventure.

Patrick Bixby is associate professor of English at Arizona State University and resident director of the University Studies Abroad Consortium Summer School at NUI Galway. He is the coeditor of Standish O’Grady’s Cuculain: A Critical Edition.
Stepping through Origins
Nature, Home, and Landscape in Irish Literature

Jefferson Holdridge

Hardcover $80.00 9780815637462
Paper $39.95 9780815637325

6 x 9, 312 pages, notes, bibliography, index
Series: Irish Studies

APRIL 2021

Explores the aesthetics of nature, landscape, and family, demonstrating how nature is associated with a complex web of original sin, colonial conquest, and Oedipal guilt.

“This is an ambitious and wide-ranging study on an important nexus of concerns prominent in Irish writing for more than 200 years. . . . Given current critical interest in spatial concerns in Irish literature and culture, this work is well positioned to make a significant contribution to the field.”

—Lucy Collins, University College Dublin

“This Holdridge makes fascinating and sometimes surprising connections that thoughtfully invite the reader to seriously interrogate the imaginative and historical consequences of the nature/culture divide.”

—Christine Cusick, author of Unfolding Irish Landscapes: Tim Robinson, Culture, and Environment

Since the eighteenth century, landscape has played complex psychological and political roles in the narrative of Irishness, entailing questions of memory, family, home, exile, and forgiveness. In Stepping through Origins, Holdridge explores the interplay of these concepts in literature. For Irish writers from Swift to Heaney, the Irish landscape has remained not only a reflection of Irish troubles but, much like aesthetic experience, a space in which the bitterness of family or national life can be understood, if not entirely overcome. Through deft analysis of works by leading Irish writers including Lady Morgan, Yeats, Joyce, Louis MacNeice, and Elizabeth Bowen, Holdridge expands and enriches our understanding of how landscape has served as a palimpsest for both family and country, connecting personal with collective memory, localized places with their regions, and individual with national identity.

Jefferson Holdridge is professor of English at Wake Forest University and director of Wake Forest University Press. He is the author of The Poetry of Paul Muldoon and Those Mingled Seas: The Poetry of W. B. Yeats, the Beautiful and the Sublime.
The Last Bohemian
Brian Desmond Hurst, Irish Film, British Cinema

Lance Pettitt

Hardcover $80.00 x 9780815637431
Ebook 9780815655305

Paper $39.95 x 9780815637295

6 x 9, 312 pages, 51 black-and-white illustrations, notes, bibliography, appendixes, index
Series: Irish Studies

MAY 2021

An exploration of Belfast-born film director Brian Desmond Hurst (1895–1986), who made upwards of thirty films in British film studios from the 1930s to the 1960s.

“Pettitt has brought together the fruits of a decade’s work on uncovering Brian Desmond Hurst’s life and movie career. Hurst’s formative ‘bohemian’ period in Canada and France where he studied painting has been insightfully explained. Research on the unfinished projects is original; the professional relationships and influences that Pettitt uncovers are fascinating and extensively documented.”
—Brian McIlroy, University of British Columbia

The Last Bohemian offers the first extended, critical evaluation of all of Brian Desmond Hurst’s films, reappraising the reputation of a director who was born in 1895 in Belfast and died in Belgravia, London, in 1986. Pettitt skillfully weaves together film analyses, biography, and cultural history with the aim of bringing greater attention to Hurst’s qualities as a director and exploring his significance within Irish film and British cinema history between the 1930s and the 1960s.

The director of Dangerous Moonlight (1941), Theirs Is the Glory (1946), and his best-known Scrooge (1951) made most of his films for British studios but developed an exile’s attachment to Ireland. How in the early twenty-first century has Hurst’s career been reclaimed and recognized, and by whom? Why in 2012 was Hurst’s name given to one of the new Titanic Studios in Belfast? What were his qualities as a filmmaker? To whose national cinema history, if any, does Hurst belong?

Richly illustrated with film stills and other visual material from public archives, The Last Bohemian addresses these questions and in doing so makes a significant contribution to British and Irish cinema studies.

Lance Pettitt is an Associate Research Fellow at Birkbeck College, University of London.
Turkey’s State Crisis
Institutions, Reform, and Conflict
Bülent Aras

Explores the historical, political, and geopolitical factors that have contributed to the unraveling of Turkey’s reform process.

“Very interesting and valuable to students of Turkey. The book does a great job of explaining a change in civil and military bureaucracy and how the AKP was able to manage to hold to power despite so many challenges.”

—Ekrem Karakoc, Binghamton University, State University of New York

What accounts for the regression of Turkey’s stature from a “model” country to one riddled with state crisis and conflict? Unable to adapt to the challenges of the era and failing to respond to ethnic and multicultural political demands for reform, the Turkish state has resisted change and stuck to its ideological roots stemming from the 1930s.

In Turkey’s State Crisis, Aras delves into the historical, political, and geopolitical background of the country’s decline. In an effort to delineate the origin of the crisis, Aras investigates several perspectives: the political elites’ attempt to change the administrative system to create a performance-oriented one; the bureaucracy’s response, concerns, and resistance to change; the state’s conflict resolution capacity; and the transformation of foreign/security policy. Providing a comprehensive portrait of the Turkish state’s turmoil, Aras creates a blueprint for the ways in which much-needed reforms can break vicious cycles of political polarization, rising authoritarianism, and weak state institutions.

Bülent Aras is a senior scholar and coordinator of the Conflict Resolution and Mediation stream at Istanbul Policy Center and research professor of international relations at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He is coeditor of Turkey, the Arab Spring and Beyond.
Figures That Speak
The Vocabulary of Turkish Nationalism
Matthew deTar

Hardcover $80.00 x 9780815637400
Ebook 97808156555275
Paper $34.95 s 9780815637264
6 x 9, 296 pages, 3 black-and-white illustrations, notes, bibliography, index
Series: Modern Intellectual and Political History of the Middle East
MAY 2021

Builds a critical analysis of a vocabulary of “figures” in Turkish public discourse that structure public thought and define the possibilities of political action.

“Figures That Speak is an impressive contribution to the study of political rhetoric in the making of Turkish nationalism. De Tar presents the compelling argument that several key discursive figures—religion, minority, the military, the founding father, and Europe—have structured the possibilities and limits of nationalist political speech. The book should be read by anyone interested in the rhetorical underpinnings of modern politics.”
—Kabir Tambar, Stanford University

If the surface of Turkish politics has changed dramatically over the decades, the vocabulary for sorting these changes remains constant: Europe, Islam, minorities, the military, the founding father (Atatürk). This familiar vocabulary functions as more than a set of descriptors of institutions, phenomena, or issues to debate in public. These five primary “figures” emerge from national identity, public discourse, and scholarship about Turkey to represent Turkish history and political authority while also shaping history and political authority. These figures unify disparate phenomena into governable categories and index historical relations of power that define Turkish politics. As these concepts circulate, they operate as a shorthand for complex networks and histories of authority, producing and limiting ways of knowing Turkish modernity, democracy, and political culture. These figures not only are spoken and discussed in public, but they also produce the context into which they are projected, in a sense speaking on their own. In Figures That Speak, deTar explores the diverse mobilization and production of history and power in the primary figures that circulate in discourse about Turkey.

Matthew deTar is assistant professor of rhetoric and culture in the School of Communication Studies at Ohio University.
Sayyid Qutb
An Intellectual Biography
Giedrė Šabasevičiūtė

Hardcover $80.00 9780815637424
Paper $34.95 9780815637288

6 x 9, 288 pages, 7 black-and-white illustrations, notes, bibliography, index
Series: Modern Intellectual and Political History of the Middle East

APRIL 2021

An enlightening biography of Sayyid Qutb, one of Egypt’s most influential and provocative literary critics.

“An excellent book which sheds new light on an extremely important figure. It is highly original, and based on an extremely impressive synthesis of a large corpus of literature, both Qutb’s own writings and those of his contemporaries.”
—Walter Armbrust, St. Antony’s College, University of Oxford

“The author’s knowledge of the literary scene of early- to mid-twentieth-century Cairo is second to none, and so is her ability to bring it to life with important analytical implications.”
—Lucie Ryzova, University of Birmingham

No Arab historical figure is more demonized than the Egyptian literati-turned-Islamist Sayyid Qutb. A poet and literary critic in his youth, Qutb is known to have abandoned literature in the 1950s in favor of Islamism, becoming its most prominent ideologist to this day. In a sharp departure from this common narrative, Šabasevičiūtė offers a fresh perspective on Qutb’s life that examines his Islamist commitment as a continuation of his literary project. Contrary to the notion of Islam’s incompatibility with literature, the book argues that Islamism provided Qutb with a novel way to pursue his metaphysical quest at a time when the rising anticolonial movement brought the Romantic models of literature to their demise. Drawing upon unexplored material on Qutb’s life—book reviews, criticism, intellectual collaborations, memoirs, and personal interviews with his former acquaintances—Šabasevičiūtė traces the development of Qutb’s thought in line with his shifting networks of friendship and patronage. In a distinct sociological take on Arab intellectual and literary history, this book unveils the unexplored dimensions of Qutb’s involvement in Cairo’s burgeoning cultural scene.

Giedrė Šabasevičiūtė is research fellow at the Oriental Institute in the Czech Academy of Sciences, specializing in Egypt’s intellectual past and present.
Horse Racing the Chicago Way, 1837–1911
Steven A. Riess

Hardcover $85.00 9780815637417  
Paper $45.00 9780815637271

6 x 9, 312 pages, 12 black-and-white illustrations, 14 tables, notes, bibliography, appendix, index
Series: Sports and Entertainment
JUNE 2021

Chronicles the extraordinary rise and fall of thoroughbred racing, the most popular American sport in late nineteenth-century Chicago.

“An insightful explanation of the history and evolution of the various forms of racetrack and off-track gambling.”
—Robert Lombardo, professor emeritus, Loyola University, Chicago

“Riess has recovered and contextualized Chicago racing in a way that benefits the study of history, linking the local to the national. This thorough examination of a previously neglected topic is a much-needed book for historians. It tells an important story.”
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