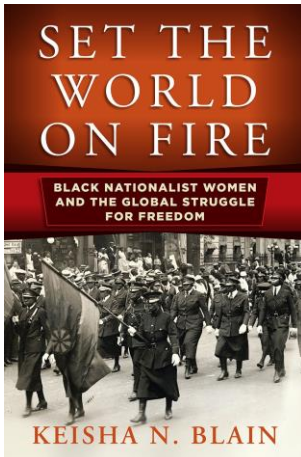


Spring 2018 Picks of the List

University of Pennsylvania Press



Set the World on Fire:
Black Nationalist Women
and the Global Struggle
for Freedom
Blain, Keisha N.
University of Pennsylvania
Press
9780812249880
288 pages
hardcover
\$34.95
Publish Date: 2/26/2018

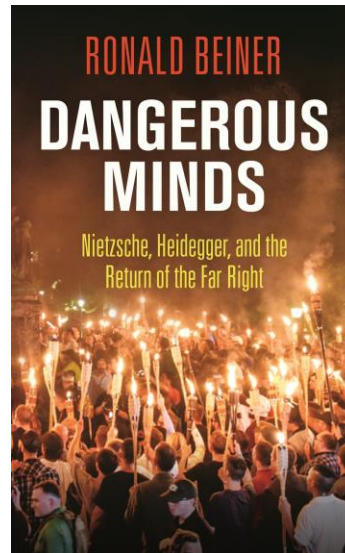
catalog page: 1

In 1932, Mittie Maude Lena Gordon spoke to a crowd of black Chicagoans at the old Jack Johnson boxing ring, rallying their support for emigration to West Africa. In 1937, Celia Jane Allen traveled to Jim Crow Mississippi to organize rural black workers around black nationalist causes. In the late 1940s, from her home in Kingston, Jamaica, Amy Jacques Garvey launched an extensive letter-writing campaign to defend the Greater Liberia Bill, which would relocate 13 million black Americans to West Africa. Gordon, Allen, and Jacques Garvey--as well as Maymie De Mena, Ethel Collins, Amy Ashwood, and Ethel Waddell--are part of an overlooked and understudied group of black women who take center stage in *Set the World on Fire*, the first book to examine how black



nationalist women engaged in national and global politics from the early twentieth century to the 1960s. Readers who demanded equal recognition and participation in global civil society.

Keisha N. Blain teaches history at the University of Pittsburgh.

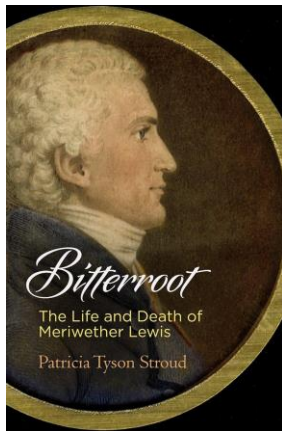


Dangerous Minds:
Nietzsche, Heidegger,
and the Return of the
Far Right
Beiner, Ronald
University of
Pennsylvania Press
9780812250596
224 pages
hardcover
\$24.95
Publish Date:
2/22/2018
catalog page: 3.1

Following the fall of the Berlin Wall and demise of the Soviet Union, prominent Western thinkers began to suggest that liberal democracy had triumphed decisively on the world stage. Having banished fascism in World War II, liberalism had now buried communism, and the result would be an end of major ideological conflicts, as liberal norms and institutions spread to every corner of the globe. With the Brexit vote in Great Britain, the resurgence of right-wing populist parties across the European continent, and the surprising ascent of Donald Trump to the American presidency, such hopes have begun to seem hopelessly naïve. The far right is back, and serious rethinking is in order. In *Dangerous Minds*, Ronald Beiner traces the deepest philosophical roots of such right-wing ideologues as Richard Spencer, Aleksandr Dugin, and Steve Bannon, to the writings of Nietzsche and Heidegger—and specifically to the aspects of their thought that express revulsion for the liberal-democratic view of life.

Ronald Beiner is Professor of Political Science at the University of Toronto and author of numerous books, including *Political Philosophy: What It Is and Why It Matters*.





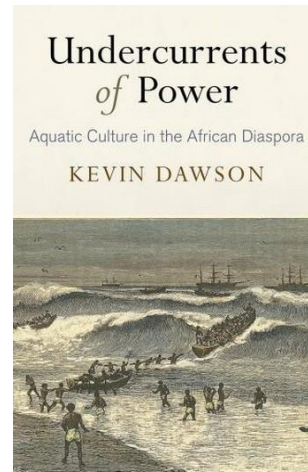
Bitterroot: The Life and Death of Meriwether Lewis
Stroud, Patricia Tyson
University of Pennsylvania Press
9780812249842
416 pages
hardcover
\$39.95
Publish Date: 3/12/2018
catalog page: 4

In America's early national period, Meriwether Lewis was a towering figure. Selected by Thomas Jefferson to lead the expedition to explore the Louisiana Purchase, he was later rewarded by Jefferson with the governorship of the entire Louisiana Territory. Yet within three years, plagued by controversy over administrative expenses, Lewis found his reputation and career in tatters. En route to Washington to clear his name and to be reimbursed, he died mysteriously in a crude cabin on the Natchez Trace in Tennessee. Was he a suicide, felled by his own alcoholism and mental instability? So most historians have concluded. Patricia Tyson Stroud reads the evidence to posit another, even darker, ending for Lewis. Stroud uses Lewis's find, the bitterroot flower, with its nauseously pungent root, as a symbol for his reputation as a purported suicide. This judgment can even be found in the memoir Thomas Jefferson wrote prefacing the short account of Lewis's historic expedition published five years after his death. Without investigation of any kind, Jefferson, Lewis's mentor from boyhood, reiterated undocumented charges of Lewis's serious depression and alcoholism. Because of the ex-president's prestige, these charges have entered the canon of Lewis's biography.

Patricia Tyson Stroud is an independent scholar.



She is author of *Thomas Say: New World Naturalist*, *The Emperor of Nature: Charles-Lucien Bonaparte and His World*, and *The Man Who Had Been King: The American Exile of Napoleon's Brother Joseph*.



Undercurrents of Power: Aquatic Culture in the African Diaspora
Dawson, Kevin
University of Pennsylvania Press
9780812249897
384 pages
hardcover
\$45.00
Publish Date: 2/23/2018
catalog page: 8

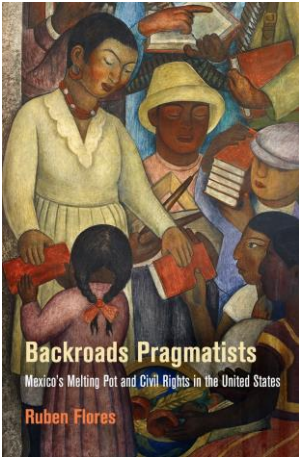
Long before the rise of New World slavery, West Africans were adept swimmers, divers, and canoe makers. They lived along riverbanks, near lakes, or close to the ocean. In those waterways, they became proficient with the diverse skills associated with life near the water. As slaves in the Americas, West Africans brought these skills with them. Indeed, according to Kevin Dawson's examination of water culture in the African diaspora, the aquatic abilities of people of African descent often surpassed those of Europeans and their descendants from the age of discovery until well into the nineteenth century. As Dawson argues, the history of slavery has largely been one chronicled on the fields of the New World, whether tobacco, sugar, indigo, rice, or cotton. However, most plantations were located near waterways to facilitate the transportation of goods to market, and large numbers of agricultural slaves had ready access to water in which to sustain their abilities and interests. Swimming and canoeing provided respite from the monotony of agricultural bondage and brief moments of bodily privacy. In some instances, enslaved laborers exchanged their expertise for privileges, including wages, opportunities to work free of direct white supervision, and even in rare circumstances,

freedom.



Kevin Dawson teaches history at the University of California, Merced.

author location: Merced CA



Backroads Pragmatists:
Mexico's Melting Pot and
Civil Rights in the United
States
Flores, Ruben
University of Pennsylvania
Press
9780812224146
360 pages
paperback
\$24.95
Publish Date: 5/28/2014

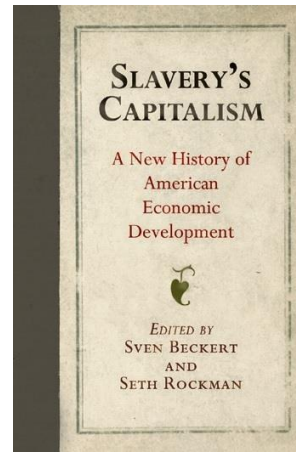
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NEW IN PAPERBACK. Backroads Pragmatists is the first examination of the influence of Mexican social reform on the United States. Flores illustrates how postrevolutionary Mexico's experiments in government and education shaped American race relations from the New Deal through the destruction of Jim Crow. Like the United States, Mexico is a country of profound cultural differences. In the aftermath of the Mexican Revolution (1910-20), these differences became the subject of intense government attention as the Republic of Mexico developed ambitious social and educational policies designed to integrate its multitude of ethnic cultures into a national community of democratic citizens. To the north, Americans were beginning to confront their own legacy of racial injustice, embarking on the path that, three decades later, led to the destruction of Jim Crow. Backroads Pragmatists is the first book to show the transnational cross-fertilization between these two movements. In molding Mexico's ambitious social experiment, postrevolutionary reformers adopted pragmatism from John Dewey and cultural relativism from Franz Boas, which, in turn, profoundly shaped some of the critical



intellectual figures in the Mexican American civil rights movement.

Ruben Flores teaches American studies at the University of Kansas.



Slavery's Capitalism: A
New History of American
Economic Development
Beckert, Sven and
Rockman, Seth
University of Pennsylvania
Press
9780812224177
416 pages
paperback
\$27.50
Publish Date: 1/1/2018

catalog page: 14

NEW IN PAPERBACK. During the nineteenth century, the United States entered the ranks of the world's most advanced and dynamic economies. At the same time, the nation sustained an expansive and brutal system of human bondage. This was no mere coincidence. Slavery's Capitalism argues for slavery's centrality to the emergence of American capitalism in the decades between the Revolution and the Civil War. According to editors Sven Beckert and Seth Rockman, the issue is not whether slavery itself was or was not capitalist but, rather, the impossibility of understanding the nation's spectacular pattern of economic development without situating slavery front and center. American capitalism--renowned for its celebration of market competition, private property, and the self-made man--has its origins in an American slavery predicated on the abhorrent notion that human beings could be legally owned and compelled to work under force of violence.



Sven Beckert is Laird Bell Professor of History at Harvard University. Seth Rockman is Associate Professor of History at Brown University.