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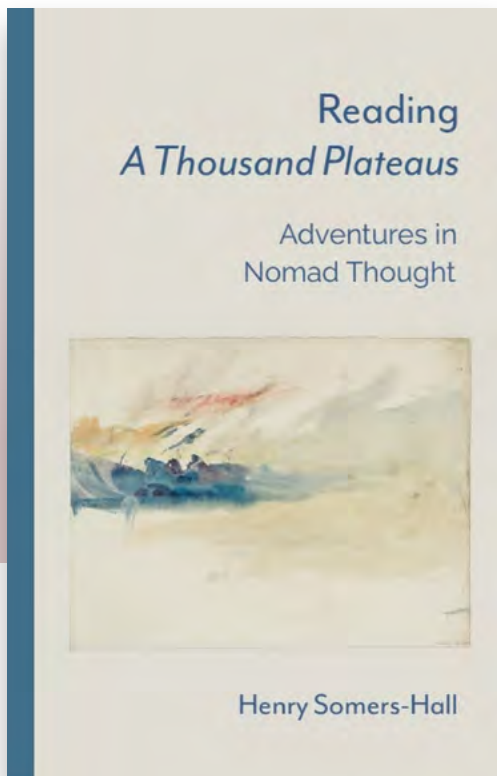
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## Reading *A Thousand Plateaus*

Adventures in Nomad Thought

Henry Somers-Hall

**May 2026**

**544 pp.**

**Illustrations: 20 black and white**

**Rights Available: World**

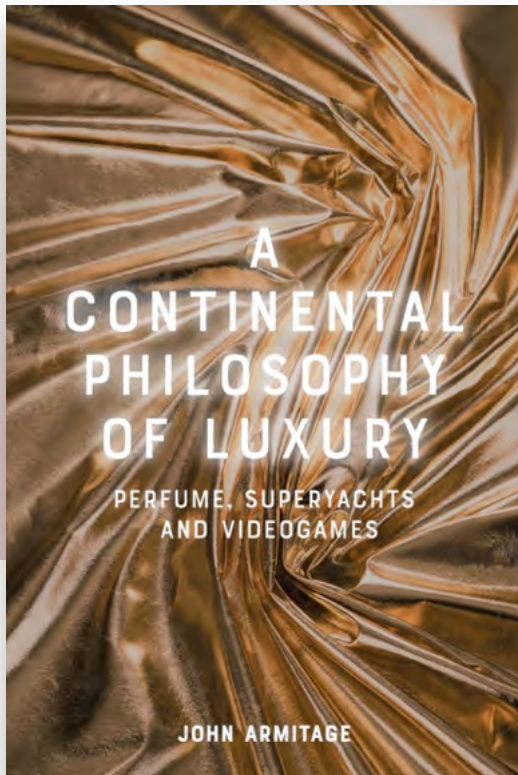
Deleuze and Guattari's *A Thousand Plateaus* is one of the most inventive works of philosophy of the 20th century, constructing a sustained argument for the need to develop a new model of thought.

Henry Somers-Hall provides a comprehensive reading of this master work as a philosophical text, drawing on the full range of their engagements within philosophy as well as disciplines such as anthropology, linguistics, political theory, economics, mathematics, musicology, literature and psychoanalysis. By interweaving these engagements into the structure of the argument itself, Somers-Hall shows how the rigorous philosophical core at the heart of the text opens out onto a novel politics of social organisation.

As well as an abundance of new research for those working within the field of philosophy, this book will be invaluable for those working in other disciplines who want to engage with the full force of Deleuze and Guattari's distinctive approach.

## Key Features

- Provides the first sustained, close reading of *A Thousand Plateaus* as a whole, reconstructing its argument through extensive cross-referencing between plateaus
- Original scholarly contribution – integrates a wealth of untranslated and little-known sources, making available for the first time in English key influences on Deleuze and Guattari's work
- Makes the text accessible to those new to studying Deleuze and Guattari



## A Continental Philosophy of Luxury

Perfume, Superyachts and Videogames

John Armitage

**May 2026**

**208 pp.**

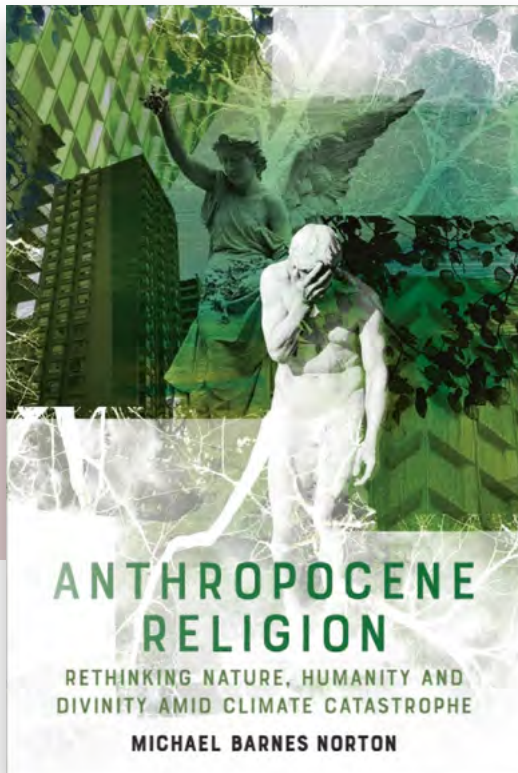
**Rights Available: World**

John Armitage shows how the ideas and theories of continental philosophers Nietzsche, Heidegger, Levinas, Bataille, Gadamer and Adorno play an important role in the understanding of luxury practices, revealing the actual and potential extent of modern and contemporary critical luxury studies.

Discussing contemporary case studies representing luxury including the longing for luxury perfume, the transgression of superyachts and the consumer experience of videogames, Armitage raises challenging questions about the contemporary world of luxury and delineates the continental philosophy of luxury.

### Key Features

- Establishes a continental philosophy of luxury
- Discusses contemporary case studies involving luxury as the longing for luxury perfume and as sustainability, as superyachts, as transgression, as videogames and as consumer experience
- Engages with and rereads selected continental philosophical works of Friedrich Nietzsche and Martin Heidegger, Emmanuel Levinas, Georges Bataille, Hans-Georg Gadamer and Theodor Adorno
- Brings together leading cultural critics (Nietzsche) phenomenologists (Heidegger), cultural theorists (Bataille), hermeneuticians (Gadamer) and critical theorists (Adorno) from the disciplinary field of continental philosophy



## Anthropocene Religion

Rethinking Nature, Humanity and Divinity  
Amid Climate Catastrophe

Michael Barnes Norton

**August 2026**

**192 pp.**

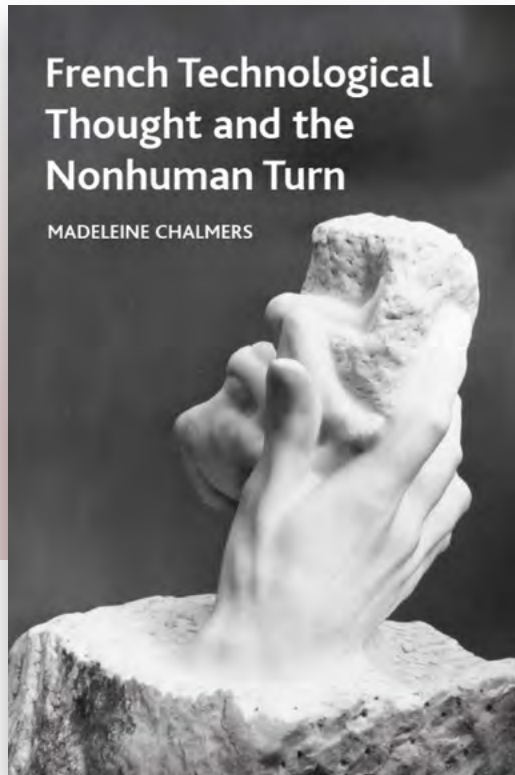
**Rights Available: World**

*Anthropocene Religion* argues that addressing a future, and present, shaped by worldwide catastrophic climate change involves not only radically rethinking the ideas of nature, and humanity's place within it, inherited from Western modernity. It also demands a reconceptualisation of the nature and role of religion.

The advent of the Anthropocene simultaneously displaces the human from the centre of the world and erodes all sharp distinctions between the natural environment and the realm of human activity. Similarly, the Anthropocene renders untenable concepts of religion that rely on reference to realms, beings or forces that wholly transcend nature. It is, however, possible to understand both religion and its divine referents in worldly rather than transcendent terms, just as it is possible to understand nature as dynamic and creative. The Gaia hypothesis offers us a figure through which to approach these concepts in their interconnectedness.

## Key Features

- Analyses and reconceptualises the idea of 'nature' and humanity's role in and relationship to it
- Defines the concept of 'religion' in terms of material, embodied practice, orientation and identity
- Critiques the ways in which 'nature' and 'religion' have been overdetermined as concepts (independently and in relation to each other) by dominant modern Western perspectives
- Examines and applies the figure of Gaia both as a metaphor used in earth science and in its mythological connotations
- Specifically considers the nature and role of religion in the Anthropocene epoch that focuses on religion's diverse forms and the place of humans within networks of various kinds of beings



## French Technological Thought and the Nonhuman Turn

Madeleine Chalmers

**June 2026**

**248 pp.**

Part of the *Crosscurrents* series

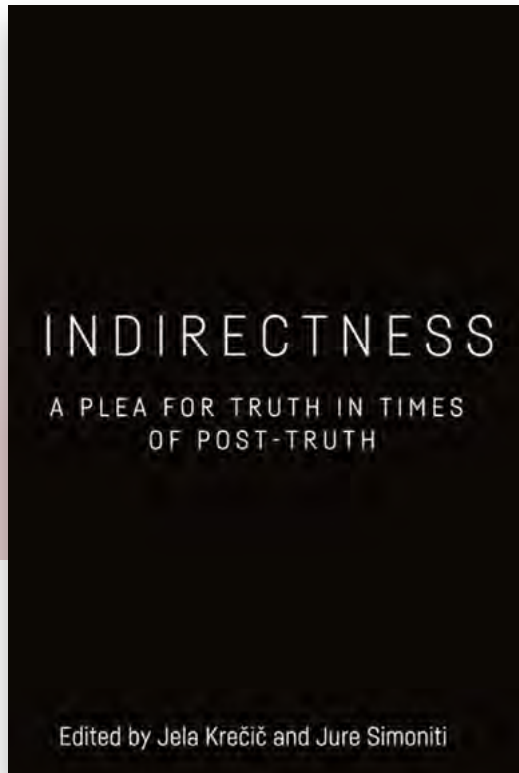
**Rights Available: World**

*French Technological Thought and the Nonhuman Turn* traces a genealogy of thinking and writing about technology, which takes us from the French avant-gardes to the contemporary 'nonhuman turn' in Anglo-American theory via the Surrealists, Gilbert Simondon and Gilles Deleuze.

Tracking the unruly transition from Catholic vocabularies of grace, potentiality and actuality to the modern and contemporary secular lexicon of agency, virtuality and affect, this book explores technology as a source of subject matter and conceptual metaphors, but also probes how ideas and words are modes of technicity through which we shape and reshape the world. Fusing literature, philosophy and theology, it offers readers new contexts – and questions – for the egalitarian ontological commitments of contemporary post- and nonhuman thinking.

### Key Features

- Builds a new genealogy which highlights the unacknowledged expression of Catholic mysticism and avant-garde French literature in the nonhuman turn
- Brings into play both canonical and non-canonical authors, from Symbolism to Surrealism and beyond
- Mines unexplored elements of major thinkers, including Gilbert Simondon and Gilles Deleuze
- Tackles the porous boundaries between literature, philosophy, science, politics and theology in French thought



## Indirectness

A Plea for Truth in Times of Post-Truth

Edited by Jela Krečič and Jure Simoniti

**March 2026**

**272 pp.**

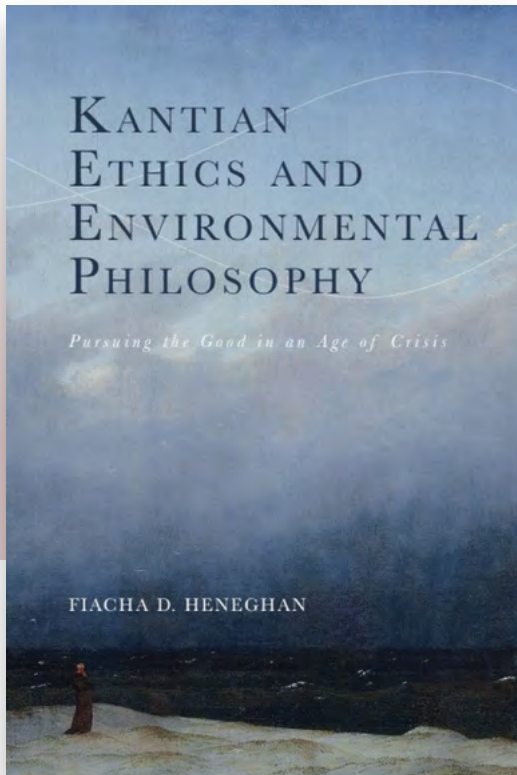
**Rights Available: World**

We are said to live in a 'post-truth' era, yet our time is equally marked by an obsession with reality. From new realism in philosophy to the cult of authenticity in culture and the hyper-technological tracking of bodies and minds, countless efforts seek ever more direct access to what is supposedly 'most real'. This volume challenges the crisis-ridden formula of truth striving to grasp reality directly – forever approaching it, yet always falling short. Instead, it rethinks truth through the lens of indirectness and allows it to unfold in the here and now.

Drawing on philosophical, political and aesthetic perspectives, the essays examine how erring is inherent to genuine insight, how fictions reveal facts, how illusions can enable emancipatory struggles, and how strategies of indirectness in literature, cinema and popular culture produce the effect of truth.

## Key Features

- Challenges 20th-century relativisms (postmodernism, historicism) and 21st-century denigrations of truth (post-truth), aiming to rehabilitate a strong concept of truth as eventual, logically reconstructible, historically irreversible and non-arbitrary in relation to reality
- Develops the philosophical concept of indirectness, arguing that truth does not arise through direct alignment with its object, but through mediated displacements that open the space of the Real
- Applies the concept of indirectness to contemporary phenomena such as political emancipation, new forms of subjectivity, aesthetic experience, film theory and popular culture
- Reconstructs the subject as the necessary effect of the logical space of indirectness, defending the integrity of subjectivity against post-humanist tendencies that risk dissolving the Self as the bearer of freedom and interiority
- Brings together leading researchers from philosophy, psychoanalysis, political thought and cultural studies



## Kantian Ethics and Environmental Philosophy

*Pursuing the Good in an Age of Crisis*

Fiacha D. Heneghan

**July 2026**

**168 pp.**

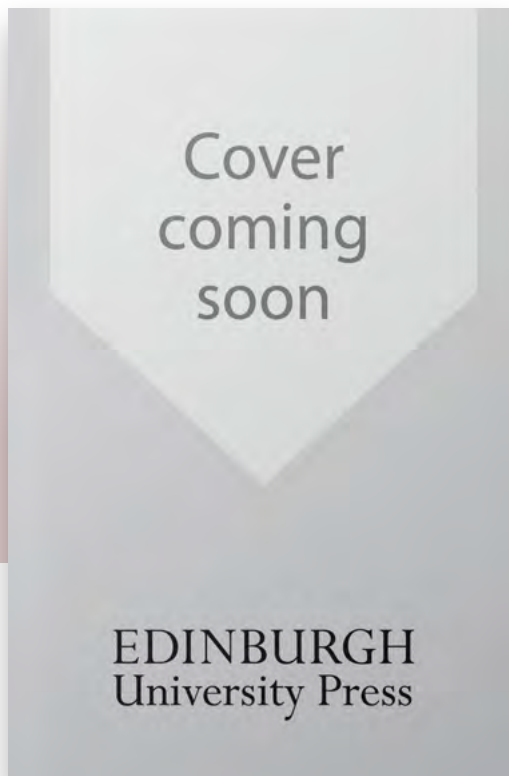
Part of the *Cycles* series

**Rights Available: World**

Human beings have desires and obligations. A Kantian framework reveals the morally significant conflict between these two. In the context of looming environmental crises of our own making, we may be forced in many respects to choose between environmental obligations and the pursuit of our well-being. *Kantian Ethics and Environmental Philosophy* begins by examining a tendency in philosophical thought as old as the Ancient Greeks: the temptation to minimise or even theorise away such conflicts. By contrast, this book argues that acknowledging the reality of the choices ahead is a necessary first step to forming a coherent and rational hope for a better world.

### Key Features

- Critically reviews attempts in moral philosophy to deny the reality of conflicts between moral obligation and material desire
- Analyses these conflicts from a Kantian perspective
- Highlights the relevance of these conflicts in the context of environmental crisis



## Music of Absence

An Aesthetics of Loss in the New Millennium

Edited by Christine Dysers, Peter Edwards and Judith Lochhead

**May 2026**

**296 pp.**

**Illustrations: 45 black and white**

Part of the *Resonances* series

**Rights Available: World**

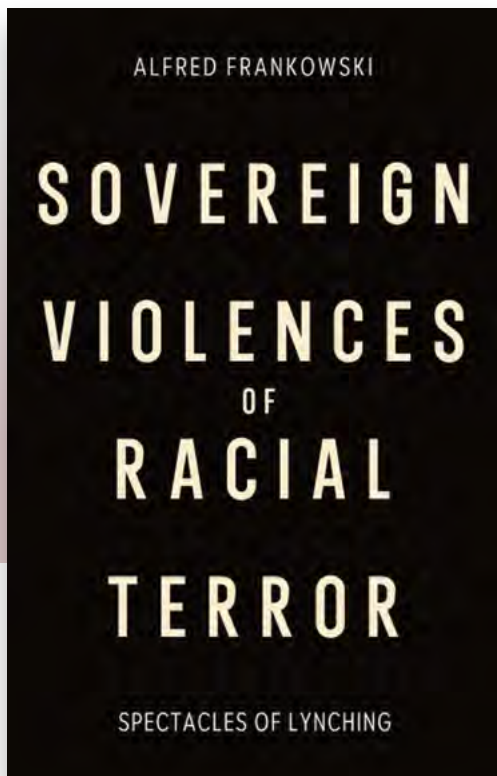
This collection of essays studies how music of the 21st century resonates with sentiments of despondency and loss in the context of the multiple existential crises of the time: climate change, political violence, financial crises, racial inequities and technological acceleration.

Investigating musical expressions of absence across a wide variety of genres and philosophical approaches, the collection aims to stimulate an interdisciplinary conversation about music as an alternative mode of thinking at a time when established frames of reasoning are called into question.

Themed sections engage with the multiplicity of emergent meanings that absence alludes to, opening new lines of inquiry into how music enacts new forms of being in the world and creates pathways to better futures.

## Key Features

- Analyses music as an expression of how listeners and creators experience the affects of absence and loss in times of crisis
- Identifies absence as a constituting force in how we understand and interact in the world, and the role of music in revealing this potential
- Proposes music as an alternative mode of thinking at a time when established frames of reasoning are called into question
- Examines music as a means of facilitating new and imaginative engagements with the world



## Sovereign Violences of Racial Terror

Spectacles of Lynching

Alfred Frankowski

June 2026

168 pp.

Rights Available: World

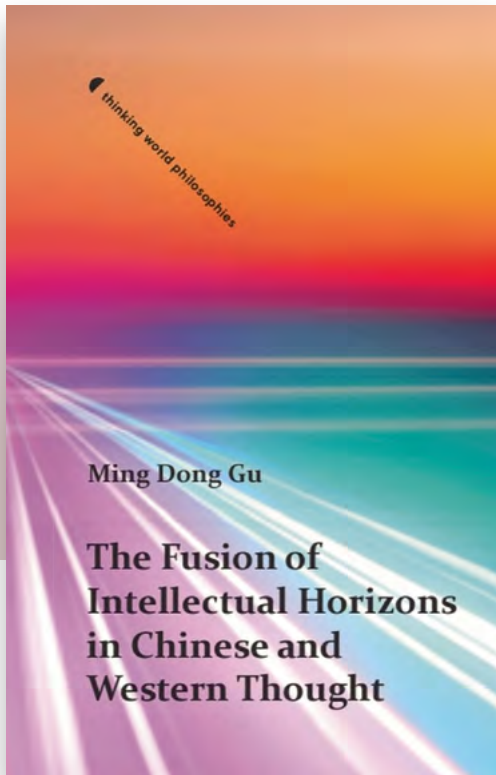
Alfred Frankowski critically examines how the spatiality of lynching violence continues as a politics and functions as an expression of political sovereignty.

He argues that terror spectacle lynching and the politics of racial terror are expressions of political sovereignty not only in that this violence was beyond the jurisdiction of law, but also in that it makes sense of the contemporary politics of the racial violence embedded in our sense of space and place.

Frankowski concludes that by focusing on lynching, the spatiality of racial terror makes legible forms of global violence, largely through the dispossession of space, mass incarceration, and the degrading of environments, that operate as forms of slow genocide, on the one hand, and the centralising of political power through the reproduction of spatially terrorised communities, generationally, on the other.

### Key Features

- Focuses on the political form of sovereignty that coincides with the anti-Black practices of terror spectacle lynching
- Critically reads the history of lynching, mass incarceration and environmental crises as both past and present forms of genocide
- Develops an aesthetics of the politics of spatial violence that lays the groundwork for a shift in politics towards a politics of dissent



## The Fusion of Intellectual Horizons in Chinese and Western Thought

Ming Dong Gu

**June 2026**

**336 pp.**

**Illustrations: 42 black and white**

Part of the *Thinking World Philosophies* series

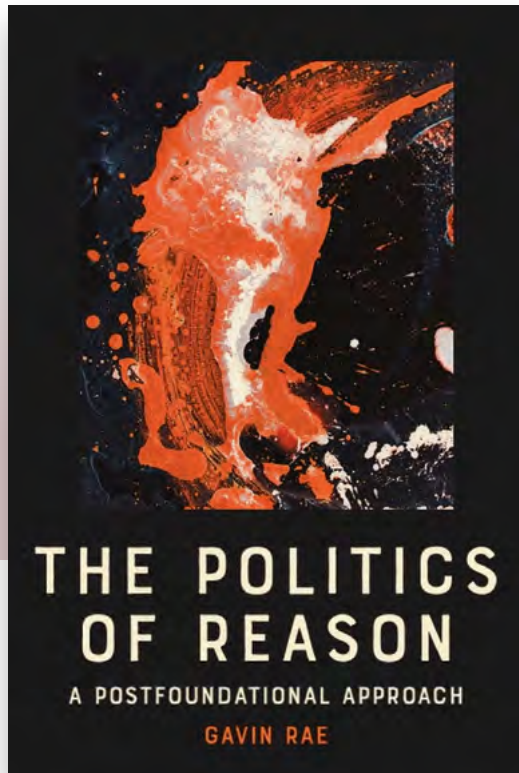
**Rights Available: World**

Ming Dong Gu bridges the divide between Chinese and Western thought. He does this by addressing key topics that have been of enduring interest to thinkers, scholars and intellectuals in an effort to bring about the fusion of horizons between Chinese and Western thought. These focus on the flow of Chinese thought to the West, Chinese and Western metaphysics, and the foundational ideas from both traditions including the Tao, Taiji, Logos, One, the *Yijing*, Confucianism, individualism and universalism.

In addressing these key areas, Gu offers new interpretations of ideas, concepts and principles in Chinese and Western thought and formulates new ideas, insights and conceptual frameworks for Chinese and Western thought to complement and mutually enrich each other.

### Key Features

- Locates a flow of intellectual thought from China to the West, which challenges Western-centric thought
- Modernises the ancient wisdom of traditional Chinese thought through Western philosophy and postmodern critical theories
- Investigates how intellectual dialogues enable Chinese and Western intellectual traditions to illuminate and complement each other
- Finds a common conceptual ground for the fusion of intellectual visions
- Conceives a conceptual framework for global Confucianism and transcultural universalism



## The Politics of Reason

A Postfoundational Approach

Gavin Rae

**April 2026**

**320 pp.**

**Rights Available: World**

While Western political theory has traditionally affirmed the importance of pure reason, this has recently come under attack from a variety of directions, including from those who question its universal pretensions, its neglect of the emotions and its attachment to rationally discerned truth.

Gavin Rae accepts aspects of these critiques, but rejects the conclusion that this means that reason should be abandoned politically. Instead, Rae argues that it opens the possibility for a rethinking and recuperation of a reconceived understanding of political reason that emphasises, not individual abstract reflection, but social performativity. Through engagements with analytic epistemology, critical theory, feminism, hegemony theory, poststructuralism and psychoanalysis, political reason is reconceived as an ongoing collective performative practice that aims at establishing the hegemonic norms that will structure and define collective identity, including its political and epistemic possibilities.

### Key Features

- Undertakes a detailed analysis of contemporary analyses of political epistemology
- Rethinks the nature and constitution of political rationality through social practices
- Provides detailed, scholarly chapters on a variety of figures within contemporary theory
- Works across analytic epistemology, critical theory, feminism, political philosophy, poststructuralism and psychoanalytic theory



## Transformation in Contemporary French Philosophy

Edited by Emma Ingala, Cillian Ó Fathaigh and Gavin Rae

**August 2026**

**304 pp.**

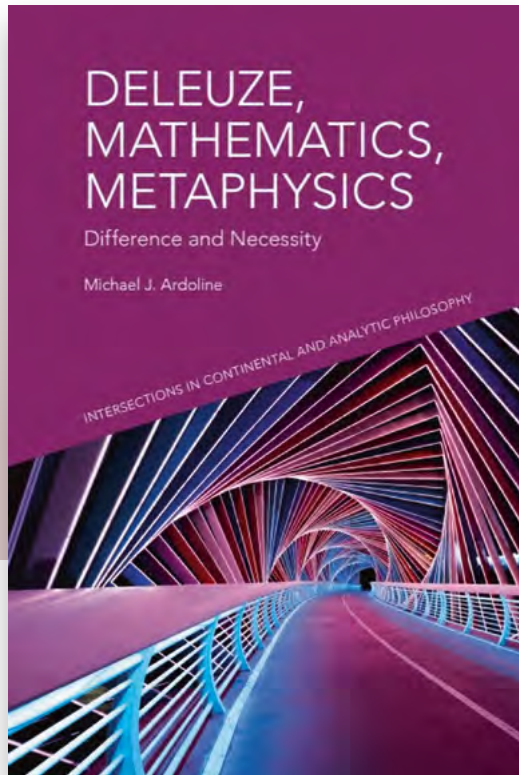
**Rights Available: World**

This collection brings together an international range of specialists to explore the multi-faceted ways in which 20th-century French philosophy affirms the fundamental importance of transformation. The essays enhance our understanding of how various individual French philosophers have conceived the term, including the innovative implications of their respective conceptions. They show that although emphasis is often placed on its heterogeneity and the differences between its proponents, 20th-century French philosophy is fundamentally, if implicitly, shaped around a common focus on the primordial importance of transformation.

By engaging with the thinking of Bergson, Sartre, Beauvoir, Merleau-Ponty, Fanon, Deleuze, Foucault, Derrida, Kristeva, Ricœur, Ruyer, Simondon, Serres, Castoriadis and Malabou, the contributors also rethink a range of issues, including ethics, information, ontology and politics.

## Key Features

- Engages contemporary French philosophy through the notion of transformation
- Reveals that the notion of transformation is heterogeneous and itself subject to transformation
- Offers innovative readings of individual thinkers within this periodisation
- Includes chapters on thinkers – such as Cornelius Castoriadis, Paul Ricœur, Raymond Ruyer, Gilbert Simondon, Michel Serres – that are often ignored in discussions of contemporary French philosophy
- Traces the articulation of this concept across the whole 20th-century, from Bergson to Malabou



## Deleuze, Mathematics, Metaphysics

Difference and Necessity

Michael J. Ardoline

**March 2026**

**240 pp.**

Part of the *Intersections in Continental and Analytic Philosophy* series

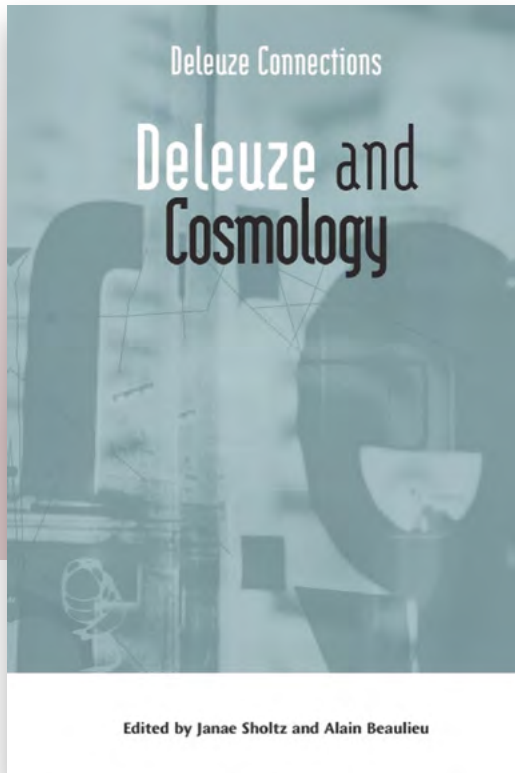
**Rights Available: World**

*Deleuze, Mathematics, Metaphysics* provides new solutions to the central problems of the philosophy of mathematics by reconstructing Deleuze's metaphysics. It does so through direct engagement with analytic and continental philosophy, along with the formal and natural sciences. These new Deleuzian solutions reject equally other-worldly accounts of mathematics, such as Platonism, and accounts which treat mathematics as a useful fiction or an empty formalist game. Instead, *Deleuze, Mathematics, Metaphysics* argues that mathematical truth is grounded in the necessity of difference itself.

Since difference is entirely this-worldly, the truth of mathematics does not require us to posit the reality of transcendent entities or possible worlds. Doing so not only provides a new metaphysics of mathematics; it also explains the usefulness of mathematics for science and why mathematical truth appears to have such otherworldly properties in the first place.

### Key Features

- Defends a new position in the metaphysics of mathematics
- Provides a systematic reconstruction of major portions of Deleuze's metaphysics on his own terms rather than in terms of his more well-known predecessors such as Bergson, Nietzsche or Spinoza
- Connects historical debates and clarifies positions from analytic and continental philosophy to be accessible to readers from both traditions
- Relevant to scholars working in major areas of contemporary analytic philosophy (modality, grounding and metaphysics of mathematics) and continental philosophy (Deleuze, poststructuralism generally and Speculative Realism)



## Deleuze and Cosmology

Edited by Janae Sholtz and Alain Beaulieu

**April 2026**

**368 pp.**

**Illustrations: 20 colour, 3 black and white**

Part of the *Deleuze Connections* series

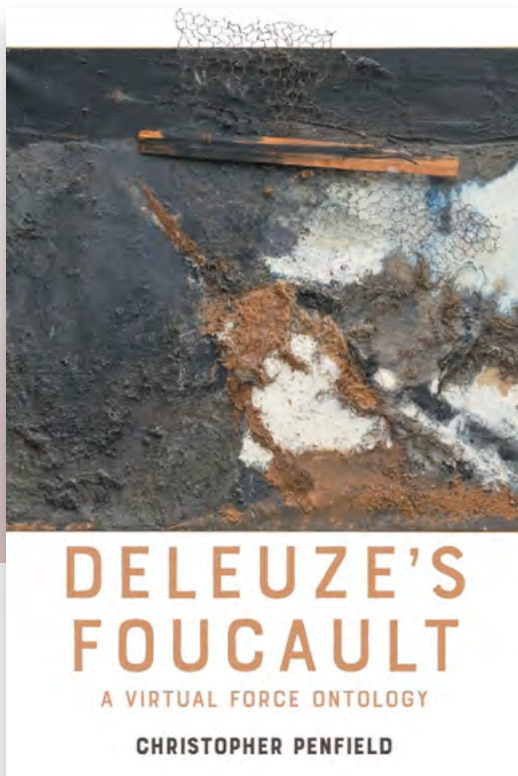
**Rights Available: World**

This edited collection investigates how Deleuze's interventions into cosmological thinking have transformed, challenged or influenced, as well as been influenced by, the ways that cosmology has been thought and determined from the perspective of the philosophic tradition as well as from the perspective of science and arts.

These 16 essays apply Deleuze's cosmological perspective to a range of scientific, metaphysical, philosophical and aesthetic issues, illustrating the intertwinement of the various modes of thought (philosophy, science and arts) on a cosmic scale, which lead to new ways of understanding relational beings, time/space, processes of variation, folding, potentiality and creativity. By integrating the observations and speculations of quantum theory, as well as other areas of cosmological thinking, with Deleuze's cosmological vision, we find that philosophy, sciences and arts can provide each other with mutual inspiration, pushing the boundaries of thought to the outer reaches of the known and beyond.

## Key Features

- Illuminates the importance of cosmology in Deleuze's thinking on art, philosophy and the sciences, generating new understanding of the relation between chaos, creativity and thought
- Offers detailed analyses of Deleuze's cosmological theories in relation to ancient philosophy, key figures in the continental tradition, and important discoveries and innovations in the contemporary sciences
- Conducts innovative analysis of several cosmological theories in science, including quantum theory, loop quantum gravity and string theory, in relation to Deleuze's key concepts of time, creation, variation, chance and chaos
- Highlights how addressing the cosmological from multiple disciplinary, theoretical and aesthetic perspectives is crucial to the genesis of the new and the mutual revival of the disciplines



## Deleuze's Foucault

A Virtual Force Ontology

Christopher Penfield

April 2026

288 pp.

Rights Available: World

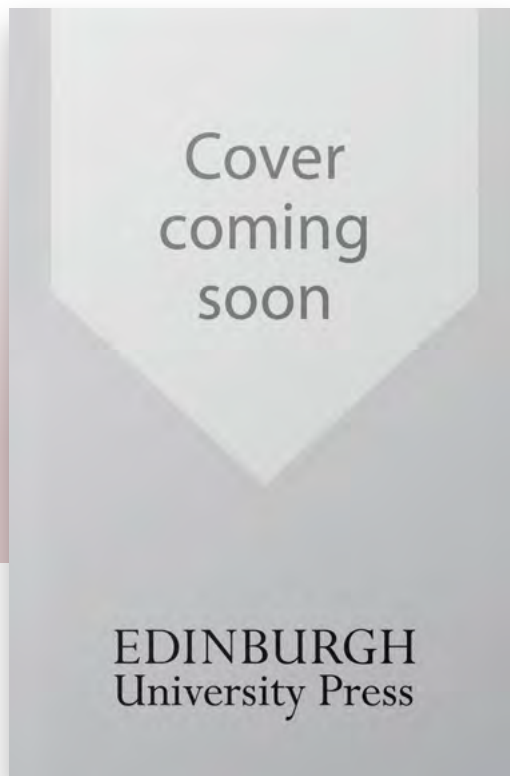
Christopher Penfield illuminates the philosophical encounter between Gilles Deleuze and Michel Foucault, developing the first systematic treatment of Deleuze's book *Foucault*, originally published in 1986. Using the full spectrum of Foucault's primary texts, as well as new insights and analysis from Deleuze's recently translated and published seminars on Foucault, Penfield identifies and elaborates the two thinkers' shared philosophy of force as the novel conceptual framework of 'virtual force ontology'.

For the field of Foucault studies, where Foucault still meets with misunderstanding, Penfield clarifies and motivates the demanding, highly abstract portrait of Foucault that Deleuze offers; and in demonstrating Deleuze's philosophical reconstruction, unlocks unrealised aspects of Foucault's thought.

For students as well as scholars of Deleuze, Penfield establishes the unique place and importance of Foucault in Deleuze's oeuvre, illuminating the fundamental impact of Foucault on Deleuze and the 'common cause' (Deleuze) that shaped the course of their mutually transformative philosophical relationship.

## Key Features

- Provides the first book-length study of Deleuze's *Foucault*
- Establishes a novel, previously untreated conceptual framework that Foucault and Deleuze shared, serving as the basis for the philosophical reconstruction of Foucault's thought
- Includes new insight and analysis from Deleuze's recently translated and published seminars on *Foucault*
- Treats of recently published primary source material (e.g., *Foucault's Confessions of the Flesh*) as independent critical support



## Deleuze and Affect

Edited by D. J. S. Cross

**June 2026**

**256 pp.**

**Illustrations: 1 black and white**

Part of the *Deleuze Connections* series

**Rights Available: World**

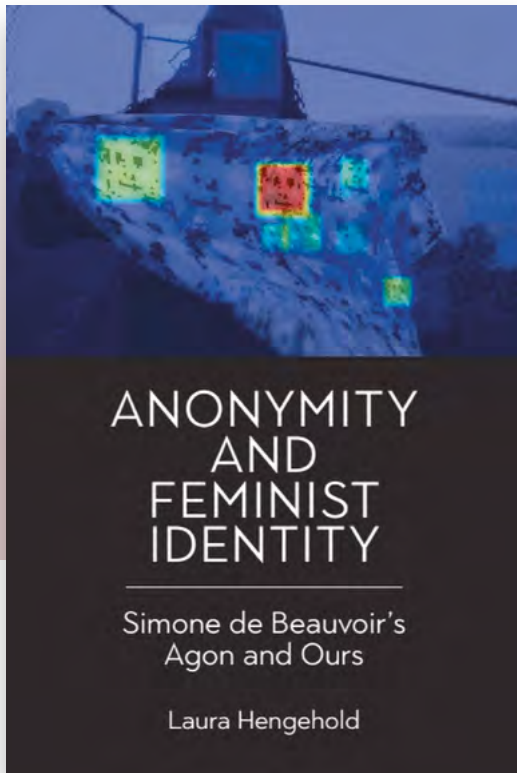
*Deleuze and Affect* brings together work from emerging and established scholars to address and reassess the role of affect in Deleuze's work and its legacy in the critical humanities. Affects are not merely new *sensations*; they are, more radically, new *sensibilities*. They therefore have the potential to redefine the very conditions of experience, to open new relations to the world, and to reshape each discipline.

The multidisciplinary contributors to this volume place affect squarely at the intersection of diverse fields and disciplines from philosophy and literature, visual studies and film studies, art and architecture, through to politics and economics.

In an age in which the sciences unlock more and more secrets of a body that is also, paradoxically, becoming more and more precarious, this volume examines the stakes and spectrum of what it means 'to affect' and 'to be affected'.

## Key Features

- The first edited volume dedicated expressly to affect in Deleuze
- Re-examines Deleuze's status as a pillar of affect theory
- Brings together 11 established and emerging scholars from different fields
- Situates affect at the heart of the critical humanities
- Includes both genealogical analyses and practical applications to new terrains
- Assesses affect in relation to climate catastrophe, fascism, feminism, global capitalism, race, sexual difference and other pressing issues



## Anonymity and Feminist Identity

Simone de Beauvoir's *Agon and Ours*

Laura Hengehold

June 2026

360 pp.

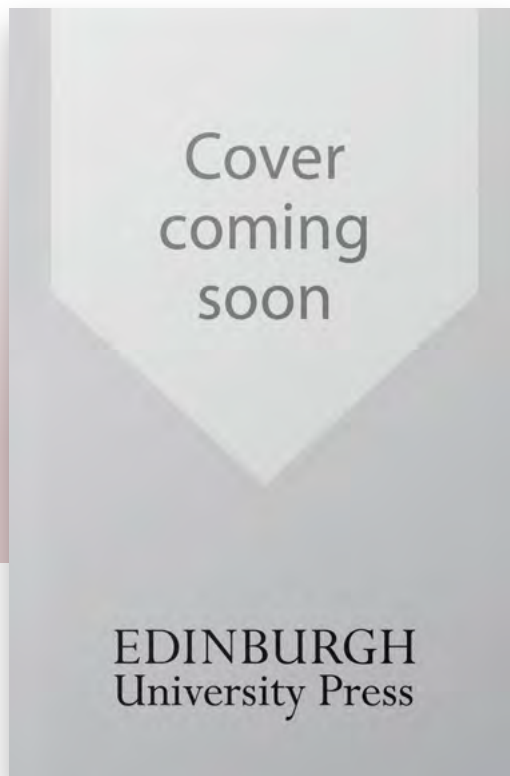
Rights Available: World

Anonymity is a condition that both intrigues and terrifies us. Such emotions reflect historical inequities of power as well as the limits of human cognition and imagination. How do they affect women's relationships at the emotional, philosophical and political level? How might they inflect women's responses to bullying, economic and academic competition, and even philosophical teaching and writing?

Laura Hengehold uses Simone de Beauvoir's novels and philosophical texts to provide insights into women's hopes and fears regarding anonymity, while also acknowledging their desire to be recognised in a definitive sense as these particular human beings. In an age of rapidly changing identification technologies, Beauvoir's works turn our attention to women's ongoing struggles to individuate from one another and from men, in defiance of the presuppositions that resources and attention are scarce goods.

### Key Features

- Addresses anonymity as an overdetermined and complex phenomenon at the interstices of various discourses and technologies
- Draws on social psychology and different strains of psychoanalysis to interpret problems of competition and agonism between women in personal and political life
- Situates Simone de Beauvoir's distinctive philosophy of individuation, including phenomenological investigations of the genesis of intersubjectivity and historical reflections on techniques for publicity and privacy
- Draws on recent legal theory and sociology, as well as Hannah Arendt's critique of manufactured superfluosity, to distinguish anonymity from privacy
- Puts forward a distinctive interpretation of 'conversion' in Beauvoir's *Ethics of Ambiguity*



## Cultural Geographies of Love and Catastrophe

Edited by Paul Harrison, Anna J. Secor and Mikko Joronen

**August 2026**

**240 pp.**

**Illustrations: 8 black and white**

Part of the *Geothory* series

**Rights Available: World**

Across 13 chapters, this collection examines how love takes place. Ranging from the classical to the contemporary, the artistic to the political, the human to the ecological, the contributors consider how love makes, unmakes and remakes selves, communities and worlds. Resisting the urge to purify love, alive to love's turbulence, they address the strange new attachments and alliances love makes possible and those it blights and prohibits. To love, to be loved, to speak of love, is a threat as much as it is a promise: the promise and threat of being undone by love. Love and catastrophe are not opposed but entwined.

At the heart of the collection is a surprising thesis: that love is always an experiment with distances, with intervals, with spacing. An education in love, an education by love, is a geography lesson.

### Key Features

- Suggests new ways to think about love in relation to world-ending catastrophes of various kinds (from the personal to the ecological)
- Showcases an exciting range of theoretical and creative approaches to cultural geographies of love and catastrophe



## A Place in the Homeland?

Turkish-German Return Migration

Nilay Kılınç and Russell King

**August 2026**

**328 pp.**

**Illustrations: 4 black and white**

Part of the *Edinburgh Studies on Diasporas and Transnationalism* series

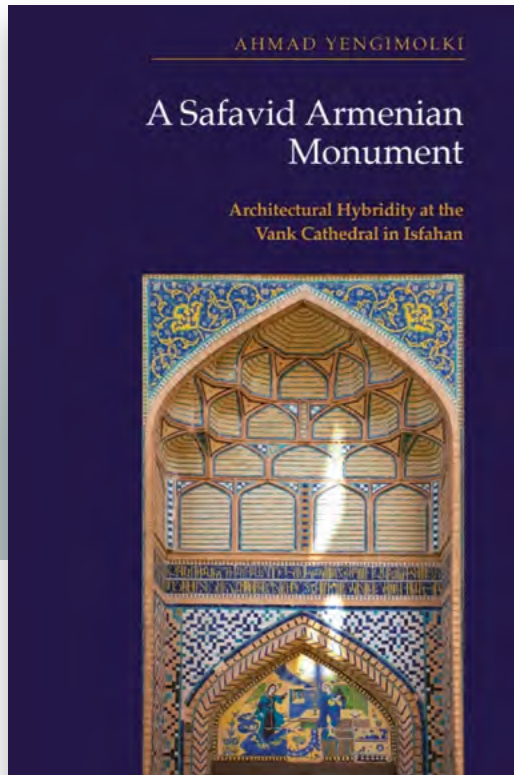
**Rights Available: World**

What happens when the second generation – the children of immigrants – moves to their parents' homeland? *A Place in the Homeland* answers this question for the Turkish-German second-generation, sons and daughters of the Turkish guestworkers and political refugees who migrated to Germany in the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s. Based on 71 in-depth narrative interviews, their life-stories of growing up in German industrial cities and then 'returning' to Turkey are traced through their experiences of childhood and socialisation, relocation to Turkey, earning a living, managing family and other relationships, adapting to an environment that many found challenging and developing new, hybrid identities in the ancestral homeland.

The key finding is that 'place matters', and experiences are compared and contrasted between second-generation returnees in the megalopolis of Istanbul, the tourist city of Antalya and a range of provincial urban and rural environments in other regions of Turkey.

## Key Features

- The first in-depth study of the movement back to Turkey of the Turkish-German second generation
- Deploys a sophisticated theoretical framework based on the concepts of counter-diaspora, translocational positionality, habitus, home, identity and belonging
- Achieves a rich empirical analysis of the narratives of 71 participants interviewed via a multi-sited research design
- Highlights the key role of place in the success or otherwise of the second generation's homeland experiences



## A Safavid Armenian Monument

Architectural Hybridity at the Vank Cathedral in Isfahan

Ahmad Yengimolki

June 2026

376 pp.

Illustrations: 210 colour, 7 black and white

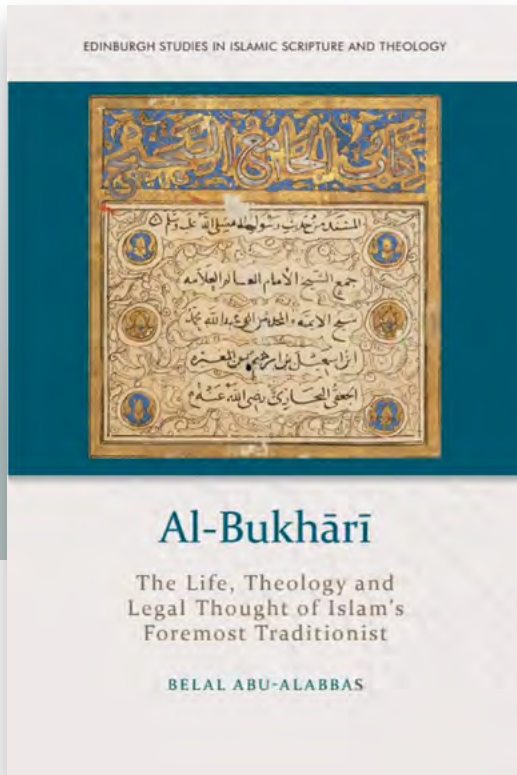
Rights Available: World

This book explores the Vank Cathedral in Isfahan, a relatively well-known yet poorly understood structure. The cathedral's design, construction and interior decoration display both Safavid and Armenian architectural and artistic features. Notably, it differs significantly from Armenian architectural and wall painting traditions prior to their relocation to Isfahan in 1604. The origins and reasons for these changes remain debated. Despite its significance, the building has not been thoroughly studied in terms of its design, structure and decoration.

Given the wide dispersion of Armenian communities – including those in New Julfa, Constantinople, Aleppo and Amsterdam – the book also investigates the connections among these communities. This broader analysis helps contextualise the Armenian imagery found in Isfahan during the 17th century. The exterior architecture and interior decoration are analysed as an integrated whole which reveals the cathedral as a unique product of cultural synthesis, transcending conventional labels such as 'Armenian', 'Islamic' or 'European' by situating it within the broader visual, religious and political context of 17th-century Safavid Iran.

### Key Features

- Contextualises Armenian imagery in Isfahan in the 17th century by highlighting the connections between Armenian communities in New Julfa, Constantinople, Aleppo and Amsterdam
- Draws comparisons between architectural and manuscript sources to define the wider aesthetic of the region in the period of study
- Addresses the Christian and Muslim, as well as Safavid and Armenian, artistic elements of Isfahani society



## Al-Bukhārī

The Life, Theology and Legal Thought of Islam's Foremost Traditionist

Belal Abu-Alabbas

April 2026

328 pp.

Part of the *Edinburgh Studies in Islamic Scripture and Theology* series

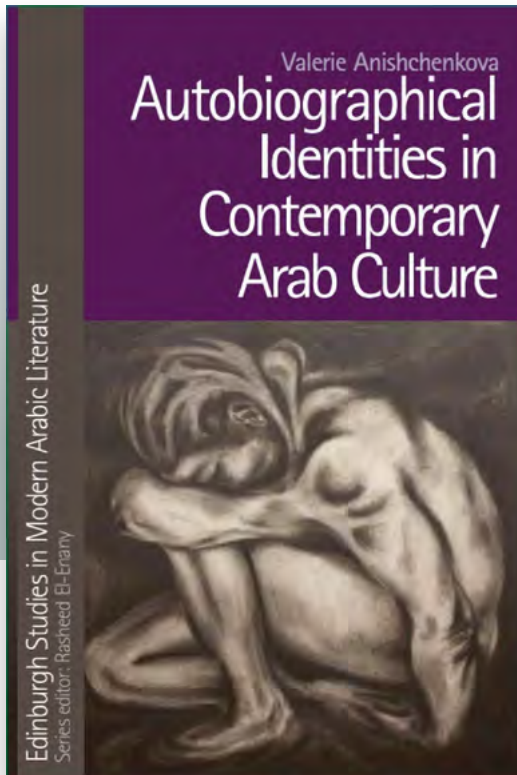
**Rights Available: World**

Muhammad ibn Ismā'īl al-Bukhārī (d. 256/870) stands as one of the most distinguished figures in Islamic intellectual history. His magnum opus, the *Sahīh*, is revered as the most authoritative collection of Prophetic traditions in Sunni Islam and is the most cited book in Islamic history. Beyond its juridical and theological significance, the *Sahīh* was venerated in pre-modern societies as a source of spiritual blessings, recited to invoke divine favour, seek salvation and even bring rain. Al-Bukhārī's legacy endures, shaping Islamic scholarship and devotion to this day.

This pioneering critical study offers the first comprehensive examination of al-Bukhārī's life, intellectual trajectory and the socio-political landscape that influenced his scholarship. It meticulously analyses his methods of hadith criticism and explores his engagement with the theological and legal discourse of his time. Through an extensive study of the theological debates he engaged with and the *masā'il* (legal cases) in which he challenged Hanafi authorities, this book sheds new light on the legal landscape that underpinned his work. Providing both historical depth and analytical rigour, it is an essential contribution to the study of Islamic legal and hadith traditions.

## Key Features

- Presents the first comprehensive critical biography of al-Bukhārī, offering an in-depth examination of his personal life and scholarly career
- Meticulously documents al-Bukhārī's extensive travels in collecting and teaching hadith, and traces the development of his intellectual trajectory
- Offers a thorough analysis of al-Bukhārī's method and principles of hadith criticism
- Examines al-Bukhārī's legal scholarship, exploring both his methodology and legal reasoning
- Provides a rigorous assessment of al-Bukhārī's theological views and delivers a systematic study of the Quranic controversy that marked the final years of his life



## Autobiographical Identities in Contemporary Arab Culture

Valerie Anishchenkova

**May 2026**

**240 pp.**

**Illustrations: 10 black and white**

Part of the *Edinburgh Studies in Modern Arabic Literature* series

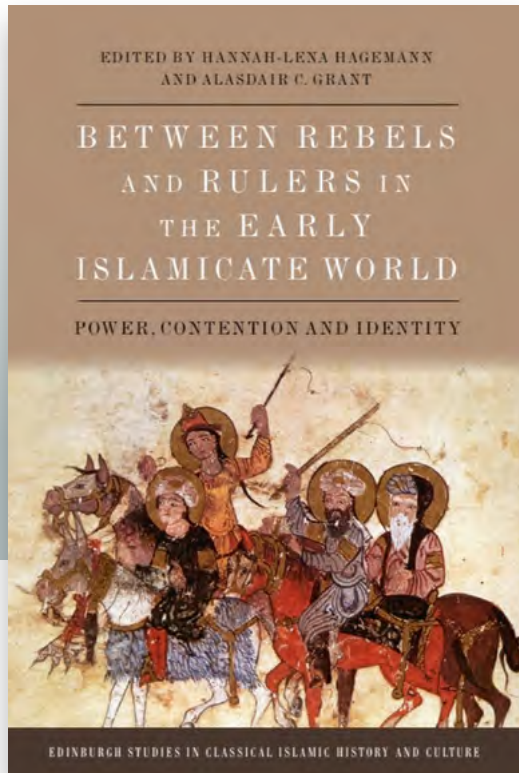
**Rights Available: World**

This original exploration of Arab autobiographical discourse investigates various modes of cultural identity that have emerged in Arab societies in the last 40 years. During this period, autobiographical texts moved away from exemplary life narratives and towards more unorthodox techniques such as erotic memoir writing, postmodernist self-fragmentation, cinematographic self-projection and blogging. Valerie Anishchenkova argues that the Arabic autobiographical genre has evolved into a mobile, unrestricted category arming authors with narrative tools to articulate their selfhood.

Reading works from Arab nations such as Egypt, Iraq, Morocco, Syria and Lebanon, Anishchenkova connects the century's rapid political and ideological developments to increasing autobiographical experimentation in Arabic works. The immense scope of her study also forces consideration of film and online forms of self-representation and builds a new theoretical framework for these modes of autobiographical cultural production.

### Key Features

- Investigates how diverse autobiographical subjectivities have evolved from the previous notions of uniform subjectivity
- Introduces novel autobiographical sub-genres such as autobiographical film and blogging
- Theorises the fluid and ever-expanding Arab autobiographical discourse



## Between Rebels and Rulers in the Early Islamicate World

Power, Contention and Identity

Edited by Hannah-Lena Hagemann and Alasdair C. Grant

June 2026

384 pp.

Illustrations: 13 black and white

Part of the *Edinburgh Studies in Classical Islamic History and Culture* series

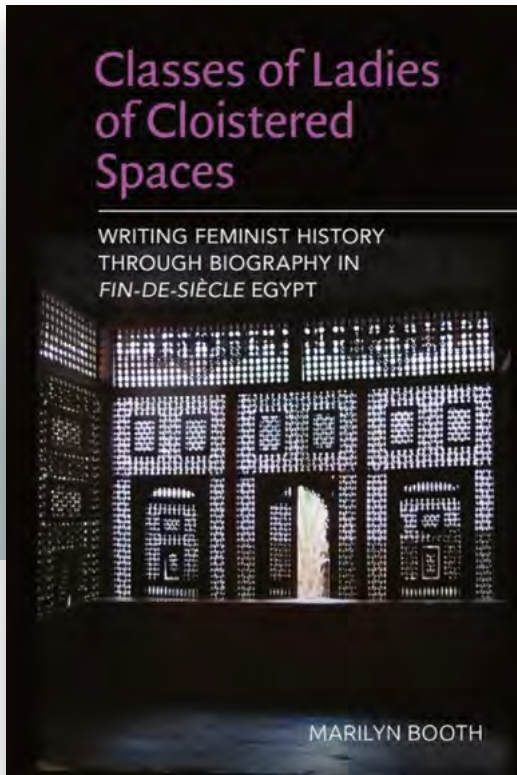
Rights Available: World

*Between Rebels and Rulers in the Early Islamicate World* offers the first dedicated examination of the phenomenon of rebellion across the early Islamicate world. It combines discourse analysis with a return to long-neglected social-historical analysis in its study of contention and the ways in which it was narrated and enacted. These approaches are pursued through fourteen case studies, ranging geographically from North Africa to Central Asia and chronologically from the 6th to 10th centuries CE.

These diverse examples reveal several patterns: first, rebellion operated as a normative means of negotiating power and obtaining justice. Second, the main constituencies of rebellion were local elites, both Muslims and non-Muslims, Arabs and members of pre-conquest societies, separately or together. Accordingly, this volume challenges the 'othering' of rebels found in written sources and reflected in scholarship and reframes them and their discourses as integral parts of an imperial system. And third, this book shows how social ties provided a framework for the mobilisation of rebellious constituencies and the resolution of conflict.

### Key Features

- Re-centres the long-neglected subject of rebellion in the early Islamic period as a category in its own right
- Sets out paradigmatic features of early Islamicate rebellion, offering historians in other fields a model for comparative analysis
- Transcends traditional confessional boundaries in Islamic Studies by putting into conversation scholarship on Sunnī, Shī'ī, Ibā'ī, Khārijite and non-Muslim revolts
- Pursues a multidisciplinary approach by bringing together social historians, scholars of religion and literary scholars
- Embraces case studies from a wide geographical canvas and diverse contexts (e.g. Mashriq and Maghreb; mountains and waterscapes; rural and urban; elites and non-elites)



## Classes of Ladies of Cloistered Spaces

Writing Feminist History through Biography in Fin-de-siècle Egypt

Marilyn Booth

May 2026

472 pp.

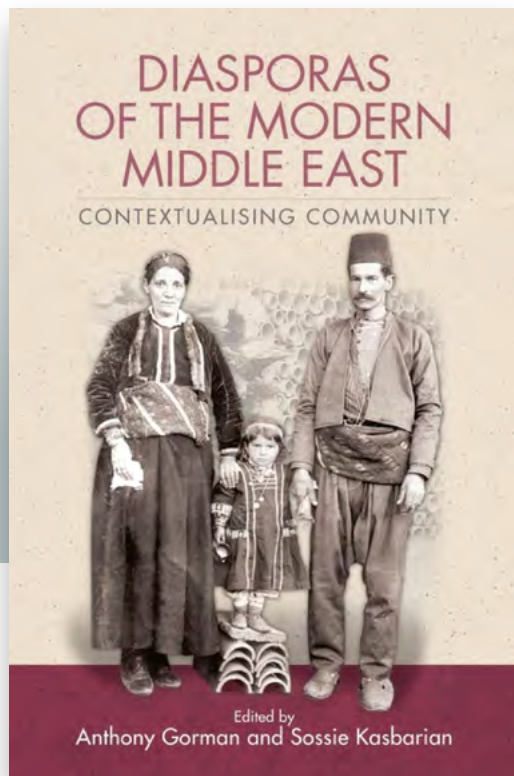
Rights Sold: Arabic (World)

Zaynab Fawwaz (c. 1860–1914) was a forceful voice in support of women’s rights to education and work choices in colonial-era Egypt. Her volume of 453 women’s lives, *al-Durr al-manthur fi tabaqat rabbat al-khudur* (Pearls scattered in times and places: Classes of ladies of cloistered spaces, 1893–6) – featuring Boudicca, Catherine the Great, Zaynab (the granddaughter of the Prophet Muhammad), Victoria Woodhull, the Turkish poet Sirri Hanim and many others – built on the Arabic-Islamic biographical tradition to produce a work for women in the modern era, grafting European, Turkish, Arab and Indian life narratives, amongst others onto Arabic literary patterns

Booth argues that Fawwaz’s work was less ‘exemplary biography’ than feminist history, in its exploration of achievement but also of patriarchal trauma in the lives of women across times and places. She traces Fawwaz’s creative use of her sources, her presentation of biographical narratives in the context of the political essays she wrote in the Arabic press, her publicised dialogue with the President of the Board of Lady Managers of the 1893 World Columbian Exposition – where she attempted to send the volume – and how her inscription of a feminine ancient history diverged from that of men writing history in 1890s Egypt.

### Key Features

- Includes descriptions of biographies of women from the US, Britain, Europe, India, the Maldives, as well as the Middle East (Iran, Turkey and the Arab world)
- Presents the dictionary as a key text in the debates on gender and national efficacy in 1890s Egypt and Ottoman Syria
- Takes a close look at issues of text circulation and borrowing
- Argues that Fawwaz’s book can be regarded as ‘feminist history’



## Diasporas of the Modern Middle East

Contextualising Community

Edited by Anthony Gorman and Sossie Kasbarian

May 2026

424 pp.

Illustrations: 9 black and white

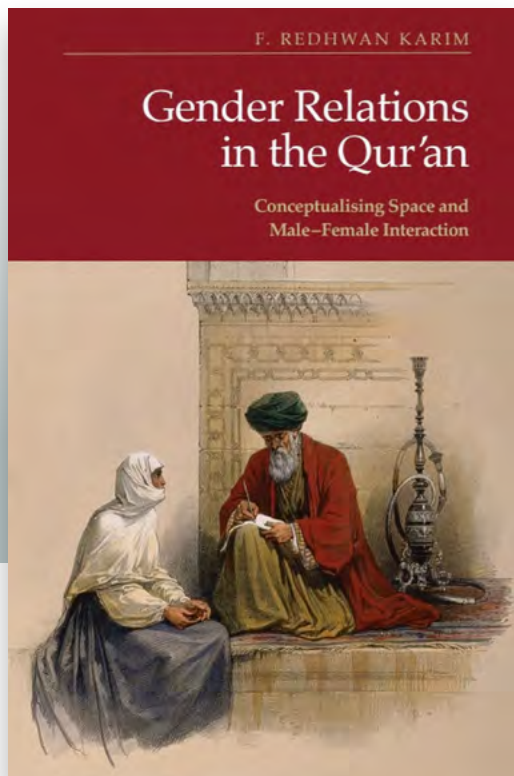
Rights Available: World

Approaching the Middle East through the lens of Diaspora Studies, the 11 detailed case studies in this volume explore the experiences of different diasporic communities in and of the region, and look at the changing conceptions and practice of diaspora in the modern Middle East. They show how concepts central to diaspora such as 'homeland', 'host state', 'exile', 'longing', 'memory' and 'return' have been deconstructed and reinstated with new meaning through each complex diasporic experience. They also examine how different groups have struggled to claim and negotiate a space for themselves in the Middle East, and the ways in which these efforts have been aided and hampered by the historical, social, legal, political, economic, colonial and post-colonial specificities of the region.

In situating these different communities within their own narratives – of conflict, resistance, war, genocide, persecution, displacement, migration – these studies stress both the common elements of diaspora but also their individual specificity in a way that challenges, complements and at times subverts the dominant nationalist historiography of the region.

## Key Features

- Includes 11 detailed qualitative case studies based on extensive fieldwork and research
- Provides a counter history to prevailing nationalist narratives
- Draws on the new theoretical and conceptual developments of Diaspora Studies in the context of the empirical richness and dynamism of the Middle Eastern Studies
- Case studies include Greek Orthodox communities in Syria and Turkey, the post-Ottoman Middle East, Ossetians in Turkey, the Italians of Egypt, Armenians in Turkey and Cyprus, Palestinian women, Palestinians in Lebanon and in Syria, Malaysians in the Gulf, Iraqis in Egypt, and home in Lebanese literature



## Gender Relations in the Qur'an

Conceptualising Space and Male-Female Interaction

F. Redhwan Karim

May 2026

288 pp.

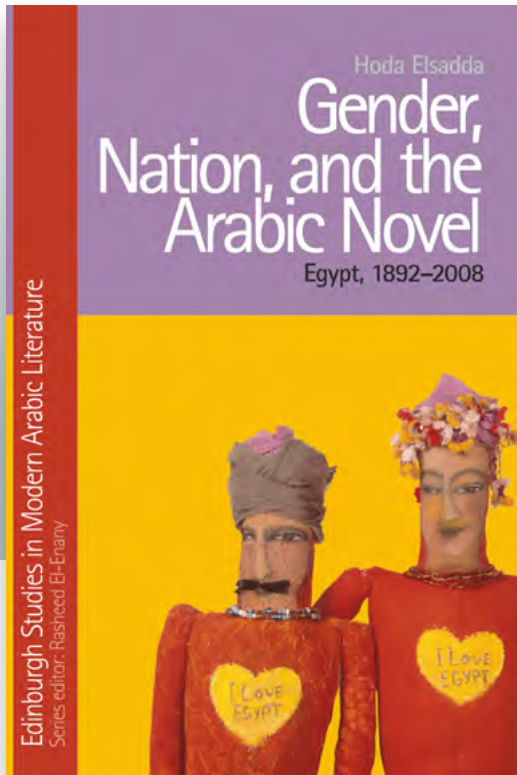
Rights Available: World

A constricting attitude towards the relationship between non-*mahram* (marriageable) men and women is often either politically enforced or self-imposed in Muslim societies, with notions of separation and segregation upheld as normative ideals. This book challenges such interpretations, delineating a more permissive and nuanced position rooted in the Qur'an. Responding to the oft-held notion of men occupying the public sphere while women are restricted to the private, F. Redhwan Karim explores whether the Qur'an adopts a conception of gendered space and gendered roles.

The book analyses the various forms of male-female interaction in the Qur'an, providing a comprehensive overview of gender relations and a critical dissection of restrictive readings. It also discusses clothing, offering a thorough overview of sartorial prescriptions in the Qur'an. Engaging with both classical and modern scholarship to provide a contextual reading, this book offers a comprehensive and expansive analysis of gender relations within a Qur'anic context.

### Key Features

- Provides a theoretical foundation for gender relations between non-*mahram* men and women that is rooted within the Qur'an
- Argues for a nuanced and expansive position to gendered space and roles
- Analyses all the examples of gender interaction in the Qur'an
- Gives a comprehensive overview of clothing prescriptions in the Qur'an
- Engages with classical scholarship to provide a contextual reading of contentious verses, such as testimony, inheritance and the creation narrative



## Gender, Nation, and the Arabic Novel

Egypt, 1892–2008

Hoda Elsadda

**May 2026**

**304 pp.**

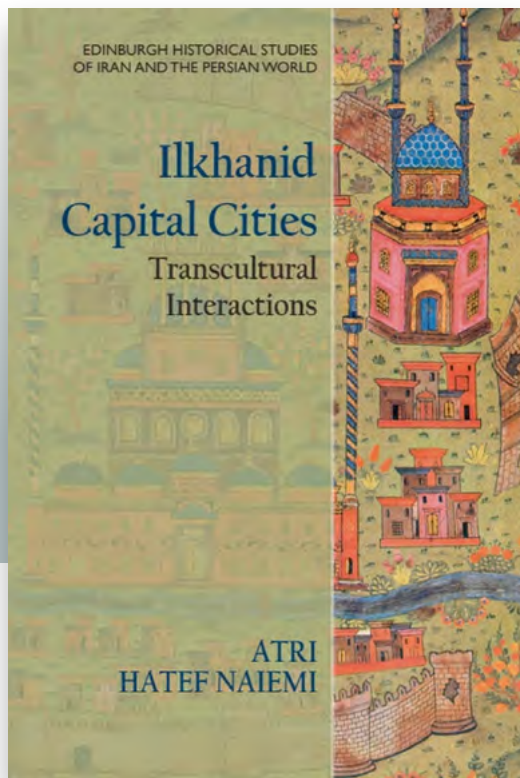
Part of the *Edinburgh Studies in Modern Arabic Literature* series

**Rights Sold: Arabic (World)**

Gender Studies in Arabic literature has become equated with women's writing, leaving aside the possibility of a radical rethinking of the Arabic literary canon and Arab cultural history. While the 'woman question' in the Arabic novel has received considerable attention, the 'male question' has gone largely unnoticed. Now, Hoda Elsadda bucks that trend to give us a nuanced understanding of literary imaginings of masculinity and femininity in the Egyptian novel. Foregrounding voices that have been marginalised alongside canonical works, she engages with new directions in the novel tradition.

### Key Features

- Interrogates the canon of modern Arabic literature
- Sheds light on writers who have been marginalised in Egyptian literary history
- Contributes to current scholarship on gender and nation in postcolonial contexts
- Intervenes in current debates on the meaning of national identity in a global context



## Ilkhanid Capital Cities

Transcultural Interactions

Atri Hatéf Naiemi

**July 2026**

**312 pp.**

**Illustrations: 68 black and white**

Part of the *Edinburgh Historical Studies of Iran and the Persian World* series

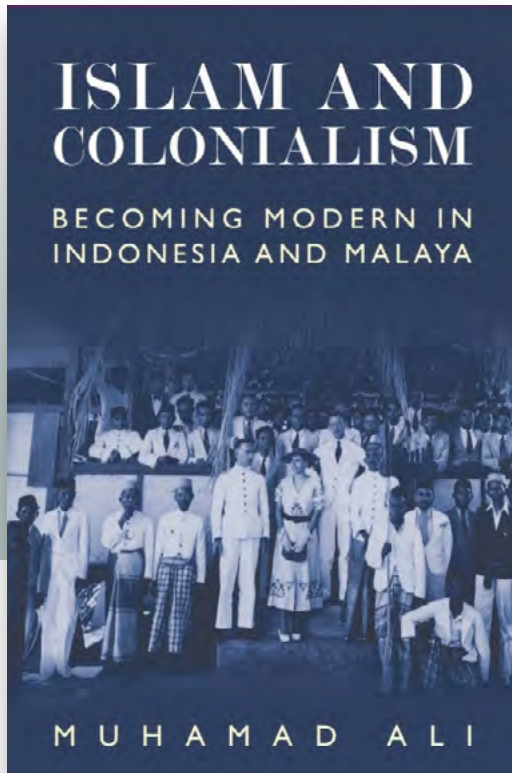
**Rights Available: World**

*Ilkhanid Capital Cities* studies the capital cities founded by the Mongol Ilkhans in Iran during the Ilkhanid period (1256–1335). It primarily focuses on two major cities in the northwest of Iran, Ghazaniyya and Sultaniyya, and examines how the court-sponsored urban projects in these two cities reflected the interactions between Perso-Islamic sedentary concepts and Mongolian nomadic traditions.

Questioning the earlier reductive scholarly framework that positioned the Mongols as uncultured barbarians, this study stresses the active role of the Mongol elite not only as agents, but also cultural donors in the Perso-Mongol cultural zeitgeist of late 13th- and early 14th-century Iran. It provides a fuller and more convincing picture of the Ilkhanid city, which is characterised by a hybrid quality injected not only into the physical structure of the city, but also into the taste, motivations and world views of its patrons.

## Key Features

- Combines fields as diverse as history, art history, archaeology, religious studies and comparative literature
- Works with a range of sources, from archaeological and architectural material, to aerial photographs, travel narratives, manuscript miniatures, and chronicles
- Uses primary sources in a multitude of languages including Persian, Arabic and Chinese, and is based primarily on the works of 13th- and 14th-century authors writing in Persian
- Discusses several examples of the architectural and urban projects patronised by the Ilkhans in Iran
- Offers extensive evidence drawn from newly excavated archaeological sites in the northwest of Iran
- Illuminates the dialogue established between the Mongol conquerors and the Iranians following the conquest of Iran in the 13th century



## Islam and Colonialism

Becoming Modern in Indonesia and Malaya

Muhamad Ali

**May 2026**

**360 pp.**

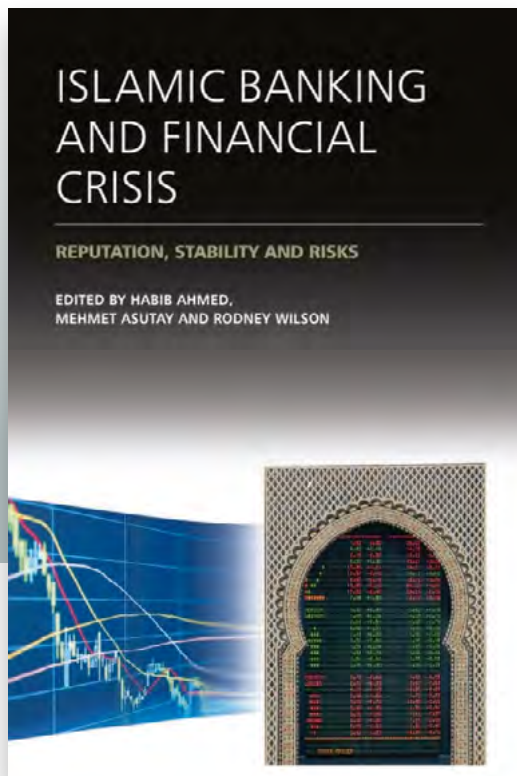
**Illustrations: 2 black and white**

**Rights Available: World**

Focusing on Indonesia and Malaysia, this book looks at how European colonial and Islamic modernising powers operated in the common and parallel domains of government and politics, law and education in the first half of the 20th century. It shows that colonialisation was able to co-exist with Islamisation, arguing that Islamic movements were not necessarily antithetical to modernisation, nor that Western modernity was always anathema to Islamic and local custom. Rather, in distinguishing religious from worldly affairs, they were able to adopt and adapt modern ideas and practices that were useful or relevant while maintaining the Islamic faith and ritual that they believed to be essential. In developing an understanding of the common ways in which Islam was defined and treated in Indonesia and Malaysia, we can gain a new insight to Muslim politics and culture in Southeast Asia.

## Key Features

- Shows how Asian Muslims and European Christians developed modern approaches to politics, law and education which formed the basis for governance and civil society in the independent nations of Indonesia and Malaysia
- Adds to a more nuanced understanding of the relationship between Islam and the West
- Demonstrates that colonial–Islamic relations were less confrontational, both conceptually and institutionally, than has been previously believed
- Uses comparative history to emphasise common and parallel features between diverse forces for change



## Islamic Banking and Financial Crisis

Reputation, Stability and Risks

Edited by Habib Ahmed, Mehmet Asutay and Rodney Wilson

May 2026

256 pp.

Illustrations: 34 black and white, 24 tables

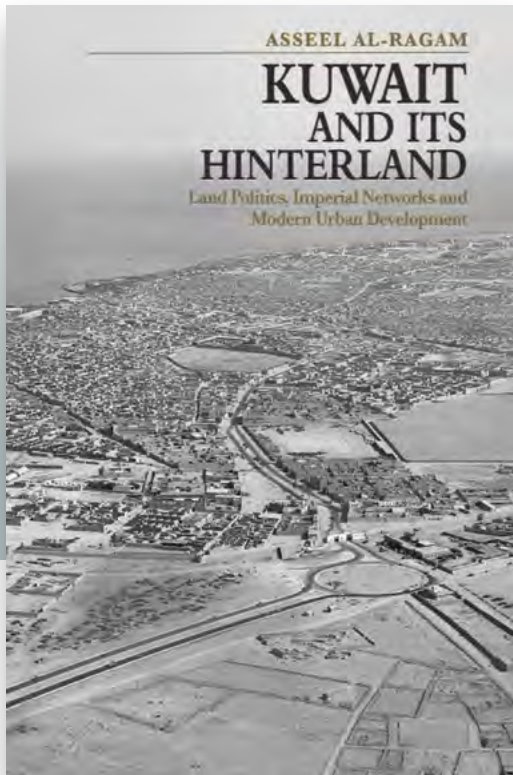
Rights Available: World

Do Islamic financial institutions perform better than their Western counterparts during periods of financial stress? How do Islamic financial institutions manage risk, given their unique characteristics and the need for *Shari'ah* compliance?

*Islamic Banking and Financial Crisis* looks at the challenges for Islamic financial institutions in an international post-Basel II system where banks are required to have more capital and liquidity. It also examines the influence of governance on client and investor perceptions and their implications for institutional stability and sustainability. It concludes by suggesting how the Islamic financial industry can better fulfil both the legal and social requirements of *Shari'ah*.

### Key Features

- Assesses how Islamic banks weathered the financial crisis and what lessons can be learnt
- Focuses on liquidity risk and the use of forward contracts to mitigate currency risk
- Appraises the work of internal *Shari'ah* audit units and the use of *Shari'ah* reports to reduce non-compliance risks
- Case studies from the Gulf, Malaysia, the UK, Pakistan, Turkey and GCC countries



## Kuwait and its Hinterland

Land Politics, Imperial Networks and Modern Urban Development

Asseel Al-Ragam

**June 2026**

**288 pp.**

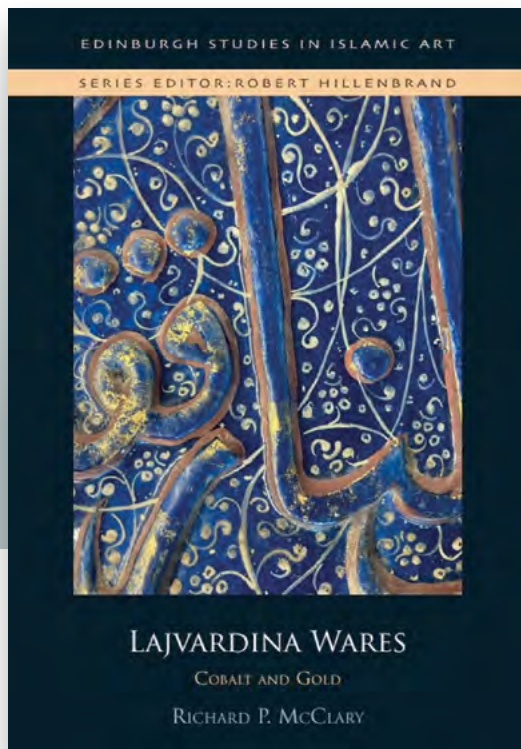
**Rights Available: World**

This book rethinks Gulf urbanism by placing the infrastructure, planning and spatial politics of Kuwait at the centre of analysis. Offering an alternative to oil-centred narratives, it examines the impact of British indirect rule on the built environment after the signing of the 1899 Anglo-Kuwaiti Agreement. It explores how British indirect rule, regional realignments and land politics reconfigured Kuwait's urban landscape and disrupted longstanding ties to its hinterland.

Drawing on extensive research in colonial and local archives, the book focuses on the period from 1904 to 1971, from the arrival of the first Political Agent to the British withdrawal from the Gulf. It shows how indirect rule operated through networks of intermediaries who transferred and adapted a range of administrative and planning models from across the British Empire, playing a central role in shaping urban growth while also negotiating – and sometimes containing – competing spatial futures. By situating Kuwait within imperial networks, trade routes and regional infrastructures, the book offers a new framework for understanding Gulf cities beyond oil.

## Key Features

- Offers a new framework for understanding Gulf cities beyond oil, by situating Kuwait within imperial networks, trade routes and regional infrastructures
- Draws on newly digitised archives to trace how intermediaries adapted planning models and administrative techniques across imperial and regional contexts
- Connects Gulf modernity (*al-hadātha*) with the British concept of 'bridgeheads', highlighting shared spatial strategies of expansion and governance
- Rethinks urbanisation beyond Kuwait City, showing how urban processes unfolded across hinterlands, frontier zones and other spatial nodes
- Reveals the political underpinnings of infrastructure, where technologies restructured space and land rights
- Approaches history as a method to reflect on urban futures, revealing how past spatial imaginaries continue to inform present-day possibilities and constraints



## Lajvardina Wares

Cobalt and Gold

Richard P. McClary

July 2026

376 pp.

**Illustrations: 212 colour images, 3 black and white images, 15 tables**

Part of the *Edinburgh Studies in Islamic Art* series

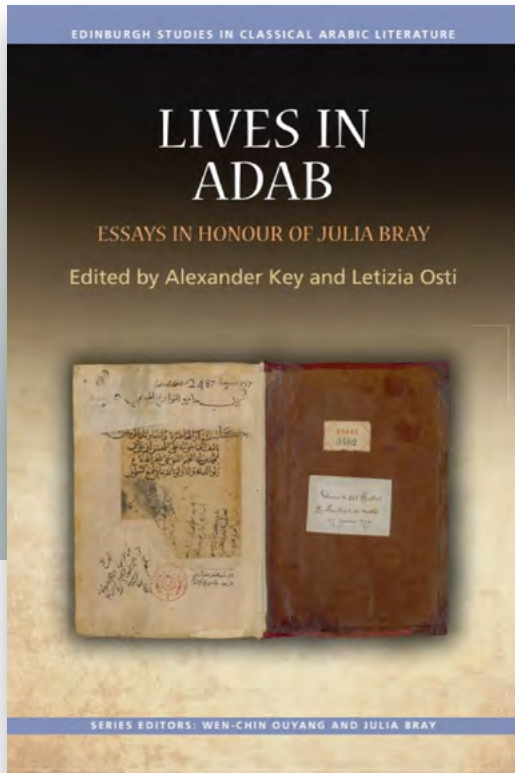
**Rights Available: World**

This book examines the well-known but still poorly understood corpus of *lajvardina* ware from Iran, Central Asia and Russia. Acting as a follow-up volume to *Mina'i Ware: A Reassessment and Comprehensive Study of Iranian Polychrome Overglaze Wares Through Sherds* (Edinburgh University Press, 2024), it employs a broadly similar methodological approach to the next phase in the development of overglaze painted wares. Most vessels in museums are rebuilt, often from pieces of multiple different vessels with extensive plaster fill and modern overpaint. This is similar to *mina'i* wares, but, unlike the earlier technique, the majority of extant *lajvardina* wares are tiles, and not subject to the same level of restoration and overpainting.

Beginning with a study of the process of transition from *mina'i* to *lajvardina* (with a shift from primarily white glaze to cobalt blue, a decline in figural decoration and a proliferation of new vessel forms), the book then moves on to address the extant corpus of tiles and vessels and integrates the later, related, *lajvardina* wares produced in Central Asia and Russia in the 14th century for the first time. Finally, the book examines the reception, trade, publication and display of *lajvardina* from the late 19th century to today.

## Key Features

- Addresses an important but still poorly understood type of medieval Iranian and Central Asian ceramic wares
- Defines the true scope of the extant corpus, and demonstrates the diversity of styles, forms and motifs
- Analysis is built on the unimpeachable unaltered corpus of unrestored archaeological fragments
- Integrates the study of later material produced in Russia and Central Asia into the corpus of *lajvardina* wares
- Provides the first ever comprehensive study of Ilkhanid and later Golden Horde variants of *lajvardina* ware



## Lives in Adab

### Essays in Honour of Julia Bray

Edited by Alexander Key and Letizia Osti

**March 2026**

**488 pp.**

Part of the *Edinburgh Studies in Classical Arabic Literature* series

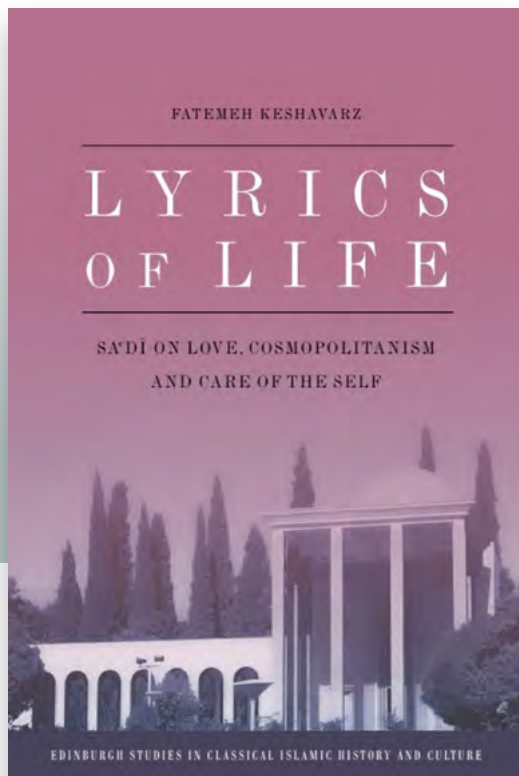
**Rights Available: World**

*Adab* is not an English word, but it could become one. This collection, in honour of Julia Bray, experiments with juxtaposed articles, quotations, translations and lines of poetry to let readers create connections in the same way authors did a thousand years ago in Arabic. The collaboration is inspired by the ongoing work of Julia Bray, which continues to demonstrate the rewards of taking what we read seriously.

The field of Arabic studies is increasingly rejecting a hard line between the modern and the premodern. This book is an intervention in that development – arguing that the premodern can structure contemporary thinking. It offers translations, commentaries and discussions of important and insufficiently known primary texts together with the original Arabic text of poems. These cross-genre and cross-disciplinary connections can catalyse future research and show how a key feature of the Arabic literary tradition is relevant to how we think about scholarship today. The chapters provide readers with both an academic resource and an intellectual conversation with the past.

## Key Features

- Essays by leading scholars from across the genres and disciplines of premodern Arabic
- Translations and commentaries of important and insufficiently known primary texts together with the Arabic original text of poems
- Cross-genre and cross-disciplinary connections – catalysing future research
- Shows how a key feature of the Arabic literary tradition is relevant to how we think about scholarship today
- Provides readers with both an academic resource and an intellectual conversation with the past



## Lyrics of Life

Sa'di on Love, Cosmopolitanism and Care of the Self

Fatemeh Keshavarz

**May 2026**

**224 pp.**

Part of the *Edinburgh Studies in Classical Islamic History and Culture* series

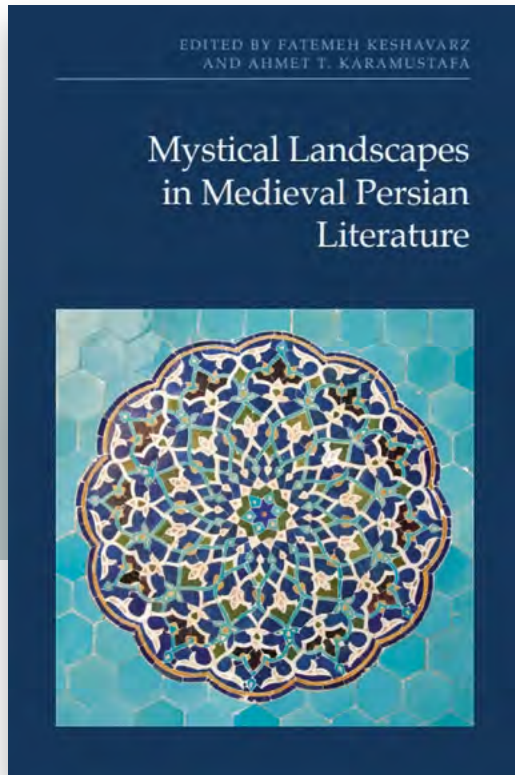
**Rights Available: World**

This imaginative and accessible study of the lyrical, humorous, social and educational aspects of classical Persian poetry focuses on the works of the master medieval poet Sa'di of Shiraz (d. 1291), one of the funniest, most influential and lyrical figures in classical Persian poetry. Sa'di, a prominent ethicist and a devout teacher of virtues, stands out for his worldliness, his practical teachings and his love for living a wholesome life, as well as for his signature elegance and artistry that has compelled critics to call his lyrics perfectly polished diamonds.

In a language deliberately free of technical jargon, Keshavarz argues for the versatility of Sa'di's poetic voice and portrays his notion of love as open to multiple perspectives including homoerotic aesthetics. She brings to life the worldly wisdom that kept the lyrical, adventurous and ethical legacy of Sa'di fresh and effective through the passage of time.

## Key Features

- Includes hundreds of verses in translation, making it ideal for use by students
- Explores the connections between poetry and lived experience
- Highlights the role of classical Persian poetry as the 'silk road of the imagination', connecting many polities and diverse ways of life
- Examines the poetic strategies that give Sa'di's substantive and sumptuous lyrics their unique status



## Mystical Landscapes in Medieval Persian Literature

Edited by Fatemeh Keshavarz and Ahmet T. Karamustafa

**July 2026**

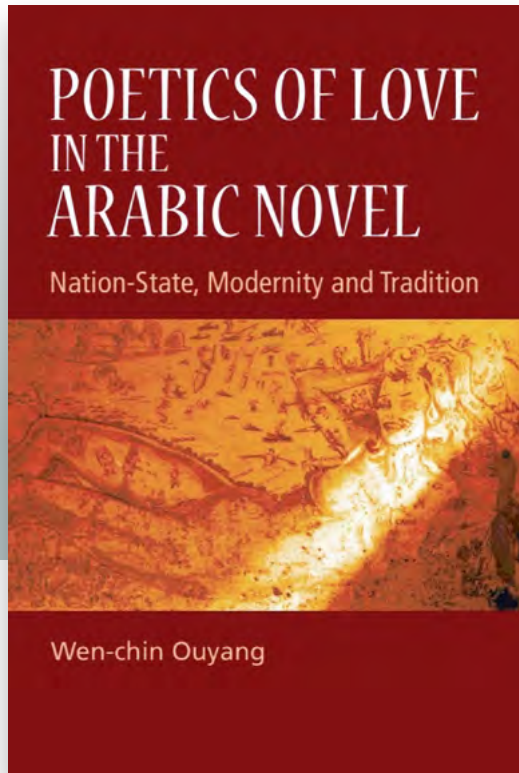
**336 pp.**

**Rights Available: World**

In this collection, Fatemeh Keshavarz and Ahmet T. Karamustafa bring together leading researchers from comparative literature, history, literary criticism and religious studies to explore the major authors and genres of medieval Persian mystical literature. Breaking out of the all-inclusive literary history framework, the contributors write on topics that have energised their scholarship over time and address areas where the literary and the mystical have mingled and led to paradigmatic creations. How can you interpret the climactic conclusion to the framing narrative of *The Speech of the Birds* of 'Attar of Nishapur? How did 'Aziz Nasafi understand the concept of religion? What do Rumi's conversations with the Divine tell us about his teachings and his poetry? How do medieval Persian Sufi commentators add to our understanding the Qur'an? How can we utilise Sufi manuals, life stories and utterances? All of these explorations and more bring the depth and eloquence of Persian mystical literature to life in this volume.

### Key Features

- Provides concise and up-to-date coverage of the rich corpus of early medieval Persian mystical literature in prose and verse
- Brings together leading researchers from comparative literature, history, literary criticism and religious studies
- Addresses topics where the literary and the mystical have mingled and led to paradigmatic creations



## Poetics of Love in the Arabic Novel

Nation-State, Modernity and Tradition

Wen-chin Ouyang

May 2026

304 pp.

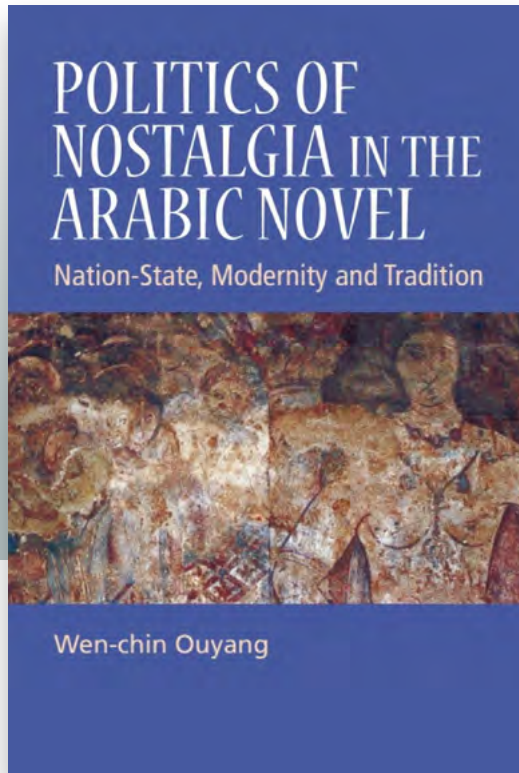
Rights Available: World

Wen-Chin Ouyang explores the development of the Arabic novel, especially the ways in it engages with aesthetics, ethics and politics in a cross-cultural context and from a transnational perspective.

Taking love and desire as the central tropes, the story of the Arabic novel is presented as a series of failed, illegitimate love affairs, all tainted by its suspicion of the legitimacy of the nation, modernity and tradition and, above all, by its misgiving about its own propriety. Authors studied include Naguib Mahfouz; Ghassan Kanafani; Ibrahim Nasrallah; Emil Habiby; Jamal al-Ghitani; Ali Mubarak; Muhammad al-Muwaylihi; Badr Shakir al-Sayyab; Khalil Hawi and Salah 'Abd al-Sabur.

### Key Features

- Authors studied include Naguib Mahfouz; Ghassan Kanafani; Ibrahim Nasrallah; Emil Habiby; Jamal al-Ghitani; Ali Mubarak, Muhammad al-Muwaylihi, Badr Shakir al-Sayyab, Khalil Hawi and Salah 'Abd al-Sabur
- Works studied include *Arabian Nights* and *Maqamat*
- Addresses issues such as nation and nationalism; Arabic poetics of love; modernity and modernisation; the politics of desire; the poetics of space; women and cartography of nation; identity and intertextuality



## Politics of Nostalgia in the Arabic Novel

Nation-State, Modernity and Tradition

Wen-chin Ouyang

**May 2026**

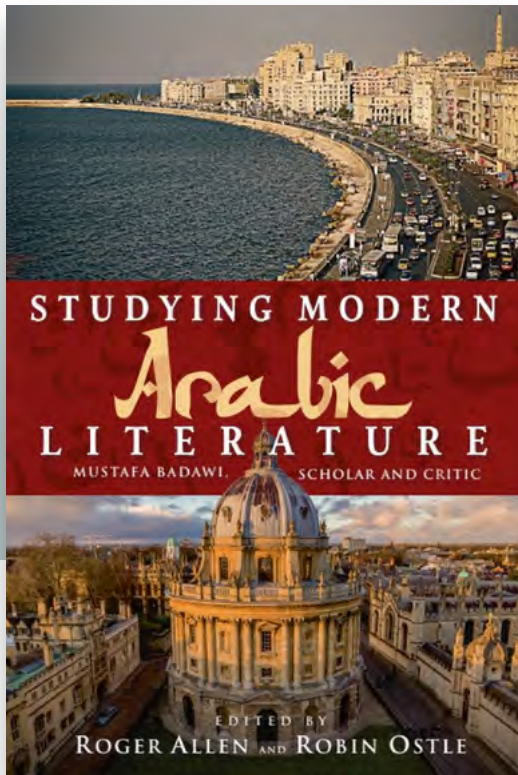
**256 pp.**

**Rights Available: World**

The Arabic novel has taken shape in the intercultural networks of exchange between East and West, past and present. Wen-chin Ouyang shows how this has created a politics of nostalgia which can be traced to discourses on aesthetics, ethics and politics relevant to cultural and literary transformations of the Arabic speaking world in the 19th and 20th centuries. She reveals nostalgia and madness as the tropes through which the Arabic novel writes its own story of grappling with and resisting the hegemony of both the state and cultural heritage.

### Key Features

- Explores the work of novelists including Naguib Mahfouz, 'Abd al-Khaliq al-Rikabi, Jamal al-Ghitani, Ben Salem Himmich, Ali Mubarak, Adonis, Mahmoud Darwish and Nizar Qabbani
- Shows madness to be an expression of the anxiety surrounding the Arabic novel's search for form, and Arab intellectuals' disappointment in the nation-state and modernisation



## Studying Modern Arabic Literature

Mustafa Badawi, Scholar and Critic

Edited by Roger Allen and Robin Ostle

May 2026

240 pp.

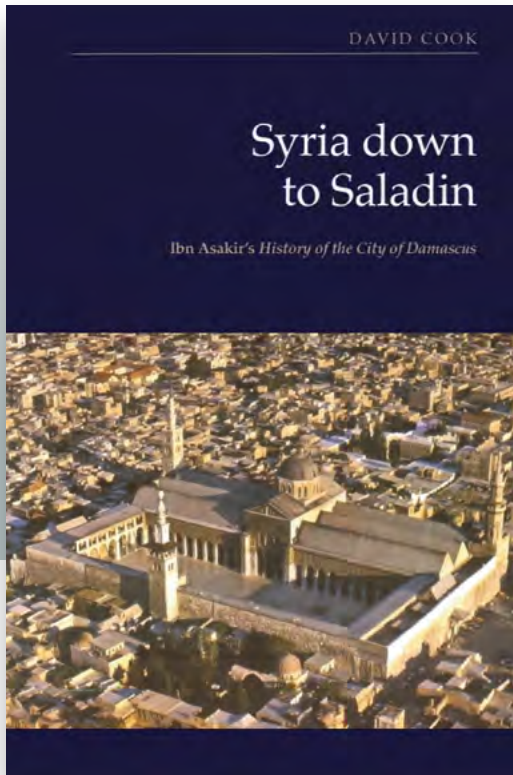
Illustrations: 6 black and white

Rights Available: World

Prior to the 1960s the study of Arabic literature, both classical and modern, had barely been emancipated from the academic approaches of Orientalism. The appointment of Mustafa Badawi as Oxford University's first Lecturer in Modern Arabic Literature changed the face of this subject. Badawi's teaching and research showed that Arabic literature was making vibrant contributions to global culture and thought. Part biography, part collection of critical essays, this volume celebrates Badawi's immense contribution to the field and explores his role as a public intellectual in the Arab world and the west.

### Key Features

- Illustrates the critical affiliations and teaching methods of the outstanding scholar of modern Arabic literature in the 20th century
- Assesses some of the problems faced by an outstanding intellectual and translator in bridging Arabic and western cultures
- Includes studies from eminent specialists who were taught by Badawi, showing the type of work he inspired, including Julia Bray, Hilary Kilpatrick, Marliyn Booth, miriam cooke and Paul Starkey



## Syria down to Saladin

*Ibn Asakir's History of the City of Damascus*

David Cook

**June 2026**

**672 pp.**

**Illustrations: 40 black and white maps, 150 tables**

**Rights Available: World**

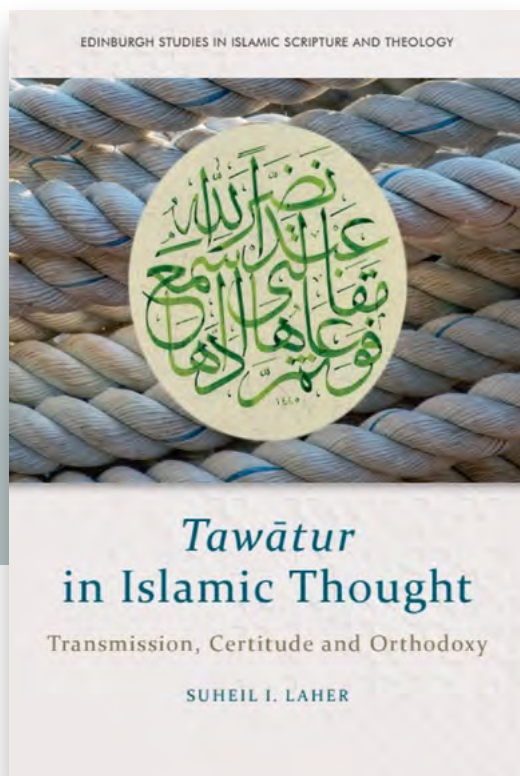
*Syria down to Saladin* is the first comprehensive historical study of post-Umayyad Syria based on Ibn 'Asākir's *Tā'rikh madīnat Dimashq* (History of the City of Damascus). As the largest work that has ever appeared documenting pre-modern Syria, Ibn 'Asākir's *History* is a major source for the study of the region. It has, however, been underutilised for the simple reason that it is vast. This book makes this unique local history newly accessible to a broader scholarly audience.

Basing his analysis on 6,066 biographical entries from Ibn 'Asākir's text, David Cook reconstructs the history of Syria between the fall of the Umayyads and the rise of the Seljuqs. He provides vital context for pre-Crusader Syria, as well as offering new perspectives on Damascus during the First Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem. He considers topics such as the emergence of new elites, changes in religious and economic bases, and the narration of prophetic tradition, placing these events within a broader pan-Islamic context.

Containing over 150 original genealogical tables, 40 maps and 7 appendices, this book stands as a monument to the intellectual and religious breadth of Ibn 'Asākir, highlighting how his text can shed light on a diversity of topics and inviting historians to use it systematically when discussing post-Umayyad Syria.

## Key Features

- Synthesises 6,066 biographical entries from some 400 years of Syrian history
- Contains over 150 genealogical tables and 40 maps
- Fills a blank in Syrian history



## *Tawātur* in Islamic Thought

Transmission, Certitude and Orthodoxy

Suheil I. Laher

June 2026

288 pp.

Illustrations: 22 black and white

Part of the *Edinburgh Studies in Islamic Scripture and Theology* series

Rights Sold: Turkish

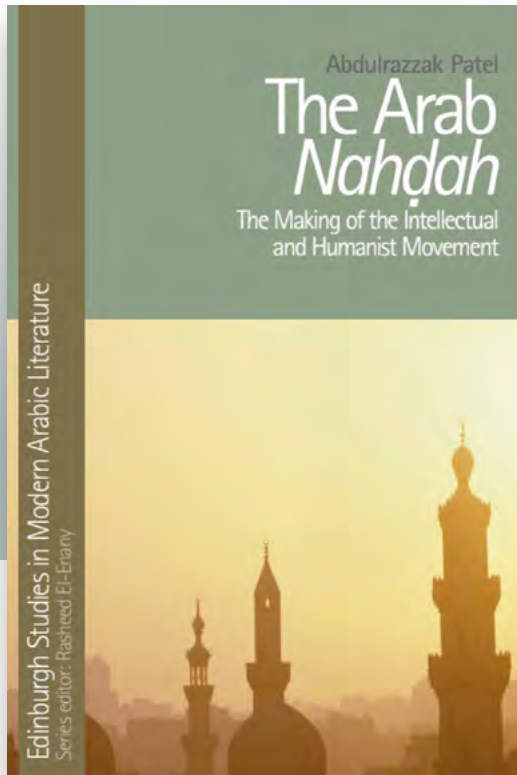
*Tawātur* is the concept that information yields certainty if acquired through a sufficient number of independent channels. *Tawātur in Islamic Thought* is an attempt to unravel the twisted historical threads of the conception and usage of *tawātur* across diverse Islamic disciplines, in light of both Western academia and debates within Muslim scholarship.

In the process, numerous salient questions in Islamic thought are tackled, such as epistemic certitude, scholarly consensus (*ijmāʿ*) and the rationalism–traditionalism relationship. The study culminates in the question of the extent to which *tawātur* was used by Muslim scholars to define the boundaries of Islam and of orthodoxy.

*Tawātur in Islamic Thought* shows that the majority voices in Muslim scholarship, across sectarian boundaries, reached a steady-state conception of a two-tiered orthodoxy, corresponding to two tiers of *tawātur* – an outer tier that includes all who affirm a definitive kernel of Islam and an inner tier that is more exclusive.

## Key Features

- Investigates a key epistemological category and its application to the transmission of religious texts and practices
- Traces the genesis, development and application of the term and concept of *tawātur* in the realms of theology, legal theory, hadīth and the transmission of the Qurʾān
- Shows the complex and sometimes unexpected ways in which the major Islamic disciplines interacted with each other in the course of their development
- Explores the ways in which the concept of *tawātur* was and was not successful in delineating a canon of orthodoxy
- Based on diverse primary sources from the main Islamic disciplines over the entirety of the formative period of Islam



## The Arab *Nahdah*

The Making of the Intellectual and Humanist Movement

Abdulrazzak Patel

**May 2026**

**272 pp.**

Part of the *Edinburgh Studies in Modern Arabic Literature* series

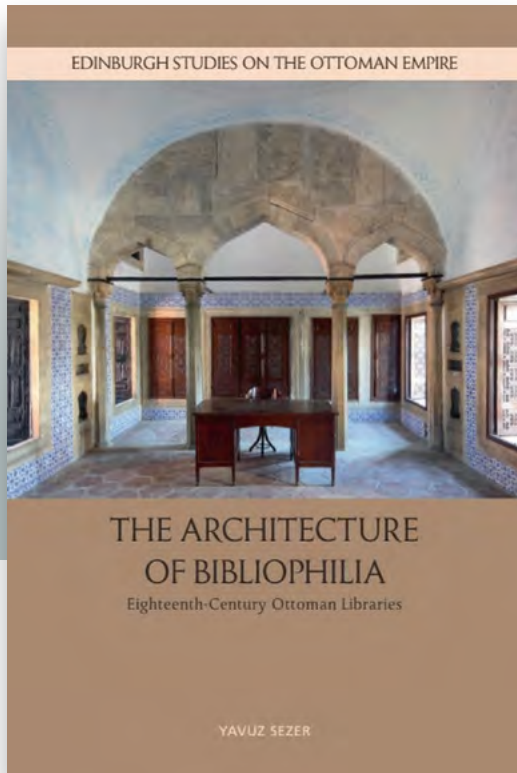
**Rights Available: World**

To understand today's Arab thinking, you need to go back to the beginnings of modernity: the *nahdah* or Arab renaissance of the 19th and early 20th centuries. Abdulrazzak Patel enhances our understanding of the *nahdah* and its intellectuals, looking back to its origins in the 1700s and taking into account important internal factors alongside external forces. He explores the key factors that contributed to the rise and development of the *nahdah* and he introduces the humanist movement of the period that was the driving force behind much of the linguistic, literary and educational activity.

Drawing on intellectual history, literary history and postcolonial studies, he argues that the *nahdah* was the product of native development and foreign assistance and that *nahdah* reformist thought was hybrid in nature. Overall, this study highlights the complexity of the movement and offers a more pluralist history of the period.

## Key Features

- Highlights the complexity of the movement and offers a more pluralist history of the period
- The first English-language study to focus on little-studied intellectual figures and currents of the early *nahdah*
- Deals with important themes such as modern Arab intellectual history, literature and culture, and with issues of modernity, language and identity – allowing for significant engagement with the study of the intellectual life and discourse of the *nahdah* as a whole



## The Architecture of Bibliophilia

Eighteenth-Century Ottoman Libraries

Yavuz Sezer

**July 2026**

**376 pp.**

**Illustrations: 95 colour, 29 black and white**

Part of the *Edinburgh Studies on the Ottoman* series

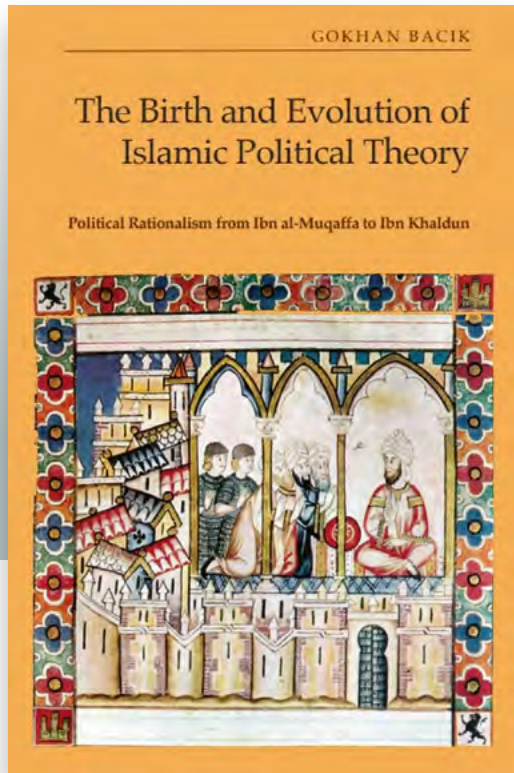
**Rights Available: World**

Libraries were a new building type in Ottoman architecture at the beginning of the 18th century. However, they quickly gained a considerable place among the endowments of Ottoman elite. This book explores the architectural, social and cultural dynamics that shaped the Ottoman library movement in Istanbul during the 18th century. It shows how the plans, decorative elements, book collections, staff and patrons of these libraries embodied the remarkable transformations of Ottoman society – notably the swelling of bureaucratic ranks, rising demand for historical and literary works, and a culture of celebrating novelty.

The book uses public libraries as a lens to examine these transformations, demonstrating how libraries both reflected and shaped the aesthetic, intellectual and cultural pursuits of the Ottoman reading public. Offering the first comprehensive history of the Ottoman library movement, it reveals the dynamism of Ottoman architecture in this post-classical period.

## Key Features

- First book-length study of the Ottoman library movement
- Anchors the scholarship on Ottoman cultural and intellectual history in architecture
- Establishes patterns of cross-references in architecture and decoration
- Discusses the trans-imperial connections of the Ottoman library movement



## The Birth and Evolution of Islamic Political Theory

Political Rationalism from Ibn al-Muqaffa to Ibn Khaldun

Gökhan Bacik

May 2026

328 pp.

Illustrations: 10 black and white

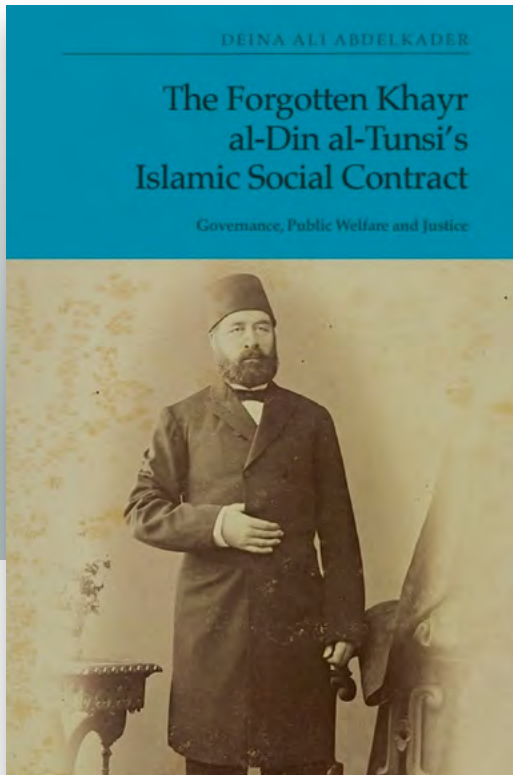
Rights Sold: Arabic (World)

The literature on Islamic political thought utilises a methodology whose typical characteristic is the arbitrary use of religious, philosophical and political perspectives, as if the differences among them have no effect. This amounts to the theologising or philosophising of works of Islamic political theory – written as responses to social, economic and political dynamics – as if they were written as general theoretical formulations of religion or political philosophy.

To overcome this problem, *The Birth and Evolution of Islamic Political Theory* first categorises Islamic political thought as three distinct group categories: the religious view of politics, Islamic political philosophy and Islamic political theory. In turn, Islamic political theory is defined as the intention to explain and justify politics by invoking social, economic and political dynamics completely or partially independently of religious and philosophical norms. These dynamics are illustrated by the study of five political rationalists: Ibn al-Muqaffa, al-Mawardi, Nizam al-Mulk, Ibn Tufayl and Ibn Khaldun.

### Key Features

- The first book about Islamic thought that studies political rationalists exclusively
- Demonstrates that power-oriented political thinking (that is, Islamic political theory) exists as an aspect of Islamic history, and should be analysed as distinct from the religious view of politics and Islamic political philosophy
- Challenges the problems caused by the use of theological-philosophical rationality in the study of Islamic political thought, and proposes the use of political rationality as the appropriate conceptualisation
- Combines political history and intellectual history of Muslim societies
- Provides a history of the evolution of political rationality in Islamic history
- Based on the primary works of classical names like Ibn al-Muqaffa and al-Mawardi



## The Forgotten Khayr al-Din al-Tunsi's Islamic Social Contract

Governance, Public Welfare and Justice

Deina Ali Abdelkader

**April 2026**

**200 pp.**

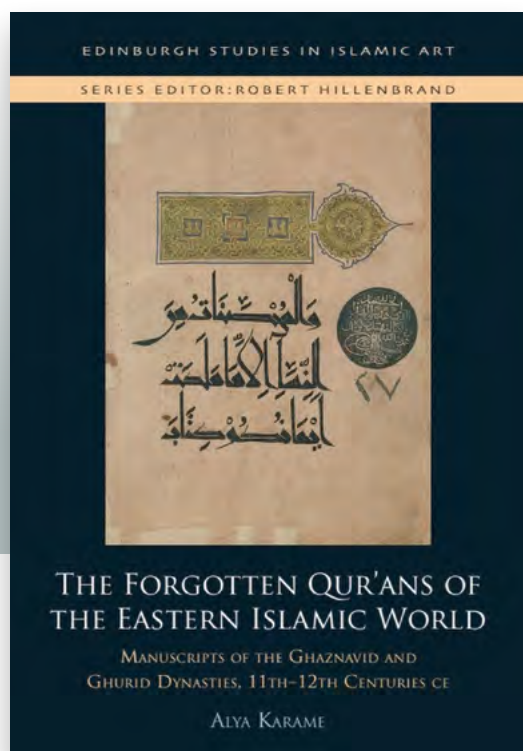
**Rights Available: World**

This book challenges the entrenched marginalisation of Muslim contributions to political theory, exposing the epistemological biases that have privileged Western traditions while silencing rich intellectual legacies from the Islamic world. Centring on the 19th-century reformer Khayr al-Din al-Tunsi, it offers the first comprehensive analysis and translation of his political writings through the lens of Islamic jurisprudence – specifically, the *Maqāsid al-Sharī'a* (Objectives of Islamic Law).

Al-Tunsi's thought presents a compelling synthesis of Islamic ethical-legal frameworks with selective European institutional models, articulating a vision of governance rooted in public welfare, justice and moral responsibility. Far from pre-modern or merely theological, his work demonstrates the dynamic potential of Islamic political thinking to address challenges of colonialism, bureaucratic stagnation and reform. By reintegrating voices like al-Tunsi's into mainstream discourse, this study not only recovers neglected intellectual history but also expands the conceptual horizons of political theory itself.

### Key Features

- Critically examines the epistemological biases that have marginalised Muslim contributions to political theory within the canon of Western political thought
- Analyses and translates the political writings of Khayr al-Din al-Tunsi, highlighting his engagement with Islamic legal principles, particularly *Maqāsid al-Sharī'a* (Objectives of Islamic Law)
- Demonstrates how Tunsi's political thought represents a synthesis of Islamic normative frameworks and selective appropriation of European administrative models
- Argues that al-Tunsi's reformist vision offers a historically grounded, morally coherent and pragmatically responsive model of governance
- Contributes to the expansion of political theory by reintegrating marginalised Islamic perspectives and challenging the dichotomy between tradition and modernity



## The Forgotten Qur'ans of the Eastern Islamic World

Manuscripts of the Ghaznavid and Ghurid Dynasties, 11th–12th Centuries CE

Alya Karame

**April 2026**

**400 pp.**

**Illustrations: 182 colour, 28 black and white**

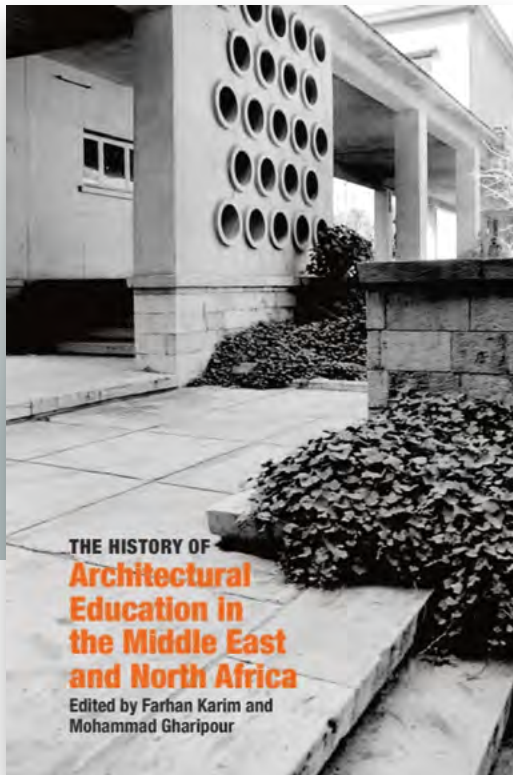
Part of the *Edinburgh Studies in Islamic Art* series

**Rights Available: World**

The Ghaznavid and Ghurid Qur'ans (c. 11th–12th centuries CE), studied for the first time as a corpus, inform of how the Qur'an was copied at the beginning of a transformative period in the history of its production when paper, new scripts and the vertical format were adopted. As the book illustrates the ways in which local visual trends were shaped out of diachronic and synchronic multidirectional movement within a medieval landscape that was continuously in flux, it shifts the focus to the eastern frontiers of the Islamic world, reclaiming them as centres of cultural production. It is by contextualising the Qur'an's materiality within the religious, social and political context that the book 'rehumanises' them, offering an understanding of how the manuscripts were conceived, produced and used, up until our day.

### Key Features

- Presents the first detailed study of a group of Qur'ans produced under the Ghaznavid and Ghurid dynasties
- Offers the first study towards understanding a transformative phase in the history of Qur'an production
- Examines Qur'ans at the eastern frontiers within the fluid transregional landscape in which their aesthetic was shaped, reclaiming 'peripheries' as centres of cultural production
- Narrates the conception, use and role of the Qur'an manuscript across time by contextualising them, setting out a new approach, beyond codicology, for the study of manuscripts
- Attributes mostly dispersed manuscripts of unknown date and origin to the medieval eastern Islamic world (950s–1250s CE) and lists them in an appendix



## The History of Architectural Education in the Middle East and North Africa

Edited by Farhan Karim and Mohammad Gharipour

**June 2026**

**328 pp.**

**Illustrations: 95 black and white**

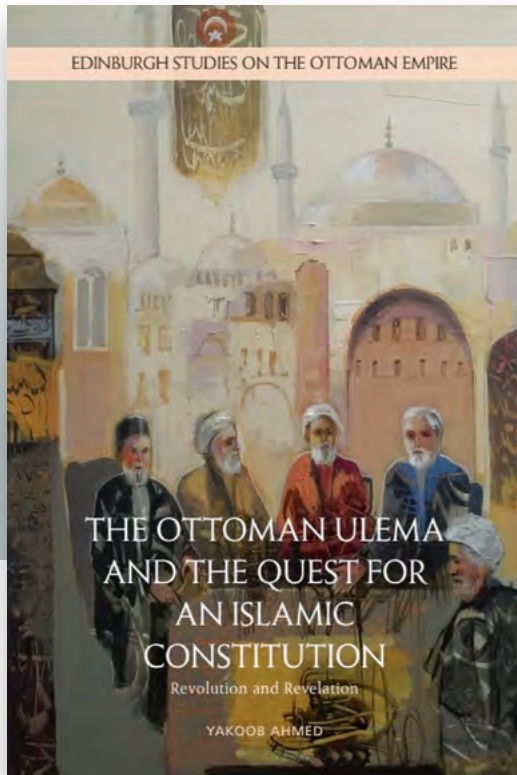
**Rights Available: World**

*The History of Architectural Education in the Middle East and North Africa* explores the varied socio-political landscapes within which different architectural programmes and schools were established across the region. It addresses a significant gap in our understanding of the diverse strategies and paths through which architectural pedagogy underwent institutionalisation and standardisation during the 19th and 20th centuries. This process of modernisation was greatly influenced by rapidly evolving socio-economic conditions and the interests of the real estate market. Concurrently, architectural educators and institutions responded to public demands for more inclusive urban environments, shaping the social ambitions and expectations of emerging modern cities.

Farhan Karim and Mohammad Gharipour present an interconnected and parallel history of these institutions through a series of case studies. They argue that architectural pedagogy and its stakeholders did not solely shape the technical discourse of the building industry. Instead, their activism and advocacy collectively ignited epistemological debates concerning the perception of modern urban society and its direction.

### Key Features

- Addresses an important gap in our knowledge by presenting a comparative history of architectural education and its institutional settings of the MENA countries
- Shows how architectural education helped to shape public discourse about the perception of modernity and modern society in MENA
- Diverse institutes and pedagogical methods give readers a unique opportunity to see the development of modern architectural education system in a comparative manner



## The Ottoman Ulema and the Quest for an Islamic Constitution

Revolution and Revelation

Yakoob Ahmed

**July 2026**

**304 pp.**

**Illustrations: 19 black and white**

Part of the *Edinburgh Studies on the Ottoman Empire* series

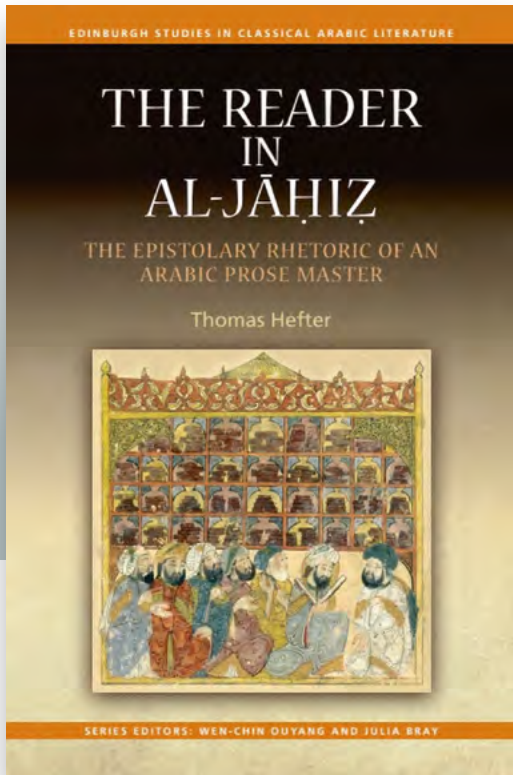
**Rights Available: World**

The Constitutional Revolution of 1908–9 is one of the most transformative yet misunderstood moments in late Ottoman history. This book challenges conventional narratives of this period as a secular rupture by the Young Turks from Islamic tradition, instead spotlighting the pivotal role of the Sunni ulema in shaping and sustaining the new constitutional order.

Drawing on Ottoman press materials, parliamentary debates and contemporary theological writings, the book demonstrates how the ulema articulated a distinctly Islamic vision of constitutionalism rooted in *meşrutiyet* (constitutionalism), *şura* (consultation) and *adâlet* (justice), while also engaging critically with modern ideals of freedom, equality and fraternity. It shows how, far from being passive or reactionary, the ulema emerged as active political thinkers and institutional actors who sought to reconcile Islamic governance with modern constitutional principles. Placing the Constitutional Revolution within a larger discourse that was part of a century-long culture of revolts and revolutionary activity, this book reframes the late Ottoman constitutional experience as a dynamic synthesis of faith, reform and political modernity.

### Key Features

- Explores the rise, development, transformation and eventual demise of the empire within its local and global context
- Focuses on the mutual impact and influences these interactions had on both the empire itself and its neighbours
- Investigates the empire's political, social, religious, economic, cultural and diplomatic dynamism and diversity
- Utilises the best in social science and humanities theoretical and methodological approaches



## The Reader in al-Jāhiz

The Epistolary Rhetoric of an Arabic Prose Master

Thomas Hefter

**May 2026**

**288 pp.**

Part of the *Edinburgh Studies in Classical Arabic Literature* series

**Rights Available: World**

The 9th-century essayist, theologian and encyclopaedist ‘Amr b. Bahr al-Jāhiz has long been acknowledged as a master of early Arabic prose writing. Many of his most engaging writings were clearly intended for a broad readership but were presented as letters to individuals. Despite the importance and quantity of these letters, surprisingly little academic notice has been paid to them.

Now, Thomas Hefter takes a new approach in interpreting some of al-Jāhiz’s ‘epistolary monographs’. By focusing on the varying ways in which he wrote to the addressee, Hefter shows how al-Jāhiz shaped his conversations on the page in order to guide (or manipulate) his actual readers and encourage them to engage with his complex materials.

## Key Features

- Looks at letters from one of the most unique minds of the Abbasid era that cover sectarian and ethnic rivalries, ethical questions, intoxicating beverages and daily life
- Relates al-Jāhiz’s experiments with the letter frame to his views on occupations, human geography and other issues of his day
- Examines the role of self-parody in al-Jāhiz’s fictional conversations with his addressees
- Explores the rich interplay of contending voices



## The New Modernist Novel

Criticism and the Task of Reading

Elizabeth Pender

**March 2026**

**256 pp.**

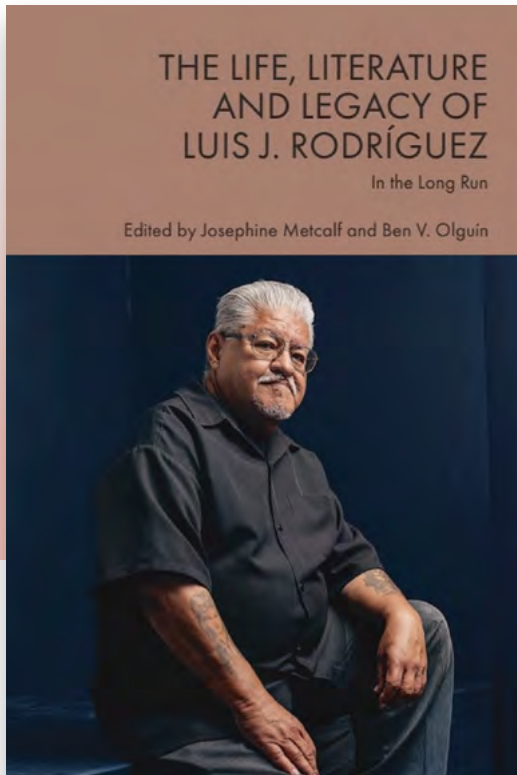
**Rights Available: World**

Since the late 20th century, new understandings of modernism have come with new attention to a range of writers. Yet if the academic study of modernism took shape around an older, narrower selection of writers and works, how can its modes of reading be relevant to newly recovered modernist writing? This book considers how close reading may change as the subjects of literary study change.

Elizabeth Pender asks what reading meant for critics of modernist literature around 1930 and around 1960, and then what close reading might look like now for three new modernist novels. Djuna Barnes's *Nightwood*, John Rodker's *Adolphe 1920* and Mina Loy's *Insel* tend to resist some of the strategies of reading that helped construct a narrowed modernist canon at mid-century, such as the pursuit of coherence. These novels offer new thinking about the temporality of reading, style and the ethics of narration. Reading these novels now suggests that other new modernist fiction, too, may require revisions to vocabularies with which modernist literature has sometimes been read.

### Key Features

- Considers how close reading may change as the study of modernism changes to include recently recovered fiction
- Asks what reading meant for selected critics of modernist literature around 1930 and around 1960
- Offers readings of three new modernist novels: Djuna Barnes's *Nightwood*, John Rodker's *Adolphe 1920* and Mina Loy's *Insel*
- Considers key cultural moments of the novels' composition and reception
- Extends the questions about reading raised by these novels to Samuel Beckett's *Comment c'est / How It Is* and Jean Rhys's short stories



## The Life, Literature and Legacy of Luis J. Rodríguez

*In the Long Run*

Edited by Josephine Metcalf and Ben V. Olguín

**August 2026**

**616 pp.**

**Illustrations: 28 black and white illustrations**

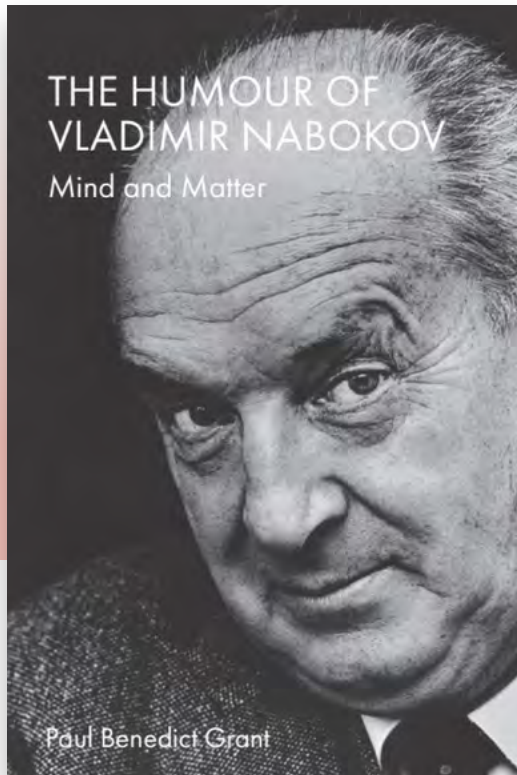
**Rights Available: World**

Luis Rodríguez is a prominent Latinx poet, memoirist and activist renowned for his candid visceral accounts of urban working-class life that includes youth gang violence, incarceration and drug abuse, gruelling factory work and union organising activities and collective approaches to redemption and political empowerment, which have resonated across multiple communities in the United States and abroad. Accordingly, whilst Rodríguez has been the focus of some critical scholarship, huge segments of his life, work and legacy remain unexamined.

This anthology has commissioned new and unique critical essays and reflections on Rodríguez's life and works, putting forward new ideas about bringing the voices of 'barrio organic intellectuals' to the fore. The anthology deliberately includes traditional academics as well as more public intellectuals and creative writers from across Europe and the Americas to reflect Rodríguez's own diverse outputs as a prisoner author and activist.

### Key Features

- Offers a range of perspectives on multiple aspects of his many different accomplishments and activities that can be used in secondary and university curricula
- Gathers peer author reflections that offer insights on Rodríguez's aesthetics for readers and writers to study and use, thus filling a gap between academic oriented scholarship and popular journalism about Rodríguez and his work
- Introduces new unpublished works by Rodríguez himself and archival materials relating to his career for further use in teaching and research as well as general interest



## The Humour of Vladimir Nabokov

Mind and Matter

Paul Benedict Grant

**March 2026**

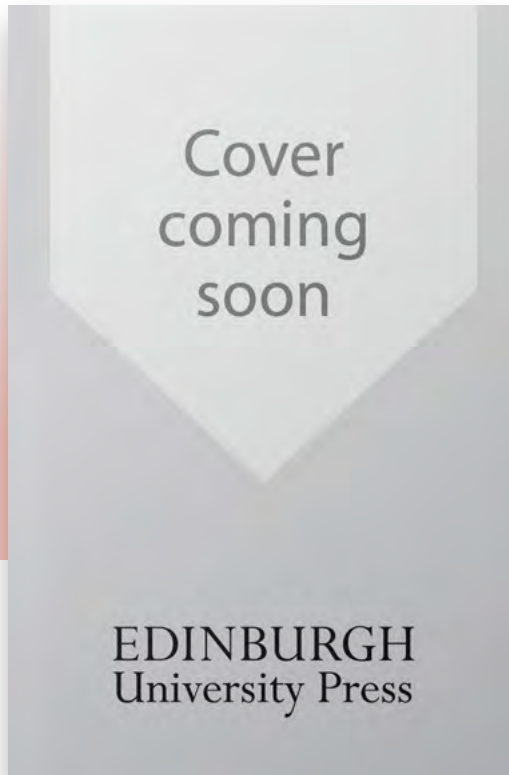
**312 pp.**

**Rights Available: World**

Many critics classify Vladimir Nabokov as a highbrow humourist, a refined wordsmith overly fond of playful puzzles and private in-jokes whose art appeals primarily to an intellectually sophisticated readership. This study presents a more balanced portrait, placing equal emphasis on the broader, earthier humour that is such a marked feature of Nabokov's writing, which draws on the human body and all things physical for its laughs: sex and scatology, farce and slapstick. Moving between the metaphysical and the physical, the cosmic and the comic, mind and matter, it presents Nabokov as a writer at home in both high and low forms of humour, a comedian who is capable of producing as many belly laughs as brainteasers, and of appealing to a much wider readership than is commonly supposed.

### Key Features

- First in-depth study of Nabokov's humour
- Presents a revisionist reading of Nabokov
- Examines the metaphysical aspects of Nabokov's humour
- Examines the sexual and scatological aspects of Nabokov's humour
- Applies humour theory (e.g. those of Hobbes, Bergson, Freud) to Nabokov's texts
- Compares Nabokov's humour to that of his Russian predecessors (e.g. Pushkin, Gogol, Chekhov) and to literary humourists such as Rabelais, Swift and Joyce



## The Edinburgh Companion to the Spanish Civil War and Visual Culture

Edited by Eugenia Afinoguénova, Robert Lubar Messeri and Silvina Schammah Gesser

**July 2026**

**736 pp.**

**Illustrations: 48 colour, 98 black and white**

Part of the *Edinburgh Companions to Literature and the Humanities* series

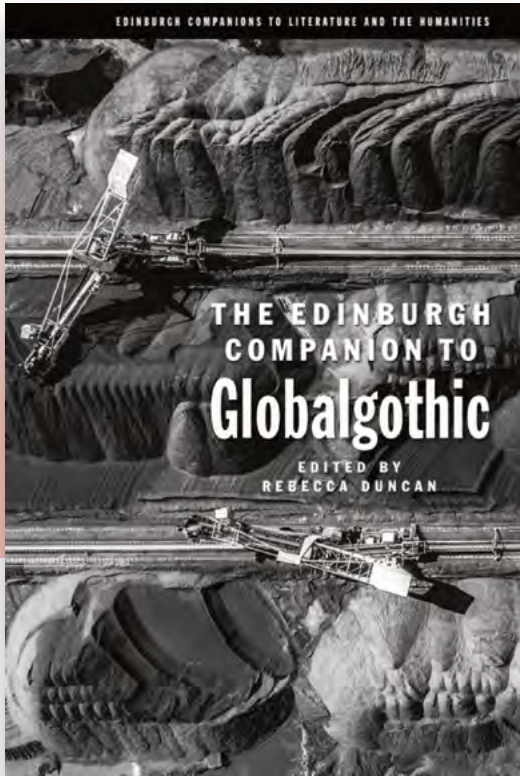
**Rights Available: World**

From propaganda posters to Pablo Picasso's *Guernica*, images of the Spanish Civil War (1936–9) reemerge across the globe wherever fratricidal conflicts and crimes against humanity occur. The War's iconic visual language continues to shape contemporary painting, propaganda and advertising – a surprisingly long afterlife for a conflict lasting less than three years.

This richly illustrated Companion explains this phenomenon, examining new sources and initiating fresh approaches to studying the visuality of the War and its legacies. The 33 essays collected here reveal the extent to which images helped – and still help – construct meaning around the War and other civil conflicts. Drawing on disciplines including art history, anthropology, history, art therapy, memory studies and forensic archaeology, the contributors' case studies show how visual representation united or divided wartime and postwar communities in Spain and beyond.

### Key Features

- Offers new models for interpreting the visual culture of the Spanish Civil War
- Looks at the visual culture of the Spanish Civil War as an expanding field that extends from the conflict itself to present-day memory debates
- Provides models for rethinking the visuality of civil conflict in other contexts
- Richly illustrated throughout



## The Edinburgh Companion to Globalgothic

Edited by Rebecca Duncan

**July 2026**

**520 pp.**

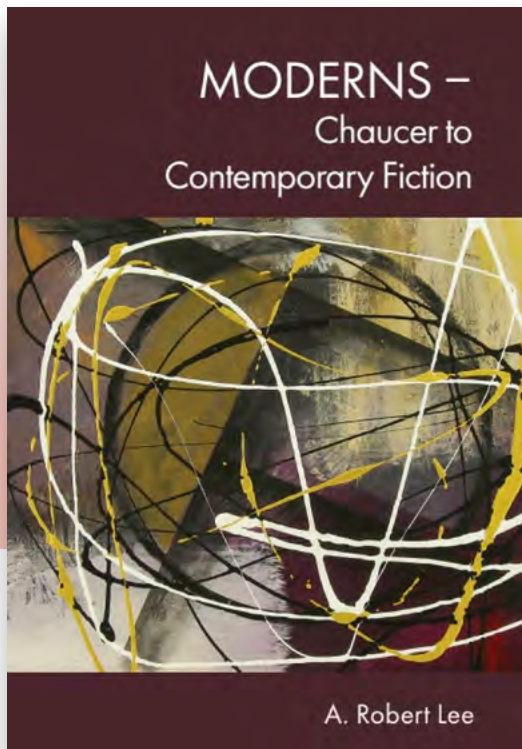
Part of the *Edinburgh Companions to Literature and the Humanities* series

**Rights Available: World**

*The Edinburgh Companion to Globalgothic* is the most substantial exploration to date of gothic fiction in the international context. Examining texts from across six continents, the volume considers how gothic imagines, colludes with or interrogates relationships and phenomena that are planetary in scale. Accordingly, chapters address gothic engagements with – among others – resource imperialism, (ongoing) colonial history, diasporic identity, buckling economic unions, the rise of the internet, ethnonationalism and entangled systems of gendered, racialised and ecocidal power. In this way, the collection moves decisively beyond the framework of globalisation to identify a range of new globalgothic approaches and modes, overall demonstrating that gothic is a key – though sometimes complicit – register for negotiating the challenges and histories of our uneven global present.

### Key Features

- Provides a comprehensive theorisation of globalgothic in the age of planetary crisis
- Includes analyses of gothic fiction from six continents
- Offers a range of new globalgothic approaches, modalities and regional permutations



## Moderns – Chaucer to Contemporary Fiction

A. Robert Lee

**July 2026**

**160 pp.**

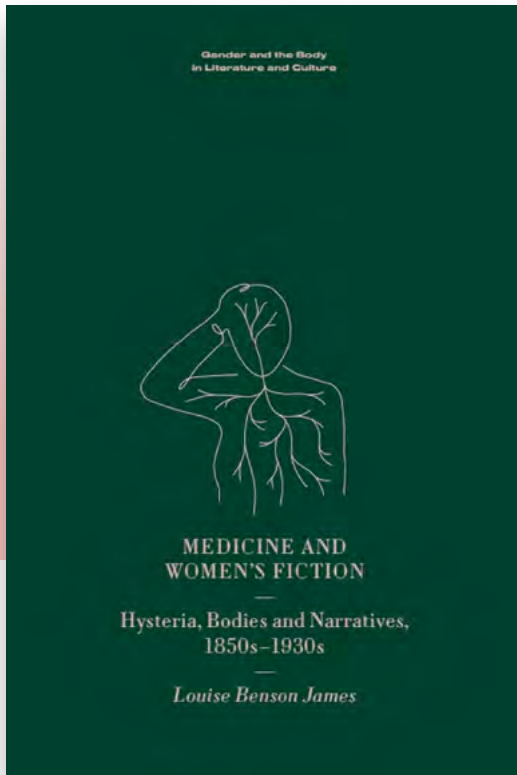
**Rights Available: World**

In this compelling new book, A. Robert Lee tackles the questions: how, and why, does a literary work assume the mantle of 'modern'? He shows, with wit and verve, that writing as far back as Chaucer's *The Canterbury Tales* can be called 'modern'. That the term further applies to John Skelton's poetry and to Shakespeare's *Hamlet* and to the sexual and theological verse of John Donne. That 'modern' literary experimentation holds as you read Sterne's *Tristram Shandy*, the poetry of Byron, the gothic of Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley, the essays of Hazlitt, a novel like Conrad's *The Secret Agent* and the work of Samuel Butler, Lytton Strachey and Ford Madox Ford. That with writers such as Mina Loy, Dorothy Richardson and Jean Rhys you have a gallery of the feminist modern.

These 'ultra' moderns segue into the postmodern turn of B. S. Johnson and Ann Quin and to boundary-pushing contemporary fiction, from Bernardine Evaristo to Alan Hollinghurst. However singular each writer, Lee argues persuasively for a distinctive collection of 'modern' voices.

### Key Features

- Argues that 'the modern' as an English literary tradition, medieval to contemporary, exists its own right
- Selects a gallery of authorship from Chaucer to contemporaries for analysis
- Suggests why we think *Hamlet* quite the most 'modern' of Shakespeare's plays
- Locates modernism as but one iteration of 'the modern'
- Gives close readings of texts to include those by John Donne and Laurence Sterne, Mary Shelley and Ann Quin



## Medicine and Women's Fiction

Hysteria, Bodies and Narratives, 1850s–1930s

Louise Benson James

**April 2026**

**264 pp.**

Part of the *Gender and the Body in Literature and Culture* series

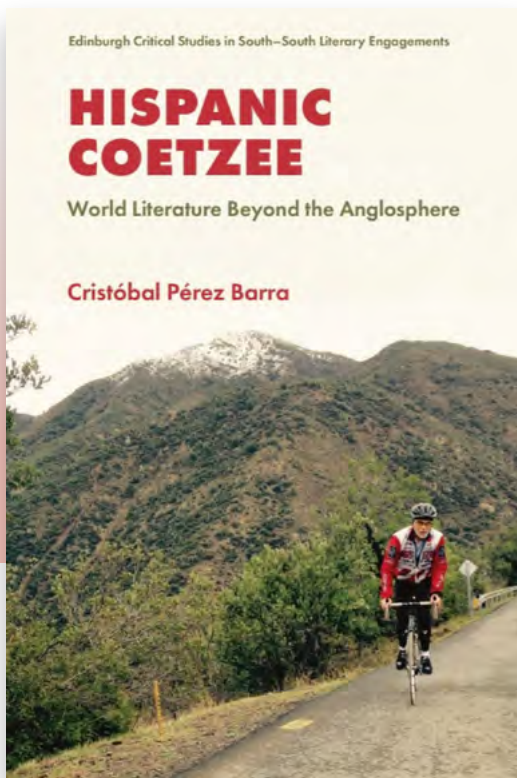
**Rights Available: World**

This book looks afresh at the history of hysteria to nuance and complicate existing understandings of the relationship between medicine and women's writing. Through in-depth analyses of both medical texts and women's fiction published between the 1850s and 1930s, it documents the prevalence of scientific ideas in popular culture and how hysterical symptomatology has been appropriated, reworked and satirised in literature.

Examining novels and short stories by Charlotte Brontë, Rhoda Broughton, Sarah Grand, Lucas Malet and Djuna Barnes, *Medicine and Women's Fiction* traces women writers' fascination with the materiality and instability of the body, troubling inherited truths about mental health and gender in literary and medical discourse. In contrast to stereotypical images of hysteria, it draws particular attention to disorder as part of everyday experience: the familiar, mundane ways in which the body goes out of control, from involuntary movements to ghostly hallucinations and unruly organs. Altogether, Louise Benson James re-evaluates what it means to take hysteria seriously in fiction.

### Key Features

- Belongs to a new wave in interdisciplinary literary criticism which aims to take seriously the materiality of the body in forming readings of texts, making use of contemporaneous ideas inspired by medicine and physiology
- Brings literature and medicine together through a balance of detailed close reading and historical context, and points to a shared language: the prevalence of medical and scientific ideas in popular culture and their reworking in fiction
- Part of a recovery and rediscovery of lost and little-known works of female authors: Rhoda Broughton's *Nancy* (1873) and short supernatural stories; Lucas Malet (Mary St Leger Harrison)'s *Wages of Sin* (1891) and *The Survivors* (1923); and Djuna Barnes's *Ryder* (1928)
- Brings new attention to women writers' engagement with medicine and the adoption of the role of medical authority, building on and challenging established readings of the role of medicine in, for example, Charlotte Brontë's *Villette* (1853); Sarah Grand's *The Heavenly Twins* (1893) and *The Beth Book* (1897); and Djuna Barnes's *Nightwood* (1936)



## Hispanic Coetzee

World Literature Beyond the Anglosphere

Cristóbal Pérez Barra

**April 2026**

**256 pp.**

**Illustrations: 10 black and white**

Part of the *Edinburgh Critical Studies in South-South Literary Engagements* series

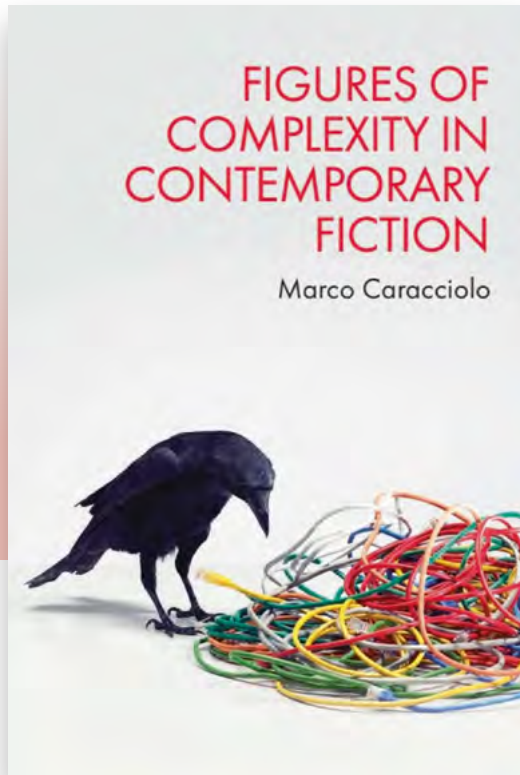
**Rights Available: World**

Nobel prize-winner J. M. Coetzee's *Jesus* novels (2013–19) are marked by distinctive Spanish-language and Hispanic-literatures elements, which bring forward a long elective affinity. *Hispanic Coetzee* is the first organic interpretation of Coetzee's oeuvre from a Hispanic perspective which also affirms that writing from 'the South' is central to his work.

Developing a combined comparative, Spanish and South American perspective that is new in Coetzee scholarship, Cristóbal Pérez Barra shows that the articulation of four Hispanic worlds progressed from Coetzee's early writings. These include Coetzee's Spanish translations and his discovery of the Spanish language, his academic work and Southern Cone travels, and his fiction and non-fiction writing, which converge in a Hispanic reality of the mind with a southern component. *Hispanic Coetzee* argues that Coetzee can only be properly understood as a writer whose work extends beyond the Anglophone sphere – a proposal which recalibrates our sense of his contribution to world literature.

### Key Features

- Draws on the whole Coetzee corpus in English and Spanish translation, unpublished work and interviews, and new archival material
- Engages with Hispanic literatures figures like Cervantes, Neruda and Borges, showing how they influenced Coetzee's work
- Demonstrates that throughout his career Coetzee was influenced by Hispanic literatures even as he also promoted it through varied intellectual praxes
- Allows for a Hispanic reading of Coetzee, thus building bridges with the Spanish-language strand in the wider field of world literature
- Shows the distinctiveness of the circulation of world literature in a non-Anglophone global context with significant southern elements



## Figures of Complexity in Contemporary Fiction

Marco Caracciolo

**June 2026**

**240 pp.**

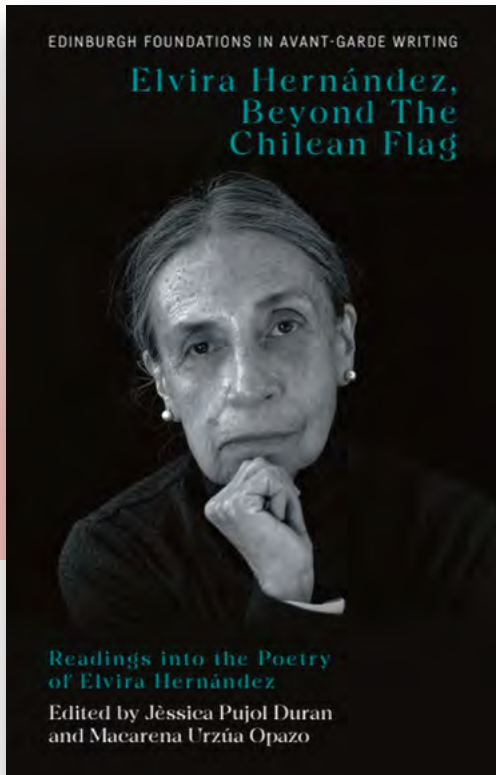
**Illustrations: 10 black and white illustrations**

**Rights Available: World**

How does fiction – including both print books and digital literature in the video game medium – imagine the complexity of issues such as migration or climate change? How does it envisage our societies' dependence on technological networks and supply chains that most of us don't understand? *Figures of Complexity* shows how fiction pushes complexity beyond its associations with desirable nuance and instead links it to material, psychological and ethical pitfalls that are distinctive of the present moment – a sense of reality getting out of hand, being difficult or overpowering, or facing us with unsolvable moral dilemmas. Through its engagement with works by authors such as Omar El Akkad, Lauren Groff, Yaa Gyasi and Hanya Yanagihara, the book examines a wide range of imaginative responses to these challenges.

### Key Features

- Deepens our understanding of how literature can stage the complexity of present-day challenges
- Builds on a large and diverse corpus of contemporary Anglophone fiction
- Combines formal analysis with extensive discussion of how literature negotiates social and ecological crises, from migration to climate change
- Puts contemporary fiction on a continuum with digital storytelling in video games



## Elvira Hernández, Beyond The Chilean Flag

Readings into the Poetry of Elvira Hernández

Edited by Jèssica Pujol Duran and Macarena Urzúa Opazo

**May 2026**

**304 pp.**

**Illustrations: 5 black and white**

Part of the *Edinburgh Foundations in Avant-Garde Writing* series

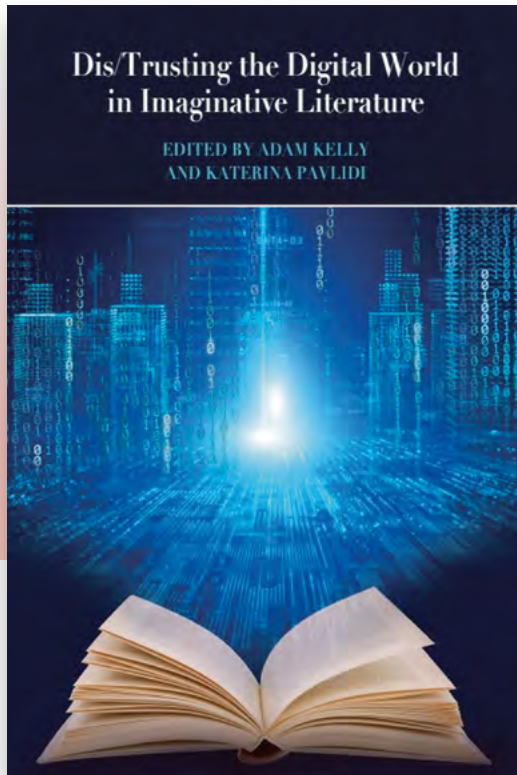
**Rights Available: World**

Elvira Hernández (1951–) is one of the most interesting and innovative Latin American poets writing today. This critical edition is the first of its kind in English, collecting Hernández's works from 1981 to the present day. *Beyond The Chilean Flag* provides an indispensable insight into Chilean recent history, from *The Chilean Flag*, a book written and secretly distributed during Pinochet's dictatorship, to her role as an artist and activist in the social turmoil of 2019, along with artifacts such as *Cartas al azar* (1989) and other scattered poems.

Alongside the English translations of Hernández's poetry, this edition includes six compelling scholarly essays by eminent scholars and poets, offering new understandings of Hernández's work, including her relationship with the Chilean neo-avant-garde, how she pushed the limits of linguistic expression under dictatorship, her latest critical approach to the ecological crisis, and more, in order to consider Hernández's writing from a contemporary expanded context.

### Key Features

- Newly translated Hernández's poetry into English
- Features previously uncollected work such as the artifact and some visual poems
- Includes six illuminating critical essays that offer key perspectives on Hernández's work
- Positions Elvira Hernández as a leading and feminist poet in the field of contemporary Latin American writing



## Dis/Trusting the Digital World in Imaginative Literature

Edited by Adam Kelly and Katerina Pavlidi

**May 2026**

**304 pp.**

**Illustrations: 14 black and white**

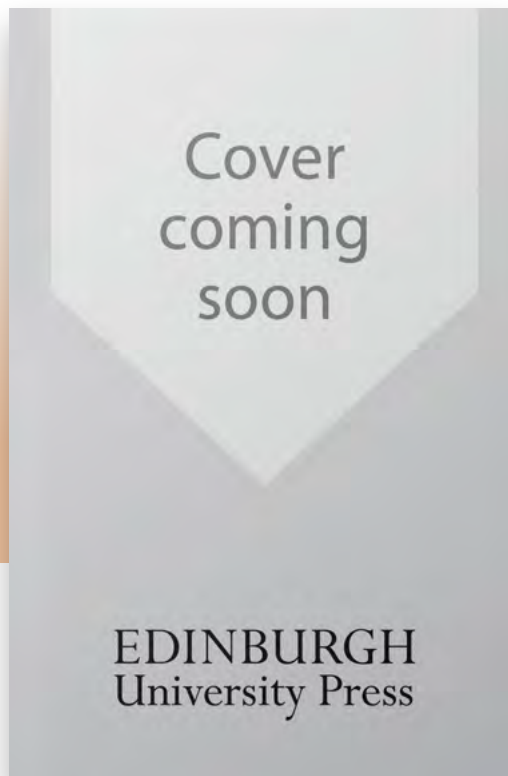
**Rights Available: World**

How has the advent of digital technology impacted social and institutional trust? And how can imaginative literature help us to answer this question? Impelled by this dual inquiry, *Dis/Trusting the Digital World in Imaginative Literature* addresses the intersections among digital studies, literary studies and studies of trust and distrust. Approaching the contemporary age through the *longue durée* of literary tradition, the volume is particularly concerned to identify the special affordances of literature for approaching problems of dis/trust in the digital world.

Readers will be informed about topical subjects and urgent issues, including the impact of digital technologies on the (literary) public sphere, the status of the digital image and the threat of deepfakes, the emergence of cryptocurrencies and the digital economy, and the AI revolution. Each chapter approaches these topics and issues through the lens of literary texts while also considering how the ways that we think about literature are changing in the digital age.

### Key Features

- Provides the first account of literature's role in representing and addressing trust and distrust in the digital world
- Brings together three distinct but mutually informative fields of study: literature, technology and trust
- Addresses prominent concerns: artificial intelligence, deepfakes and the digital image, cryptocurrencies and the digital economy, the public sphere in the digital age
- Offers an original theorisation of the notion of 'dis/trust,' especially in considering what it means to dis/trust the digital technologies we use every day
- Includes original readings of literary and popular writers including Jennifer Egan, Jonathan Franzen, Kazuo Ishiguro, Hari Kunzru, Viktor Pelevin, Thomas Pynchon, Sally Rooney, Brandon Sanderson and Zadie Smith



## Imaging Peace

Using Photography to Resist Violence, Transform Conflict and Build Community

Tiffany Fairey

**August 2026**

**336 pp.**

**Illustrations: 68 colour, 10 black and white**

**Rights Available: World**

War is highly visible; peace is not. If we do not know what peace looks like, how do we build it? *Imaging Peace* argues that the visibility of peace is central to creating and sustaining positive and inclusive peace. Based on research in four continents, this book offers the first multi-country study of under-documented, community-driven, localised and participatory peace photography projects in countries experiencing ongoing violence and navigating the legacies of conflict and war.

It examines how local actors proactively appropriate and harness photography to transform conflict, to foster social healing and dialogue, to build agency and to nurture peace imaginaries and cultures.

Extending critical understandings of how arts-based peacebuilding explicitly and implicitly contributes to peace, this richly illustrated book offers new thinking on what visual peacebuilding consists of, capturing plural forms of participatory peace photography methods and strategies from diverse peace and conflict settings.

## Key Features

- Constitutes the first multi-country empirical study of peace photography, discussing original case studies from Rwanda, Colombia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Northern Ireland, Mexico and Nepal
- Examines how images and image-making (photography) can be harnessed to disrupt conflict and to foster peace
- Based on collaborative and action research on under-documented, under-the-radar localised forms of strategic visual peacebuilding and peace photography
- Offers in-depth discussion of participatory visual methods and ethics that speak directly to topical themes of de-colonisation and co-production
- Extends our understanding of arts-based peacebuilding and visual peace methods and strategies
- Presents interdisciplinary and practice-based research that will appeal to both researchers and practitioners in peace and conflict studies, post conflict and community development, socially engaged arts practices and methods, and photographic theory



## Affective Dimensions of Political Violence

The Case of a Lynching in Mexico

Melany Cruz

**March 2026**

**200 pp.**

**Rights Available: World**

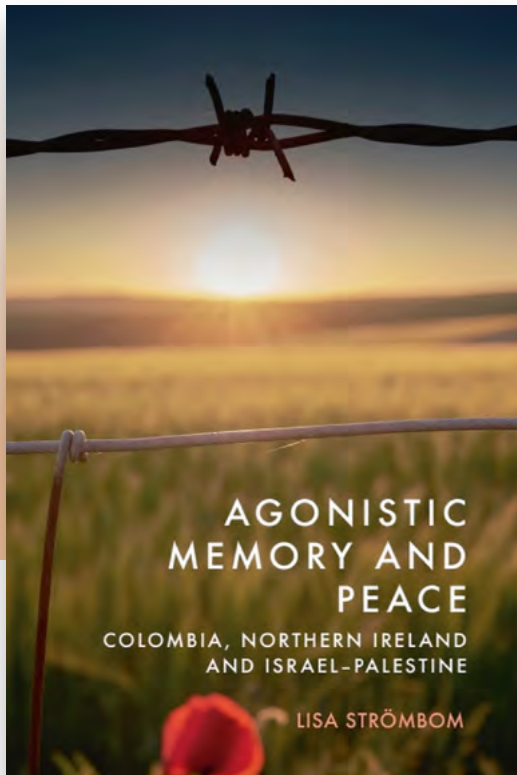
*Affective Dimensions of Political Violence* challenges the dominant accounts of political violence, which view it as a purely rational or structural phenomenon, often dismissing emotions like rage and anger as irrational and therefore apolitical.

This book argues emotions become deeply political when they disrupt the order established and maintained by the state – often through violence. Using the case of a lynching in San Juan Ixtayopan, Mexico, the book reconceptualises a form of violence, which is commonly labelled as 'criminal' or 'barbaric', as instead an eminently political act performed by marginalised groups as a means of asserting their presence.

Drawing on theorists such as Girard, Foucault, Butler and Benjamin, the book provides a phenomenological exploration of violence, linking emotional experiences to neoliberal political conditions. Structured around three core emotions – fear, anger and revenge – it examines moral panics and scapegoating, the spectacle of violence and perceptions of justice. By weaving collective emotions into theories of political violence, this interdisciplinary work offers a fresh way to understand how affects shape violence beyond instrumental logic, contributing to political theory, sociology and feminist readings of violence.

## Key Features

- Challenges traditional conceptions of political violence by integrating political emotions into the analysis of contemporary lynching
- Uses the 2004 lynching in San Juan Ixtayopan, Mexico, as a case study to rethink violence often labelled as 'criminal' or 'barbaric'
- Politicises marginalised forms of violence, such as lynching, which are typically excluded from dominant frameworks for understanding political violence
- Bridges disciplinary boundaries by combining insights from various fields with political theory to deepen an understanding of collective violence



## Agonistic Memory and Peace

Colombia, Northern Ireland and Israel-Palestine

Lisa Strömbom

**March 2026**

**240 pp.**

**Rights Available: World**

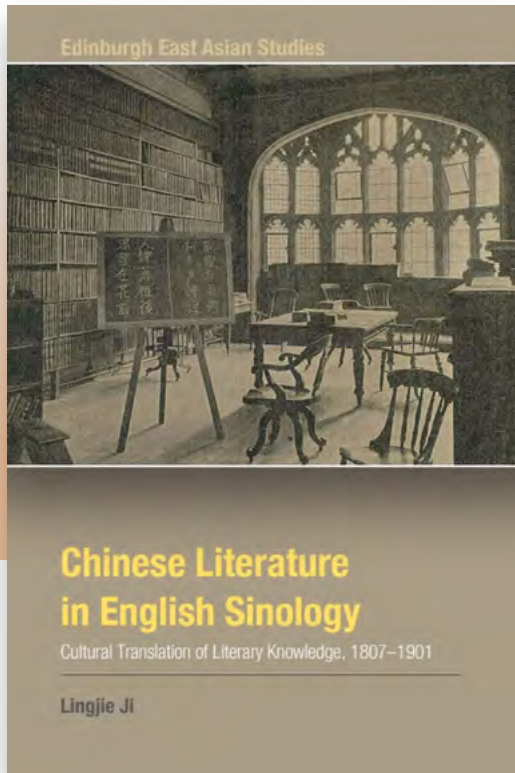
This is a book about the power of memory in fractured societies and initiatives that resist pressures to simplify history. It traces the intricate pathways of local dialogue initiatives in three of the world's most emotionally charged conflicts: Colombia, Israel-Palestine and Northern Ireland.

There, the past is always contested terrain – it is present, alive and deeply political. The book draws on agonistic peace theory, which proposes continued contestation, discussion and disagreement – in non-violent, constructive forms – as the most productive way to transform violent conflicts.

Focusing on how local organisations can work to facilitate dialogue about conflict memory, the analyses rely on interview-based case studies where organisations working on bringing people together to juxtapose their memories of these conflicts are probed. The results underline that safeguarding dialogue spaces, stimulating counter-hegemonic forces and the circulation of memory between memoryscapes at different scales are crucial enabling factors for successful agonistic memory work.

## Key Features

- Agonistic memory work as a framework for conflict transformation
- In-depth case studies from Colombia, Israel-Palestine, and Northern Ireland
- Careful historical tracing of memory politics in zones of protracted conflict
- Agonistic memory dialogues as potential site for conflict transformation



## Chinese Literature in English Sinology

Cultural Translation of Literary Knowledge, 1807-1901

Lingjie Ji

July 2026

246 pp.

Illustrations: 8 black and white

Part of the *Edinburgh East Asian Studies* series

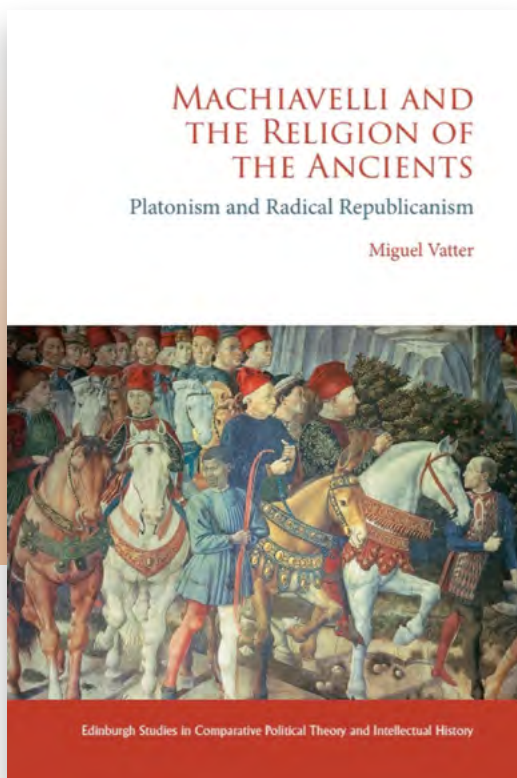
Rights Available: World

*Chinese Literature in English Sinology* takes an exciting new approach to Sino-British literary and cultural encounters in the 19th century, focusing specifically on British Sinologists' study of Chinese literature in the English language. It provides the first comprehensive exploration of their writings on Chinese literature as a form of literary knowledge constructed through the process of cultural translation – a translingual and transcultural rewriting. The analysis reveals the interaction between Chinese and English literary concepts and paradigms in their study that gave rise to ideas about Chinese literature still influential today.

Drawing attention to the political implication of literary knowledge, this book also demonstrates that Sinologists' interpretation of Chinese literature played an important role in shaping the British cultural imagination of China. Tracing this uncharted history, *Chinese Literature in English Sinology* contributes to present and future debates on the intercultural reading and studies of Chinese literature by offering a genealogical understanding of its origins and ramifications.

## Key Features

- Draws on diverse primary sources to provide the first comprehensive account of knowledge about Chinese literature in English Sinology
- Offers new insights into how Chinese literature was understood as a knowledge category in the Anglophone world in the 19th century
- Discusses the significance of literature knowledge in cultural history
- Contributes to a growing body of research on the history and process of literary and cultural encounters between China and the West



## Machiavelli and the Religion of the Ancients

Platonism and Radical Republicanism

Miguel Vatter

**July 2026**

**360 pp.**

**Illustrations: 6 black and white**

Part of the *Edinburgh Studies in Comparative Political Theory and Intellectual History* series

**Rights Available: World**

Machiavellianism and Platonism are traditionally opposed, as realism is to idealism, and might is to right. This book questions this opposition, arguing that Machiavelli is far more influenced by Platonism than by Epicureanism. The Platonism at the time of the Medici is marked by the reception of Arabic/Islamic and Byzantine interpretations of Plato. These portray Platonism as an expression of an 'ancient theology' that offers an alternative to Christianity by undoing a stark opposition between faith and knowledge; emphasising the political and state-founding role of prophets; affirming the continuity between humans and animals; and defending the rationality of divine and human law. Miguel Vatter contends that from these alternative approaches to Platonism, Machiavelli draws a critique of both the Catholic Church and of Humanism, rejecting their oligarchic tendencies in favour of a radical form of republicanism.

### Key Features

- Presents a new interpretation of Machiavelli's idea of religion and its political uses
- Explains the role of ancient theology in the Italian Renaissance and explains the tensions with Christianity
- Displays a complex picture of how Platonism and Aristotelianism, mediated by medieval Arabic, Jewish and Byzantine interpretations, were deployed in the culture wars of Italian Renaissance
- Defends a republican conception of constitutionalism that is neither oligarchic nor populist



## Nancy Fraser and Politics

Marjan Ivković and Zona Zarić

**June 2026**

**248 pp.**

Part of the *Thinking Politics* series

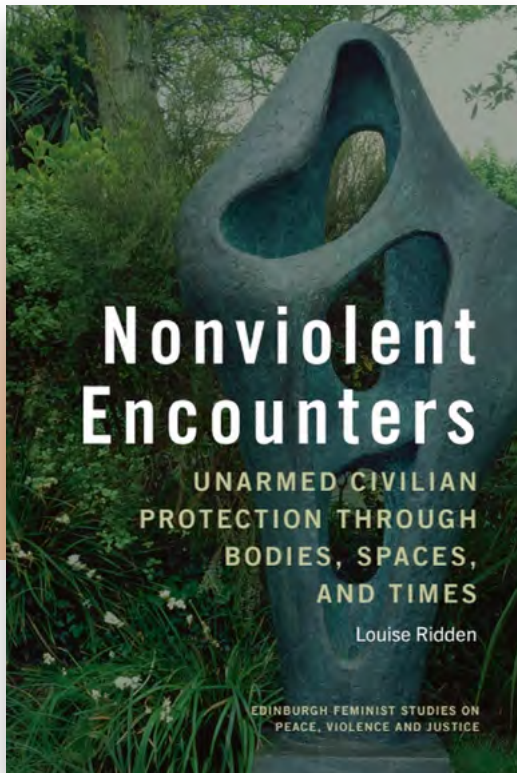
**Rights Available: World**

*Nancy Fraser and Politics* is a systematic reconstruction of the work of Nancy Fraser, a key contemporary figure of critical theory and socialist feminism. It argues that Fraser's critical theory is a powerful and sophisticated analytical prism for diagnosing the breadth of empirical variety and depth of structural causality of injustice and domination in the 'actually existing' capitalist democracies of today, and for informing and inspiring numerous political movements struggling for societal emancipation.

Ivković and Zarić demonstrate that a key aspect of Fraser's critical theory, her structural approach to domination which traces the manifold empirical injustices to a common root cause, is a thread that runs through her entire opus.

### Key Features

- Reconstructs Nancy Fraser's critical theory and socialist feminism
- Explains Fraser's theorisation of capitalism as an institutionalised social order
- Demonstrates the unique potentials of Fraser's work for informing transformative political action
- Stages a debate over how Fraser's tridimensional approach to justice opens the path to reimagining the promotion of rights beyond national borders



## Nonviolent Encounters

Unarmed Civilian Protection through Bodies, Spaces, and Times

Louise Ridden

**April 2026**

**184 pp.**

Part of the *Edinburgh Feminist Studies on Peace, Violence and Justice* series

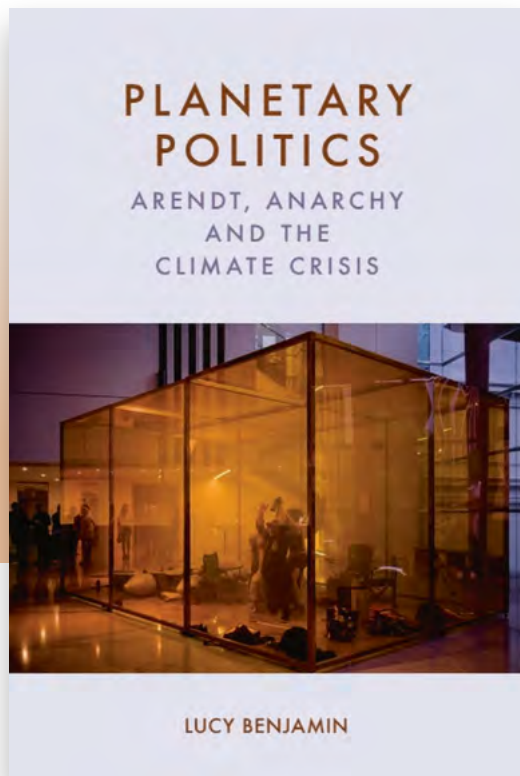
**Rights Available: World**

This book takes the emerging practice of Unarmed Civilian Protection (UCP) as a case study of nonviolence to interrogate the roles of violence and nonviolence in conflict knowledge production. By focusing on nonviolent actors using UCP, it decentres violence, which is often so prominent in peace research. This approach creates space to fundamentally reimagine how the world might be when imagined and enacted through nonviolence.

Drawing together feminist theorising from critical military studies, peace and conflict studies and international relations, *Nonviolent Encounters* argues that decentring violence in conflict knowledge production upsets the simple binaries of protector/protected and war/peace, underpinned by the 'one-world' onto-epistemology of much Western conflict knowledge. Instead, space is created to reconsider nonviolence, not as the binary opposite of violence, but as a way of knowing, doing and being – as a way of producing alternative ontological worlds.

## Key Features

- Discusses the practice of Unarmed Civilian Protection (UCP) in South Sudan, Indonesia, Kosovo, Albania, the US, Northern Ireland, Syria, Israel and Palestine
- Draws together feminist theorising from International Relations, Peace and Conflict Studies, Critical Geography and Critical Military Studies
- Challenges the centrality of violence in academic work relating to armed conflict by de-centring and displacing violent epistemological and ontological frameworks
- Addresses the key conceptual building blocks of embodiment, space and temporality
- Directly engages with assumptions around the efficacy and legitimacy of violence in the protection of civilians



## Planetary Politics

Arendt, Anarchy and the Climate Crisis

Lucy Benjamin

**May 2026**

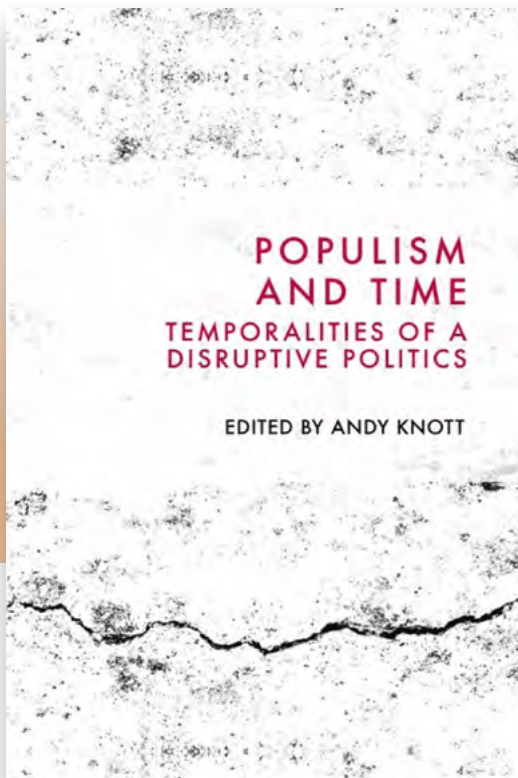
**224 pp.**

**Rights Available: World**

Critical political theory has been transformed since the declaration of the Anthropocene in the early 2000s. However, a substantive account of a planetary politics, which begins by understanding politics as planetary – as opposed to politics applied to the planet – is yet to be developed. *Planetary Politics: Arendt, Anarchy and the Climate Crisis* offers precisely such an account of political theory. Rereading the key works of Hannah Arendt, it suggests that Arendt was a theorist of the planet and that claims of hers, such as the fact that 'plurality is the law of the earth', have been radically overlooked. Recovering these moments in Arendt's writing, this book makes the case for a planetary anarchism and the restaging of revolutionary politics.

## Key Features

- Rereads Hannah Arendt's writings, with a view to foregrounding her recurrent yet overlooked references to the planetary dimension of politics.
- Critically reinterrogates Arendt's engagement with the politics of revolution and her refusal to explicitly confront the violence of colonialism in the US context.
- Discusses the meaning of political unpredictability and spontaneity in light of climate modelling, planetary 'tipping points' and 'baked in' climate consequences.



## Populism and Time

Temporalities of a Disruptive Politics

Edited by Andy Knott

**April 2026**

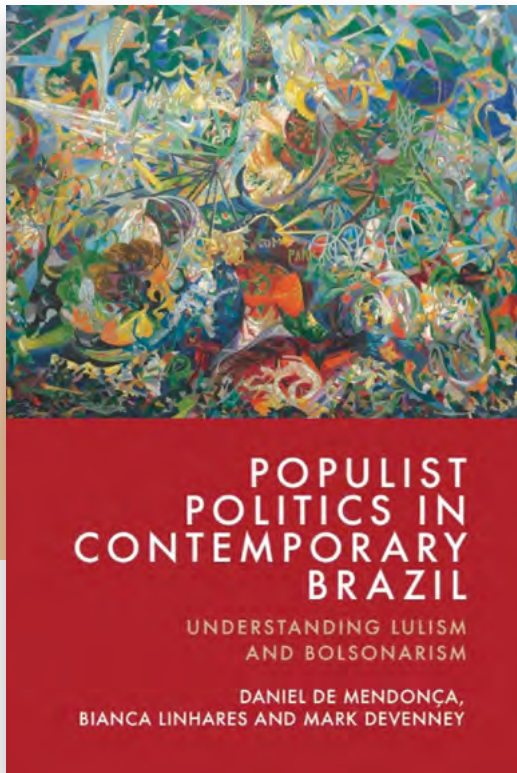
**272 pp.**

**Rights Available: World**

This book addresses the untapped theoretical encounter between populism and time. It argues that this enquiry can augment analyses of the history, contemporary political practice and theory of populism, by identifying and critically engaging with its appearances, disappearances, and its failure to emerge within the broad scope of global politics. The book incorporates populism's relationship with democracy, modernity, subjectivity, communication, technology and crisis to draw temporal comparisons between populism and rival political practices and logics.

### Key Features

- Combines populism with the theme of time
- Examines the history and contemporary practice of populism across several continents, its legacies and future potential
- The temporal frame enables a critical engagement of populism alongside technology, democracy and late modernity



## Populist Politics in Contemporary Brazil

Understanding Lulism and Bolsonarism

Daniel de Mendonça, Bianca Linhares and Mark Devenney

July 2026

152 pp.

Illustrations: 3 black and white

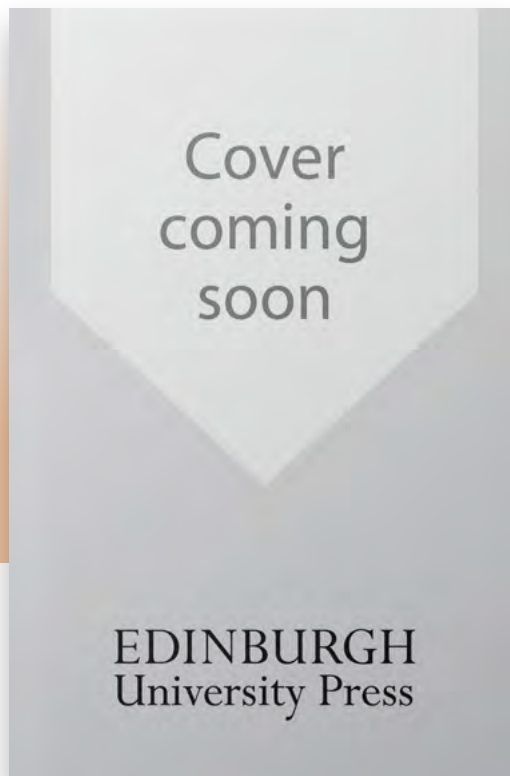
Rights Available: World

This is the first English language book to analyse the contrasting populisms of Lula and Bolsonaro, developing a unique analysis of Brazilian politics and the more than two-decade long rule of populisms of the left and the right. Lulism, as a centre-left discourse, defends the basic institutional framework of liberal democracies while contesting their inequalities. Bolsonarism is an extreme right-wing, flagrantly anti-democratic political movement.

Introducing English-speaking readers to why Brazil is central to contemporary geopolitical concerns, the book investigates how populisms imagine, represent and respond to debates about equality and social rights. It centres climate change in the analysis of populist politics, centring debates about the 'natural world' in both populisms, and analyses the place of indigenous identities and political claims in relation to Brazil's populist discourses.

### Key Features

- Rethinks populist politics and theory in light of the unique politics of contemporary Brazil
- Demonstrates the centrality of climate change to populist politics, and critiques how the 'natural world' is characterised in both left- and right-wing populisms
- Develops an accessible analysis of the place of Brazil in the 21st-century global politics
- Analyses the place of indigenous identities and political claims in relation to populist discourses in Brazil
- Demonstrates the limits of existing theories of populism



## Radical Democracy, Populism and Desire

Inside the Yellow Vests Movement

Thomás Zicman de Barros

**July 2026**

**176 pp.**

**Illustrations: 7 black and white**

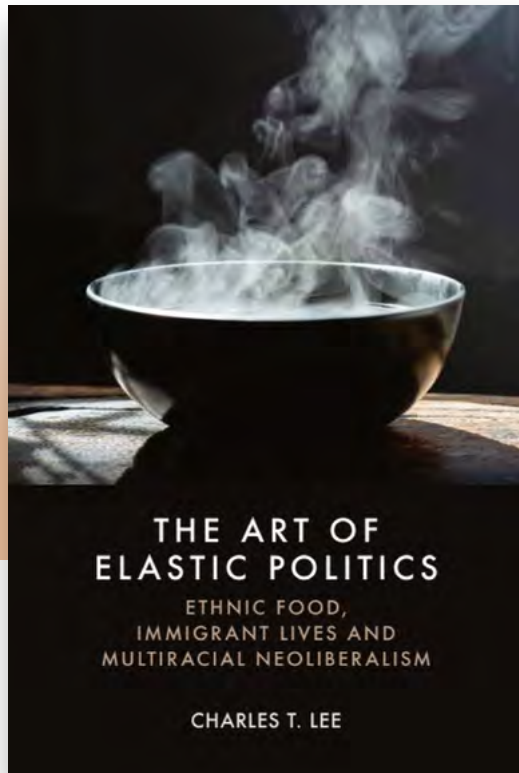
**Rights Available: World**

The Yellow Vests movement ('Les gilets jaunes') occupied roundabouts across France in late 2018 and remains a puzzling phenomenon. Bringing together protestors across the political spectrum, the movement's democratic character remains ambiguous. Was this populist uprising a radicalisation of democracy that gave voice to the excluded, or an undemocratic claim to speak for 'the people' while entrenching hierarchies?

*Radical Democracy, Populism and Desire* articulates empirical analysis and theoretical reflection, using the Yellow Vests as a prism to rethink democratic theory. Drawing on psychosocial interviews with grassroots participants, it explores how identities were constructed, contested and steered within the movement. Thomás Zicman de Barros argues that the protests were driven by a desire for recognition and belonging, but that this desire could be mobilised in sharply different directions. By tracing these coexisting modes of identification, the book exposes the fraught and ambiguous ties between populism and democracy in contemporary politics.

### Key Features

- Bridges political theory and psychoanalysis in a striking interdisciplinary account of the Yellow Vests
- Draws on unique psychosocial interviews with grassroots protesters to reveal how personal stories erupted into collective mobilisation
- Makes psychoanalytic ideas – desire, fantasy, enjoyment, symptom – tangible through vivid empirical examples tested in the classroom
- Recasts populism as aesthetic transgression, bringing Lacanian theory into dialogue with radical democracy



## The Art of Elastic Politics

Ethnic Food, Immigrant Lives and Multiracial Neoliberalism

Charles T. Lee

**March 2026**

**264 pp.**

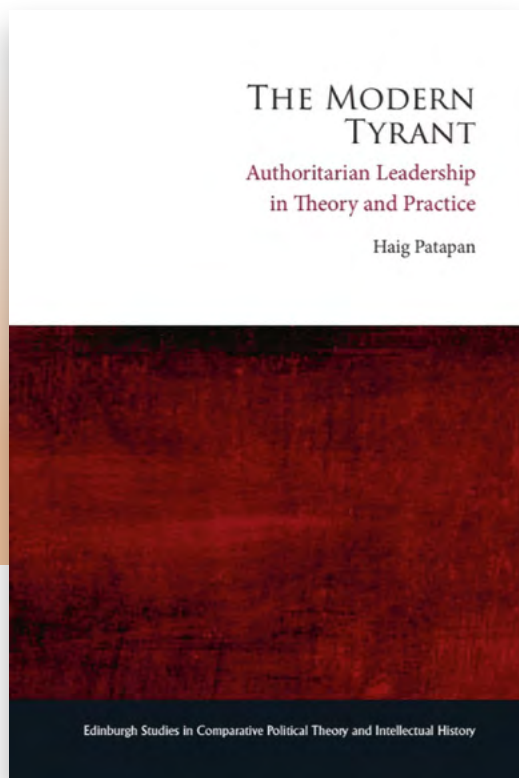
**Rights Available: World**

*The Art of Elastic Politics* explores how immigrant food practices inspire new ways of rethinking progressive politics in the shifting contours of neoliberal capitalism. Drawing on ethnographic fieldwork in Southern California's Asian restaurant industry, this book develops the concept of elasticity as a theoretical framework for navigating neoliberalism's contradictions.

By examining how the dynamic interplay of ethnic entrepreneurship, immigrant labour and cultural consumption creates subtle, nonlinear opportunities for resistance, empowerment and citizenship contestation, the book challenges conventional political frameworks through a flexible and circuitous approach to contesting precarity and inequality. Bridging political theory, cultural studies, food studies and posthumanism, this interdisciplinary study – organised around the themes of Elastic Food, Elastic Citizenship and Elastic Governance – equips scholars, activists and students with nuanced tools and frameworks for grappling with the challenges and complexities of migration, citizenship, governance and global capitalism in a rapidly evolving world.

## Key Features

- Develops elasticity as a political strategy to manage the contradictions of neoliberalism, offering adaptable ways to combat instability and inequality
- Views ethnic restaurants as political spaces with significant implications for rethinking democracy and rights in a multiracial neoliberal world
- Utilises a three-part analysis of ethnic entrepreneurship, immigrant labour, and cultural consumption in Southern California's Asian restaurant industry to highlight how immigrant communities create daily empowerment and resistance
- Introduces strategic posthumanism to reconsider capitalist utility as inherent in the posthuman condition, advocating for its use as a tool for progressive political action
- Presents transdisciplinary political theory, combining various academic fields to develop new theories and outline flexible strategies for resistance and progressive politics under neoliberalism



## The Modern Tyrant

Authoritarian Leadership in Theory and Practice

Haig Patapan

**March 2026**

**232 pp.**

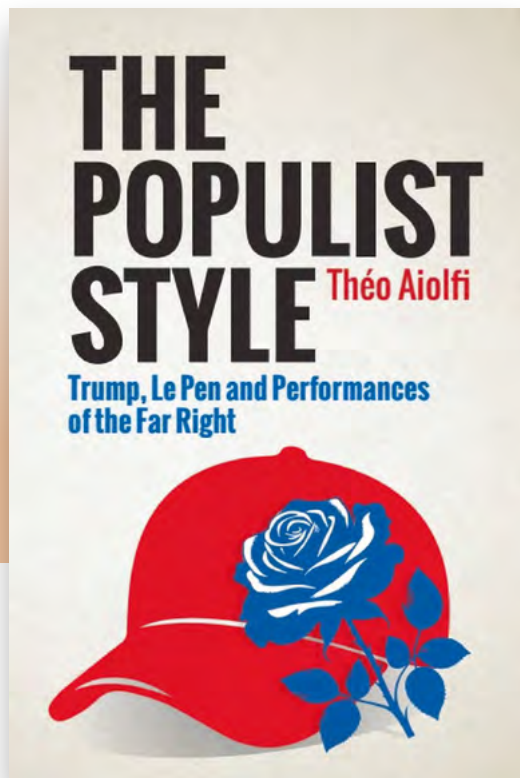
Part of the *Edinburgh Studies in Comparative Political Theory and Intellectual History* series

**Rights Available: World**

*The Modern Tyrant* argues that modern authoritarian leaders resemble classical tyrants but are distinctive in three ways: their ambitions for wealth and glory are shaped by modernity (especially nationalism, religion and ideology); their techniques are novel, combining authoritarian and democratic forms; and finally, they are much more powerful, able to exploit modern propaganda techniques and technology to enhance their control and dominance.

### Key Features

- New understanding of the character and motives of modern authoritarian leaders
- Examination of the distinction between populists and authoritarians
- A new typology of authoritarian leaders, distinguishing between the nationalist, religious and ideological tyrants
- A new 'manual' of authoritarian leadership, providing a novel theoretical account of the techniques deployed by 'smart' authoritarians
- An assessment of the modern tools employed by authoritarians, including propaganda and communication technology
- An evaluation of the theoretical and political vulnerability of democracy to modern authoritarianism



## The Populist Style

Trump, Le Pen and Performances of the Far Right

Théo Aiolfi

July 2026

266 pp.

Illustrations: 2 black and white

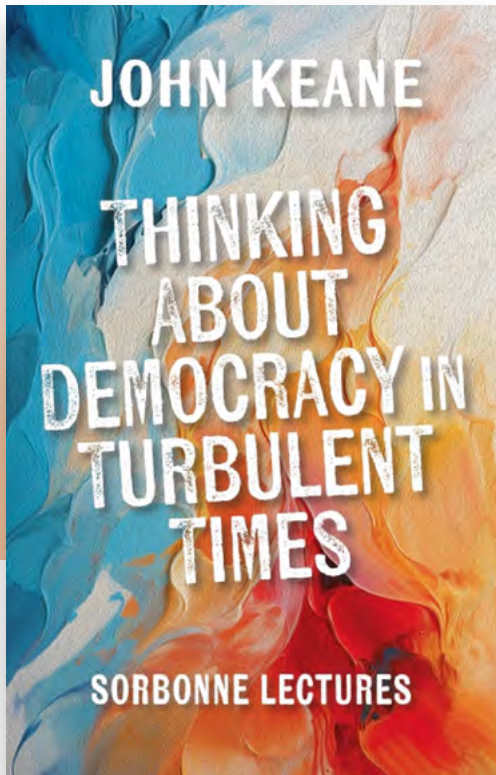
Rights Available: World

Through a comparative case study analysing the 2016 and 2017 presidential campaigns of Donald Trump and Marine Le Pen, *The Populist Style* examines the links between far-right ideology and populism. Adopting an interdisciplinary framework combining political science and performance studies, this book develops a critical definition of populism as a style, that is, as a repertoire of political performances that shapes and is given shape by ideological content.

The book argues that the populist style relies on three clusters of performances: performances of identity, performances of transgression and performances of crisis. Through an analysis of a corpus including presidential debates, speeches during rallies and political advertisements drawn from the campaigns of Trump and Le Pen, this book shows the adaptability of the populist style and its relevance as discursive-performative strategy across two different national contexts as it was used by far-right political actors to make their reactionary agenda and exclusionary nationalism more appealing.

## Key Features

- Offers an original interdisciplinary perspective on politics that introduces concepts, methods and tools drawn from theatre and performance studies to the literature in political science
- Provides theoretical innovations in the study of populism as a performative and stylistic phenomenon
- Introduces an original methodological tool: the political performance analysis questionnaire (PPAQ) which synthesises inputs from theatre studies and sociology, while providing a transferable tool for scholars interested in examining political performances
- Develops a detailed comparative case study through an analysis of a corpus of diversified political performances (including rally speeches, presidential debates and political advertisements)
- Offers the first book-length comparative analysis of Marine Le Pen and her use of populism in the English language, along with a comparison with Donald Trump



## Thinking About Democracy in Turbulent Times

Sorbonne Lectures

John Keane

May 2026

184 pp.

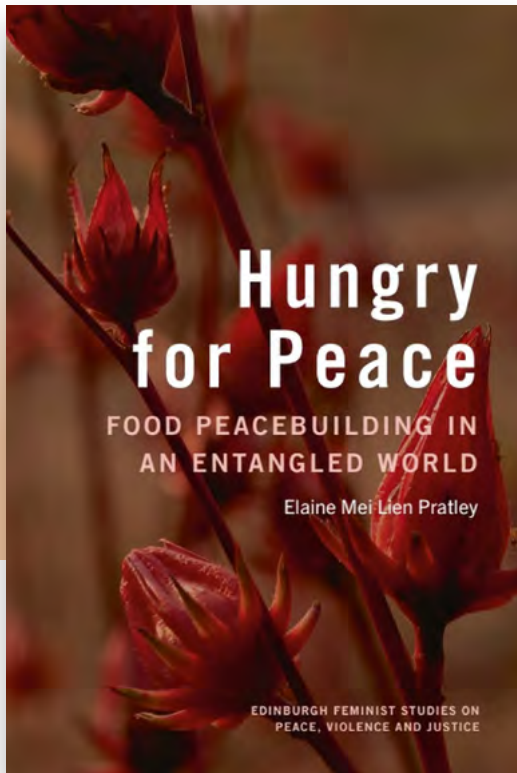
Rights Available: World

The era when theorists could urge democrats to whistle their way through the world with an air of 'philosophical superficiality and light-mindedness' (Richard Rorty) is over. In a period of mounting global anxiety and widespread political unrest about democracy's future, the moment has come for more thinking about thinking, and for considering the surprising connections between thinking and democracy.

This book provocatively encourages readers to pose afresh key questions – what does it mean to think about democracy, and what exactly is thinking? – and offers them real-world examples of how in these troubled times adventurous thinking about democracy can contribute in practice to new ways of rejuvenating its spirit and substance. Running through the pages of this assemblage of lectures is a passionate belief that in these troubled times democracy – popular self-government and a whole way of life committed to the non-violent refusal of arbitrary power – remains an indispensable planetary ideal.

### Key Features

- Critiques the shallow commentary on democracy and urges a thoughtful response to modern challenges
- Challenges the prejudice, from Adam Smith onwards, that common people lack the intellectual capacity to shape modernity
- Proposes an unorthodox view of thinking as a collective, embodied and transformative activity open to all, not just intellectuals
- Explores how 18th-century civil society concepts, green politics and classical Greek critiques of democracy reshape our understanding of democratic practices
- Expands on the institutional concept of 'monitory democracy', which emphasises the continuous oversight of power
- Critiques pessimistic dogmas, arguing that democracy must be understood as dynamic and evolving, not fixed or absolute



## Hungry for Peace

Food Peacebuilding in an Entangled World

Elaine Mei Lien Pratley

**June 2026**

**240 pp.**

**Illustrations: 9 black and white**

Part of the *Edinburgh Feminist Studies on Peace, Violence and Justice* series

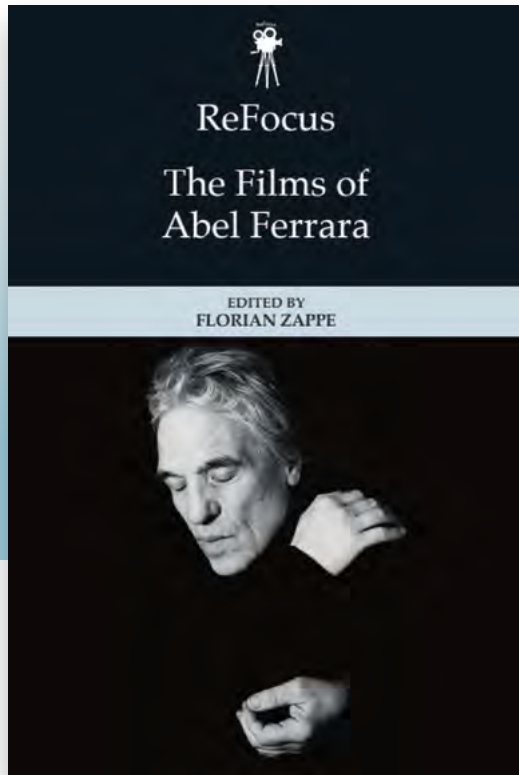
**Rights Available: World**

*Hungry for Peace* invites readers into the remarkable world of food as an active agent of conflict and connection. From community kitchens to food festivals and shared meals around tables, Elaine Mei Lien Pratley shows how food shapes tensions, sparks understanding and produces everyday peace. Through participatory fieldwork with young people in Melbourne, Australia, ordinary acts – eating consciously, sampling unfamiliar cuisines and reducing food waste – emerge as powerful, agentic gestures that negotiate conflict, build trust and nurture connection.

Blending feminist peace studies, food research and posthumanist theory, the book reveals how more-than-human actors – smells, ingredients, tables and atmospheres – participate directly in peace and conflict. It shows food practices not as background, but as lively collaborators in peacebuilding, offering new ways to understand, navigate and shape conflict in our interconnected, entangled world.

## Key Features

- Explores how everyday food practices contribute to both conflict and peacebuilding, using participatory fieldwork with young people in Melbourne, Australia
- Demonstrates how more-than-human actors – including food, tables, gardens and built environments – act as instruments and agents of peace-conflict
- Challenges anthropocentric approaches in Peace and Conflict Studies, proposing a posthumanist framework where peace-conflict is more-than-human
- Highlights multi-sensorial experiences of peace and conflict, including smells, tastes, atmospheres and embodied practices
- Draws together interdisciplinary research from anthropology, sociology, international relations, intercultural studies, animal studies and ethics
- Extends the everyday peacebuilding agenda by examining youth practices in Australia, a context often seen as peaceful and by connecting Continental and Eastern philosophical perspectives



## ReFocus: The Films of Abel Ferrara

Edited by Florian Zappe

**June 2026**

**192 pp.**

**Illustrations: 18 black and white**

Part of the *ReFocus: The American Directors Series*

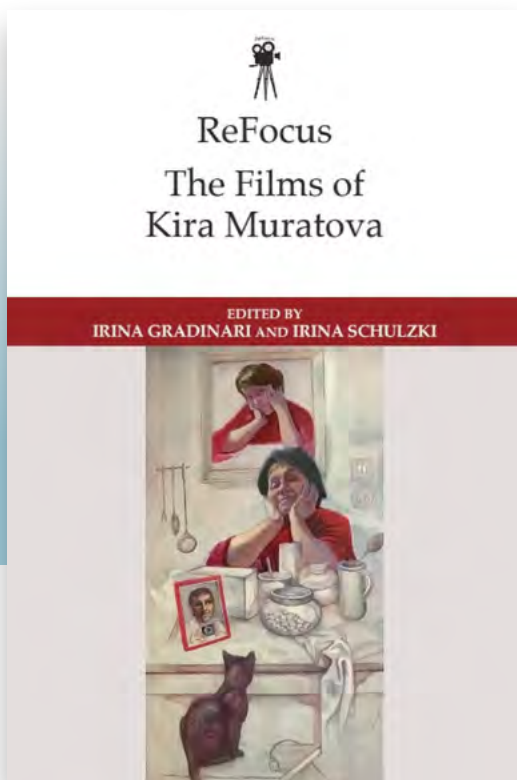
**Rights Available: World**

Over his four decade-long career, Abel Ferrara has built himself a reputation as one of the most audacious and unconventional filmmakers in contemporary cinema. After his beginnings in the exploitation circuit of the late 1970s he became one of the central figures in the indie wave of the 1980s and 90s and is now an established arthouse director whose versatile oeuvre crosses the boundaries of cult, independent and Hollywood cinema.

*ReFocus: The Films of Abel Ferrara* offers a comprehensive critical survey of the director's work. The volume brings together a broad range of methodological, theoretical, historical and philosophical perspectives on Ferrara's work and case studies include *Ms 45*, *The Driller Killer*, *Bad Lieutenant*, *Pasolini* and *Welcome to New York*.

### Key Features

- Discusses Ferrara's oeuvre in dialogue with ongoing debates in film studies
- Situates Ferrara's work within larger contexts and movements in American and transnational film history including cult cinema, 'indiewood', genre film and Italian-American filmmaking
- Considers the cultural, historical and industrial significance of Ferrara with focuses on genre theory, film narrative, authorship, gender studies, philosophy and the formative influence of production contexts



## ReFocus: The Films of Kira Muratova

Edited by Irina Gradinari and Irina Schulzki

**June 2026**

**336 pp.**

**Illustrations: 51 black and white**

Part of the *ReFocus: The International Directors* series

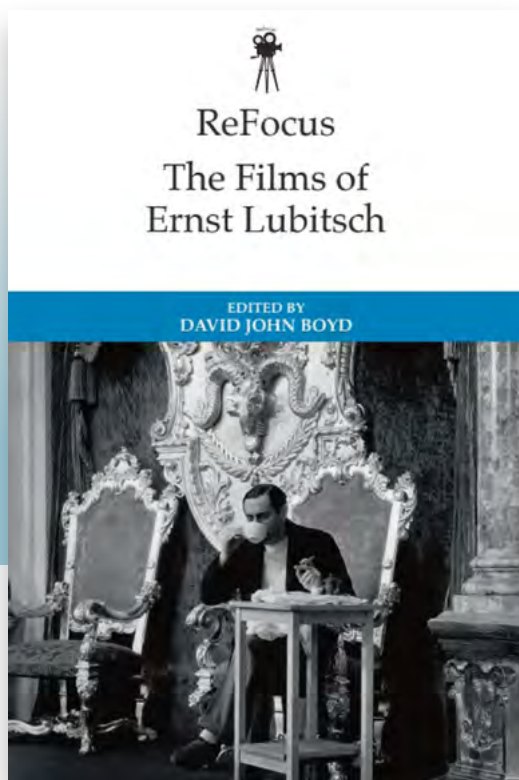
**Rights Available: World**

Spanning six decades, Kira Muratova's seventeen features and four shorts move from the late Soviet era to post-Soviet Ukraine, breaking cinematic rules with repetition, collage, unruly performance and a tactile, object-rich world. This volume reframes Muratova as an *autrice* working from the margins and proposes 'ex-cinema' as a central concept in her radical practice at the edges of language, genre and empire.

Across four parts, leading and emerging scholars examine form and style, gender and queer aesthetics, ethics and community and Muratova's dialogues with European cinema. Attending to decolonial questions, feminist perspectives and the politics of visibility, the volume shows how her films unsettle canons and centres while tracing the collective artistry behind them. It offers an accessible, interdisciplinary guide to a singular filmmaker and fresh scholarship for students, researchers and cinephiles.

### Key Features

- Offers new historical, analytical and theoretical insights, filling significant gaps in scholarship on Kira Muratova's cinema
- Brings together a wide range of approaches: from Soviet and Ukrainian film history to film philosophy, intermediality, decolonial critique, disability studies, posthumanist theory, feminist and queer studies and analyses of affect and gesture
- Repositions Muratova within European and global cinema, highlighting thematic and stylistic connections to the avant-garde, Formalism, New Wave traditions and transnational film movements
- Provides a comparative framework, placing Muratova in dialogue with Agnès Varda, Sergei Parajanov, Lana Gogoberidze, Andrei Tarkovsky and Herbert Achternbusch
- Reframe Muratova as an *autrice* working at the edges of language, genre and empire



## ReFocus: The Historical Films of Ernst Lubitsch

Edited by David John Boyd

**July 2026**

**312 pp.**

**Illustrations: 30 black and white**

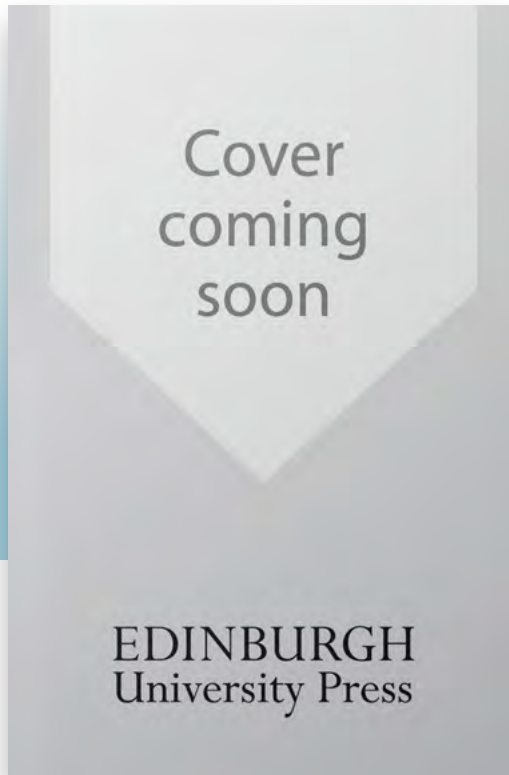
Part of the *ReFocus: The International Directors* series

**Rights Available: World**

*ReFocus: The Historical Films of Ernst Lubitsch* responds to and reframes the films of German émigré director Ernst Lubitsch as film-philosophical exemplars of both early world cinema and historical cinema, from his silent era costume dramas to his post-war Hollywood romances. This edited collection examines recent Lubitsch scholarship within the context of transcultural and transhistorical film theory to provide a critical retrospective of Lubitsch's costume films, historical epics and marriage comedies across his three illustrious decades of international success.

### Key Features

- Analyses Lubitsch's historical cinema from his Berlin silent epics to his Hollywood comic classics in relationship with ongoing debates in film history, film studies, film-philosophy, world cinema and historical studies
- Considers the impact of Lubitsch's historical oeuvre in philosophical, textual and cultural contexts, with a focus on the spatial, performative and sensorial readings of his accessible, satirical and playful historical stylings
- Connects Lubitsch to relevant political and cultural events and institutions, specifically noting Lubitsch's relevance during our contemporary moment marked by the global rise of fascism, as well as a public return of Nazism and populist antisemitism across the world



## ReFocus: The Films of Shirin Neshat

Edited by Maryam Ghorbankarimi and Mazyar Mahan

**August 2026**

**312 pp.**

**Illustrations: 49 black and white**

Part of the *ReFocus: The International Directors* series

**Rights Available: World**

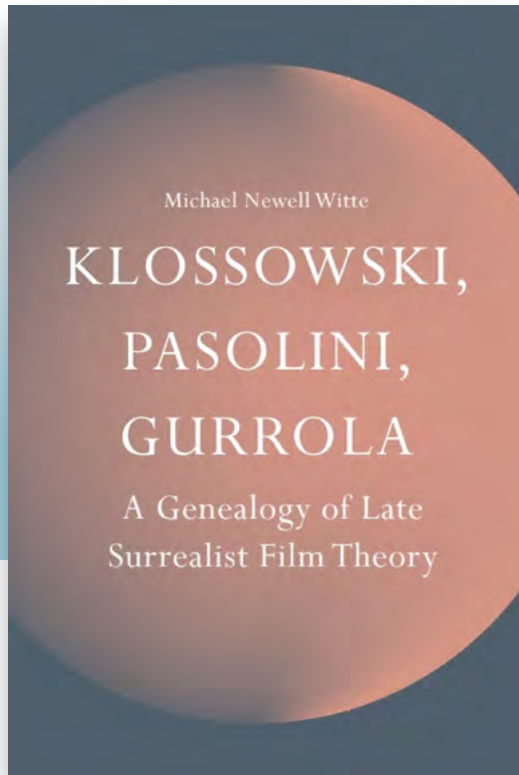
Bringing together leading and emerging scholars, this volume traces Neshat's evolution from *Women of Allah* to her feature films *Women Without Men*, *Looking for Oum Kulthum* and *Land of Dreams*, situating her within global debates on feminism, exile and transnational aesthetics.

Organised around three themes – Feminist Interventions and Cinematic Authorship, Diasporic Visions and Transnational Frames, and Sensory Histories and Poetic Bodies – the collection presents diverse critical perspectives on her aesthetics of resistance and the politics of representation.

Featuring an exclusive interview with Neshat, the book offers new interdisciplinary insights into her artistic and cinematic legacy, positioning her as a pivotal figure whose work transforms personal narratives of displacement into universal meditations on power, memory and identity.

### Key Features

- An interdisciplinary collection that brings together scholars from film, visual arts, gender studies and Middle Eastern studies to deepen understanding of Neshat's contribution to contemporary visual culture and transnational cinema
- Organised around three intersecting themes: Feminist Interventions and Cinematic Authorship, Diasporic Visions and Transnational Frames, and Sensory Histories and Poetic Bodies
- Includes an extended interview with Neshat offering rare insight into her creative process and artistic evolution



## Klossowski, Pasolini, Gurrola

A Genealogy of Late Surrealist Film Theory

Michael Newell Witte

**April 2026**

**192 pp.**

**Illustrations: 16 black and white**

**Rights Available: World**

Beginning with an exploration of Klossowski's unconventional approach to literary and philosophical production, Michael Newell Witte traces the international impact that Klossowski and his cohorts in the Paris *Collège de Sociologie* had on the work of some of the most radical artists, filmmakers and theorists of the second half of the 20th century, with a spotlight on the critical reception of surrealist concepts within the work of the Italian film director Pier Paolo Pasolini and the Mexican filmmaker, artist and theatre practitioner Juan José Gurrola.

By engaging with concepts like acinema, the *tableau vivant*, simulation, anti-economy and the theory of the instinctual drives, this book offers a fresh perspective on the evolution of avant-garde aesthetics, challenging traditional narratives and providing new insights into the complex intellectual history that underlies the fields of avant-garde film and film theory.

### Key Features

- This book explores Klossowski's theories on art and the moving image, mapping his aesthetic philosophy within the intellectual milieu of late surrealist thought, as well as tracing its influence on a range of artists and theorists, from the Italian filmmaker Pier Paolo Pasolini to the Mexican filmmaker Juan José Gurrola, to philosophers and theorists Gilles Deleuze, J.-F. Lyotard and Juan García Ponce
- This book offers a detailed map of the intellectual history that underlies the global trajectory of late surrealist thought and avant-garde/neo-avant-garde aesthetics
- Through an in-depth analysis and interdisciplinary approach to the material, this book offers readers an understanding of the terrain of late surrealism in terms of its wider implications within the evolution of film theory. It generates a nuanced reading of the objects under investigation, providing new insights into the work of some of the most provocative artists and theorists of the 20th century



## Greta Gerwig

Filmmaker

Suzanne Ferriss

**March 2026**

**208 pp.**

**Illustrations: 30 black and white**

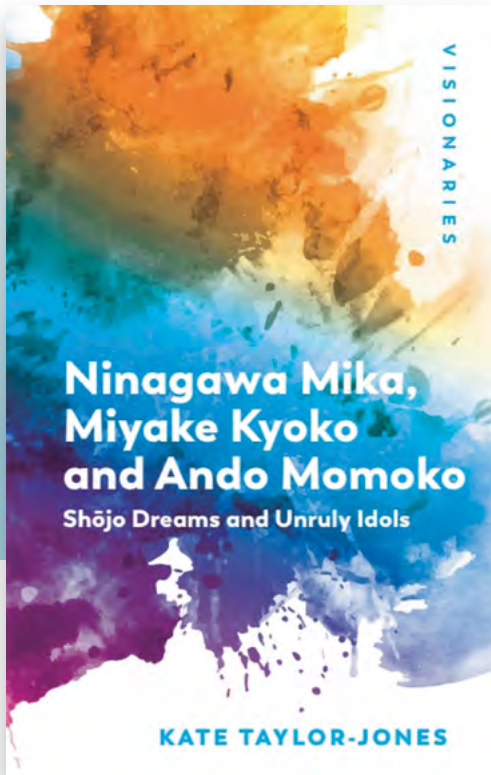
Part of the *Visionaries: The Work of Women Filmmakers* series

**Rights Available: World**

This is the first book to consider Gerwig as a writer-director. It argues that her three feature films to date – *Lady Bird* (2017), *Little Women* (2019) and *Barbie* (2023) – engage with debates about feminism and femininity through cinematic aesthetics. Her films are linked by heightened attention to material culture – through costume, production and set design. They meticulously recreate imagined worlds that resonate with viewers in the present for what they have to say about identity and relationships in contemporary culture, particularly how our lives, especially those of women, are fashioned through clothing, décor and architecture. They feature women who rebel by fashioning independent lives as fabricators – those who shape their worlds rather than being shaped by them. Considered together, Gerwig's three features form a developing oeuvre tracing the contours of feminist refashioning.

## Key Features

- The first book to study Gerwig as a writer-director
- Foregrounds cinematic artistry in costume, production and set design
- Engages with historical and contemporary debates about femininity and masculinity as fashioned through material culture



## Ninagawa Mika, Miyake Kyoko and Ando Momoko

Shōjo Dreams and Unruly Idols

Kate Taylor-Jones

**July 2026**

**152 pp.**

**Illustrations: 21 black and white**

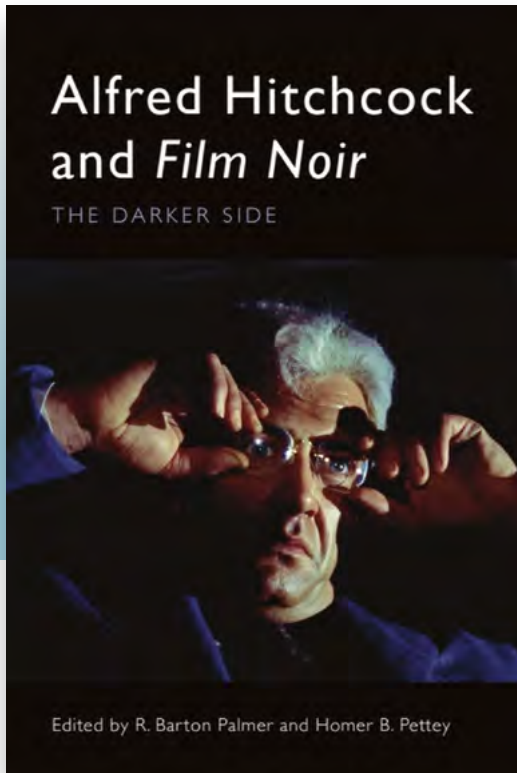
Part of the *Visionaries: The Work of Women Filmmakers* series

**Rights Available: World**

This book explores and theorises female visions of Japanese girlhood in the work of three women directors: Ninagawa Mika, Miyake Kyoko and Ando Momoko. These directors are all highly diverse in their production background, outputs and style, and yet all three share a common preoccupation with visualising moments of both girlhood and female ageing. The book takes at its core the debate on the aesthetics of gender – something all three women have engaged in – and explores the idea of feminist film historiography.

### Key Features

- Explores how these filmmakers create transformative ‘female-led worlds’ that challenge traditional gender norms through the complex concept of *shōjo* (girlhood), examining how girlhood identity persists and shapes women’s experiences across all ages
- Employs intersectional feminist theory to reveal how these directors’ sensory-rich filmmaking dissolves boundaries between fantasy and reality, capturing the diverse emotional and material realities of girlhood, femininity and womanhood across different social positions and identities



## Alfred Hitchcock and *Film Noir*

### The Darker Side

Edited by R. Barton Palmer and Homer B. Pettey

May 2026

344 pp.

Illustrations: 40 black and white

Rights Available: World

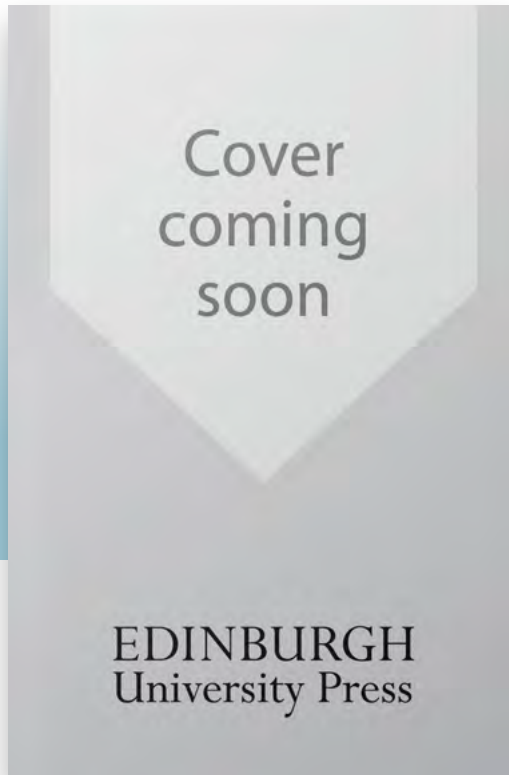
Alfred Hitchcock was a major figure in the development and flourishing of *film noir*. His *noir* films became an inspirational foundation of the neo-*noir* movement beginning in the 1970s, from Brian de Palma's mash-up homages to Hitchcock originals such as *Obsession* (1976) and *Body Double* (1984) to the dark political thrillers of the era that explore the underside of American life, all of which owe a substantial debt to Hitchcock.

However, the central role of Hitchcock in the long history of *film noir* has seldom been acknowledged in work devoted to his career and *noir* criticism more generally. Instead, there has been a tendency to consider Hitchcock's many dark thrillers and crime melodramas as *sui generis*, that is, as 'Hitchcock films' that are somehow separate and distinct from industry trends. But this is to take a narrow view of the director's accomplishments that underestimates his substantial contributions to film history.

*Alfred Hitchcock and Film Noir* will be the first book-length treatment of the impressive corpus of Hitchcock *noir* films considered as such, as well as of his connection more generally to the emergence and flourishing of this important cinematic trend.

## Key Features

- Provides case studies of Alfred Hitchcock's films and *film noir*, including *Vertigo*, *Marnie*, *Strangers on a Train*, *Rebecca* and *The Birds*
- Situates Hitchcock as influencing and influenced by *film noir* throughout his lengthy career
- Expands upon critical concepts of *film noir* as a fundamental cinematic type for the iconic works of Alfred Hitchcock



## Black Image Making and Whiteness

Edited by Thomas Austin

**May 2026**

**248 pp.**

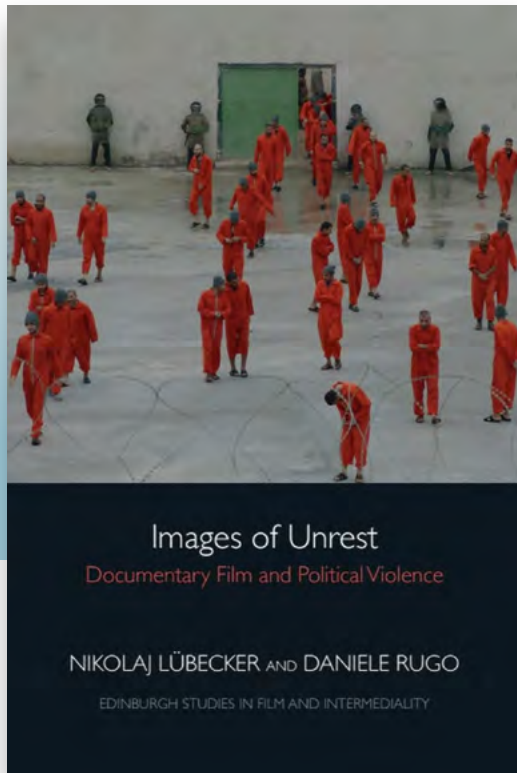
**Illustrations: 16 black and white**

**Rights Available: World**

How have image-makers of colour explored white societies, cultures and practices? This book takes as its case studies films, TV shows and photography that treat whiteness, in all its complexities, not as an unmarked and naturalised position from which to speak, but as an object of inquiry and sustained scrutiny. International in both authorship and critical scope, *Black Image Making and Whiteness* disrupts Eurocentric perspectives to ask: what happens when white people are seen as the Other?

### Key Features

- Investigates key films, TV shows and photography by Black creatives, from Spike Lee to Alice Diop, Jordan Peele to Michaela Cole
- Combines textual and industrial analyses



## Images of Unrest

Documentary Film and Political Violence

Nikolaj Lübecker and Daniele Rugo

**April 2026**

**236 pp.**

**Illustrations: 14 colour**

Part of the *Edinburgh Studies in Film and Intermediality* series

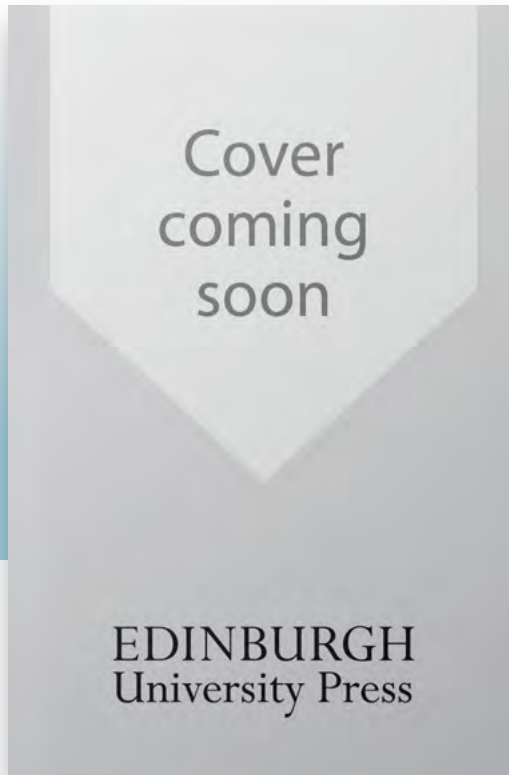
**Rights Available: World**

This book studies the relation between documentary film and political violence, treating images not as representations, but as original experiences that are a part of a reality that they both present and shape.

Whereas documentary film scholarship has often been preoccupied with questions of the referentiality and representation, *Images of Unrest: Documentary Film and Political Violence* prioritises the question of what images do. The volume argues that this approach, far from being an abnegation of our responsibility towards the real, heightens the ethical stakes of documentary filmmaking and filmviewing, reminding us that we are always in and of the real.

## Key Features

- A theoretical contribution to current debates about the significance, power and ethical implications of documentary film images
- Detailed analyses of the work of several key contemporary documentary filmmakers (Hara, Panh, Rosi, Farocki, Schroeder, Loznitsa) as well as directors deserving wider attention (Weber, Perelmuter, Ingold, Andoni)
- The conceptualisation of a 'nonrepresentational approach' to documentary film, which aims to recast debates about the documentary film spectator
- An original take on the relationship between documentary film and political violence



## French Horror

Industry, Society and Media

Reece Goodall

**June 2026**

**256 pp.**

**Illustrations: 20 black and white**

Part of the *21st Century Horror* series

**Rights Available: World**

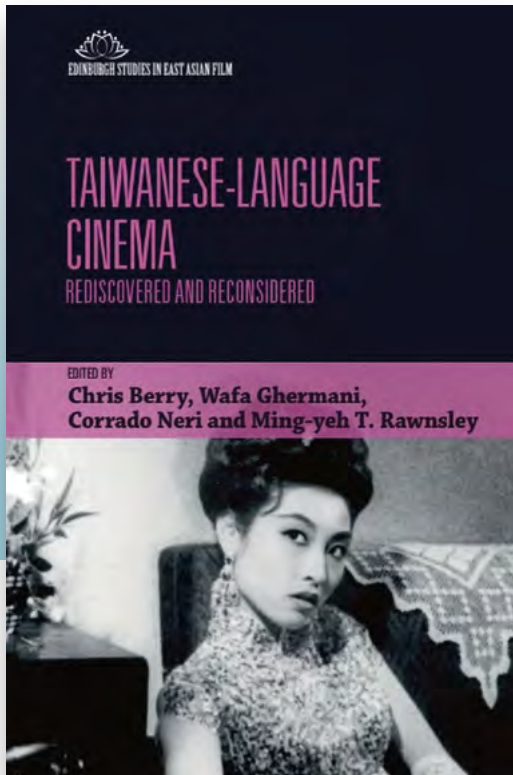
*French Horror: Industry, Society and Media* provides an overview of French horror film and television of the 21st century, exploring the particularities of the genre on both an industrial and a theoretical basis to identify an essential 'Frenchness'.

The book argues that there are a number of distinct production, formal and socio-cultural characteristics present in these works that mark them as uniquely French, including, among others, critical suspicion of homegrown horror and a corresponding lack of industrial support, attempts to evoke auteurism in certain creative figures, reference to key moments of French history, the framing of body horror and violence and the use of the *banlieues*.

Through a series of close readings of both major and lesser-known texts, *French Horror: Industry, Society and Media* illustrates a rise in horror in the 21st century that is distinctly and unapologetically French.

## Key Features

- Offers an overview of key developments in the genre prior to the 21st century
- Provides a combination of industrial and theoretical analysis
- Expands our understanding of the horror genre's social, cultural and political significance in the 21st century
- Case studies include *Martyrs*, *Les Revenants*, *La Rage du Demon*, *The Deep House*, *Titane*, *La Horde* and *Barbaque*



## Taiwanese-Language Cinema

**Rediscovered and Reconsidered**

Edited by Chris Berry, Wafa Ghermani, Corrado Neri and Ming-yeh T. Rawnsley

**May 2026**

**288 pp.**

**Illustrations: 26 black and white**

Part of the *Edinburgh Studies in East Asian Film* series

**Rights Available: World**

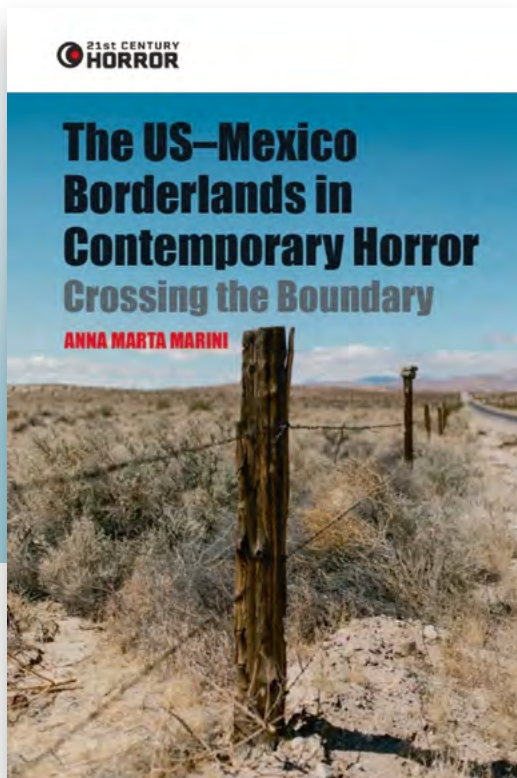
*Taiwanese-Language Cinema: Rediscovered and Reconsidered* presents diverse approaches to the vibrant commercial film industry known as Taiwanese-language cinema (*taiyupian*). After a long period of neglect, films are being restored and made available with subtitles.

Taiwanese-language cinema was a cycle of over 1,000 dramatic feature films produced between the mid-50s and early 70s in the local Minnanhua Chinese language most commonly spoken on the island, also known as 'Taiwanese' (*taiyu*). The rediscovery of Taiwanese-language cinema is stimulating new scholarship, both in Chinese in Taiwan and in other languages, which challenges our conventional understandings of Taiwanese film history and opens up new approaches to the films themselves.

This volume includes a mix of new English-language scholarship material with key essays by Taiwanese scholars newly translated from Chinese for the volume.

## Key Features

- First English-language book on Taiwanese-language Cinema
- Diverse approaches and fresh angles on Taiwanese-language cinema
- Combines original essays with translations of key essays by Taiwanese scholars



## The US–Mexico Borderlands in Contemporary Horror

*Crossing the Boundary*

Anna Marta Marini

**March 2026**

**222 pp.**

Part of the *21st Century Horror* series

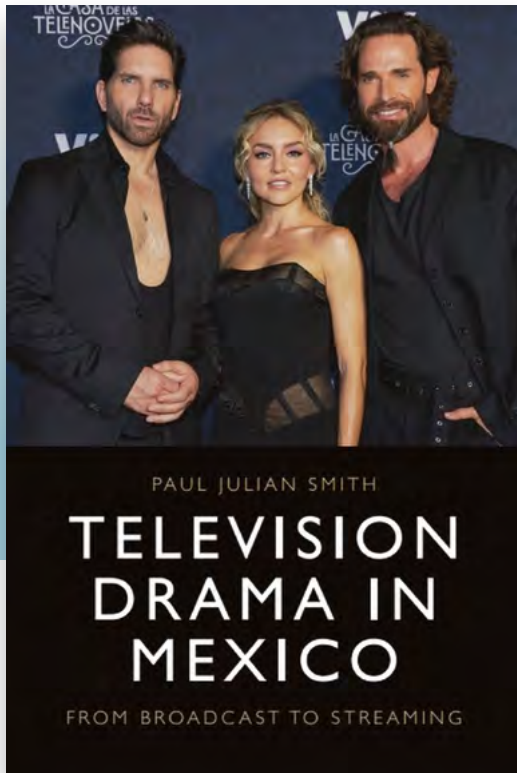
**Rights Available: World**

The US–Mexico borderlands have lived in the popular imagination as the locus of danger and horror, as the 'other side' poses violent and unimaginable threats to those who dare cross the border. Situated in the outskirts of both the American and Mexican nations, the binational borderland region embodies ambivalence, otherness and a loss of civilisation or humanity. Borderland monsters often play with a wilful monstrosity, as they express the ambiguity, resistance and resilience necessary to cope with their inherent in-betweenness, marked by their gender, ethnicity, legal status and/or cultural assimilation.

*Crossing the Boundary: The US–Mexico Borderlands in Contemporary Horror* tackles the most recent evolution of borderland representation in horror texts, focusing on popular culture and including films, comic books and TV series, to provide an insightful review of themes and tropes specific to the binational region and its highly politicised discourses.

### Key Features

- The first academic monograph dedicated to the representation of the US–Mexico borderlands in 21st-century horror texts
- Exposes asymmetric power relations between the United States and Mexico through the study of the most recent borderland horror
- Provides a chronotopic analysis of borderland horrors across popular culture



## Television Drama in Mexico

From Broadcast to Streaming

Paul Julian Smith

**March 2026**

**152 pp.**

**Illustrations: 11 black and white**

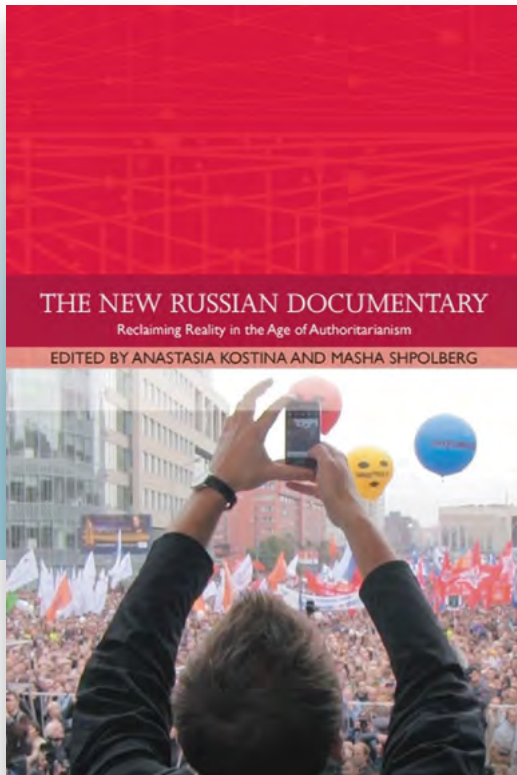
**Rights Available: World**

This book analyses, for the first time, innovative Mexican television drama of the current decade. It provides an account of the processes of production and reception for seven series, offering close textual readings of individual episodes. At this critical time for the medium, the transition between national network television (Televisa) and transnational streaming platforms (Netflix and Amazon Prime), Mexican creators, mainly women, have responded with new and exciting innovations.

The book focuses on three genres. First, it shows how the much despised and loved heritage telenovela, addressed primarily to a female audience, has adapted to changed circumstances by addressing once-taboo social issues and how a classic broadcast title is adapted for a new platform. Second, it examines fiction series and true-crime titles, which investigate the key and troubled topic of the legal process in Mexico. And third, it addresses the key new genre of the bio-series in its multimedia context, focusing on a celebrated wrestler and movie star.

## Key Features

- Presents and discusses a wide range of recent TV drama in Mexico, from telenovela to true crime and celebrity biography
- Looks at Mexican series available across the Spanish-speaking world, the USA and UK, available on streaming sites such as Netflix and Amazon Prime
- Gives an account of the creative processes of mainly female showrunners
- Addresses general issues of interest to media studies scholars in other territories
- Makes connections between television and other media, especially cinema



## The New Russian Documentary

Reclaiming Reality in the Age of Authoritarianism

Edited by Anastasia Kostina and Masha Shpolberg

**August 2026**

**296 pp.**

**Illustrations: 29 black and white**

Part of the *Traditions in World Cinema* series

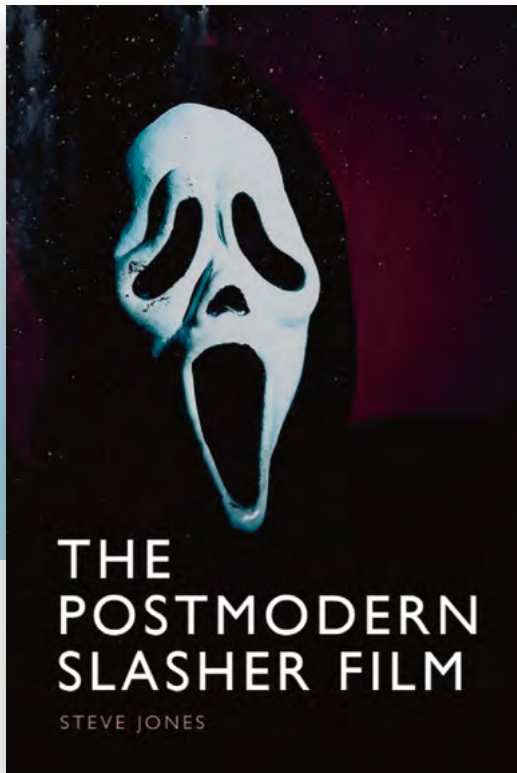
**Rights Available: World**

Over the last three decades, Russian filmmakers and audiences have engaged with documentary cinema with an intensity unseen since the 1920s, when Soviet documentarians helped pioneer the mode. What started as a trickle of artistically minded films in the 1990s, expanded in the 2000s to include a broad range of works, chief among them films seeking to re-evaluate the country's past and take stock of its present. This efflorescence went hand in hand with the creation of new institutions – film schools, festivals and online platforms. The rise of YouTube, in particular, helped propel documentary into the cultural mainstream.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine on 24 February 2022 and the Kremlin's subsequent crackdown on independent media put an end to all this. *The New Russian Documentary* thus seeks to introduce readers to the key figures, institutions and practices involved in this vibrant, if ultimately doomed, oppositionary movement.

## Key Features

- Introduces readers to the key figures, institutions and practices involved in the Russian documentary boom of 2000–2022
- Argues that documentary was critical to cultural elites' re-evaluation of Russian history, encouraging a more active civil stance
- Analyses how documentary mobilised viewers towards a more progressive and inclusive politics



## The Postmodern Slasher Film

Steve Jones

**July 2026**

**272 pp.**

**Illustrations: 19 black and white**

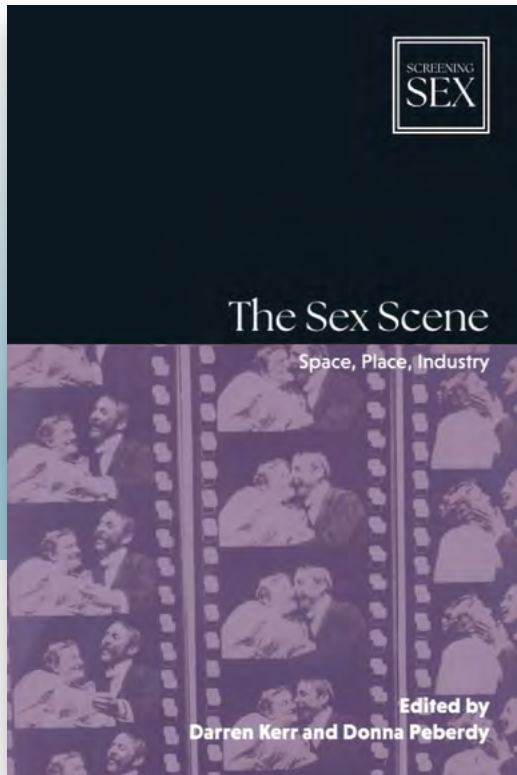
**Rights Available: World**

*Scream* reputedly transformed the slasher subgenre in 1996, heralding a new subgeneric form: the postmodern slasher. Despite being a distinctive, influential phase in the subgenre's development, it has been widely assumed that postmodern slasher films are distinguished from their predecessors because they employ intertextuality, metafictional self-reflexivity, pastiche and deconstruction.

*The Postmodern Slasher Film* challenges those assumptions by demonstrating that those same traits have been present in the slasher subgenre since its 1980s boom-period. This book instead argues that postmodern slasher films are more pertinently distinguished by their tone, which is characterised by self-consciousness, duplicity, cynicism and fatalism.

### Key Features

- Debunks the prevailing idea that the postmodern slasher film is distinguished by the employment of intertextuality, metafictional self-reflexivity, pastiche and deconstruction
- Revises dominant understandings of this popular subgenre by accounting for the characteristic tonal qualities of these films, which mark the postmodern slasher as a distinct subgeneric phase
- Makes an intervention by connecting the postmodern slasher to preceding and succeeding phases of the subgenre's development, rather than treating the postmodern slasher in isolation, thereby revising the field's understanding of this popular subgenre
- Accounts for more than 60 films, providing in-depth analysis of 30 key case study films, including numerous postmodern slashers (such as *Bleed*, *Paranoid*, *Cry Wolf*, *Ripper*, *Lover's Lane* and *Final Stab*) that have been largely ignored in the field, thereby enhancing understanding of this subgeneric phase



## The Sex Scene

Space, Place, Industry

Edited by Darren Kerr and Donna Peberdy

**June 2026**

**280 pp.**

**Illustrations: 22 black and white**

Part of the *Screening Sex* series

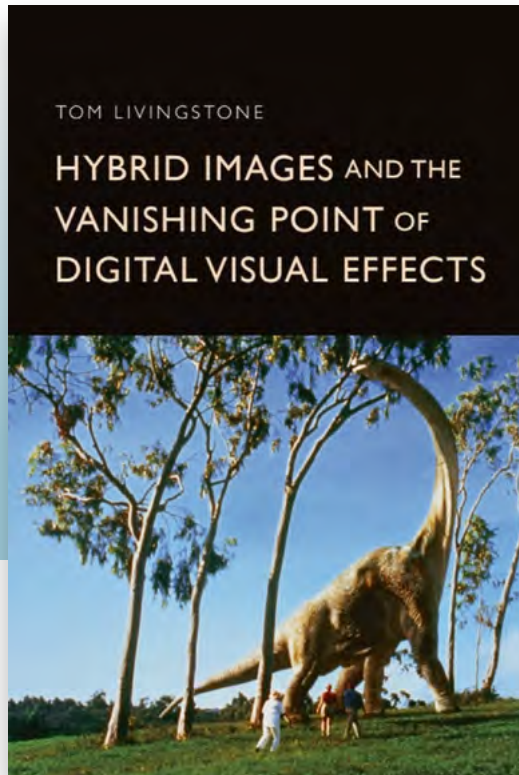
**Rights Available: World**

*The Sex Scene Volume 1: Space, Place and History* complements *The Sex Scene Volume 2: Representation, Performance Industry*. The volumes are also intended to work as standalone collections, offering a comprehensive yet accessible starting point for students, scholars and researchers exploring representations of sex on screen and its significance in sexual cultures.

Collectively, the essays consider histories and controversies (screen, legal, censorial, critical), industrial contexts and labour (writing, directing, performing, editing), the *mise-en-scène* of the sex scene (content, aesthetics, representation) and temporality and approach (in genres, form and style).

## Key Features

- Brings together a range of disciplines and approaches film, television and screen studies, media and communication studies, cultural studies, gender and sexuality studies, sociology, audience studies, queer theory and affect studies
- Case studies are drawn from adult film and hardcore pornography, cult film, Japanese *tantai* films, UK and US television drama, documentary and pornumentary, independent cinema, art cinema, underground cinema, sexploitation, classical and mainstream genres
- Films, directors, TV series and showrunners discussed include *Call Me By Your Name*, *The Handmaiden*, *I May Destroy You*, *Normal People*, *Sex Education*, Bruce LaBruce, Russell T. Davies, Desiree Akhavan, Chantal Akerman and Jane Campion
- Explores debates central to contemporary sexual culture and sexual politics that unpack and challenge established binaries and concepts such as censorship and regulation, pornography and art, and labour and exploitation



## Hybrid Images and the Vanishing Point of Digital Visual Effects

Tom Livingstone

**April 2026**

**224 pp.**

**Illustrations: 18 black and white**

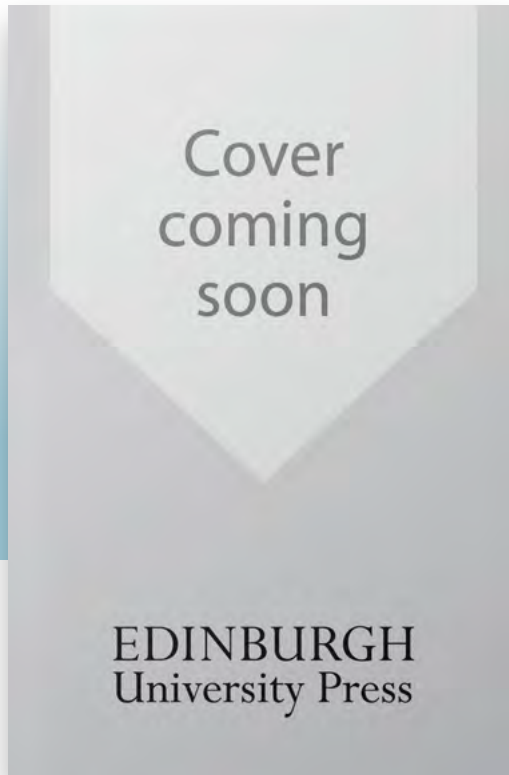
**Rights Available: World**

Tackling digital effects such as colourisation, time-ramping, compositing and photo-realistic rendering, this monograph explores how the growing use of these post-photographic procedures shapes our relationship with the image and the world that the image represents. At stake is the ability to critically engage with the digital techniques that mediate perceptions of reality.

Through a series of case-studies the book connects the dominant techniques of hybridisation with emergent ways of being in our increasingly hybrid physical-digital world. Pointing at the relationship between mainstream visual culture and the manifold imperatives of digital technology and digital culture, *Hybrid Images and the Vanishing Point of Digital Visual Effects* highlights how a handful of digital visual effects are coming to shape the way we live.

### Key Features

- Offers an analytical toolkit for looking at contemporary visual culture
- Synthesises the technical and aesthetic features of hybrid imagery to build a comprehensive media-epistemology of an understudied category of moving image
- Discusses a wide range of popular film and television, as well as engaging with new forms of moving image media proliferating elsewhere
- Bridges film analysis and broader modes of cultural, technological and socio-political critique
- Updates key elements of film and media theory for a contemporary context



## Explorers on Screen

**Adventure! Danger! Romance!**

Edited by Sue Matheson and Cynthia J. Miller

**June 2026**

**336 pp.**

**Illustrations: 19 black and white**

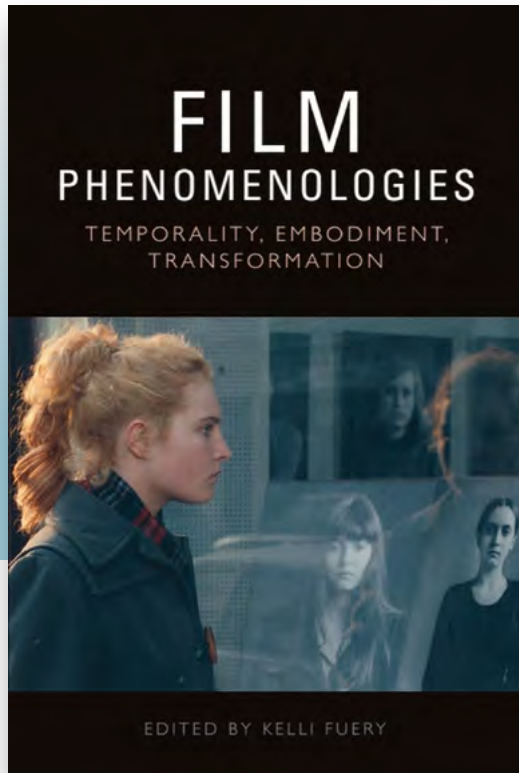
**Rights Available: World**

*Explorers on Screen: Adventure! Danger! Romance!* brings together essays that break new ground on films featuring explorers and adventurers from the Age of Exploration to the present. It focuses on fictional and dramatised representations, rather than biopics, as these create the most interesting reflections of the attitudes, ideals, aspirations and tensions at work in their eras of production and reception.

It provides readers with the conceptual tools to more deeply consider the portrayals of these characters, both fictional and real, and the ways in which they shape and reflect key historical figures and moments. The volume's essays offer interdisciplinary approaches from film studies, history, anthropology, philosophy and literature to bring fresh and complex perspectives to each chapter and the volume as a whole.

## Key Features

- Covers a wide range of global regions, including Asia, the Pacific Islands, South America and North America, as well as explorations and adventures set in space
- Films discussed include *SOS Iceburg*, *Dersu Uzala*, *Lawrence of Arabia*, *Mountains of the Moon*, *Crouching Tiger*, *Hidden Dragon*, *Barbarosa*, *The Mummy* trilogy and the Indiana Jones films
- Chapters are organised thematically, in order to provide readers with multiple perspectives and historical examples of key issues and ideas



## Film Phenomenologies

Temporality, Embodiment, Transformation

Edited by Kelli Fuery

March 2026

312 pp.

Illustrations: 26 black and white

Rights Available: World

With an interdisciplinary agenda, *Film Phenomenologies* investigates the emerging field of film phenomenology, linking the fundamental significance of early thinkers and related methods of phenomenological investigation to newer emphases and diverse voices, such as Gaston Bachelard, Karen Barad, Simone de Beauvoir, bell hooks, Iris Murdoch and Hermann Schmitz.

Established scholars consider various themes, including colonial duration and the politics of refusal, feeling feminist time, the exchange of play, scalar theory and scattered bodies, spectatorship and the entanglement of montage, disability, dance and speculative embodiment, AI phenomenology and breath gestures, cinematic atmospheres, the precarious intimacy of the film screen, stardom and biopics, and Black lived experience.

Divided into three parts, *Film Phenomenologies* offers a collective combination of phenomenological approaches, braiding classic and critical methods to explore aesthetic, embodied, ethical and political perspectives. It is the first collection to provide a substantial engagement with diverse and inclusive directions in the field of film and media studies.

## Key Features

- Presents a range of different phenomenological thinkers to extend and develop the boundaries and debates within the field of film phenomenology
- Brings together leading scholars from the varied fields of Film Studies, Philosophy and Phenomenology, Feminist Philosophy, Media Studies, Critical Theory, Cultural Studies and Political Science
- Develops a much-needed inquiry in film phenomenology and diversity



## Girls' Hairstories

Resilience and Sparkle in Contemporary Screen Cultures

Fiona Handyside

**August 2026**

**224 pp.**

**Illustrations: 28 colour**

**Rights Available: World**

Why have dynamic and shifting hairstyles, from Katniss Everdeen's Power Plait to JoJo Siwa's outsize bows, become such a significant part of how girlhood is articulated in contemporary visual cultures? What do they tell us about how girlhood combines the qualities of resilience and sparkle needed to survive and thrive in turbulent post-recessionary times?

Drawing together analysis of popular film franchises, Disney animation, ground-breaking TV shows, music videos, girl celebrity personas and global art cinema, this book shows how across different cultural levels and aimed at different audiences, girls' hairstyles provide a complex dynamic site of interpretation and interaction.

It documents the careful craft of hair-dressers and software engineers working in the screen industries to style and animate hair, bringing their work to a new visibility. It is in the very everydayness of hairstyling that we come to understand girls as the most resilient and the most sparkly of citizens.

## Key Features

- Studies a range of girlhood films including *Frozen* (2013), *The Hunger Games* (2012), and *Bande de filles/ Girlhood* (2014)
- Studies girl celebrities including JoJo Siwa, Malala Yousafzai and Emma Watson
- Contributes a new dimension to the study of film costume through a focus on hair and hairstyles
- Features interviews with on-set hairdressers and CGI animation engineers
- Examines the gendered nature of neoliberal austerity cultures and their construction of girlhood as site of sparkle and resilience



## The Art of Gesture

Classical and Renaissance Expressions

Andrew Benjamin

**April 2026**

**256 pp.**

**Illustrations: 28 colour**

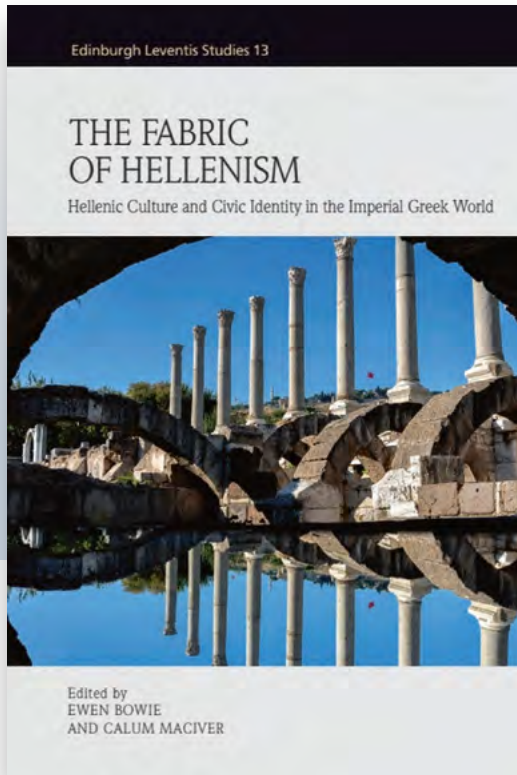
**Rights Available: World**

Andrew Benjamin approaches the relationship between philosophy and art history through the concept of gesture. Critically engaging with Walter Benjamin, Aby Warburg and Giorgio Agamben, by focusing on gesture he offers a novel philosophical intervention into the classical problem of 'meaning' in art, as well as addressing the new perspectives brought by political theology into art theory.

Benjamin uses gesture to function as the continual point of orientation, allowing works of art and their detail to be central. Original interpretations of Domenico Ghirlandaio, Rosso Fiorentino and Piero della Francesca show how Christian political theology has an operative presence within the works of art examined. A key theme running through the book is the question of time in the work of art, alongside the question of how art history, and the representation of history in art, are to be understood philosophically.

## Key Features

- A highly original interpretation of Rosso Fiorentino and Piero della Francesca in terms of the Christian political theology
- The use of the work of Walter Benjamin to develop a critical response to Agamben and Warburg on gesture
- The presentation of philosophy of art
- Development of an original conception of gesture



## The Fabric of Hellenism

Hellenic Culture and Civic Identity in the Imperial Greek World

Edited by Ewen Bowie and Calum Maciver

**March 2026**

**744 pp.**

**Illustrations: 8 colour, 66 Black and white**

Part of the *Edinburgh Leventis Studies* series

**Rights Available: World**

This authoritative series of essays brings together a group of eminent scholars engaged with Imperial Greece in the first work of its kind to address the art-history, archaeology, numismatics and prose literature of Imperial Greek cities in one volume, covering the period from pre-Imperial Hellenistic developments to the late 3rd century CE.

The book provides a wide coverage and is organised into thematic sections including: the overall context of Greek cities in the Roman Empire and their Hellenistic roots; festival culture; prominent figures who shaped Hellenic identity; some key prose-writers of the period; Hellenism in action in the Roman Empire; and further perspectives on Hellenic culture outside the learned mainstreams.

## Key Features

- Offers an authoritative and wide-ranging series of essays on how Greeks constructed Hellenic identity in the Roman Empire
- Presents key studies on Imperial Greek cities and their careful articulation of their place in the Greek past
- Encompasses a broad geographical and chronological range of the Hellenic cities of the Roman Empire
- Highlights a multidisciplinary approach, drawing on literary, archaeological and art-historical evidence



## God, Demons, and Fear

Emotion, The Self, and Self-control in Gregory of Tours

Catherine-Rose Hailstone

**July 2026**

**296 pp.**

**Illustrations: 5 black and white, 4 maps**

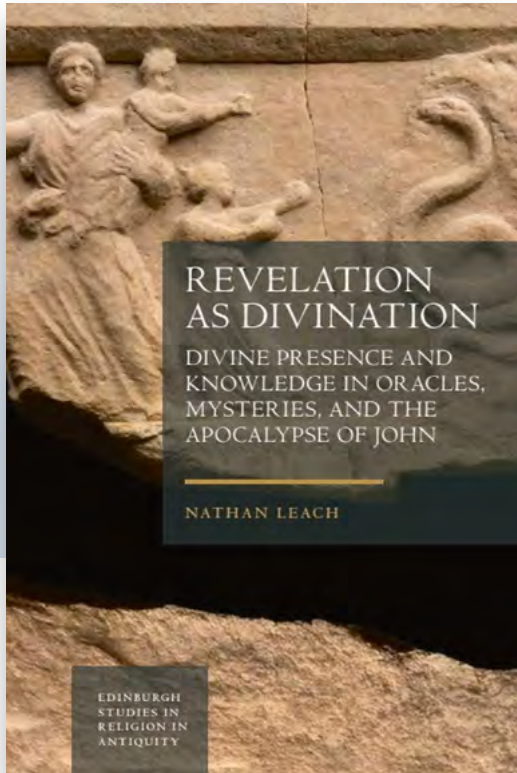
**Rights Available: World**

The 6th-century bishop, Gregory of Tours, is one of the most renowned figures in the history of Merovingian Gaul (c. 458–751 CE). This book explores a new side to Gregory: his interest in and attitudes towards Christian fears and their role in shaping the good self and good society. By analysing Gregory's written references to the fears of God, the devil and demons, Catherine-Rose Hailstone argues that Gregory was and is better understood as a 'Christian intellectual' whose views and writings merged Christian principles and practices together with Graeco-Roman ethics.

This book invites us to re-evaluate our knowledge of Gregory and the early Merovingians, encouraging us to rethink what an analysis of emotions can tell us about the impact that Rome's decline had on the social, political and cultural environment of Gaul.

## Key Features

- Analyses cases of fear from across Gregory of Tours entire literary corpus including the lesser studied *Miracles of the Blessed Apostle Andrew*
- Offers a fresh perspective on Gregory of Tours that builds on the earlier views of established scholars such as Walter Goffart, Giselle de Nie, Guy Halsall and Martin Heinzelmann to name but a few
- Develops the history of fear by exploring late antique attitudes towards and the contemporary uses of this in a historical and theological setting
- Develops the history of fear by exploring late antique attitudes towards and the contemporary uses of this in a historical and theological setting



## Revelation as Divination

Divine Presence and Knowledge in Oracles, Mysteries, and the Apocalypse of John

Nathan Leach

**July 2026**

**336 pp.**

**Illustrations: 10 black and white**

Part of the *Edinburgh Studies in Religion in Antiquity* series

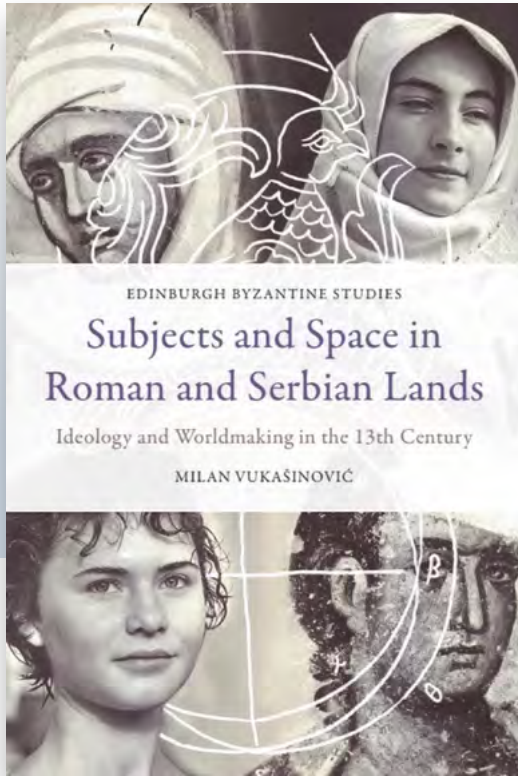
**Rights Available: World**

The Book of Revelation has been read as a literary prophecy, an allegorical divination narrative, or a piece of persuasive rhetoric. In this new approach to the apocalyptic text, Nathan Leach argues that Revelation's oral performance to Christ-following assemblies in the ritual settings of the late 1st century CE formed an experience that resonated deeply with wider divinatory practices in Roman Asia.

*Revelation as Divination* uses an interdisciplinary theoretical repertoire including performance criticism, ritual studies, material culture and affect theory to show how Revelation created meaning through oral performance to its ancient participatory audience. Despite Revelation's extreme social separatist polemic, it is through the performance's experiential resonance with broader ancient Mediterranean divinatory practices that its production of divine presence and access to divine knowledge were socially readable, gained authenticity and affected its participants.

## Key Features

- Provides a detailed description of Revelation's Christ-following communities' ritual practices in the context of the rituals of wider divination-practising communities of the Roman Aegean
- Moves rhetorical studies of Revelation as ekphrasis into the culturally specific context of ritual performance and its constructions of and interactions with divine presences
- Argues for 'divinatory performance' as a category inclusive of prophecies, revelations, oracles and mystery initiations
- Provides detailed discussions of and comparisons with several other divinatory performances around the Roman Aegean, including the Oracle of Apollo at Didyma, the Oracle of Apollo at Claros, the Oracle of Trophonius of Lebadea, the Mysteries of Eleusis and the Orphic Mysteries
- Brings together leading research from a range of disciplinary areas of focus – including performance criticism, ritual studies, material culture, affect theory, rhetorical criticism and cultural criticism



## Subjects and Space in Roman and Serbian Lands

Ideology and Worldmaking in the 13th Century

Milan Vukašinović

**July 2026**

**320 pp.**

**Illustrations: 1 table**

Part of the *Edinburgh Byzantine Studies* series

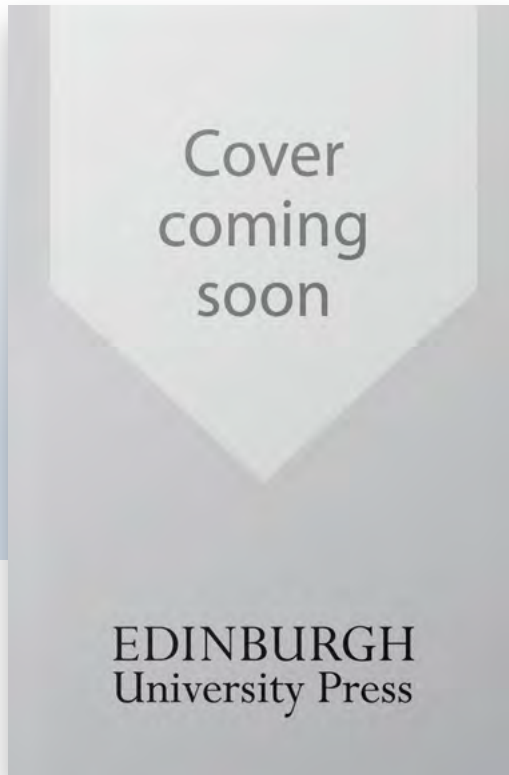
**Rights Available: World**

Ideology remains one of the most used yet rarely defined concepts in Byzantine and Medieval Serbian Studies. Focusing on the decades following the Crusaders' conquest of Byzantine lands, this book bridges modern theory and interpretation of medieval texts to redefine ideology as a practice of performative storytelling. Milan Vukašinović rereads overlooked narratives from Nicaea, Epiros and Serbia—from court orations and hagiographies to monastic donations and juridical opinions – not as mere representations of events, but as social acts that shaped the world.

Developing a model of how humans become subjects and produce space, the study reveals how emperors, bishops, monks and peasants alike acted as storytellers, heroes and agents of history. It argues for diverse forms of social and political agency, challenging conventional notions of Byzantine fragmentation and Serbian independence.

### Key Features

- Defines ideology in a clear and adaptable way for premodern contexts, steering clear of both positivist and (post-)structuralist limitations
- Offers fresh interpretations of a wide range of 13th-century Greek and Slavonic texts – including orations, hagiographies, letters, autobiographies, philosophical and parenetic writings, as well as monastic, economic and legal documents
- Brings together post-classical narratology with spatial and social theory, advancing diachronic approaches to narrative and opening Byzantine Studies to broader interdisciplinary dialogues
- Brings together the different spheres of medieval social life by focusing on storytelling as their common thread
- Reveals a richer landscape of social and political agency, highlighting more dynamic and interactive forms of power in 13th-century societies



## Coinages in the Achaemenid Empire

Keith Rutter

**July 2026**

**432 pp.**

**Illustrations: 258 colour**

Part of the *Edinburgh Studies in Ancient Persia* series

**Rights Available: World**

The Achaemenid Empire was huge and the material available for studying it is disparate. The coinages produced in the empire offer distinctive perspectives and provide insights into crucial questions about how the empire was organised and administered. The numismatic evidence is particularly important due to its first hand, contemporary nature: it speaks to us directly, not through the prism of later accounts.

Keith Rutter, an international specialist in numismatics, provides us with the first comprehensive account of the great variety of coinages produced in the Achaemenid Empire. He shows us how the iconography found on coins poses new questions on artistic influences, details of administration and religious beliefs. This highly illustrated book is *the* starting point for anyone who wants to understand the topic.

### Key Features

- Demonstrates how the actual production of coins was a phenomenon mostly confined to the western satrapies of the empire
- Unlike other studies of ancient coinage which focus on its spread westward into Greek lands after its invention in Asia Minor, this book looks east, to communities and kingdoms where the dominant culture was often not Greek
- Treats coins as part of the wider context of exchange and resource allocation in the empire



## Introducing Sociolinguistics

Third Edition

Rajend Mesthrie, Joan Swann, Rebecca Lurie Starr and William L. Leap

**April 2026**

**480 pp.**

**Rights Available: World**

Written by teachers with first-hand experience of sociolinguistic developments on four continents, this textbook has introduced thousands of students worldwide to the central topics in sociolinguistics. Now fully updated to reflect the new debates, approaches and findings within the field, this is the perfect resource for those taking introductory courses in Sociolinguistics, Language and Society, Identity and Power and Language Variation and Change.

The book covers multilingualism, code-choice, language variation, dialectology, interactional studies, gender, language contact, language and inequality and language and power. Brand new additions include: an innovative new chapter exploring globalisation and language, a new chapter on writing and multimodality and new sections exploring areas such as migration, gender and identity, the sociolinguistics of writing, new modes of communication and youth languages.

## Key Features

- Accessibly written with the beginner in mind
- 12 fully revised chapters, including 2 entirely new chapters: Modes, Media, Mobilities; Globalisation and Language
- A glossary and over 100 maps, diagrams, inset boxes, drawing and cartoons clearly demonstrate key concepts, data and ideas
- An international focus supported by numerous examples from multilingual settings
- New topics covered include globalisation, migration, the sociolinguistics of writing, new modes of communication and youth languages



## Established and Emerging Technologies in TESOL

Navigating trends in Generative AI, Virtual Reality and Technology-enhanced Learning and Beyond

Edited by Liam Murray, Marta Giralte and Silvia Benini

**May 2026**

**256 pp.**

**Illustrations: 18 black and white**

**Rights Available: World**

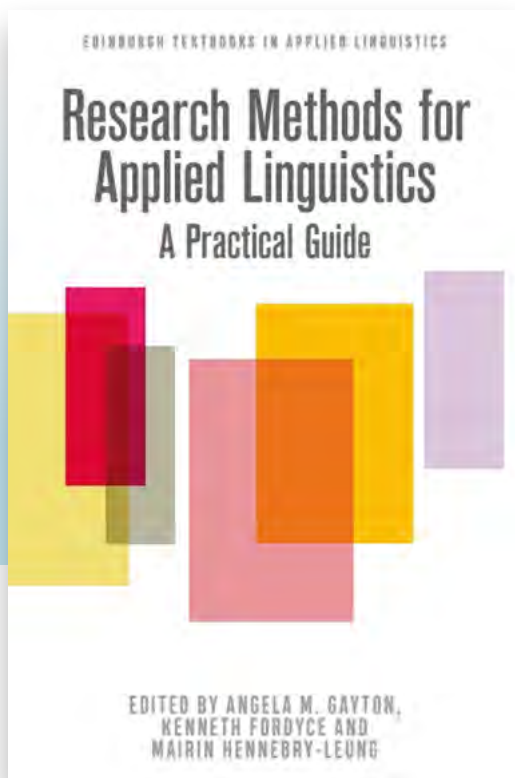
CALL and language learning have become complex and are accelerated with the arrival of Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) tools. Bringing together experienced researchers and teacher educators from a range of contexts, this book addresses critical aspects of CALL and explores its evolution and intersection with emerging technologies. Whether a novice teacher, postgraduate student, researcher or teacher educator, this book provides inspiration and sound pedagogical examples on CALL integration.

The book traces the history of CALL from its earliest behavioural iterations through to contemporary GenAI applications and covers technologies such as MOOCs, Augmented Realities and Digital Games Based Language Learning. Challenges such as technological access, pedagogical design maturity and teacher training are critically addressed, alongside emerging intersections with GenAI. The intersection of language learning, (inter)cultural competence, and technology, and teacher education and CALL evaluation are also examined.

Drawing on the concept of *festina lente*, from the Latin meaning 'make haste slowly', this book advocates for the idea of balancing speed with caution, highlighting that the fastest route to success often involves thoughtful action.

## Key Features

- Applies *Festina lente* as a concept to GenAI-enhanced language and culture acquisition
- Expands language learning into pluricultural contexts
- Offers applied ideas for student learner teachers and language learners
- Covers major emerging technologies



## Research Methods for Applied Linguistics

### A Practical Guide

Edited by Angela M. Gayton, Kenneth Fordyce and Mairin Hennebry-Leung

**April 2026**

**288 pp.**

**Illustrations: 29 black and white**

Part of the *Edinburgh Textbooks in Applied Linguistics* series

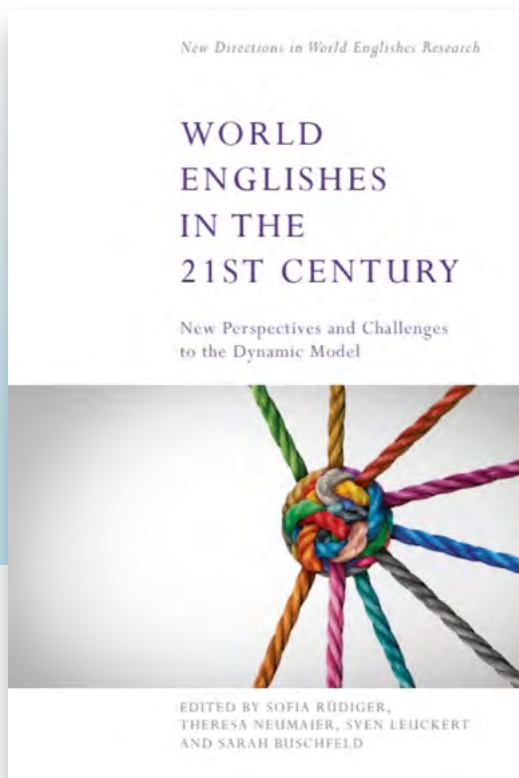
**Rights Available: World**

Designed to support you on your next major research project, this book brings together authors from a range of diverse contexts and career stages to share their own research reflections and their extensive experience supporting graduate students in conducting independent research projects.

Covering a range of research approaches and methods, this book provides the perfect research companion, guiding you through the principles of research design and research ethics, taking you through the planning stages and into the methodological approaches and their common applications. With worked examples, visuals, research scenarios, case studies, reflections, tasks, reflective activities, key takeaways and tips for further reading, this is a comprehensive how-to guide to suit a range of international research contexts and provide the skills and inspiration to undertake your research with rigour, precision and confidence.

## Key Features

- Think About It boxes include reflective activities
- Key Takeaways summarise key points and top tips
- If You Want to Know More sections provide directions for further reading
- Worked examples, visuals, case studies, research scenarios, reflections and tasks feature in relevant chapters for extra guidance
- Covers quantitative, qualitative and mixed methods research
- Covers research principles, planning, ethics, questionnaires, interviews, focus groups, observations, introspective and (quasi-) experimental methods, corpus analysis, critical discourse analysis, conversation analysis, creative methods with diverse populations and systematic reviews
- Critically reflects on key issues involved when researching multilingually



## World Englishes in the 21st Century

### New Perspectives and Challenges to the Dynamic Model

Edited by Sofia Rüdiger, Theresa Neumaier, Sven Leuckert and Sarah Buschfeld

**August 2026**

**338 pp.**

**Illustrations: 3 colour, 19 black and white**

Part of the *New Directions in World Englishes Research* series

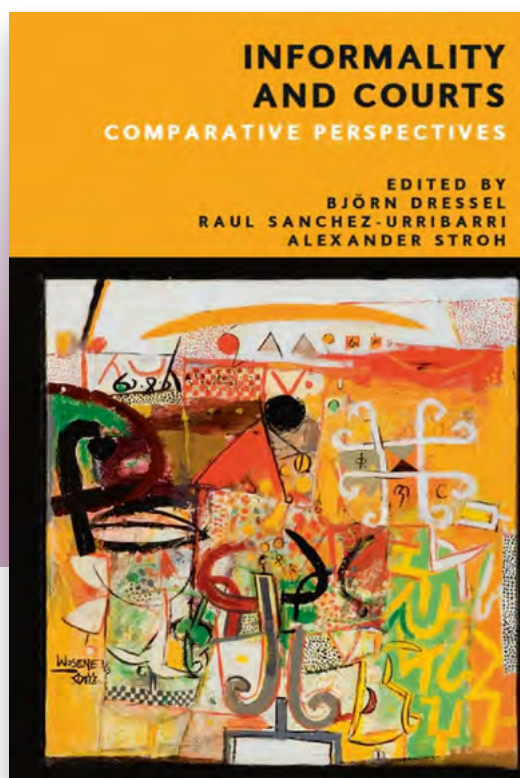
**Rights Available: World**

Twenty years after Edgar W. Schneider's publication of the *Dynamic Model*, the field of World Englishes is as vibrant as ever. The further spread and entrenchment of English around the world as a result of globalisation but also localisation tendencies and, in particular, the spread of the language and its multiple varieties through the new media, has led to even further dispersion and contact scenarios, many of which challenge early conceptualisations of the World Englishes paradigm.

This volume is dedicated to new perspectives, approaches and developments in the field, how they fit in with earlier research in the paradigm, how they can be conceptualised and which challenges they bring along. In addition, the collection showcases some of the methodological diversity in and the transdisciplinary nature of modern World Englishes research.

## Key Features

- Brings together leading researchers from the field of World Englishes in a true global representation of the field (Europe, Africa, Asia, Northern America, Oceania)
- Expands the original scope of the Dynamic Model by involving new methodological approaches and innovative theoretical developments
- Strikes a balance between large-scale empirical studies, in-depth case studies and theoretical discussions on the state of World Englishes modelling



## Informality and Courts

### Comparative Perspectives

Edited by Björn Dressel, Raul Sanchez-Urribarri and Alexander Stroh

**June 2026**

**328 pp.**

**Illustrations: 14 black and white, 14 tables**

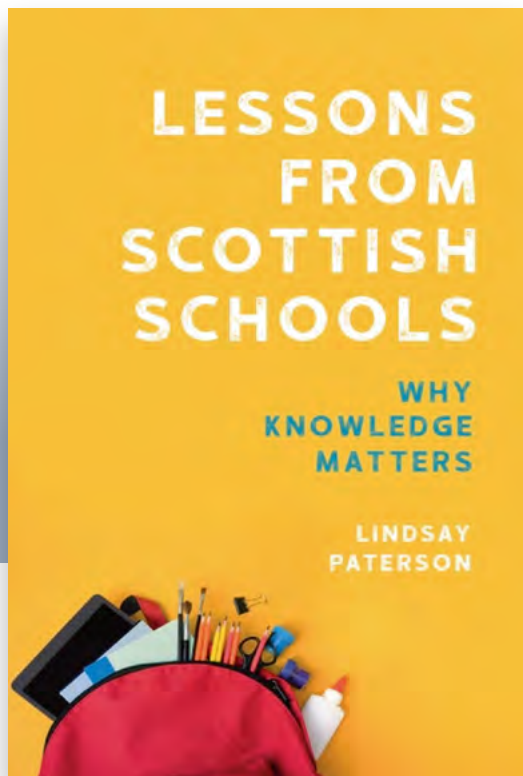
**Rights Available: World**

This volume explores an understudied aspect of courts: The extent to which informal institutions and relational networks (e.g. professional, clientelist, family, etc.) relations affect how courts are organised and operate. For instance, to what extent can 'good personal relations' outweigh professional merits in judicial appointment processes? Or in what ways do international or domestic judicial networks help protect courts against other branches of power? Our relational-institutional perspective allows us to better understand a variety of important processes for the comparative study of courts – including judicial appointments, judicial decision-making, judicial administration, institutional development, inter-branch relations, corruption and court reform, among others. More importantly, an emphasis on informality sheds new light on the accountability role of courts in democratic regimes, at a time when democracy worldwide is at risk and authoritarian regimes are on the rise.

Bringing together the thoughts of scholars with different levels of seniority and disciplinary expertise, this volume offers cross-national engagement with theory, providing systematic analyses of the configuration, operation, and roles of informal institutions and relations, and their importance in different socio-political contexts and legal systems.

### Key Features

- Provides a novel account of the importance of informal relations and informal institutions to account for the study of courts at a global scale
- Embeds the study of court performance in wider debates about clientelism, corruption, patronage, and democratic decline
- Offers new perspectives on key debates within judicial studies, including appointments, judicial behaviour, judicial independence, and judicial reform
- Includes new theoretical contributions and empirical analyses from leading scholars (about half based in/ or from the Global South), focused on countries in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, and the US



## Lessons from Scottish Schools

Why Knowledge Matters

Lindsay Paterson

May 2026

240 pp.

Illustrations: 15 black and white

Rights Available: World

This book highlights the role of knowledge in school education. It shows that while the Scottish education system used to be among the strongest in Europe, its students' attainment has dropped in recent years. The book argues that the clue to this decline is the new curriculum which has been in place for two decades. Lindsay Paterson notes the commendable aims of this approach, which includes working across subject boundaries, application of learning to real-world problems and focusing on creativity and citizenship.

Studying Scotland's strong educational reputation in the past and comparing it to other countries, such as Estonia, Singapore, Ireland and Japan, Paterson argues that the most student-centred education is one that is based on knowledge. This is key to students' understanding, to their personal fulfilment, to their successful careers and to their ability to make a worthwhile contribution to society.

### Key Features

- Explores the decline in attainment in Scottish school education in the last 25 years
- Compares the present with Scotland's strong educational reputation in the past
- Compares Scotland to a range of other countries including England, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Poland, Singapore and Sweden
- Argues that the most student-centred kind of education is one that is based on knowledge

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