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Verso Books is the largest independent radical publisher in the English-speaking world, with a list that encompasses trade and academic titles in politics, current affairs, history, philosophy, social sciences and literature.

Launched by *New Left Review* in 1970, Verso—the left-hand page—has offices in London and New York and publishes, on average, 90 books a year.


For a full list of Verso’s titles, please visit our website, [www.versobooks.com](http://www.versobooks.com).
Females
A Concern
Andrea Long Chu

An exploration of gender and desire from our most exciting new public intellectual

“Everyone is female. I mean very simply that everyone wants to be a woman. What one does with this desire is what we call gender.”

So begins Andrea Long Chu’s investigation into gender and desire, females and bodies, sex and the self, radical dreams and philosophical pessimisms. Feminism, Chu argues, is an untenable claim, and “when you make an untenable claim, your desire is showing, like a shy tattoo peeking out from a sleeve.”

Drawing inspiration from Valerie Solanas’s *SCUM Manifesto* and her forgotten play *Up Your Ass*, this book in numbered theses whips through a variety of ugly objects (films, manifestos, performance art, psychoanalysis, porn, and the alt-right) to give a portrait of femaleness as a universal category of self-ablation against which all politics—even feminist politics—revolts.

A provocative and searching text from our most exciting new public intellectual. Chu wears her heart on her sleeve with wit, style, and a searching grace.

Andrea Long Chu is a writer, critic, and graphic designer. Her writing has appeared in *n+1, Artforum, Bookforum, Boston Review, Chronicle of Higher Education, 4Columns, differences, Women and Performance, TSQ*, and *Journal of Speculative Philosophy*. She writes a weekly newsletter of television criticism called *Paper View*. She sits on the editorial collective of *Women and Performance*. 

October 2019
80 pages

PHILOSOPHY
Nuclear Accident

Essays on Art

Hannah Black

The cult writer and artist probes at the ideas that shape our desires and constitute art

“It is a joy to meet you.” The sentiment is directed at the musician Fever Ray, but each of the experimental essays that make up writer and visual artist Hannah Black’s Nuclear Accident are also meetings with the works and ideas of fellow artists: Sandra Mujinga, Nicole Eisenman, Sondra Perry, Aleesa Cohene, Erro, Barbara Hammer, Leilah Weinraub, Ryan Coogler.

Examining the images, colours, frames and ideas that infuse their works – and, in some cases, by hearing directly from the artists – Black probes at experiences of Blackness, queerness, digital life, of watching and being seen, and of living in tumultuous political times. “White light from the sun, a nuclear accident, encounters a layer of ozone and spreads itself indifferently,” she reflects—the source of our seeing.

Hannah Black is a visual artist who has exhibited and performed in London, New York City and Berlin, including at the New Museum, MOMA PS1 and as part of the Berlin Biennale. In addition to her essays and criticism at The New Inquiry, where she was formerly an editor, her writing has also appeared in Harper’s, Artforum, Frieze and Bookforum.
Capital Is Dead

Is This Something Worse?

McKenzie Wark

It’s not capitalism, it’s not neoliberalism – what if it’s something worse?

In this radical and visionary new book, McKenzie Wark argues that the all-pervasive presence of data in our networked society has given rise to a new mode of production, one not ruled over by capitalists and their factories but by those who own and control the flow of information. Yet, if this is not capitalism anymore, could it be something worse? What if the world we’re living in is more dystopian than the techno utopias of the Silicon Valley imagination? And, if this is the case, how do we find a way out? Capital Is Dead offers not only the theoretical tools to analyse this new world of information, but the ones to change it, too.

A follow-up to their groundbreaking A Hacker Manifesto, Wark takes us on a tour of our information age. Drawing on the writings of the Situationists and a range of contemporary theorists, they offer a vast panorama of the contemporary condition and the classes that control it.

McKenzie Wark is the author of A Hacker Manifesto, Gamer Theory, Molecular Red, General Intellects and The Beach Beneath the Street, among other books. They teach at the New School for Social Research and Eugene Lang College in New York City.

Praise for The Beach Beneath the Street:

"Wark is a fine aphorist ... Playful, angry, depressed, celebratory, this is a book for anyone not convinced that there is no alternative to the way we live now.”  
Christopher Bray, Observer

"Wark's readable explanation of the movement's ideas ... is the best I have read.”  
Edwin Heathcote, Financial Times

"A smart overview of the Situationist movement.”  Hari Kunzru, New Statesman, Books of the Year

"An essential work for our own times.”  John Burnside, Times Literary Supplement, Books of the Year

"Fascinating.”  Jonathan Derbyshire, Guardian

"The book I read three times back to back was McKenzie Wark's brilliant study of the Situationists,”  John Burnside, Scotsman, Books of the Year
**Comrade**

**An Essay on Political Belonging**

**Jodi Dean**

*When people say “comrade”, they change the world*

In the twentieth-century millions of people across the globe addressed each other as “comrade”. Now, it’s more common to hear talk of “allies” on the left than it is of comrades. In *Comrade*, Jodi Dean insists that this shift exemplifies the key problem with the contemporary left: the substitution of political identity for a relation of political belonging that must be built, sustained, and defended.

In *Comrade*, Dean offers a theory of the comrade. Comrades are equals on the same side of a political struggle. Voluntarily coming together in the struggle for justice, their relationship is characterised by discipline, joy, courage, and enthusiasm. Considering the generic egalitarianism of the comrade in light of differences of race and gender, Dean draws from an array of historical and literary examples such as Harry Haywood, C.L.R James, Alexandra Kollontai, and Doris Lessing. She argues that if we are to be a left at all, we have to be comrades.

**Jodi Dean** teaches political and media theory in Geneva, New York. She has written or edited eleven books, including *The Communist Horizon* and *Crowds and Party*.

“Jodi’s sharp analysis of the impasses of the left is also a kind of requiem for much of the 2.0 bluster of the last decade.” *Mark Fisher, author of Capitalist Realism*
How to Be an Anticapitalist in the Twenty-first Century

Erik Olin Wright

What is wrong with capitalism, and how can we change it?

Capitalism has transformed the world and increased our productivity, but at the cost of enormous human suffering. Our shared values – equality and fairness, democracy and freedom, community and solidarity – can both provide the basis for a critique of capitalism, and help to guide us towards a socialist and democratic society.

In this elegant book, Erik Olin Wright has distilled decades of work into a concise and tightly argued manifesto analyzing the varieties of anti-capitalism, assessing different strategic approaches, and laying the foundations for a society dedicated to human flourishing. How to Be an Anticapitalist is an urgent and powerful argument for socialism, and a unparalleled guide to help us get there. Another world is possible.

Erik Olin Wright was Vilas Distinguished Professor of Sociology at the University of Wisconsin. He authored many books, including Classes, Interrogating Inequality, Class Counts, Deepening Democracy (with Archon Fung), and Envisioning Real Utopias.

“A benchmark contribution to necessary radical thinking.” Gòran Therborn

“Only a thinker of Wright's genius could sustain such a badly needed political imagination without losing analytical clarity and precision.” Michael Burawoy

Praise for Envisioning Real Utopias:

“Hugely rich and stimulating ... An incisive diagnosis of the harms done by capitalism; a masterful synthesis of the best work in political sociology and political economy over the past thirty years.” Adam Swift
How migrants became the scapegoats of contemporary mainstream politics

The UK government proudly calls the aim of its immigration policy to be the creation of a “hostile environment,” while refugees drown in the Mediterranean and Britain votes to leave the EU against claims that “swarms” of migrants are entering Britain. Meanwhile, study after study confirms that immigration is not damaging the UK’s economy, nor putting a strain on public services, but immigration is blamed for all of Britain’s ills. Yet concerns about immigration are deemed “legitimate” across the political spectrum, with few exceptions. How did we get here?

Maya Goodfellow offers a compelling answer. Through interviews with leading policy-makers, asylum seekers, and immigration lawyers, Goodfellow illuminates the dark underbelly of contemporary immigration policies. A nuanced analysis of the UK’s immigration policy from the 1960s onwards, Hostile Environment links immigration policy and the rhetoric of both Labour and Tory governments to the UK’s colonial past and its imperialist present. Goodfellow shows that distinct forms of racism and dehumanisation directly resulted from immigration policy, and reminds us of the human cost of concessions to anti-immigration politics.

Maya Goodfellow is a writer, researcher and academic. She has written for the New York Times, Guardian, the New Statesman, Al Jazeera, the Independent, Labour List and Media Diversified. She is completing a PhD at SOAS, University of London.
The Old Is Dying and the New Cannot Be Born

From Progressive Neoliberalism to Trump and Beyond

Nancy Fraser with Bhaskar Sunkara

Neoliberalism is fracturing, but what will emerge in its wake?

Across the globe politics as usual is being rejected and faith in neoliberalism is fracturing beyond repair. Leading political theorist Nancy Fraser, in conversation with Jacobin publisher Bhaskar Sunkara, dissects neoliberalism’s current crisis and argues that we might wrest new futures from its ruins.

The global political, ecological, economic, and social breakdown – symbolised, but not caused, by Trump’s election – has destroyed faith that neoliberal capitalism is beneficial to the majority. Fraser explores how this faith was built through the late twentieth century by balancing two central tenets: recognition (who deserves rights) and distribution (who deserves income). When these began to fray, new forms of outsider populist politics emerge on the left and the right. These, Fraser argues, are symptoms of the larger crisis of hegemony for neoliberalism, a moment when, as Gramsci had it, ‘the old is dying and the new cannot be born.’

In an accompanying interview with Jacobin publisher Bhaskar Sunkara, Fraser argues that we now have the opportunity to build progressive populism into an emancipatory social force, one that can claim a new hegemony.

Nancy Fraser is Loeb Professor of Philosophy and Politics at the New School for Social Research, Einstein Fellow of the city of Berlin, and holder of the ‘Global Justice’ Chair at the Collège d’études mondiales in Paris. Her books include Redistribution or Recognition; Adding Insult to Injury; Scales of Justice; Justice Interruptus; and Unruly Practices.

Bhaskar Sunkara is the founding Editor and publisher of Jacobin magazine.
The World According to the Economist
Liberalism, Finance, Empire

Alexander Zevin

Path-breaking history of modern liberalism told through the pages of one of its most zealous supporters

Since 1843, the Economist has been the single most devoted and influential champion of liberalism anywhere in the world. But what exactly is liberalism, and how has the liberal message evolved? The World According to the Economist presents a history of liberalism on the move, confronting the challenges that classical doctrine left unresolved: the rise of democracy, the expansion of empire, the ascendancy of finance. Today, neither economic crisis at home, nor permanent warfare abroad, has dimmed the Economist’s belief in unfettered markets, limited government and a free hand for the West. Confidante to the powerful, emissary for the financial sector, portal onto international affairs, the bestselling news weekly shapes the world its readers—and the rest of us—inhabit. This is the first critical biography of one of the architects of a liberal world order now under increasing strain.

Alexander Zevin is an Assistant Professor at the College of Staten Island, City University of New York, and an editor at New Left Review.
We Have Never Been Middle Class
How We’ve All Been Set Up To Fail

Hadas Weiss

Taking apart the ideology of the “middle class”

Tidings of a shrinking middle class in one part of the world and its expansion in another absorb our attention, but seldom do we question the category itself. *We Have Never Been Middle Class* proposes that the middle class is an ideology. Tracing this ideology up to the age of financialisation, it exposes the fallacy in the belief that we can all ascend or descend as a result of our aspirational and precautionary investments in property and education. Ethnographic accounts from Germany, Israel, the United States and elsewhere illustrate how this belief orient us, in our private lives as much as in our politics, toward accumulation-enhancing yet self-undermining goals. This original meshing of anthropology and critical theory elucidates capitalism by way of its archetypal actors.

**Hadas Weiss** is an anthropologist based at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology in Berlin.
The Morals of the Market

Human Rights and the Rise of Neoiberalism

Jessica Whyte

The fatal embrace of human rights and neoliberalism

Drawing on detailed archival research on the parallel histories of human rights and neoliberalism, Jessica Whyte uncovers the place of human rights in neoliberal attempts to develop a moral framework for a market society. In the wake of the Second World War, neoliberals saw demands for new rights to social welfare and self-determination as threats to “civilisation”. Yet, rather than rejecting rights, they developed a distinctive account of human rights as tools to depoliticise civil society, protect private investments and shape liberal subjects.

Jessica Whyte is Associate Professor of Philosophy at the University of New South Wales. She is the author of Catastrophe and Redemption: The Political Thought of Giorgio Agamben.

Praise for Catastrophe and Redemption:
“A theoretical and political tour de force.” Daniel McLoughlin, Law and Critique
Sleeping Soldiers

Trauma, Resistance, and the War for the Mind

Franny Nudelman

How sleep has been used by the military – and how soldiers have fought back

On 21 April, 1971, hundreds of Vietnam veterans fell asleep on the National Mall, having fought the courts for the right to sleep in public as part of their week-long demonstration. When the Supreme Court denied their petition, veterans decided to break the law and turned sleep into a form of direct action.

During and after WWII, military psychiatrists used sleep therapies to treat an epidemic of traumatised soldiers who suffered from “combat fatigue.” Inducing deep and twilight sleep in clinical settings, they studied the effects of war violence on the mind and developed the techniques of brainwashing that would weaponise both memory and sleep. In the Vietnam era, radical veterans reclaimed the authority to interpret their own traumatic symptoms – nightmares, flashbacks, insomnia – and pioneered new methods of protest.

In Sleeping Soldiers, Franny Nudelman recounts the struggle over sleep in the decades following WWII, arguing that the sleep of soldiers was instrumental to the development of military science, professional psychiatry, and anti-war activism. Traversing the fields of military and mainstream psychiatry, popular and institutional film, documentary sound technology, brain warfare, and postwar social movements, she demonstrates that sleep, far from passive, empty, or null, is a site of contention and a source of political agency.

Franny Nudelman is Associate Professor at Carleton University in Ottawa, where she teaches US culture and history. She is the author of John Brown's Body: Slavery, Violence and the Culture of War, and co-editor, with Sara Blair and Joseph Entin, of Remaking Reality: U.S. Documentary Culture After 1945.

Praise for John Brown's Body: Slavery, Violence, and the Culture of War:

“John Brown's Body explains the enormous role of Brown's martyrdom in the visual and literary rhetoric of the Civil War.” Adam Gopnik, The New Yorker

“John Brown's Body critiques the long-held idea, from Richard Slotkin forward, that violence must be the price of profound social change.” Jane E. Schultz, The Journal of American History
Potential History
Unlearning Imperialism
Ariella Aïsha Azoulay

A passionately urgent call for all of us to unlearn imperialism and repair the violent world we share

In this theoretical tour-de-force, renowned scholar Ariella Aïsha Azoulay calls on us to recognize the imperial foundations of knowledge and to refuse its strictures and its many violences.

Azoulay argues that the institutions that make our world, from archives and museums to ideas of sovereignty and human rights to history itself, are all dependent on imperial modes of thinking. Imperialism has segmented populations into differentially governed groups, continually emphasised the possibility of progress while trying to destroy what came before, and voraciously sought out the new by sealing the past away in dusty archival boxes and the glass vitrines of museums.

By practising what she calls potential history, Azoulay argues that we can still refuse the original imperial violence that shattered communities, lives, and worlds, from native peoples in the Americas to the Congo ruled by Belgium’s brutal King Léopold II, from dispossessed Palestinians in 1948 to displaced refugees in our own day. In Potential History, Azoulay travels alongside historical companions — an old Palestinian man who refused to leave his village in 1948, an anonymous woman in war-ravaged Berlin, looted objects and documents torn from their worlds and now housed in archives and museums — to chart the ways imperialism has sought to order time, space, and politics.

Rather than looking for a new future, Azoulay calls upon us to rewind history and, unlearn these modes to reclaim and continue to refuse imperial violence through the practice of unsealing the past and realising history’s potential — and by so doing, beginning to repair the worlds that have been torn.

Ariela Aïsha Azoulay is a professor of Comparative Literature and Modern Culture, and Media at Brown University, as well as a curator and documentary filmmaker. Her many books include The Civil Contract of Photography and Civil Imagination: A Political Ontology of Photography, and she has curated exhibits for galleries and museums around the world.
Chinese Revolutions
Uprisings that Made the Modern World
Rebecca Karl

How revolution and reaction in China helped make the modern world
Surveying a dozen transformative episodes across Chinese history, from Taiping to “the Chinese Dream” of Xi Jinping, Rebecca Karl traces the emergence of mass politics, the worlds they sought to construct, and their dialectical relationship to counter-revolution. For Karl, China’s revolutions have, since the mid-nineteenth century, raised questions about and helped clarify what “modern China” was to be, as a geography and territory, a polity, a nationality, or a cluster of ethnicities, as congeries of cultural entities, as a class politics, and more.

“China” becomes “China” through modern revolutions and modern revolutions became as much a mode of articulating past, present, and future ideals in a Chinese and global idiom as they were of attempting to resolve contemporaneous material realities. In brief, revolutions were an essential mode of rethinking the past – history – in the light of new demands for the present and the future. As Beijing anticipates its rise to a destined global power, this study become only more urgent.

Rebecca E. Karl is Associate Professor of History at New York University. She is the author of The Magic of Concepts, Mao Zedong and China in the Twentieth-Century World and Staging the World.
One Man’s Terrorist
A Political History of the IRA

Daniel Finn

A history of “the Troubles”: the radical politics of Republicanism

The conflict in Northern Ireland claimed the lives of 3,500 people and injured many more. It was one of Europe’s most devastating postwar conflicts. This book is a riveting new history of the radical politics that drove a unique insurgency that emerged from the crucible of 1968.

Based on extensive archival research, One Man’s Terrorist explores the relationship between the IRA, a clandestine army described as “one of the most ruthless and capable insurgent forces in modern history,” and the political movement that developed alongside it to challenge British rule. From Wilson and Heath to Thatcher and Blair, a generation of British politicians had to face an unprecedented subversive threat that’s reach extended from West Belfast to Westminster. Finn shows how Republicans fought a war on several fronts, making use of every weapon available to achieve their goal of a united Ireland, from car bombs to election campaigns, street marches to hunger strikes.

Though driven by an uncompromising revolutionary politics that blended militant nationalism with left-wing ideology, their movement was never monolithic, its history punctuated by splits and internal conflicts. The IRA’s war ultimately ended in stalemate, with the peace process of the 1990s and the Good Friday Agreement that has maintained an uneasy balance ever since.

Daniel Finn is the deputy editor of the New Left Review. He gained his PhD for a study of the IRA’s political history during the Troubles. He writes regularly for New Left Review, Jacobin and the London Review of Books.
The Fall and Rise of the British Left

Andrew Murray

The return of British socialism: Where does it come from? Why now? And where is it going?

The remarkable advance of “Corbynism” did not emerge from nowhere. It is the product of developments in socialist and working-class politics over the past forty years and more. The Thatcher era witnessed a wholesale attack on the postwar consensus and welfare state, through a regime of deregulation, attacks on the unions, privatisations, and globalisation. However, at the same time, there existed a persistent resistance to the growing powers of neo-liberalism. This side of the story is rarely told as it was considered to be a history of defeat. Yet out of this struggle emerged a thoroughly modern socialism.

This book is essential reading for those who want to know where Corbynism comes from: the policies, personalities and moments of resistance that have produced this new horizon. This includes the story of power struggles within the Labour Party, and the eventual defeat of New Labour. The movements outside it – trade unions, feminists groups, anti-fascists activists, anti-war protestors – that have driven the policies of the movement forward. And the powerful influence of international groups that have shaped the potential for a global progressive politics.

Andrew Murray has been Chief of Staff of Unite union since 2011, and was previously its Director of Communications. He was Chair of the Stop the War Coalition. He is the author of a number of books on history and politics, including Off the Rails: The Crisis on Britain’s Railways, A New Labour Nightmare and with Lindsey German Stop the War: The Story of Britain’s Biggest Mass Movement. He worked as part of the strategic leadership of Labour’s 2017 general election campaign.
Planetary Mine

Territories of Extraction under Late Capitalism

Martín Arboleda

Mining and the transformation of capitalist modernity

Planetary Mine suggests that the burgeoning race for resources that began at the turn of the century has come to signal two distinct, yet overlapping, epoch-making shifts: the end of the Western phase of capitalism, on the one hand, and an unfolding technological revolution on the other. Through an exploration of the integrated logistical infrastructures that connect mines in the Atacama Desert of Chile with an expanding constellation of megacities, ports, banks, and factories across East Asia, the book rethinks uneven geographical development in the current, post-globalisation context.

Martín Arboleda is based at the School of Sociology of Universidad Diego Portales, Santiago de Chile. His research explores the role of primary commodity production – especially mining and agriculture – in the political economy of urbanisation and of global capitalism. His work has been published by international outlets such as Antipode, the International Journal of Urban and Regional Research, Harvard Design Magazine, Geoforum, and Society and Space, among others.
What if the people seized the means of climate production?

Climate engineering is a dystopian project. But as the human species hurtles ever faster towards its own extinction, geoengineering as a temporary fix, to buy time for carbon removal, is a seductive idea. We are right to fear that geoengineering will be used to maintain the status quo, but is there another possible future after geoengineering? Can these technologies and practices be used to bring carbon levels back down to pre-industrial levels? Are there possibilities for massive intentional intervention in the climate that are democratic, decentralised, or participatory?

These questions are provocative, because they go against a binary that has become common sense: geoengineering is assumed to be on the side of industrial agriculture, inequality and ecomodernism, in opposition to degrowth, renewable energy, sustainable agriculture and climate justice. *The World After Geoengineering* rejects this binary, to ask: what if the people seized the means of climate production? Both critical and utopian, the book examines the possible futures after geoengineering. Rejecting the idea that geoengineering is some kind of easy work-around, Holly Buck outlines the kind of social transformation that would be necessary to enact a programme of geoengineering in the first place.

Holly Buck writes on emerging technologies in the Anthropocene, with work appearing in journals like *Development and Change*, *Climatic Change*, *Annals of the American Association of Geographers* and *Hypatia*. Since 2009, she has been working on geoengineering, including as a faculty fellow with the Forum for Climate Engineering Assessment in Washington, DC, a project scientist with the Institute of Advanced Sustainability Studies in Potsdam, Germany, and as a member of the Steering Committee for the international Climate Engineering Conference in Berlin. She is currently a postdoctoral fellow at the Institute on the Environment at the University of California, Los Angeles.
Fredric Jameson takes on the allegorical form

This major new work by Fredric Jameson is not a book about ‘method’, but it does propose a dialectic capable of holding together in one breath the heterogeneities that reflect our biological individualities, our submersion in collective history and class struggle, and our alienation to a disembodied new world of information and abstraction. Eschewing the arid secularities of philosophy, Walter Benjamin once recommended the alternative of the rich figularity of an older theology; in that spirit we here return to the antiquated Ptolemaic systems of ancient allegory and its multiple levels (a proposal first sketched out in The Political Unconscious); it is tested against the epic complexities of the overtly allegorical works of Dante, Spenser and the Goethe of Faust II, as well as symphonic form in music, and the structure of the novel, postmodern as well as Third World (about which a controversial essay on national allegory is here reprinted with a theoretical commentary); and an allegorical history of emotion is meanwhile rehearsed from its contemporary, geopolitical context.

Fredric Jameson is Distinguished Professor of Comparative Literature at Duke University. The author of numerous books, he has over the last three decades developed a richly nuanced vision of Western culture’s relation to political economy. He was a recipient of the 2008 Holberg International Memorial Prize. He is the author of many books, including Postmodernism, Or, The Cultural Logic of Late Capitalism; The Cultural Turn; A Singular Modernity; The Modernist Papers; Archaeologies of the Future; Brecht and Method; Ideologies of Theory; Valences of the Dialectic; The Hegel Variations; and Representing Capital.

Praise for The Antinomies of Realism

“Admirable ... Jameson thinks dialectically in the strong sense, in the way we are all supposed to think but almost no one does.” Michael Wood, London Review of Books

Praise for The Antinomies of Realism

“Manifestly displays Jameson’s many virtues as a truly great critic ... It is not always easy to read the work of someone who just won’t sit on his laurels: but in this case it is worth it.” Robert Eaglestone, Times Higher Education

Praise for Valences of the Dialectic

“A genuinely monumental work that I expect to be referring to for many years.” Mark Fisher
Makers of Worlds, Readers of Signs

Israeli and Palestinian Literature of the Global Contemporary

Kfir Cohen Lustig

Preface by Fredric Jameson

A sweeping new theory of world literature through a study of Palestinian and Israeli literature from the 1940s to the present

Makers of Worlds, Readers of Signs charts the aesthetic and political formation of neoliberalism and globalisation in Israeli and Palestinian literature from the 1940s to the present. By tracking literature’s move from making worlds to reading signs, Cohen Lustig proposes a new way to read and theorise our global contemporary.

Cohen Lustig argues that the period of Israeli statism and its counterpart of Palestinian statelessness produced works that sought to make and create whole worlds and social time, from the creation of the new state of Israel to preserving collective visions of Palestinian statehood.

During the period of neoliberalism, after 1985 in Israel and the 1993 Oslo Accords in Palestine, literature turned to the reading of signs, where politics and history are now rearticulated through the private lives of individual subjects. Here characters do not make social time but live within it and inquire after its missing origin. Cohen Lustig argues for new ways to track the subjectivities and aesthetics produced by larger shifts in production. In so doing, he proposes a new model to understand the historical development of Israeli and Palestinian literature as well as world literature in our contemporary moment.

With a preface from Fredric Jameson.

Kfir Cohen Lustig is Senior Research Fellow and Academic Director of the Globalization and Sovereignty Cluster at the Van Leer Jerusalem Institute.
First-Class Passengers on a Sinking Ship

Elite Politics and the Decline of Great Powers

Richard Lachmann

How all great powers decline – including the US

The extent and irreversibility of US decline is becoming ever more obvious as America loses war after war and as one industry after another loses its technological edge. Lachmann explains why the United States will not be able to sustain its global dominance. He contrasts America’s relatively brief period of hegemony with the Netherlands’ similarly short primacy and Britain’s far longer era of leadership. Decline in all those cases was not inevitable and did not respond to global capitalist cycles. Rather, decline is the product of elites’ success in grabbing control of resources and governmental powers. Not only are ordinary people harmed, but also capitalists become increasingly unable to coordinate their interests and adopt policies and make investments necessary to counter economic and geopolitical competitors elsewhere in the world. Conflicts among elites and challenges by non-elites determine the timing and mould the contours of decline. Lachmann traces the transformation of US politics from an era of elite consensus to present-day paralysis combined with neoliberal plunder, explains the paradox of an American military with an unprecedented technological edge unable to subdue even the weakest enemies, and the consequences of finance’s cannibalisation of the US economy.

Richard Lachmann is a Professor at the University of Albany-SUNY and the author of Capitalists in Spite of Themselves: Elite Conflict and Economic Transitions in Early Modern Europe, States and Power and What Is Historical Sociology?

Praise for States and Power:

“This is an excellent book. Lachmann’s substantial and original book is also characterised by an exacting methodological approach.” Gianfranco Poggi, Sociologica

“An entertaining and informative read.” Contemporary Sociology

“A comprehensive sociological analysis of state formation from antiquity to modernity.” James Baker, Nations and Nationalism
The Danger of American Fascism

Henry Wallace, Donald Trump, and the Democratic Party’s Road Not Taken

John Nichols

Fighting fascism at home and abroad begins with the consolidation of a progressive politics

Seventy-five years ago, Henry Wallace, then the vice president of the United States, mounted a campaign about the “Danger of American Fascism.” As fighting in the European and Japanese theatres drew to a close, Wallace warned that the country might win the war and lose the peace; that the fascist threat the United States was battling abroad had a terrifying domestic variant, growing rapidly in power: wealthy corporatists and their allies in the media. Wallace predicted that if the New Deal project was not renewed and expanded in the postwar era, American fascists would use fear mongering, xenophobia, and racism to regain economic and political power. He championed a progressive postwar world – an alternative to the rising triumphalist “American Century” notion in which the United States rejected colonialism and imperialism.

Wallace’s political vision – as well as his nomination to remain vice president – was sidelined by Democratic big city bosses and southern segregationists. In the decades to come, other progressives would mount similar campaigns: George McGovern and Jesse Jackson most prominently. As John Nichols chronicles in this book, they ultimately failed – a warning to would-be reformers today – but their efforts provide us with insights into the nature of the Democratic Party and strategic lessons for the likes of Bernie Sanders and Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez.

John Nichols is the Washington correspondent for The Nation magazine, a contributing writer for the Progressive and In These Times, and the associate editor of Madison, Wisconsin’s Capital Times. He is the author of several books, including The Death and Life of American Journalism, The Genius of Impeachment, and The “S” Word.
Mongrel Firebugs and Men of Property

Capitalism and Class Conflict in American History

Steve Fraser

Conventional Fraser is the preeminent historian of America as a capitalist civilization.

Conventional stories about American history, its origins and unfolding, do not feature capitalism. Other tales about the country’s history usually take priority. If capitalism figures at all, it is to foreground opportunity, entrepreneurial vigour, material abundance, and the seven-league boots of manifest destiny. Conflict may rear its unseemly face – but only episodically, as a kind of alien or aberrant detour off the main road of America’s exceptional career in world history. Instances of serious social discord, when they draw notice, are transcended – a course correction that allows the utopian project to resume.

In this collection of essays, Steve Fraser corrects the record, rewriting the arc of the American saga with capitalism and class conflict centre-stage and mounting a serious challenge to the consoling fantasy of American exceptionalism. Working through the central concepts of political economics – unemployment and risk, unfree labour and household debt – he demonstrates that class is a deeply structuring feature of American political life, and an invaluable heuristic for reading American politics in the longue durée.

Steve Fraser is a historian, writer, and editor. His research and writing have pursued two main lines of inquiry: labour history and the history of American capitalism.

“Fraser is our preeminent historian of America as a capitalist civilization. No one is more attuned to the inner vibrations of our monied culture. A prose of sinuous beauty.” Corey Robin
Gunpower

Patrick Blanchfield

For those tired of the predictable, and predictably exhausting, cycles of horror, outrage, and resignation that have defined American debates over guns, *Gunpower* offers a critical orientation and vital toolkit not just for metabolizing the latest gun tragedies, but for navigating a new landscape of protest, organizing, and political possibility. If we are to have any hope of ending the cycle of violence that has brought us to our present moment, we must perceive the structures that underlie it – and break the seductive lures and abundant traps of American gunpower. One way or another, after finishing *Gunpower*, readers will never look at gun control debates, or American violence in general, the same way again.

**Patrick Blanchfield** is a freelance writer and Associate Faculty at the Brooklyn Institute for Social Research.
All-American Nativism
How to End the Bipartisan War on Immigrants
Daniel Denvir

For three decades establishment Democrats and Republicans have led a bipartisan assault on immigrants. Pulled further and further right by a vocal and organised group of nativists, they have turned the southern border region into a conflict zone, breaking up millions of families in the process.

In All-American Nativism, Daniel Denvir delivers a caustic takedown of liberal triangulation on the border, showing how concessions to “enforcement first” law and order immigration politics hasn’t placated the nativists – it has only inflamed them. Establishment officials from both parties have allowed the right-wing to dictate our policy on migration, even as popular opinion clamours for a more humane and just approach. With the centre collapsed, the left can either demand full amnesty now, or cede the ground of national belonging to nativists and white supremacists.

Daniel Denvir is a fellow at Harvard Law School’s Fair Punishment Project and the host of The Dig, a podcast from Jacobin magazine. His journalistic work covers criminal justice, the drug war, immigration, and politics, and has appeared in the New York Times, Jacobin, Vox, Nation, Guardian, and elsewhere.
The Hollywood Kid

The Violent Life and Violent Death of an MS-13 Hitman

Óscar Martínez and Juan José Martínez

The compelling story of the life and death of a Salvadoran gangster

As a boy, Miguel Ángel Tobar fled a small town in El Salvador torn apart by warring guerrillas and US-backed death squads. As a teen in Los Angeles, he fought discrimination and beatings by joining a gang, MS-13. By the time the US deported him to San Salvador, the Hollywood Kid joined a wave of US-bred gangsters, whose violence – in concert with corrupt officials – have in turn helped propel new waves of refugees.

The incomparable Salvadoran journalist Óscar Martínez got to know the Hollywood Kid and met with him as he first turned on MS-13, killing gang members, and then in turn was assassinated by other gang members. In intensely vivid scenes, Martínez and his anthropologist brother Juan tell the story of a violent life and death – and of the geopolitical forces that propelled a country into becoming one of the most violent on earth.

Óscar Martínez writes for ElFar.net, the first online newspaper in Latin America. El Faro was awarded in 2016 the Gabriel García Márquez Prize for Excellence in Journalism. He is the author of The Beast and A History of Violence.

Juan José Martínez is a sociocultural anthropologist from Universidad Nacional de El Salvador. He has studied violence and gangs since 2008. He has been a lecturer at Universidad Mónica Herrera and has worked as a consultant for several institutions such as Action on Armed Violence, UNICEF, Solederre and American University.

"The Hollywood Kid is a revelation. As they track a single tragic life, Los Hermanos Martínez delve deep into El Salvador’s tortured labyrinth, into the macabre working of the Mara Salvatruch, into the sinister consequence of failed US policies, and in the process recover what Neil Smith called the lost history of the American Empire. This is reportage made literature, darkness made light, and one of the most important books of investigative journalism I’ve read in years." Junot Díaz

“Óscar Martínez deserves praise not only for his efforts, and for what he writes about, but because he writes so very well.” New Yorker
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

“Where are you from?” Hazel Carby was continually asked as a girl, at a time when being Black and being British was understood to be an impossibility.

To answer that question properly, eminent scholar Hazel Carby finds she needs to trace not just the family history of her Jamaican father and her Welsh mother, but to untangle knots the British Empire created across the Atlantic. Tracing the skeins of this knotted past through the method of “autohistory,” Imperial Intimacies charts empire's violent interweaving of lives and states, Jamaica and Britain, capital and bodies, public language and private feeling. In so doing, 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 the Charles C. and Dorothea S. Dilley Professor of African American Studies, Professor of American Studies, and Director of the Initiative on Race Gender and Globalization at Yale University. Her books include Reconstructing Womanhood, Race Men, and Cultures in Babylon.
A Writer of Our Time
The Life and Work of John Berger

Joshua Sperling

The first intellectual biography of the life and work of John Berger

“This engaging intellectual biography traces Berger’s creative evolution, analyzes highlights from his vast output ... and situates them within his empathetic Marxism.”
New Yorker

“The remarkable John Berger has gotten the thoughtful, sensitive study he deserves. Lovers of Berger’s work will find a rich array of background here, and those who don’t yet know Berger will, I hope, be inspired to read him.” Adam Hochschild, author of King Leopold’s Ghost

“The trick for any would-be biographer of John Berger is to find the unity in variety. Joshua Sperling is up to the task.” Robert Minto, Los Angeles Review of Books

Joshua Sperling has written on film, art and culture for a range of publications including the Brooklyn Rail, Guernica, Senses of Cinema, Film Quarterly, Jump Cut, Asymptote, Film Criticism, French Forum, and Bullett Magazine. He is a Visiting Professor of Cinema Studies at Oberlin College.

Nine Lives of Neoliberalism
Edited by Quinn Slobodian, Dieter Plehwe and Philip Mirowski

Untangling the long history of neoliberalism

Neoliberalism is dead. Again. Yet the philosophy of the free market and the strong state has an uncanny capacity to survive and even thrive in crisis. This volume breaks with the caricature of neoliberalism as a simple belief in market fundamentalism to show how neoliberal thinkers perceived institutions from the family to the university, disagreed over issues from intellectual property rights and human behaviour to social complexity and monetary order, and sought to win consent for their project through new honours, disciples, and networks.

Quinn Slobodian is the author of Globalists: The End of Empire and the Birth of Neoliberalism. He teaches History at Wellesley College.

Dieter Plehwe is a Research Fellow the Center for Civil Society Research unit of the WZB Social Science Centre Berlin.

Philip Mirowski is a Historian and Philosopher of Economic Thought at the University of Notre Dame, Indiana. His many previous books include Machine Dreams and More Heat than Light, and he appeared in Adam Curtis's BBC documentary The Trap.
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