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Happy Hour
Marlowe Granados

A stickily hot New York summer is coolly observed in this dazzling debut

It’s the summer of 2013, and while New York City swelters Isa and Gala scrape and hustle. By day they sell clothes in a market stall, pinching pennies for their Bed-Stuy sublet and bodega lunches. By night, they weave from Brooklyn to the Upper East Side among a rotating cast of artists, academics and bad-mannered grifters. Desires aren’t for denying, not this season. But as money gets sparse and circumstances grow more precarious, the pair struggle to convert social capital into something more tangible.

In the last bitter blush of capitalism, when the only agency afforded to you is in the image you present to the world, getting that presentation sharp and shining can feel like the most important thing in the world. Happy Hour is a novel about getting by and looking grand in a system that wants you to do neither.

Marlowe Granados is a writer and filmmaker. After spending time in London and New York, she now resides in Toronto.

“Marlowe Granados’s Happy Hour is as refreshing as a gin fizz. It is a wild careening joyride through a hot sultry summer in New York in 2013, and it evokes that time with such sparkling specificity that you can feel the heat coming off the pavement.” Rachel Syme, New Yorker staff writer

“A dreamy account of one heady summer, Marlowe Granados’s début is a dispatch from another land; not only New York City, but youth itself. Happy Hour is aptly titled – it’s an intoxicating little book, at once heartbreaking and joyful.” Rumaan Alam, author of Leave the World Behind

“Happy Hour is filled with charm, memorable insight, and witty aperçus, adding up to the realisation that life, while unfair, is antic enough to be worth all the trouble.” A. S. Hamrah, author of The Earth Dies Streaming

• For readers of Sally Rooney, Ottessa Moshfegh and Dolly Alderton.
• The best-selling literary novel in Canada in the month of its first release.
• Early bound proofs available.
• Reviews across the national press.
How to Be a Revolutionary

A Novel

C. A. Davids

An extraordinary, ambitious, globe-spanning novel about what we owe our consciences

Fleeing her moribund marriage in Cape Town, Beth accepts a diplomatic posting to Shanghai. In this anonymous city she hopes to lose herself in books, wine, and solitude, and to dodge whatever pangs of conscience she feels for her fealty to a South African regime that, by the twenty-first century, has betrayed its early promises.

At night, she hears the sound of typing, and then late one evening Zhao arrives at her door. They explore hidden Shanghai and discover a shared love of Langston Hughes – who had his own Chinese and African sojourns. But then Zhao vanishes, and a typewritten manuscript – chunk by chunk – appears at her doorstep instead. The truths unearthed in this manuscript cause her to reckon with her own past, and the long-buried story of what happened to Kay, her fearless, revolutionary friend ...

Connecting contemporary Shanghai, late Apartheid era South Africa, and China during the Great Leap Forward and the Tiananmen uprising – and refracting this globe-trotting and time-traveling through Hughes’ confessional letters to a South African protege about the poet’s time in Shanghai – How to Be a Revolutionary is an amazingly ambitious novel. It’s also a heartbreaking exploration of what we owe our countries, our consciences, and ourselves.

C. A. Davids is an author and the publisher of everychild books. Her debut novel, The Blacks of Cape Town, was published in South Africa and shortlisted for the Edinburgh Book Fest’s First Book Award, the University of Johannesburg Debut Writing Prize, and the SALA First-time Published Author Award, among others.

• Blurbs from Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Susan Abulhawa, Teju Cole, and others.

• Author’s previous novel shortlisted for the Edinburgh Book Fest’s First Book Award, the University of Johannesburg Debut Writing Prize, and the SALA First-time Published Author Award.

• Early bound proofs available.

• Reviews expected across the international press.
The Apocalypse and the End of History
Modern Jihad and the Crisis of Liberalism

Suzanne Schneider

How the political violence of modern jihad echoes the crises of western liberalism

In this authoritative, accessible study, historian Suzanne Schneider examines the politics and ideology of the Islamic State and finds that contemporary jihad is a microcosm of global political trends; one that can help us understand the slide toward authoritarianism and nihilist violence worldwide. Most western commentators have assumed the modern jihad is antithetical to western liberalism; Schneider argues the opposite. The jihadist violence of the Islamic State, she finds, has much in common with political life in Europe and the United States, from the spectacular violence of mass shootings to authoritarian populism and the rise of xenophobic nationalism. The Islamic State, in other words, is a dark reflection of western liberalism, rather than its antithesis. Through chapters surveying modern jihadist ideas of the state, violence, identity, and political community, Schneider argues that modern jihad and western capitalism are two versions of a politics of failure: the failure to imagine a better life here on earth.

Based on extensive research into a wide range of sources, from Islamic jurisprudence to popular recruitment videos, contemporary apocalyptic literature and the Islamic State’s Arabic-language publications, and written with the sensibility of a political theorist, Schneider explores modern jihad as a way to show us a vision of a dark futur – one we might still swerve to avoid.

Suzanne Schneider is Deputy Director and Core Faculty at the Brooklyn Institute for Social Research. She is the author of Mandatory Separation, and her writing has appeared in Mother Jones, n+1, the Washington Post, and Foreign Policy, among other outlets.
Overtime
Why We Need A Shorter Working Week
Kyle Lewis and Will Stronge

A radical and pragmatic manifesto for tackling the twin crises of work and care in contemporary capitalism

With the rise of automation and precarious forms of work, jobs are becoming increasingly polarised. While some people are overworked, there are many more people forced into precarious and underpaid work – work that falls heavily on those most vulnerable in society. All of this while countries in the Global North are experiencing a crisis of care, where the disproportionately gendered labour of care is undervalued, and often unpaid. In this short book, Kyle Lewis and Will Stronge argue that one powerful and practical response to the crises of work is a shorter working week.

The time we spend at work is neither natural nor inevitable. Instead, the amount of time we spend working is politically, culturally and economically determined. Overtime will explain what a shorter waged working week means, as well as its history and its political implications. The authors argue that any long-term plan for a sustainable, just economy must involve a reduction in the time we spend working. Drawing on a range of political and economic thinkers, Stronge and Lewis argue that we can create a more just and equal society, one that allows people the space and opportunity to develop an ethic based on citizen engagement and self-autonomy outside of market interaction, only be reducing the working week.

Kyle Lewis is an associate lecturer in the Health and Social Sciences department at the University of the West of England, and a researcher at the think tank Autonomy.

Will Stronge is the co-director of the think tank Autonomy, and a researcher in Politics and Philosophy at the University of Brighton.

Praise for The Shorter Working Week report:

“A vital contribution to the growing debate around free time and reducing the working week.” John McDonnell

“A path-breaking report on one of the most promising ideas of our time.” Rutger Bregman, author of Utopia for Realists and Humankind

- For readers of Aaron Bastani, Grace Blakeley, and Paul Mason.
- Essential argument in the debates about office work and the employment crisis after Covid 19.
- From the founders of the Autonomy Institute, a new think tank on the future of work that has been extensively covered in the media, including Guardian, New Statesman, Financial Times, Economist and Times.
- Reviews and op eds in the national press, broadcast media.
Economics and the Left
Interviews with Progressive Economists
Edited by C. J. Polychroniou

How to promote egalitarianism, democracy and ecological sanity through economics

Economics and the Left presents interviews with twenty-four leading progressive economists whose lives work has been dedicated to both interpreting the world and changing it for the better. They all deploy the technical tools of their trade – the ‘dismal science’ – in various ways. Much more importantly, they are all people dedicated to the principles of egalitarianism, democracy and ecological sanity. The result is a combustible brew of ideas, commitments and reflections on major historical events, including the Covid-19 pandemic and resulting global economic recession. Interviewed are: Michael Ash, Nelson Henrique Barbosa Filho, James K. Boyce, Ha-Joon Chang, Jane D’Arista, Diane Elson, Gerald Epstein, Nancy Folbre, James K. Galbraith, Teresa Ghilarducci, Jayati Ghosh, Ilene Grabel, Costas Lapavitsas, Zhongjin Li, William Milberg, Léonce Ndikumana, Ozlem Onaran, Robert Pollin, Malcolm Sawyer, Juliet Schor, Anwar Shaikh, William Spriggs, Fiona Tregenna and Thomas Weisskopf.

C. J. Polychroniou is a political economist. He is author or editor of several books, including Marxist Perspectives on Imperialism, Perspectives and Issues in International Political Economy and Socialism: Crisis and Renewal.

• Essential survey of the thinkers and writers of the new economics.
• For readers of Thomas Piketty, Maria Mazzucato and Paul Krugman.
• Academic marketing campaign.
Falling Down
Parliamentary Conservatism and the Decline of Tory Britain
Phil Burton-Cartledge

Why is the Conservative Party on the verge of collapse?

Despite winning the December 2019 General Election, the Conservative parliamentary party is a moribund organisation. It no longer speaks for, nor to, the British people. Its leadership has sacrificed the long-standing commitment to the Union to ‘Get Brexit Done’. And beyond this, it is an intellectual vacuum, propped up by half-baked doctrine and magical thinking. *Falling Down* offers an explanation for how the Tory party came to position itself on the edge of the precipice and offers a series of answers to a question seldom addressed: as the party is poised to press the self-destruct button, what kind of role and future can it have?

This tipping point has been a long time coming and Burton-Cartledge offers critical analysis to this narrative. Since the era of Thatcherism, the Tories have struggled to find a popular vision for the United Kingdom. At the same time, their members have become increasingly old. Their values have not been adopted by the younger voters. The coalition between the countryside and the City interests is under pressure, and the latter is split by Brexit. The Tories are locked into a declinist spiral, and with their voters not replacing themselves the party is more dependent on a split opposition – putting into question their continued viability as the favoured vehicle of British capital.

*Phil Burton-Cartledge* is a lecturer in Sociology at the University of Derby. Via his blog, *All That Is Solid*, he regularly writes about politics and current affairs. He has also written for *The Independent, New Statesman*, and *OpenDemocracy*. 
The World Turned Inside Out
Settler Colonialism as a Political Idea
Lorenzo Veracini

Settler colonialism and social control

Many would rather change worlds than change the world. The settlement of communities in 'empty lands' somewhere else has often been proposed as a solution to growing contradictions. The lands were never empty. Sometimes the settlement communities failed miserably and sometimes they prospered and grew until they became entire countries.

Building on a growing body of transnational and interdisciplinary research on the political imaginaries of settler colonialism as a specific mode of domination, this book uncovers and subjects to critique an autonomous, influential, and coherent political tradition – a tradition still relevant today. It follows the ideas and the projects (and failures) of those who left or planned to leave growing and chaotic cities and challenging and confusing economic circumstances, those who wanted to protect endangered nationalities, and those who intended to pre-empt forthcoming revolutions of all sorts, including civil and social wars.

This book outlines the global history of a resilient political idea: to seek change somewhere else as an alternative to embracing (or resisting) transformation where one is.

Lorenzo Veracini teaches history and politics at Swinburne University of Technology, Melbourne. He has authored *Israel and Settler Society, Settler Colonialism, The Settler Colonial Present* (2015), and co-edited *The Routledge Handbook of the History of Settler Colonialism*. He is Founding Editor of *Settler Colonial Studies*. 

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*Academic marketing.*
The Spoils of War
The Truth behind the U.S. Lust for War
Andrew Cockburn

Why does America go to war?
In the last decades, America has gone to war as supposed defenders of democracy. The War on Terror was waged to protect the west from the dangers of Islamists. US soldiers are stationed in more than 800 locations across the world to act as the righteous arbiters of the rule of law. In The Spoils of War Andrew Cockburn brilliantly dissect the intentions behind Washington’s martial appetites.

The American war machine can only be understood in terms of the ‘private passions’ and ‘interests’ of those who control it – principally a passionate interest in money. Thus, as he witheringly reports, Washington expanded NATO to satisfy an arms manufacturer’s urgent financial requirements; the US Navy’s Pacific fleet deployments were for years dictated by a corrupt contractor who bribed high-ranking officials with cash and prostitutes; senior marine commanders agreed to a troop surge in Afghanistan in 2017 ‘because it will do us good at budget time.’

Based on years of wide-ranging research, Cockburn lays bare the ugly reality of the largest military machine in history: squalid, and at the same time terrifyingly dangerous.

Andrew Cockburn is the Washington Editor of Harper’s magazine and the author of many articles and books on national security, including the New York Times Editor’s Choice for Rumsfeld, The Threat, and Kill Chain. He is a regular opinion contributor to the Los Angeles Times and has written for, among others, the New York Times, National Geographic and the London Review of Books.

“Cockburn is ... an assiduous investigator and skillful narrator.”
Foreign Affairs

Praise for Kill Chain:
"Fascinating and original investigation.” Charles Glass, Times Literary Supplement

“Provides the ammunition for believing that everything you ever feared or suspected about drone warfare is true.” Scotsman

“Persuasive, punchy and revelatory.” Irish Times
Revolution and Counterrevolution in China

Lin Chun

A major new contribution to the study of China’s revolutions and counterrevolutions over the past century

Over recent decades China has experienced massive change and development. China is the world’s fastest growing economy, and has become a global superpower once again. But this development has thrown up a number of seemingly intractable contradictions, both political and economic. In this panoramic study of Chinese history in the twentieth century and its place in the development of global capitalism, Lin Chun argues that the paradoxes of contemporary Chinese society are not simply the product of the development of capitalism or modernity in the country. They are instead the product of the contradictions of its long revolutionary history, as well as the social and political consequences of its post-socialist transition.

Published to coincide with the one-hundredth anniversary of the founding of the Chinese Communist Party, Revolution and Counterrevolution in China charts China’s epic revolutionary trajectory in search of a socialist alternative to the global system, and asks whether market reform must repudiate and overturn the revolution and its legacy.

Lin Chun is Professor in Comparative Politics at the London School of Economics and Political Science; and the author of The British New Left, The Transformation of Chinese Socialism, and China and Global Capitalism, among other books.

Praise for Lin Chun:

“Always stimulating ... demands serious response from a generally much less adventurous western scholarship.” John Gittings

“The best book on contemporary China in many years.” Bruce Cumings

“A great contribution to the historical research, theoretical exploration, and political debates surrounding China.” Wang Hui

“Simply one of the most important books written during the last decades. Her arguments are based on the best knowledge of Chinese current policies, debates and struggles.” Samir Amin

Published to coincide with the one-hundredth anniversary of the founding of the Chinese Communist Party.
Cannibal Capitalism

How our System is Devouring Democracy, Care, and the Planet – and What We Can Do About It

Nancy Fraser

A rallying cry for a socialist politics that can save our world

Capitalism has come, in the twenty-first century, to dominate nearly every sphere of life, from ecology and race to ideas of care and the practice of politics. In this tightly argued but urgent volume, leading Marxist feminist theorist Nancy Fraser charts the voracious appetite of capital, tracking it from crisis point to crisis point, from ecological devastation to the collapse of democracy, and from the devaluing of care work to racial injustice. These crisis points all come to head in the ‘perfect storm’ of Covid-19, which Fraser argues can help us envision the kind of resistance we must build to stop capital from cannibalizing our whole world. What we need, she argues, is a broad and wide-ranging socialist movement that can recognise capital’s appetite – and starve it to death.

Nancy Fraser is Henry and Louise A. Loeb Professor of Philosophy and Politics at the New School for Social Research. She is the author of the influential Fortunes of Feminism, of the pamphlet The Old is Dying and the New Cannot be Born, and co-author of Feminism for the 99%.

“Nancy Fraser is one of the most creative social philosophers and critical theorists of her generation.” Cornel West

- New collection from leading critical feminist scholar who coined the phrase ‘Feminism for the 99%’
- Feminism for the 99% has sold over 24,000 copies.
- For readers of Thomas Piketty, David Harvey, and Rebecca Solnit.
Black Radical Tradition

A Reader

Edited by Ben Mabie, Erin Gray and Asad Haider

A comprehensive collection of radical theory from slavery and reconstruction to Black Power to Black Feminism

With activists taking to the streets with renewed vigour to fight racism, inequality, and capitalism, this collection of classic writings and primary documents restores the historical grounding and revolutionary genealogy of today's protest movements. Including key writings by W. E. B. Du Bois, Hubert Harrison, Harry Haywood, Claude McKay, Claudia Jones, C. L. R. James, Malcolm X, Angela Davis, Audre Lorde and the Combahee River Collective, this is the most comprehensive collection of revolutionary Black voices ever assembled.

Ben Mabie is managing editor of Viewpoint Magazine, a journal of Marxist theory as it is articulated within mass movements. He works as an assistant editor at Verso Books.

Erin Gray is a historian and theorist of lynching. Her writing appears in Viewpoint Magazine and multiple other journals.

Asad Haider is a founding editor of Viewpoint Magazine and author of Mistaken Identity.

- Endorsements from leading scholars like Cornel West, Angela Davis, Michelle Alexander.
- An essential publication following the resurgence of the Black Lives Matter movement.
- A major collection of writings from radical black writers from the last one hundred years.
Everything and Less
The Novel in the Age of Amazon

Mark McGurl

How Amazon has changed literature

As the story goes, Jeff Bezos left a lucrative job to start something new in Seattle after being deeply affected by Kazuo Ishiguro’s Remains of the Day. If a novel gave us Amazon, what has Amazon meant for the novel? In Everything and Less, acclaimed critic Mark McGurl discovers a dynamic scene of cultural experimentation in literature. Its innovations have little to do with how the novel is written and more to do with how it’s distributed online. On the internet, all fiction becomes genre fiction, which is simply another way to predict customer satisfaction.

With an eye on the longer history of the novel, this witty, acerbic book tells a story that connects Henry James to E. L. James, and Faulkner and Hemingway to contemporary romance, science fiction and fantasy writers. Reclaiming several works of self-published fiction from the gutter of complete critical disregard, it stages a copernican revolution in how we understand the world of letters: it’s the stuff of high literature – Colson Whitehead, Don DeLillo, and Amitav Ghosh – that revolves around the star of countless unknown writers trying to forge a career by untraditional means, adult baby diaper lover erotica being just one fortuitous route. In opening the floodgates of popular literary expression as never before, the age of Amazon shows a democratic promise, as well as what it means when literary culture becomes corporate culture in the broadest but also deepest and most troubling sense.


Praise for The Program Era:

“An impressive and imaginative book.” Louis Menand, New Yorker

“It is a cliché to say that a book so changes your view of a particular historical period or problem that you never see it the same old way again. But this is the kind of book that warrants such praise. McGurl has brought deep learning, sweeping ambition, and stylistic brio together here to produce a whole new story of postwar American fiction. There is nothing else like it on the shelves of contemporary literary criticism.” Jim English, author of The Economy of Prestige

“A brilliant book of great ambition and originality.” Sean McCann, author of A Pinnacle of Feeling
The Third Unconscious
The psychosphere in the viral age
Franco ‘Bifo’ Berardi

A wide-ranging exploration of the present and the future of the Unconscious

The Unconscious knows no time, it has no before-and-after, it does not have a history of its own. Yet, it does not always remain the same. Different political and economic conditions transform the way in which the Unconscious emerges within the ‘psychosphere’ of society.

In the early twentieth century, Freud characterised the Unconscious as the dark side of the well-order framework of Progress and Reason. At the end of the past century, Deleuze and Guattari described it as a laboratory: the magmatic force ceaselessly bringing to the fore new possibilities of imagination. Today, at a time of viral pandemics and in the midst of the catastrophic collapse of capitalism, the Unconscious has begun to emerge in yet another form.

In this book, Franco ‘Bifo’ Berardi vividly portraits the form in which the Unconscious will make itself manifest for decades to come, and the challenges that it will pose to our possibilities of political action, poetic imagination, and therapy.

Franco ‘Bifo’ Berardi is a theorist and cultural agitator. He was the founder of the pirate radio station Radio Alice in 1976. One of the most prominent members of Autonomia, Berardi, worked closely with the French psychoanalyst Felix Guattari throughout the 1980s. His latest books in English are Futurability and And: Phenomenology of the End.

“As a diagnostician, Berardi is among the sharpest.” Slate

“Bifo is a master of global activism in the age of depression. His mission is to understand real existing capitalism. Sense the despair of the revolt, enjoy this brilliant ‘labour of the negative!’” Geert Lovink, Founding Director of the Institute of Network Cultures
Daring to Hope
My Life in the 1970s
Sheila Rowbotham

A personal history of life, love and women's liberation

In this powerful memoir Sheila Rowbotham looks back at the women's liberation movement, left politics and the vibrant, creative culture of a decade in which freedom and equality seemed possible.

After addressing the first Women's Liberation Conference at Ruskin College, Oxford, in 1970, she went on to encourage night cleaners to unionise, to campaign for nurseries and abortion rights, and to play an influential role in discussions of socialist feminist ideas. It is also an account of her attempt to live her politics, bringing to life meetings, magazines, child care networks, grass roots movements, communal houses and squats. By the middle of the decade her prolific writing had attracted a wide international readership.

Through the 1970s Rowbotham charts the women's liberation movement and its place within a larger politics, including the decline of the Labour Party. As the decade ends, with Margaret Thatcher at 10 Downing Street, the movement started to fracture. Daring to Hope is a riveting personal history of second wave feminism from the front line.

Sheila Rowbotham, who helped start the women's liberation movement in Britain, is known internationally as an historian of feminism and radical social movements. She is the author of the ground-breaking books Women, Resistance and Revolution; Woman's Consciousness, Man's World; Dreamers of a New Day; Edward Carpenter; and Rebel Crossings.

“Rowbotham is one of Britain’s most important, if unshowy, feminist thinkers, and a key figure of the second wave.” Melissa Benn

“Rowbotham is a leading feminist historian, and an unapologetic utopian.” Barbara Taylor, Guardian

“Rowbotham has a marvelous gift for explication and an eye for the illuminating quotation.” Elaine Showalter, Daily Telegraph

Sheila Rowbotham is one of the most important feminist historians of the 1970s.

Resurging interest in the Women's lib movement means that this account will be of interests to both young and old readers.

For readers of histories of Feminism and the Left.

Reviews and profiles in the national media and broadcast media coverage.
Soldiers of Revolution

The Franco-Prussian War and the Paris Commune

Mark Lause

How war gave birth to revolution in nineteenth century France

The Franco-Prussian War of 1870–1 introduced new military technologies, transformed the organisation of armies, and upset the continental balance of power, popularising new ideas of nationhood and conflict resolution more widely. However, the mass armies that became a new standard required mass mobilisation of working people, who exercised a new power through both a German social democracy and popular insurgent French movements. As in the Russian Revolution of 1917, the Paris Commune of 1871 grew directly from the discontent among radicalised soldiers and civilians pressed into armed service on behalf of institutions they learned to mistrust. This militarised class conflict, while the brutality of the Commune's subsequent repression not only butchered tens of thousands of Parisians but slaughtered an old utopian faith that reason and morality could resolve social tensions. War among nations became linked to revolution and revolution became enmeshed in armed struggle.

Mark A. Lause is Professor of History at the University of Cincinnati. He has published extensively on nineteenth century history.
The Concept of the Social
Scepticism, Idleness and Utopia
Malcolm Bull

From here to utopia. New directions in political theory

What does political agency mean for those who don't know what to do or can't be bothered to do it? This book develops a novel account of collective emancipation in which freedom is achieved not through knowledge and action but via doubt and inertia.

In essays that range from ancient Greece to the end of the Anthropocene, Bull addresses questions central to contemporary political theory in novel readings of texts by Aristotle, Machiavelli, Marx, and Arendt, and shows how classic philosophical problems have a bearing on issues like political protest and climate change. The result is an entirely original account of political agency for the twenty-first century in which uncertainty and idleness are limned with utopian promise.

Malcolm Bull teaches at Oxford University. His previous books include Anti-Nietzsche and On Mercy, which was a 2019 New Statesman Book of the Year. He is on the editorial board of New Left Review and writes for the London Review of Books.

Praise for Anti-Nietzsche:

“[A] stimulating and delightful book...Anti-Nietzsche is charming, but Bull’s argument is also subtle and deep” Times Literary Supplement

“Bull is an excellent writer of philosophical prose... it is hard to deny the boldness of his thinking, or the seductive force of his writing” Times Higher Education

“Seven witty, erudite, and highly stylized chapters. Recommended.” CHOICE

- An inventive, critically acclaimed thinker and essayist.
- Author writes for Guardian, LRB and NLR.
- For readers of Fredric Jameson, Judith Butler, Frédéric Gros.
Work without the Worker

Labour in the Age of Platform Capitalism

Phil Jones

The brutal truth behind our automated futures and the new world of work

We are told that the future of work will be increasingly automated. Algorithms, processing massive amounts of information at startling speed, will lead us to a new world of effortless labour and a post-work utopia of ever expanding leisure. But behind the gleaming surface stands millions of workers, often in the Global South, manually processing data for a pittance.

Recent years have seen a boom in online crowdworking platforms like Amazon’s Mechanical Turk and Clickworker, and these have become an increasingly important source of work for millions of people. And it is these badly paid tasks, not algorithms, that make our digital lives possible. Used to process data for everything from the mechanics of self-driving cars to Google image search, this is an increasingly powerful part of the new digital economy, although one hidden and rarely spoken of. But what happens to work when it makes itself obsolete. In this stimulating work that blends political economy, studies of contemporary work, and speculations on the future of capitalism, Phil Jones looks at what this often murky and hidden form of labour looks like, and what it says about the state of global capitalism.

Phil Jones is a research affiliate at Autonomy and a PhD researcher at the University of Sussex. His writing regularly appears in the Guardian and OpenDemocracy.

• For readers of Soshana Zuboff, Paul Mason, and Nick Srnicek.
• An intervention into ongoing debates on the future of capitalism, and the nature of digital platforms.
• Phil Jones writes regularly for major publications, such as the Guardian and New Statesman.
• Author available for media appearances and op eds.
• Reviews expected across the national press.
• Endorsements expected from Soshanna Zuboff, Evgeny Morozov, Paul Mason, Nick Srnicek, and Wendy Liu.
Revolution
An Intellectual History
Enzo Traverso

A cultural and intellectual balance-sheet of the twentieth century’s age of revolutions

This book reinterprets the history of nineteenth and twentieth-century revolutions by composing a constellation of ‘dialectical images’: Marx’s ‘locomotives of history,’ Alexandra Kollontai’s sexually liberated bodies, Lenin’s mummified body, Auguste Blanqui’s barricades and red flags, the Paris Commune’s demolition of the Vendome Column, among several others. It connects theories with the existential trajectories of the thinkers who elaborated them, by sketching the diverse profiles of revolutionary intellectuals – from Marx and Bakunin to Luxemburg and the Bolsheviks, from Mao and Ho Chi Minh to José Carlos Mariátegui, C. L. R. James, and other rebellious spirits from the South – as outcasts and pariahs. And finally, it analyzes the entanglement between revolution and communism that so deeply shaped the history of the twentieth century. This book thus merges ideas and representations by devoting an equal importance to theoretical and iconographic sources, offering for our troubled present a new intellectual history of the revolutionary past.

Enzo Traverso is Professor in the Humanities at Cornell University. He is the author of several of books, including Fire and Blood, Left-Wing Melancholia, and The New Faces of Fascism, which have been translated into a dozen of languages. He regularly writes for Jacobin and Il Manifesto.

Endorsements expected from Tariq Ali, Nancy Fraser, China Miéville, Toni Negri and others.

For readers of Slavoj Žižek, Noam Chomsky, Naomi Klein, Arundhati Roy and David Harvey.

Praise for The New Faces of Fascism:

“A valuable intervention.” Natasha Lennard, Times Literary Supplement

“But what do we mean when we say ‘fascism’ today? In The New Faces of Fascism, historian Enzo Traverso calls the concept of fascism ‘both inappropriate and indispensable’ for grasping current political reality.”

J. Hoberman, Bookforum
Who Owns the Wind?
Climate Crisis and the Hope of Renewable Energy

David McDermott Hughes

Why the wind, and energy it produces, should not be private property

The energy transition has begun. To succeed – to replace fossil fuels with wind and solar power – that process must be fair. Otherwise, mounting popular protest against wind farms will prolong carbon pollution and deepen the climate crisis. David Hughes examines that anti-industrial, anti-corporate resistance, drawing insights from a Spanish village surrounded by turbines. In the lives of these neighbours – freighted with centuries of exploitation – clean power and social justice fit together only awkwarldy. Proposals for a green economy, the Green New Deal, or Europe’s Green Deal require more effort. We must rethink aesthetics, livelihood, property, and, most essentially, the private nature of wind resources. Ultimately, the energy transition will be public and just, or it may not be at all.

David Hughes is a professor of Anthropology at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey. He has written articles for Boston Review and three previous books, including Energy without Conscience. As an activist, Hughes has served as president of his faculty union and as a member of the Climate Task Force of the American Federation of Teachers.

• Endorsements expected from Kate Aronoff, Naomi Klein, Bernie Sanders, Rebecca Solnit, Yanis Varoufakis and others.

• For readers of George Monbiot, Andreas Malm and David Wallace-Wells.
Everything, All the Time, Everywhere
How We Became Postmodern
Stuart Jeffries

A radical new history of a dangerous idea

Postmodernism stood for everything modernism rejected: fun, exuberance, irresponsibility. But beneath its glitzy surface, postmodernism had a dirty secret: it was the fig leaf for a rapacious new kind of capitalism. It was the forcing ground of ‘post truth’, by means of which western values were turned upside down. But where do these ideas come from and how have they impacted on the world?

In this brilliant history of a dangerous idea, Stuart Jeffries tells a narrative that starts in the early 1970s and still dominates our lives today. He tells this history through a riotous gallery that includes, among others: David Bowie, the iPod, Madonna, Jeff Koons’s the Nixon Shock, Judith Butler, Las Vegas, Margaret Thatcher, Grand Master Flash, I Love Dick, the RAND Corporation, the Sex Pistols, Princess Diana, Grand Theft Auto, Jean Baudrillard, Netflix, and 9/11.

We are today scarcely capable of conceiving politics as a communal activity because we have become habituated to being consumers rather than citizens. Politicians treat us as consumers to whom they must deliver. Can we do anything other than suffer from buyer’s remorse?

Stuart Jeffries is a journalist and author. He was for many years on the staff of the Guardian, working as subeditor, TV critic, Friday Review editor and Paris correspondent. He now works as a freelance writer, mostly for the Guardian, Spectator, Financial Times and the London Review of Books. He has written two books, Mrs Slocombe’s Pussy and Grand Hotel Abyss.

Praise for Grand Hotel Abyss:

“Marvellously entertaining, exciting and informative.” John Banville, Guardian Books of the Year

“An engaging and accessible history of the lives and main ideas of the leading thinkers of the Frankfurt School.” New York Review of Books

“An exhilarating page-turner ... an outstanding critical introduction to some of the most fertile, and still relevant, thinkers of the twentieth century.” Michael Dirda, Washington Post

- Reviews, op eds, features and interviews across cultural and political media.
- For readers of Verso’s growing trade philosophy list: Grand Hotel Abyss, An Event, Perhaps.
- Grand Hotel Abyss has sold over 25,000 copies.
- Viral social media campaign on Twitter and Instagram.
Decolonial Marxism

Essays from the Pan-African Revolution

Walter Rodney

A previously unpublished collection of Rodney’s essays on race, colonialism and Marxism

Early in life, Walter Rodney became a major revolutionary figure in a dizzying range of locales that traversed the breadth of the Black diaspora: in North America and Europe, in the Caribbean and on the African continent. He not only witnessed a Pan-African and socialist internationalism; in his efforts to build mass organisations, catalyse rebellious ferment, and theorise an anti-colonial path to self-emancipation, he can be counted among its prime authors. Decolonial Marxism records such a life by collecting previously unbound essays written during the world-turning days of Black revolution. In drawing together pages where he elaborates on the nexus of race and class, offers his reflections on radical pedagogy, outlines programs for newly independent nation-states, considers the challenges of anti-colonial historiography, and produces balance sheets for a dozen wars for national liberation, this volume captures something of the range and power of Rodney’s output. But it also demonstrates the unbending consistency that unites his life and work: the ongoing reinvention of living conception of Marxism, and a respect for the still untapped potential of mass self-rule.

Walter Rodney was one of the leading thinkers and activists of anticolonial revolution, leading movements in North America, the African continent, and the Caribbean. Rodney found himself a lightning rod for working class Black Power. His deportation catalysed twentieth-century Jamaica’s most significant rebellion, the 1968 Rodney riots, and his scholarship trained a generation how to think politics at an international scale. In 1980, shortly after founding of the Working People's Alliance in Guyana, the thirty-eight-year-old Rodney was assassinated. He is the author of How Europe Underdeveloped Africa, The Groundings With My Brothers, and The Russian Revolution.

“If Walter Rodney’s assassins were under the impression that they could arrest the flow of his ideas by destroying his body, they could have not been more wrong ... In the context of the new resistance fo global capitalism, his captivating analysis resonates more than ever before.”

Angela Davis
Ending Fossil Fuels
Why Net Zero is Not Enough
Holly Jean Buck

How ending the fossil fuel industry is our only hope

Around the world, countries and companies are setting net-zero carbon emissions targets. But ‘net-zero’ is a term that conveniently obscures multiple futures. There could be a version of net-zero where the fossil fuel industry is still spewing tens of billions of tons of CO₂ into the atmosphere, and has built a corresponding industry in sucking it back out again. Holly Buck argues that focusing on emissions draws our attention away from where we need to be looking: the point of production.

It is time to plan for the end of fossil fuel and the companies that profit from them. Fossil fuels still provide eighty per cent of world energy and ceasing their use before there are ready alternatives brings risks of energy poverty. The fossil fuel industry provides jobs, as well as a source of revenue for some frontline communities. Conventional wisdom says that fossil fuels will be naturally priced out when cheaper, but this raises as many problems as it addresses. Ending Fossil Fuels tackles these problems seriously and also sets out a roadmap that offers opportunities for more liveable, inclusive future.

Holly Jean Buck is Assistant Professor of Environment and Sustainability at the University at Buffalo in Buffalo, New York. Her book After Geoengineering explores best and worst-case scenarios for climate intervention.

Praise for After Geoengineering:

“This is the guide to the future ... Written in graceful prose, combining the latest science with the crystal ball of a sci-fi author, this book shines. Anyone worried about what comes next should read it.” Andreas Malm, author of How to Blow Up a Pipeline

“Climate is now an unmitigated disaster ... Holly Jean Buck walks us briskly through what we need to know to engage with this deepening planetary crisis.” McKenzie Wark, author of Molecular Red

“Buck expertly the nuance and complexity of figuring out what to do with the remains of an industry on which the entire global economy currently depends.” Issues in Science and Technology

“A really fantastic book; as if Ursula K. Le Guin wrote a definitive study of carbon management options for the twenty-first century. A meticulously researched, beautifully drawn portrait of dozens of possible futures and how to make them reality. A must-read for anyone who cares about making a cooler and more just future for generations to come.” Emma Marris, author of Rambunctious Garden

• As countries around the world set targets for net-zero emissions, this bold pamphlet argues that we need radical action.

• For readers of Naomi Klein, George Monbiot and Andreas Malm.

• Reviews across the national press.
Dissidents among Dissidents
Ideology, Politics and the Left in Post-Soviet Russia
Ilya Budraitskis

Introduced by Tony Wood
Translated by Giuliano Vivaldi

What happened to the left in Russia?

Ilya Budraitskis, one of Russia's most prominent leftist political commentators, explores the strange fusion of free-market ideology and postmodern nationalism that now prevails in Russia, and describes the post-Soviet evolution of its left.

Budraitskis makes an invaluable contribution by reconstructing the forgotten history of the USSR's dissident left, mapping an entire alternative tradition of heterodox Marxist and socialist thought from Khrushchev’s Thaw to Gorbachev's perestroika. Doubly outsiders, within an intelligentsia dominated by liberal humanists, they offer a potential way out of the impasse between condemnations of the entire Soviet era and blanket nostalgia for Communist Party rule – suggesting new paths for the left to explore.

Ilya Budraitskis writes regularly on politics, art, film and philosophy for e-flux journal, openDemocracy, LeftEast, Colta.ru and other outlets, and teaches at the Moscow School of Social and Economic Sciences and the Institute of Contemporary Art Moscow. The Russian edition of his essay collection Dissidents among Dissidents was awarded the prestigious Andrei Bely prize in 2017.
Ever Closer Union?
Europe in the West

Perry Anderson

How to theorise the European Union

The European Union is a political order of peculiar stamp and continental scope, its polity of 446 million the third largest on the planet, though with famously little purchase on the conduct of its representatives. Sixty years after the founding treaty, what sort of structure has crystallised, and does the promise of ever closer union still obtain?

Against the self-image of the bloc, Perry Anderson poses the historical record of its assembly. He traces the wider arc of European history, from First World War to Eurozone crisis, the hegemony of Versailles to that of Maastricht, and casts the work of the EU’s leading contemporary analysts – both independent critics and court philosophers – in older traditions of political thought. Are there likenesses to the age of Metternich, lessons in statecraft from that of Machiavelli?

An excursus on the UK’s jarring departure from the Union considers the responses it has met with inside the country’s intelligentsia, from the contrite to the incandescent. How do Brussels and Westminster compare as constitutional forms? Differently put, which could be said to be worse?

Perry Anderson is the author of, among other things, Brazil Apart, The Indian Ideology and The New Old World. He taught History at UCLA for thirty years and is an Editor at New Left Review.

“A hugely ambitious and panoramic political book, tracking the rise and fall of the EU’s principal actors and guiding ideas, and quietly but often lethally critiquing other writers who have attempted to make sense of the whole sprawling edifice.”Guardian [for The New Old World]

“Extraordinary originality and penetrating insight – sweeping, subtle, sophisticated, provocative.”Andrew Bacevich, Diplomatic History [for American Foreign Policy and Its Thinkers]

“The Anglophone world’s premier chronicler of Brazilian politics, Anderson’s broad scope, high stature and wide reading habits have allowed him to write essays on Brazil that remain above the ruck, but below the ivory tower.”American Interest [for Brazil Apart]

“A magnificent achievement. It is a product of his ability, near-unique in today’s world of ideas, to distil a country’s history and politics into a few thousand words that are at once combative and informative.”Business Standard, New Delhi [for The Indian Ideology]
Uncomputable
Play and Politics in the Long Digital Age
Alexander Galloway

A journey through the uncomputable remains of computer history

Narrating some lesser known episodes from the deep history of digital machines, Alexander Galloway explains the technology that drives the world today, and the fascinating people who brought these machines to life. With an eye to both the computable and the uncomputable, Galloway shows how computation emerges or fails to emerge, how the digital thrives but also atrophies, how networks interconnect while also fray and fall apart. By re-building obsolete technology using today’s software, the past comes to light in new ways, from intricate algebraic patterns woven on a hand loom, to striking artificial-life simulations, to war games and back boxes. A description of the past, this book is also an assessment of all that remains uncomputable as we continue to live in the aftermath of the long digital age.

Alexander R. Galloway is Professor of Media, Culture, and Communication at New York University. He is author or coauthor of several books, including The Interface Effect, Protocol and Gaming.

“Galloway’s work is conceptually sharp, visually compelling and completely attuned to the political moment.” New York Times

“Galloway’s theorisation of the computer as a mode of mediation offers rich possibilities for the critical analysis of the digital.” Radical Philosophy

For readers of Fredric Jameson, Hito Steyerl, Hal Foster and Jonathan Crary.

Creative marketing campaign, including relaunch of computer game ‘Kriegspiel’ (based on the Guy Debord game discussed in the book), free audio book, and posters.

Author is well known theorist as well as a programmer and artist.
The Anthropocene Unconscious

Climate Catastrophe in Contemporary Culture

Mark Bould

From *Ducks, Newburyport* to zombie movies to *Fast and Furious*, how climate anxiety permeates our culture

The art and literature of our time is pregnant with catastrophe, with weather and water, wildness and weirdness. The Anthropocene – the term given to this geological epoch in which humans, *anthropos*, are wreaking havoc on the earth – is to be found bubbling away everywhere in contemporary cultural production. The Anthropocene, Mark Bould argues, constitutes the unconscious of ‘the art and literature of our time’.

Tracing the outlines of the Anthropocene unconscious in a range of film, television and literature – across a range of genres and with utter disregard for high-low culture distinctions – this playful and riveting book draws out some of the things that are repressed and obscured by the term ‘the Anthropocene’, including capital, class, imperialism, inequality, alienation, violence, commodification, patriarchy and racial formations. *The Anthropocene Unconscious* is about a kind of rewriting. It asks: what happens when we stop assuming that the text is not about the anthropogenic biosphere crises engulfing us? What if all the stories we tell are stories about the Anthropocene? About climate change?

Mark Bould is a Reader in Film and Literature at UWE Bristol. He is the author of four books of film theory, and has been awarded both the Science Fiction Research Association’s Pilgrim Lifetime Achievement Award for Critical Contributions to the Study of Science Fiction and Fantasy (2016) and the International Association for the Fantastic in the Arts Distinguished Scholarship Award (2019). He has written for *Boston Review, Electric Sheep, Fabrikzeitung, Film International, Los Angeles Review of Books, Salvage and Vector.*

- Multi-award winning film theorist turns his attention to climate culture.
- For readers of Fredric Jameson, Jason Moore and McKenzie Wark.
Space Forces
A Critical History of Life in Outer Space
Fred Scharmen

The radical history of space exploration from the Russian Cosmists to Elon Musk

Many societies have imagined going to live in space. What they want to do once they get up there – whether conquering the unknown, establishing space ‘colonies,’ privatising the moon’s resources – reveals more than expected. In this fascinating radical history of space exploration, Fred Scharmen shows that often science and fiction have combined in the imagined dreams of life in outer space, but these visions have real implications for life back on earth.

For the Russian Cosmists of the 1890s space was a place to pursue human perfection away from the Earth. For others, such as Wernher Von Braun, it was an engineering task that combined, in the Space Race, the Cold War, and during World War II, with destructive geopolitics. Arthur C. Clarke, in his speculative books, offered an alternative vision of wonder that is indifferent to human interaction. Meanwhile NASA planned and managed the space station like an earthbound corporation. Today, the market has arrived into outer space and exploration is the plaything of superrich technology billionaires, who plan to privatise the mineral wealth for themselves. Are other worlds really possible?

Bringing these figures and ideas together reveals a completely different story of our relationship with outer space, as well as the dangers of our current direction of extractive capitalism and colonisation.

Fred Scharmen teaches architecture and urban design at Morgan State University’s School of Architecture and Planning. He is the co-founder of the Working Group on Adaptive Systems, an art and design consultancy based in Baltimore, Maryland. His first book, Space Settlements, was published in 2019. His writing has been published in the Journal of Architectural Education, Atlantic, CityLab, Slate, Log, CLOG, Volume, and Domus. His architectural criticism has appeared in the Architect’s Newspaper, and in the local alt-weekly Baltimore City Paper.

Praise for Space Settlements:
“Beautiful and compelling… It is expertly narrated, as it wends its way through a set of stories about the coproduction of utopian outer-space imaginaries informed by architecture, science fiction, and the Cold War.” Public Books

“A deeper examination of what it means to exist outside of Earth’s atmosphere.” Architect’s Newspaper
The Complete Works of Rosa Luxemburg
Volume IV


Rosa Luxemburg

This 600-page volume of Luxemburg’s Complete Works contains her writings On Revolution from 1906 to 1909 – covering the 1905-06 Russian Revolution, an epoch-making event, and its aftermath. The volume contains numerous writings never before available in English, such as her pathbreaking essay ‘Lessons of the Three Dumas,’ which presents a unique perspective on the transition to socialism, her ‘Notes on the English Revolution’ of the 1640s, and numerous writings on of the role of the mass strike in fomenting revolutionary transformation. All of the material in the volume consists of new translations, from German, Polish, and Russian originals.

Rosa Luxemburg (1871–1919) was a Polish-born Jewish revolutionary and one of the greatest theoretical minds of the European socialist movement.

“Luxemburg’s criticism of Marxism as dogma and her stress on consciousness exerted an influence on the women’s liberation movement which emerged in the late ‘60s and early ‘70s.” Sheila Rowbotham, Guardian

“One of the most emotionally intelligent socialists in modern history, a radical of luminous dimension whose intellect is informed by sensibility, and whose largeness of spirit places her in the company of the truly impressive.” Vivian Gornick, Nation

“Rosa goes on being our source of fresh water in thirsty times.” Eduardo Galeano
Guilty Men
The Coronavirus Criminals, Media Manipulators, and Pandemic Profiteers Who Caused the Crisis

John Nichols

A furious denunciation of coronavirus criminals

This book calls to account the government hucksters and corporate criminals who made suffering from the global coronavirus pandemic more acute. Guilty Men shows how the crisis was stoked by the callous and opportunistic decisions of the powerful.

The rogues’ gallery begins with Donald Trump, who downplayed the crisis despite knowing its dangers, as well as his international political allies, above all Boris Johnson. Billionaire politicians like Georgia senator Kelly Loeffler moved stocks at the same time they were telling Americans all was well. Political charlatans like Education Secretary Betsy DeVos undermined public safety in order to advance their agenda. Trump-controlled agencies, bailed out Wall Street while Libertarian ‘think tanks’ like the Ayn Rand Institute decried public expenditures for workers but were first in line to get bailout checks. Pharmaceutical companies gamed the vaccine race, and global corporations found the pandemic to be very profitable indeed, vastly enriching the fortunes of trillionaires like Jeff Bezos, Mark Zuckerberg, and Charles Koch. The book closes with a call for far-reaching reforms in politics, business and finance.

John Nichols is the Washington correspondent for Nation, a contributing writer for In These Times, and Associate Editor of Madison, Wisconsin’s Capital Times. He is the author of The Fight for the Soul of the Democratic Party, The “S” Word and other books.

Praise for The Fight for the Soul of the Democratic Party:

“Nichols [tells us] that one of the reasons Henry Wallace was not renominated in 1944 was because of his opposition to racism. The segregationists didn’t want him around.” Senator Bernie Sanders

“More than a history book – this is an examination of what progressives must do to retake our democracy. Nichols points the way toward how we can build a party based on peace, liberty, and justice for all.” Representative Ilhan Omar
The Road to Prison
The Testament of a Uyghur Intellectual
Ilham Tohti

The words of China's most famous political prisoner

In Xinjiang, the large northwest region of China, the government has imprisoned more than a million Uyghurs in reeducation camps. One of the incarcerated – whose sentence, unlike most others, has no end date – is Ilham Tohti, an intellectual and economist, a prolific writer, and formerly the host of a website, *Uyghur Online*. In 2014, Tohti was arrested; accused of advocating separatism, violence, and the overthrow of the Chinese government; subjected to a two-day trial; and sentenced to life. Nothing has been heard from him since.

Here are Tohti’s own words, a collection of his plain-spoken calls for justice, scholarly explanations of the history of Xinjiang, and poignant personal reflections. While his courage and outspokenness about the plight of China’s Muslim minorities is extraordinary, these essays sound a measured insistence on peace and just treatment for the Uyghurs.

Winner of the PEN/Goldsmith Freedom to Write Award and the Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought while imprisoned, this book is the only way to hear from a man who has been called ‘a Uyghur Mandela’.

Ilham Tohti is a Uyghur economist, writer, and professor who is a co-founder of the website *Uyghur Online*, also known as *Uyghurbiz*, which aimed to promote understanding between Uyghurs and Han Chinese. In February 2014 Tohti was charged with separatism and held incommunicado under inhumane conditions for months before he could meet his lawyer. On 23 September 2014, he was found guilty of ‘separatism,’ and is currently serving a life sentence. He has been incarcerated incommunicado since 2017, with no access to his family or his lawyers.

• Endorsements from Nobel Peace Prize winners Liu Xiaobo and Desmond Tutu.

• Support from international human-rights organizations: Amnesty International, PEN, Martin Ennais Foundation, Council of Europe, Human Rights in China, etc.

• Reviews expected across the national press.
Revolutionary Mathematics

Artificial Intelligence, Statistics, and the Logic of Capitalism

Justin Joque

The rise of AI and algorithms refiguring contemporary capitalism

Our finances, politics, media, opportunities, information, shopping and knowledge production are mediated through algorithms and their statistical approaches to knowledge. Increasingly, these methods form the organisational backbone of contemporary capitalism. *Revolutionary Mathematics* traces the revolution in statistics and probability that has quietly underwritten the explosion of machine learning, big data and predictive algorithms that now decide many aspects of our lives. Exploring shifts in the philosophical understanding of probability in the late twentieth century, Joque shows how this was not merely a technical change but a wholesale philosophical transformation in the production of knowledge and the extraction of value.

This book provides a new and unique perspective on the dangers of allowing artificial intelligence and big data to manage society. It is essential reading for those who want to understand the underlying ideological and philosophical changes that have fuelled the rise of algorithms and convinced so many to blindly trust their outputs, reshaping our current political and economic situation.

Justin Joque researches philosophy, technology and media and is the visualization librarian at the University of Michigan.

• For readers of Nick Srnicek, Nick Dyer-Witheford and Wendy Chun.
• Essential reading for understanding the political intricacies of big data.
• For readers of Nick Srnicek, Pedro Domingos and Nick Bostrom.
History without borders

Sanjay Subrahmanyan is the proponent of a new kind of ‘connected history’ spanning regions, subjects and archives conventionally treated alone. Not a research paradigm, he insists, this is more of an oppositionswissenschaft, a way of trying to constantly break the moulds of historical objects. Connected History considers what, exactly, is an empire; the rise of ‘the West’ (less of a place than an ideology); Churchill and the Great Man theory of history; the reception of world literature and the itinerary of subaltern studies; in addition to personal recollections of life and work in Delhi, Paris and Lisbon.

Sanjay Subrahmanyan is Distinguished Professor of History at UCLA. His books include The Career and Legend of Vasco da Gama, Europe’s India and Empires Between Islam and Christianity.
**VERSO WORLD HISTORY**

**Nevertheless**

Machiavelli, Pascal

**Carlo Ginzburg**

*From the master of ‘micro-history’, a reconstruction of two contrasting early-modern thinkers*

Through his repeated use of the adverb *nondimanco* (‘nevertheless’), Machiavelli indicated that there is an exception to every rule. This may seem merely to confirm the traditional image of Machiavelli as a cynical, ‘machiavellian’ thinker. But a close analysis of Machiavelli the reader, as well as of the ways in which some of Machiavelli’s most perceptive read his work, throws a different light on Machiavelli the writer. The same hermeneutic strategy inspires Ginzburg’s essays on the *Provinciales*, Pascal’s ferocious attack against Jesuitical casuistry, or case-based ethical reasoning.

Casuistry vs anti-casuistry; Machiavelli’s secular attitude towards religion vs Pascal’s deep religiosity. We are confronted, apparently, with two completely different worlds. But Pascal read Machiavelli and reflected deeply upon his work. A belated, contemporary echo of this reading can unveil the complex relationship between Machiavelli and Pascal – their divergences as well as their unexpected convergences.

**Carlo Ginzburg** has been a pioneer of ‘micro-history’ since his earliest works, *The Night Battles* and *The Cheese and the Worms* (the first of his books to appear in English, winning instant acclaim). His latest book is *Old Thiess, a Livonian Werewolf*, co-authored with Bruce Lincoln.

“*A dazzling example of the pleasure of research.*” *Il Foglio*

“Ginzburg calls for an intricate reading of Machiavelli. He points out that the link between the author of *The Prince* and the author of *Provincial Letters* is justified by the fact that both pertain to the broad constellation of political theology informed by the exception, the miracle, the unique case imposed on the norm.” *il manifesto*

“A treasure hunt in historical sources, forgeries and the reception of texts.” *Avvenire*
For readers of Hardt and Negri, Badiou, Rancière, Žižek, Agamben, Althusser.

Most important intervention into radical political philosophy since Hardt and Negri’s Empire.

Trenchant philosophical critique of anarchism and horizontalism.

Imperium
Structures and Affects of Political Bodies
Frédéric Lordon
Translated by Andy Bliss

Thinking through political forms

What should we do with the ideals of internationalism, the withering away of state and horizontality? Probably start by thinking seriously about them. That is to say, about their conditions of possibility (or impossibility), rather than sticking to the wishful thinking which asserts that for them to happen it is enough to want them. Humanity exists neither as a dust cloud of separate individuals nor as a unified world political community. It exists fragmented into distinct finite wholes, the forms of which have varied considerably throughout history – the nation-state being only one among many, and certainly not the last. What are the forces that produce this fragmentation, engender such groupings and prevent them from being perfectly horizontal, but also lead them to disappear, merge, or change form? It is questions such as these that this book explores, drawing on Spinoza’s political philosophy and especially his two central concepts of multitudo and imperium.

Fredéric Lordon is Director of Research at CNRS. He focuses his work on blending Spinoza’s philosophy and approach to social science to create a new theoretical framework called the ‘structuralism of passions.’
Add some radical to your writing with a Verso notebook

Following on the success of the Verso diary, Verso is now launching a new, beautifully designed notebook. Inspired by the original covers of New Left Books, the notebook is fully lined in the signature Verso red and in a handy portable size.

- Lined paper throughout

Verso Tote Bag

A stylish canvas bag from the world’s leading radical publisher

Calling all comrades! We are delighted to bring you this Verso canvas bag – big enough to carry around Lefebvre’s 900-page Critique of Everyday Life, and sturdy enough to stash a milkshake. Beautifully designed, hardy and made to last, we hope you love these bags as much as we do. Made from organic cotton under ethical working conditions.

2022 Verso Diary

A staple of any radical planning

The 2022 Verso Radical Diary and Weekly Planner is a beautifully designed week-to-view planner where you can keep track of your coming year. Alongside illustrations, it features significant dates in radical history, drawn from events such as the English Civil War and Castro’s victory march in Havana. It touches on the lives of characters such as Rosa Luxemburg and Gil Scott Heron, and includes movements such as #blacklivesmatter and the Suffragettes.
**The Politics of Care**

The Politics of Care

**A vital collection in the moment of Black Lives Matter and the pandemic, arguing that no one is disposable**

From the Covid-19 pandemic to uprisings over police brutality, we are living in the greatest social crisis of a generation. But the roots of these latest emergencies stretch back decades. At their core is a brutal neoliberal ideology that combines structural racism with a relentless assault on social welfare. Its results are the failing economic and public health systems we confront today – those that benefit the few and put the most vulnerable in harm's way.

Contributors to this anthology insist there is another way: a new kind of politics – a politics of care – that centers people's basic needs and connections to fellow citizens, the global community, and the natural world. Imagining a world that promotes the health and well-being of all, they draw inspiration from public health, philosophy, economics, literature, and the examples of activists, from ACT UP to Black Power. Together they point to a future in which no one is disposable.
# NEW IN PAPERBACKS 
AND NEW EDITIONS

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This Is Not Normal
The Collapse of Liberal Britain
William Davies

Is this the end of Great Britain?
The UK has been in a crisis of its own making: from the 2018 financial crash to Covid-19 and the collapse of Brexit negotiations in 2021. What just happened?

This Is Not Normal takes stock of a historical moment that no longer recognises itself. Davies tells a story of the apparently chaotic and irrational events, and extracts their underlying logic and long-term causes. What we are seeing is the effect of the 2008 financial crash, the failure of the British neoliberal project, the dying of Empire, and the impact of the changes that technology and communications have had on the idea of the public sphere as well as the power of information. This is an essential book for anyone who wants to make sense of this current moment.


“Brilliant ... Davies will be one of the experts to turn to guide us through the coming years.” Wired

“This book presses pause on the dazzling contingent brightness of the present, and allows the reflections of the evening to gather and turn towards a new day.” Manchester Review of Books

“As William Davies brilliantly articulates in his most recent book ... it’s hard to convincingly advocate for normality, or indeed for norms in general, if you’ve spent years openly trashing the very notion.” Dublin Review of Books

“As Davies so skilfully shows, it would be foolish to make any firm predictions of what happens next.” LSE Review of Books

• A searing analysis of what went wrong over the last few years: from the 2008 Credit Crunch to Brexit.

• Author is highly acclaimed political commentator in the Guardian, New York Times and London Review of Books. For readers of Fintan O’Toole, George Monbiot, and James Meek.

• Paperback edition to be fully updated.
Feminist City
Claiming Space in a Man-made World
Leslie Kern

Women – reclaim the city!

What should a metropolis for working women look like? A city of friendships beyond *Sex and the City*. A transit system that accommodates mothers with strollers on the school run. A public space with enough toilets. A place where women can walk without harassment.

Exploring history, personal experience and popular culture, Leslie Kern exposes what is hidden in plain sight: the social inequalities built into our cities, homes, and neighbourhoods. She maps the city from new vantage points, laying out a feminist intersectional approach to urban histories and proposes that the city is perhaps also our best hope for shaping a new urban future. It is time to dismantle what we take for granted about cities and to ask how we can build more just, sustainable, and care-full cities together.

Leslie Kern is an Associate Professor of Geography and Environment and Director of Women’s and Gender Studies at Mount Allison University. She is the author of *Sex and the Revitalized City*.

“Cities aren’t built to accommodate female bodies, female needs, female desires. In this rich, engaging book the feminist geographer Leslie Kern envisions how we might transform the ‘city of men’ into a city for everyone. Let’s all move there immediately.” Lauren Elkin, author of *Flâneuse*

“A call for gender equity in planning (and for intersectionality), and it’s one that planners of all genders should heed.” *Planetizen, Top Urban Planning Books of 2020*

“There should be more books like this ... wide-ranging and sophisticated, brief and engaging.” *ICON*

“An intersectional analysis of our urban environments through a combination of personal narrative, theory, and pop culture analysis.” Leilah Stone, *Metropolis*

“Kern delves into the interlocking inequalities and systems of oppression that take concrete shape in cities, using an intersectional feminist approach to explore the gendered aspects of urban space.” *LSE Review of Books*

“An insightful scholarly work ... This provocative analysis will resonate with theoretically minded feminists.” *Publishers Weekly*
Islamophobia and the Politics of Empire
Twenty Years after 9/11
Deepa Kumar

A critically acclaimed analysis of anti-Muslim racism from the Crusades to 9/11, in a fully revised second edition

In this incisive account, acclaimed scholar Deepa Kumar sketches the rise of ‘the Muslim enemy’ in the western mind, from the Crusades of the eleventh century to the Islamophobia of the ‘War on Terror’ in the twentieth and twenty-first. A pioneering analysis of anti-Muslim racism in the United States, this book outlines how contemporary Islamophobia emerges from various institutions – the media, think tanks, the foreign policy establishment, universities, the domestic security apparatus and the legal sphere.

Importantly, Kumar argues that anti-Muslim racism has historically been tied to empire building, and rulers have used the spectre of a ‘Muslim enemy’ to further European and American projects of colonization and war in the Middle East and North Africa. The rise of Islamophobia, she notes, not only has horrific consequences for Muslims living in the West but has become central to the United States’ ‘never-ending War on Terror’.

Every chapter has been revised to help strengthen the core arguments of the book, to include more scholarship by Arab and Muslim scholars, and with a new chapter on feminism, empire, and race.

Deepa Kumar is an award-winning scholar and activist and Professor of Media Studies at Rutgers University. Her writing has been featured in numerous media outlets, including the BBC, the Danish Broadcasting Corporation, the New York Times, NPR, and Al Jazeera.

• To be published on the twentieth anniversary of 9/11.
• Author is recognised as a leading scholar on Islamophobia and empire both nationally and internationally.
• Widely used in Middle East studies, history, political science, sociology, and communications courses.
• For readers of Rashid Khalidi, Moustafa Bayoumi, Tariq Ali and Arun Kundnani.
NEW UPDATED EDITION

The End of Policing
Alex Vitale

The best-selling bible of the movement to defund the police, in an updated edition

The massive uprising following the police killing of George Floyd in the summer of 2020 – by some estimates the largest protests in US history – thrust the argument to defund the police to the forefront of international politics. It also made The End of Policing a bestseller and Alex Vitale, its author, a leading figure in the urgent public discussion over police and racial justice.

As the writer Rachel Kushner put it, this book explains that ‘unfortunately, no increased diversity on police forces, nor body cameras, nor better training, has made any seeming difference’ in reducing police killings and abuse. ‘We need to restructure our society and put resources into communities themselves, an argument Alex Vitale makes very persuasively.’

The problem, Vitale demonstrates, is policing itself – the dramatic expansion of the police role over the last forty years. Drawing on first-hand research from across the globe, The End of Policing describes how the implementation of alternatives to policing, like drug legalisation, regulation, and harm reduction instead of the policing of drugs, has led to reductions in crime, spending, and injustice. This edition includes a new introduction that takes stock of the renewed movement to challenge police impunity and shows how we move forward, evaluating protest, policy, and the political situation.

Alex S. Vitale is Professor of Sociology and Coordinator of the Policing and Social Justice Project at Brooklyn College and a Visiting Professor at London Southbank University. His writing has appeared in the New York Times, Washington Post, Guardian, Nation, Fortune, and USA Today. He has appeared on CNN, MSNBC, CNBC, NPR, PBS, Democracy Now, and The Daily Show with Trevor Noah.

LOS ANGELES TIMES BESTSELLER

“Combines the best in academic research with rhetorical urgency to explain why the ordinary array of police reforms will be ineffective in reducing abusive policing.” Ruth Wilson Gilmore, author of Golden Gulag

“We need to restructure our society and put resources into communities themselves, an argument Alex Vitale makes very persuasively.” Rachel Kushner, author of The Flamethrowers

“A must-read for anyone interested in waging and winning the fight for economic and social justice.” Michael Hirsch, Independent

“A clearly argued, sure-to-be-controversial book.” Kirkus Reviews

• Author has made numerous TV appearances, including CNN and The Daily Show with Trevor Noah.
• Author has 31.3K followers on twitter @avitale.
• Previous edition has sold over 40,000 copies worldwide.
Cities of Power

The Urban, the National, the Popular, the Global

Göran Therborn

Why are cities centres of power?

In *Cities of Power*, sociologist Göran Therborn tours the world’s capital cities. Through a global, historical lens, and with a thematic range extending from the mutations of modernist architecture to the contemporary return of urban revolutions, he questions received assumptions about the source, manifestations and reach of urban power, combining perspectives on politics, sociology, urban planning, architecture and urban iconography.

Göran Therborn is Professor Emeritus of Sociology at the University of Cambridge and the author of, most recently, *Inequality and the Labyrinths of Democracy*.

“Göran Therborn analyses urban life with sweeping historical and global range. As he shows in tremendous detail, urban history is baked into a place by its streets, its institutions and the cultural outlook of its inhabitants.” *Times Literary Supplement*

“*Cities of Power* traces the convoluted paths today’s capital cities have taken towards becoming ‘modern’. It should become an early port of call for anyone looking to know more about how urban and national power functions around the world.” *Irish Times*
The Northern Question
A History of a Divided Country
Tom Hazeldine

A history of the UK’s regional inequalities, and why they matter

Britain has scarcely begun to come to terms with its recent upheavals, from the crisis over Brexit to the collapse of Labour’s ‘red wall’. What can explain such momentous shifts?

In this essential work, Tom Hazeldine excavates the history of a divided country: North and South, industry versus finance, Whitehall and the left-behind. Only by fully registering these deep-seated tensions, he argues, can we make sense of the present moment.

Hazeldine tracks the North–South divide over the longue durée, from the formation of an English state rooted in London and the south-east; the Industrial Revolution and the rise of provincial trade unions and the Labour party; the dashed hopes for regional economic renewal in the postwar years; the sharply contrasting fates of northern manufacturing and the City of London under Thatcher and New Labour; to the continuing repercussions of financial crisis and austerity.

The Northern Question is set to transform our understanding of the politics of Westminster – its purpose, according to Hazeldine, to stand English history on its head.

Tom Hazeldine was born in Manchester. He is an Editor at New Left Review and has written on British politics for the Guardian and Tribune.

“A lively, provocative and richly researched book. Tom Hazeldine shows that far from being marginal to British politics and culture, northern England has played a pivotal role in British history – and must be given serious consideration by the politicians of the future. Well-written and absorbing.” Selina Todd, author of Tastes of Honey and The People

“The disparity between the North of England and the south-east is a rich and tangled history. Hazeldine’s account is persuasive, and his long view is valuable. With real acuity, he highlights key differences in people’s ideas of political possibility.” John Harris, Guardian

“An expansive account of the North–South divide.” Lynsey Hanley, Financial Times

• Resurgent interest in the North–South divide and its role in contemporary British politics, from Brexit to regional pandemic lockdowns.
• For readers of Owen Jones, James Meek and Deborah Mattinson.
• Hardback reviewed across the national press.
NEW IN PAPERBACK

Behind Enemy Lies
War, News and Chaos in the Middle East

Patrick Cockburn

The future of the US in the Middle East: a question of chaos or retreat?

In this urgent and timely book, Patrick Cockburn writes the first draft of the history of the current crisis in the Middle East.

Cockburn offers panoramic on-the-ground analysis as well as a lifetime's study of the region. As author of The Rise of Islamic State and The Age of Jihad, he has proved to be leading critical commentator of US intervention and the chaos it has wreaked. Here he shows how, since Trump entered the White House promising an end to the forever war’s, peace appears a distant possibility with the continuation of conflict in Syria, Saudi Arabia’s violent intervention in the Yemen, the fall of the Kurds, riots in Baghdad, and continued aggression towards Iran. While ISIS has been defeated, it is not clear whether it has disappeared from the region. Trump’s policies have appeared to pour petrol on the flames, emboldening the other superpowers involved in the religion’s proxy wars. Following the collapse of the deal with Iran, is a new balance of power possible?

Patrick Cockburn is a Middle East Correspondent for the Independent and has worked previously for the Financial Times. His work on the crisis in the Middle East includes the National Book Circle Awards–shortlisted The Occupation and Saddam Hussein, the best-selling The Rise of the Islamic State, and The Age of Jihad. He won the Martha Gellhorn Prize in 2005, the James Cameron Prize in 2006, and the Orwell Prize for Journalism in 2009. More recently he has been awarded Foreign Commentator of the Year at the 2013 Editorial Intelligence Comment Awards, Foreign Affairs Journalist of the Year in British Journalism Award 2014, and Foreign Reporter of the Year in Press Awards 2014.

“Eminently readable ... One of the region’s most distinguished western observers ... Soaked in blood, sectarian strife and fanaticism, mired in Great Power hypocrisy and betrayal, this may not be everyone’s idea of feelgood lockdown literature but for anyone interested in the Middle East it is essential reading.” Justin Marozzi, Sunday Times

“Cockburn makes a powerful denunciation of double standards in western media.” Irish Times

“Quite simply, the best Western journalist at work in the Middle East today.” Seymour M. Hersh
**NEW EDITION**

**The Invention of the White Race**

The Origins of an American Ordeal

**Theodore W. Allen**

Groundbreaking analysis of the birth of racism in America

When the first Africans arrived in Virginia in 1619, there were no ‘white’ people there. Nor, according to colonial records, would there be for another sixty years. In this seminal two-volume work, *The Invention of the White Race*, Theodore W. Allen tells the story of how America’s ruling classes created the category of the ‘white race’ as a means of social control. Since that early invention, white privileges have enforced the myth of racial superiority, and that fact has been central to maintaining ruling-class domination over ordinary working people of all colors throughout American history.

Since publication in the mid-nineties, *The Invention of the White Race* has become indispensable in debates on the origins of racial oppression in America. Finally Verso has brought both volumes together in one seminal text.

**Theodore W. Allen** (1919–2005) was an anti–white supremacist, working-class intellectual and activist who began his pioneering work on ‘white skin privilege’ and ‘white race’ privileges in 1965. He co-authored the influential *White Blindspot*, authored *Can White Workers Radicals Be Radicalized?*, and wrote the groundbreaking *Class Struggle and the Origin of Racial Slavery* before publication of his seminal two-volume classic *The Invention of the White Race*.

“A monumental study of the birth of racism in the American South which makes truly new and convincing points about one of the most critical problems in US history ... a highly original and seminal work.”

David Roediger

“A powerful and polemical study.” *Times Literary Supplement*

“A richly researched and highly suggestive analysis ... Indispensable for readers interested in the disposition of power in Ireland, in the genesis of racial oppression in the US, or in the fluidity of ‘race’ and the historic vicissitudes of ‘whiteness.’” *Choice*

“Allen sees race as an invention – and he knows who invented it. Racial slavery was the creation of colonial power (or a ruling class, or the bourgeoisie), and what was done in North America was analogous to what was done in Ireland. So the struggle against capitalism and the struggle against race are part of the same campaign.” *Tribune*
NEW UPDATED EDITION

Mistaken Identity

Race and Class in the Age of Trump

Asad Haider

An updated new edition that issues a powerful challenge to the way we understand the politics of race

Whether class or race is the more important factor in modern politics is a question right at the heart of recent history’s most contentious debates. Among groups who should readily find common ground, there is little agreement. To escape this deadlock, Asad Haider turns to the rich legacies of the black freedom struggle. Drawing on the words and deeds of black revolutionary theorists, he argues that identity politics is not synonymous with anti-racism, but instead amounts to the neutralization of its movements. It marks a retreat from the crucial passage of identity to solidarity, and from individual recognition to the collective struggle against an oppressive social structure. Weaving together autobiographical reflection, historical analysis, theoretical exegesis, and protest reportage, Mistaken Identity is a passionate call for a new practice of politics beyond colorblind chauvinism and ‘the ideology of race.’

Asad Haider is a founding Editor of Viewpoint Magazine, an investigative journal of contemporary politics. He is the author of Mistaken Identity and a co-editor of The Black Radical Tradition (forthcoming). His writing can be found in the Baffler, n+1, the Point, Salon, and elsewhere.

“Mistaken Identity puts forward a powerful vision of collective action that should offer hope and inspiration to a new generation of activists.”
Zadie Smith, author of White Teeth and Feel Free

“A fresh and timely book, thoughtful and provocative.” Judith Butler, author of Gender Trouble and The Force of Nonviolence

“Reviving what has become a deeply unfashionable anti-racist standpoint, Asad Haider indicts the complicity of ‘identity politics’ from the left. For him, the dissident mentalities and meticulous historical methods of open-ended, ecumenical commitment to radical social transformation are still valid. This spiky little book shows how opposition might be salvaged from an ocean of pessimism and despair.”
Paul Gilroy, author of The Black Atlantic and There Ain’t No Black in the Union Jack

“Riveting. Haider moves deftly over difficult terrain. His prose is precise and propulsive. His Marxism is not a mausoleum but a living, breathing thing.” Ben Tarnoff, Guardian

“[Asad Haider] constructs a comprehensive and critical dissection of identity politics in his hard-hitting debut.” Publishers Weekly
NEW IN PAPERBACK

A Kick in the Belly
Women, Slavery and Resistance
Stella Dadzie

A history of slavery that puts enslaved women front and centre

Enslaved West Indian women had few opportunities to record their stories for posterity. Yet from their dusty footprints and the numberless small clues they left for us to unravel, there’s no question that they earned their place in history. Pick any Caribbean island and you’ll find race, skin colour and rank interacting with gender in a unique and often volatile way. In A Kick in the Belly, Stella Dadzie follows the evidence and finds women played a distinctly female role in the development of a culture of slave resistance – a role that was not just central, but downright dynamic.

Stella Dadzie is a founder member of the Organisation of Women of African and Asian Descent and is best known for The Heart of the Race, co-authored with Beverley Bryan and Suzanne Scafe, which won the 1985 Martin Luther King Award for Literature. She is well known for her contribution to tackling youth racism and working with racist perpetrators, and is a key contributor to the development of anti-racist strategies with schools, colleges and youth services. She appeared in And Still I Rise, a documentary exploring the social and historical origins of stereotypes of African women and has been a guest on Germaine Greer’s BBC2 discussion programme The Last Word.

“Shocking, enlightening, fascinating, challenging. I cannot recommend it highly enough.” Bernardine Evaristo, author of Girl, Woman, Other

“In clear, accessible prose, this book upturns versions of the past that privilege his-story, revealing a more complex and many-layered past, one in which enslaved women were central to the struggle for freedom.” Suzanne Scafe, co-author of The Heart of the Race

“Finally a work that allows us to better understand and recognise how women disrupted the principal economic principles supporting the enslavement of generations of people.” Arike Oke, Director of the Black Cultural Archives

“What has become distinctive of Dadzie’s scholarship is the way she centres black women in their own stories and this continues in A Kick in the Belly.” Sarah Lusack, Black Ballad

“My work stands on the shoulders of so many black British literary giants - Bernadine Evaristo, Benjamin Zephaniah, Zadie Smith, Andrea Levy, Stella Dadzie, Stuart Hall, Linton K Johnson, Jackie Kay, Gary Younge - to name a few.” Reni Eddo-Lodge

Author is one of the giants of black feminism in the UK.

Hardback received rave reviews.

For readers of Reni Eddo-Lodge, Akala, David Olusoga and Paul Gilroy.

Huge interest in books on race after success of Reni Eddo-Lodge’s Why I’m No Longer Talking to White People about Race.

Previous edition has sold over 4,000 copies worldwide.
NEW UPDATED EDITION

The Uses of Disorder
With a new introduction

Richard Sennett

Reissue of the classic text on how cities should be planned

When first published in 1970, *The Uses of Disorder* was a call to arms against the deadening hand of modernist urban planning upon the thriving chaotic city. Written in the aftermath of the 1968 student uprising in the US and Europe, it demands a reimagining of the city and how class, city life and identity combine. Too often, this leads to divisions, such as the middle-class flight to the suburbs, leaving the inner cities in desperate straits. In response, Sennett offers an alternative image of a ‘dense, disorderly, overwhelming cities’ that allow for change and the development of community. Fifty years later this book is as essential as it was when it first came out and remains an inspiration to architects, planners and urban thinkers everywhere.

**Richard Sennett** is one of the world’s most highly distinguished urban thinkers and planners. His previous books include *The Fall of Public Man*, *Flesh and Stone* and *Respect*, as well as the recent Homo Faber trilogy, *The Craftsman*, *Together*, and *Building and Dwellings*. For decades he has advised urban programmes for the United Nations. He has been awarded the Hegel and Spinoza prizes, as well as an honorary doctorate by Cambridge University.

“His argument remains powerful and relevant, an inspiration to a new generation of urbanists.” P. D. Smith, *Guardian*

“The best available contemporary defence of anarchism ... The issues [he] raises are fundamental and profound. His book is utopian in the best sense?: it tries to define a radically different future and to show that it could be constructed from the materials at hand.” *New York Times*

- Reissue of first book by leading urban sociologist on the culture of cities. Still hugely relevant today.
- Author is a much-in-demand media personality across the world, currently working as Chair of the Urban Initiatives Group, UN Habitat.
- Includes a new introduction to bring the themes of the book up to date.
Imperial Intimacies
A Tale of Two Islands
Hazel V. Carby

A haunting and evocative history of British empire, told through one woman’s family story

Winner of the British Academy’s Nayef Al-Rodhan Prize for Global Cultural Understanding 2020

Highly commended for PEN Hessell–Tiltman Prize 2020

‘Where are you from?’ was the question hounding Hazel Carby as a girl in post–World War II London. One of the so-called brown babies of the Windrush generation, born to a Jamaican father and Welsh mother, Carby’s place in her home, her neighbourhood, and her country of birth was always in doubt.

Emerging from this setting, Carby untangles the threads connecting members of her family to each other in a web woven by the British Empire across the Atlantic. Moving between the Jamaican plantations, the hills of Devon, the port cities of Bristol, Cardiff, and Kingston, and the working-class estates of South London, Carby’s family story is at once an intimate personal history and a sweeping summation of the violent entanglement of two islands. In charting British empire’s interweaving of capital and bodies, public language and private feeling, Carby will find herself reckoning with what she can tell, what she can remember, and what she can bear to know.

Hazel V. Carby is a co-author of The Empire Strikes Back and author of Cultures in Babylon, Race Men, and Reconstructing Womanhood. For three decades she taught at Yale University as the Charles C. and Dorothea S. Dilley Professor of African American Studies and Professor of American Studies.

“Carby deftly captures the ways that relations of power are lived, intimately, quietly, destructively, and profoundly. What an achievement.” Saidiya Hartman, author of Wayward Lives, Beautiful Experiments

“This beautifully written book raises the bar for political life-writing.” Paul Gilroy, author of Darker Than Blue and The Black Atlantic

“Captivating ... offers interesting perspectives on the personal impact of capitalism and colonialism.” Bernadine Evaristo, TLS Books of the Year, 2019

“Hazel Carby assembles a sprawling account of how imperialism – a web of social relations, labor markets, and trade networks – conditions private feeling. The resulting narrative is something like an affective history of the British Empire.” Maya Binyam, New Yorker
NEW EDITION

Darkwater
Voices from within the Veil

W.E.B. Du Bois
Introduction by Honorée Fanonne Jeffers

Legendary black scholar W.E.B. Du Bois's most passionate and searing work denouncing the global colour line

'I have been in the world, but not of it,' W.E.B. Du Bois begins this book, a continuation of the project he began in his celebrated work The Souls of Black Folk, describing the devastation of segregation, slavery, and the global colour line that veiled half the world's people in shadow. First published in 1920, Darkwater gives voice to the rising power of 'the darker races' around the world and includes Africa's blistering indictment of Europe, a study of the curious and twisted souls of white folk, and his landmark essay 'The Damnation of Women,' in which he explores women's oppression and the double burdens forced onto black women. Combining essays and analysis with poetry, allegory, and short fiction, Darkwater is an angry and eloquent argument that, as Du Bois writes, 'a belief in humanity is a belief in colored men.'

With a new introduction from award-winning poet and novelist Honorée Fanonne Jeffers, and a historical preface by Manning Marable.

W.E.B. Du Bois was an American sociologist, historian, civil rights activist, pan-Africanist, author, artist, and editor, and perhaps the most famous African American intellectual of the modern era. He was one of the co-founders of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in 1909. His collection of essays The Souls of Black Folk and his magnum opus Black Reconstruction in America are landmark texts of African American history and literature.

Honorée Fanonne Jeffers is an award-winning poet, essayist, fiction writer, and a Professor of English at the University of Oklahoma. Her poetry books include The Gospel of Barbecue, Outlandish Blues, and others. Her first novel, The Love Songs of W.E.B. Du Bois, is forthcoming.

“The greatest of the early civil-rights leaders, a figure of towering significance in American politics and letters.” Guardian

“Du Bois essentially defined black America in the twentieth century.” Ta-Nehisi Coates

“The greatest of the early civil-rights leaders, a figure of towering significance.” Stuart Hall
An Event, Perhaps
A Biography of Jacques Derrida
Peter Salmon

Philosopher, film star, father of ‘post truth’: the real story of Jacques Derrida

Who was Jacques Derrida? For some, he is responsible, at least in part, for the contemporary crisis of truth. For the far right, he is one of the architects of cultural Marxism. To his academic critics, he reduced French philosophy to ‘little more than an object of ridicule’. For his fans, he is an intellectual rock star who ranged across literature, politics, and linguistics.

An Event Perhaps presents this misunderstood and misappropriated figure as a deeply humane and urgent thinker for our times. Accessible, provocative and beautifully written, this biography will introduce to a new readership to the life and work of a philosopher whose influence over the way we think will continue long into the twenty-first century.

Peter Salmon is a teacher of creative writing and a writer. His novel, The Coffee Story, was a New Statesman Book of the Year. He has written for the Guardian, the Sydney Review of Books, the New Humanist, as well as Australian TV and radio. He has received Writer’s Awards from the Arts Council of England and the Arts Council of Victoria, Australia.

“Brilliant ... one of the clearest introductions to twentieth-century continental philosophy available ... [a] scintillating account of [Derrida’s] life and thought.” Julian Baggini, Prospect

“Excellent ... The great merit of Salmon’s book is that it is clear-sighted and readable.” Andrew Hussey, Literary Review

“The life of Jacques Derrida has never been told as elegantly or engagingly as it is in Peter Salmon’s new book.” Stuart Jeffries, author of Grand Hotel Abyss

• A portrait of the real man behind the image.
• For readers of Stuart Jeffries’ Grand Hotel Abyss or Sarah Bakewell’s At the Existentialist Café.
• Hardback received great reviews and media attention.
• Hardback has sold over 6,000 copies worldwide.
NEW IN PAPERBACK

Radio Benjamin

Walter Benjamin

Edited by Lecia Rosenthal
Translated by Jonathan Lutes
With Lisa Harries Schumann and Diana Reese

Benjamin’s eclectic broadcasts on everything from getting a raise to the history of natural disasters

Walter Benjamin was fascinated by the impact of new technology on culture, an interest that extended beyond his renowned critical essays. From 1927 to ’33, he wrote and presented around eighty broadcasts using the new medium of radio. Radio Benjamin gathers the surviving transcripts. This eclectic collection demonstrates the range of Benjamin’s thinking and his enthusiasm for popular sensibilities. His celebrated Enlightenment for Children youth programmes, his plays, readings, book reviews, and fiction reveal Benjamin in a creative, rather than critical, mode. They flesh out ideas elucidated in his essays, some of which are also represented here, where they cover topics as varied as getting a raise and the history of natural disasters, subjects chosen for broad appeal and examined with passion and acuity. Delightful and incisive, this is Walter Benjamin channelling his sophisticated thinking to a wide audience, allowing us to benefit from a new voice for one of the twentieth century’s most respected thinkers.

Walter Benjamin (1892-1940) was a German–Jewish Marxist literary critic, essayist, translator, and philosopher. He was at times associated with the Frankfurt School of critical theory and is the author of Illuminations, The Arcades Project, and The Origin of German Tragic Drama.

“Walter Benjamin was one of the unclassifiable ones ... whose work neither fits the existing order nor introduces a new genre.”
Hannah Arendt

“Benjamin buckled himself to the task of revolutionary transformation ... his life and work speak challengingly to us all.”
Terry Eagleton

“He drew, from the obscure disdained German baroque, elements of the modern sensibility: the taste for allegory, surrealist shock effects, discontinuous utterance, a sense of historical catastrophe.”
Susan Sontag

“Radio Benjamin could hardly be bettered ... There really is no parallel for what Benjamin did in these talks.”
Stuart Jeffries

“The German critic was not only a theorist of the media – he was a gifted broadcaster as well.”
Financial Times

“Walter Benjamin is the most important German aesthetician and literary critic of the twentieth century.”
Sunday Times
The Walker
On Finding and Losing Yourself in the Modern City
Matthew Beaumont

A literary history of walking, from Dickens to Žižek

Can you get lost in a crowd? Is it polite to stare at people walking past on the street? What differentiates the city of daylight and the nocturnal metropolis? What connects walking, philosophy and the big toe? Can we save the city – or ourselves – by taking to the pavement?

There is no such thing as a wrong step; every time we walk we are going somewhere. In a series of riveting intellectual rambles, Matthew Beaumont retraces a history of the walker, from Charles Dickens's insomniac night rambles to excursions through the faceless, windswept monuments of the neoliberal city. Making an appearance are Edgar Allan Poe, Andrew Breton, H. G. Wells, Virginia Woolf, Jean Rhys and Ray Bradbury. As the author shows, the act of walking is one of escape, self-discovery, disappearances and potential revolution, and he explores the relationship between the metropolis and its pedestrian life.

Matthew Beaumont is a Professor in the Department of English at University College, London. He is the the co-author, with Terry Eagleton, of The Task of the Critic, and co-editor of Restless Cities. He is the author of the highly acclaimed Nightwalking.

“Matthew Beaumont’s prose is the golden thread of elegance and erudition we need to guide us through the labyrinth of the modern city.”
Will Self, author of Psychogeography

“[Beaumont’s] style is a treat – elegant, intelligent and entertaining as he describes the ways we read a city with our feet and mind, and guides us through a history of walking writing from Dickens and Poe to Marx and Žižek.” Edwin Heathcote, Financial Times

“An uncanny and haunting foreshadowing of our cities as they now appear to us ... familiar subjects are given revelatory new interpretations ... thought-provoking.” Margaret Drabble, Times Literary Supplement

“An erudite book that moves at a pace alternating between brisk and leisurely ... Like his prose, Beaumont’s mind is anything but pedestrian.”
Willard Spiegelman, Wall Street Journal

“Drawing on numerous literary sources, both familiar and obscure, Beaumont takes the reader on a labyrinthine journey into the literature of walking and thinking.”
Sean O’Hagan, Observer
NEW IN PAPERBACK

The Communist Manifesto / The April Theses

Karl Marx, Friedrich Engels and V.I. Lenin

Introduction by Tariq Ali

A beautiful new edition of The Communist Manifesto, combined with Lenin’s key revolutionary tract

Reissue of Verso’s attractive ‘flip’ book combining foundational Marxist texts. The Communist Manifesto is the most influential political text ever written – few other calls to action have stirred and changed the world. While Lenin’s April Theses outlined a programme to accelerate and complete the revolution.

The introduction by Tariq Ali traces The Communist Manifesto’s influence on Lenin’s April Theses, the text that brought the manifesto to life and made it one of the most widely read books in history. For Lenin, writes Ali, it was the birth of imperialism, the legitimate offspring of capitalism, that signalled the end of the latter’s ‘progressive capacities’.

Karl Marx was born in 1818. In 1848 he collaborated with Friedrich Engels in writing The Communist Manifesto and is the author of Capital. He also co-founded the International Workingmen’s Association in 1864.

Friedrich Engels was born in 1820 and edited the second and third volumes of Capital. He is the author of The Origin of the Family, Private Property and the State.
NEW EDITION

Portraits

John Berger on Artists

John Berger

Edited by Tom Overton

New portable edition of a bestselling history of art

John Berger, one of the world’s most celebrated storytellers and writers on art, tells a personal history of art from the prehistoric paintings of the Chauvet Cave to twenty-first century conceptual artists. Berger presents entirely new ways of thinking about artists both canonical and obscure, from Rembrandt to Henry Moore, Jackson Pollock to Picasso. Throughout, Berger maintains the essential connection between politics, art and the wider study of culture. The result is an illuminating walk through many centuries of visual culture, from one of the contemporary world’s most incisive critical voices.

John Berger is one of the most internationally influential writers of the last fifty years. His many books include Ways of Seeing; the fiction trilogy Into Their Labours; Here Is Where We Meet; the Booker Prize–winning novel G; Hold Everything Dear; the Man Booker–longlisted From A to X; and A Seventh Man.

Tom Overton catalogued John Berger’s archive at the British Library and edited Landscapes. He is working on Berger’s biography and a book on migration and archives.

“John Berger’s Portraits is among the greatest books on art I’ve ever read.” Zadie Smith, New York Times

“A volume whose breadth and depth bring it close to a definitive self-portrait of one of Britain’s most original thinkers.” Financial Times

“Perhaps the greatest living writer on art ... reminds us just how insufficient most art commentary is these days ... an indispensable guide to understanding art from cave painting to today’s experimenters.” Spectator Books of the Year

“Berger is a writer one demands to know more about ... an intriguing and powerful mind and talent.” New York Times

“Berger’s art criticism transcends its genre to become a very rare thing – literature” Nation

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Resistance, Repression and Revolt
Richard Gott

Magisterial history of the foundation of the British empire and the forgotten story of anticolonial resistance

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Richard Gott is a former Latin America Correspondent and Features Editor for the Guardian. A specialist in Latin American affairs, his books include Cuba, Guerrilla Movements in Latin America, The Appeasers, Land without Evil and Hugo Chávez and the Bolivarian Revolution. He is currently an Honorary Research Fellow at the institute for the study of the Americas at the University of London.

“Vivid and startling ... Gott’s achievement is to show, as no historian has done before, that violence was a central, constant and ubiquitous part of the making and keeping of the British Empire.” Richard Drayton, Guardian

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