



The BIOGRAPHER'S *craft*

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
FOR WRITERS & READERS OF BIOGRAPHY

March 2016 | Volume 11 | Number 1

Now Is the Time... to Register for the 2016 BIO Conference



From the Editor

The generosity of BIO members when it comes to stepping up and helping out is one of the most gratifying things for me here at *TBC*. When I put out a call for assistance, people respond. Case in point: This month different organizations in New York are offering programs of interest to biographers that I would like to cover in the April issue. Our dedicated and intrepid NYC correspondent, Dona Munker, would attend all of them if she could, but logistics make it impossible. At BIO board member



The Richmond Marriott Downtown is the site of events for Saturday, June 4, and within walking distance of the Library of Virginia, where the previous evening's reception will be held.

If you've been putting off registering for the 2016 BIO Conference on June 3–5, we strongly suggest you do it now, before the early-bird registration fee expires. For BIO members, the conference fee goes from \$250 to \$320 on March 16. For non-members, the fee increases from \$350 to \$430 at the same time. If you're not a BIO member, now's the perfect time to join! You can join online at our [website](#).

This is shaping up to be BIO's best conference yet, with speakers and panelists such as acclaimed authors Debby Applegate, James Atlas, Douglas Brinkley, Jeffrey Frank, Kitty Kelley, D. T. Max, Annette Gordon-Reed, Thomas Mallon, Evan Thomas, and Stacy Schiff.

Not to mention the luncheon talk by the renowned British writer Claire Tomalin—the biographer of Jane Austen, Thomas Hardy, Charles Dickens—this year's BIO Award winner; three great archival/historical Friday tours; authors reading from their new biographies; the Friday evening reception at the Library of Virginia; the announcement of the winner of the Plutarch Award for Best Biography of 2015; and the new BIO Book Bash on Sunday, complete with book signings, networking—and local craft beers.

Nearly all of the events are in downtown Richmond within easy walking distance from the Richmond Marriott Downtown, the conference hotel. Plus, a wide array of exciting cultural and culinary attractions will take place throughout

Will Swift's suggestion (thanks, Will!), I sent out an email to members in and around the city seeking aid. In less than 24 hours, I had two new reporters on board and back-ups if necessary. A big thank you to them, as well as to the other writers who donate their time and expertise to *TBC* and every facet of BIO.

Topping the list of volunteers who make BIO the thriving organization it is are the people working behind the scenes to make the Seventh Annual BIO Conference the informative and stimulating event I know it will be. We still have a few months to go, but as the article to the left of this letter reminds you, time is running out to take advantage of the early-bird discount. Registration so far has been brisk, so register now to make sure you can attend all the panels and other conference events that suit your interests.

Speaking of the conference: In this issue, you'll see the names of the four finalists for the Plutarch Award, the winner of which will be announced in Richmond. We also

the entire weekend. To name just two: the vibrant First Friday Art Walk with live music and local food trucks, and Sunday's Broad Appetite, an all-day culinary adventure on Broad Street in front of the Marriott.

We'll fill you in on more exciting conference and Richmond details in the coming weeks.

So, go to the [conference information page](#) of the BIO website today and make your plans to join fellow BIO members in Richmond.

BIO Announces Finalists for Plutarch Award

BIO's Plutarch Committee has chosen four finalists out of ten nominees for this year's Plutarch Award, which recognizes the best biography of 2015 as chosen by BIO members. The finalists are, in alphabetical order by author:

- Irwin F. Gellman, *The President and the Apprentice: Eisenhower and Nixon, 1952-1961* (Yale University Press)
- Peter Guralnick, *Sam Phillips: The Man Who Invented Rock'n'Roll* (Little, Brown)
- T. J. Stiles, *Custer's Trials: A Life on the Frontier of a New America* (Knopf)
- Rosemary Sullivan, *Stalin's Daughter: The Extraordinary and Tumultuous Life of Svetlana Alliluyeva* (Harper)

BIO members have already received an official ballot via email with a link to the website where they can vote for the winner of this year's Plutarch Award. Voting

announced in Richmond. We also have our annual roundup of spring and summer biographies that are likely to draw attention from major media outlets in the months to come.

Yours,

Michael Burgan

Please Keep Your Info Current

Making a move or just changed your email? We ask BIO members to keep their contact information up to date, so we and other members know where to find you. Update your information in the [Member Area](#) of the BIO website.

Sold to Publishers

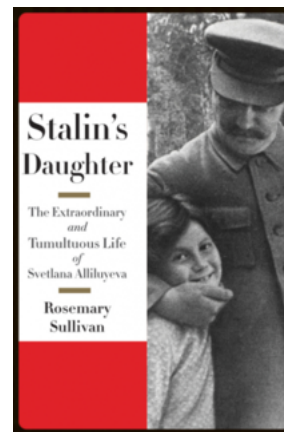
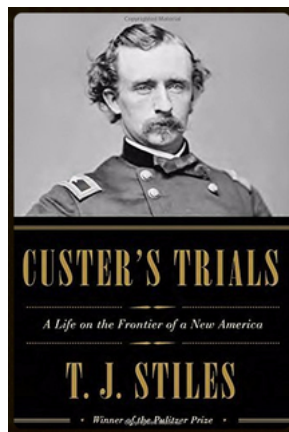
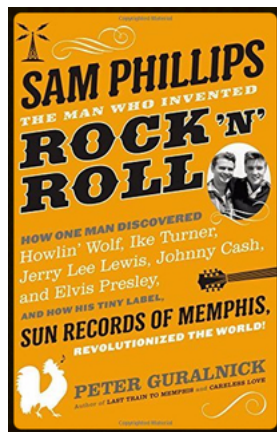
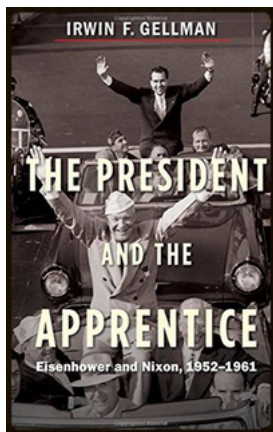
Justin Martin

A Fierce Glory

sold to Da Capo Press

is open until midnight on May 15, 2016. If you're a member and did not receive a ballot, [email Brian Jay Jones](#).

The winner will be announced on Saturday, June 4, at the Seventh Annual BIO Conference.



Voting for the 2016 Plutarch Award: A New System

By Brian Jay Jones, BIO president, and Will Swift, chair of the Plutarch Award Committee

Last summer, the BIO Board implemented a new approach for selecting the Plutarch Award for best biography of the year. Previously, the Plutarch Committee forwarded ten nominated books to the membership at large, and asked them to rank their top four. However, members only had a few weeks to read this large number of biographies. Many members expressed concern to the board that they were unable to cast an appropriately informed vote in the time allotted.

For this reason, the board determined that the Plutarch Committee would begin the process for 2016 by initially naming ten outstanding nominees, representing

Marc Leepson
Untitled biography of Barry Sadler
sold to Stackpole
by Joseph Vallely at
Swagger Literary Agency

Nicola Tallis
*Crown of Blood: The Deadly Inheritance
of Lady Jane Grey*
sold to Pegasus and Michael O'Mara
Books (UK)
by Andrew Lownie at Andrew Lownie
Literary Agency

Jeff Benedict and Armen Keteyian
Untitled biography of Tiger Woods
sold to Simon & Schuster
by Richard Pine of Inkwell Management

Karen Harper
The It Girls
(Elinor Glyn and Lucy,
Lady Duff-Gordon)
sold to William Morrow
by Annelise Robey at
Jane Rotrosen Agency

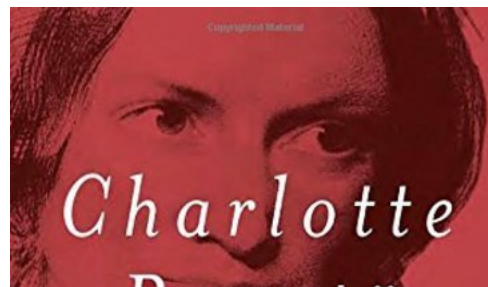
Laura Dassow Walls
Henry David Thoreau: A Life
sold to the University of Chicago Press

books across four categories (Politics and Leadership, Arts and Literature, Popular Culture and Sports, and History and Society). From these ten books, the committee narrowed the list down to four finalists, from which BIO members will vote for their top choice. By revising the nomination and selection process in this way, it is the Board's hope and intent that members will have adequate time to read the nominated books before making their final selection.

After this year's votes are tabulated and the winner announced, the board will determine how well the new structure is working. If it appears that few BIO members are voting for the award, the board will review the selection and voting process to determine whether, for example, the number of nominees or finalists should be adjusted or if the winner should be selected by a special committee.

Battling Bios on Several Subjects Among the Highlights of Spring and Summer Titles

While publishing insiders may say that the overall selection of new biographies coming out this spring and summer is not as impressive as last year's stellar crop, the range of subjects—some tried and true, some getting



Kathleen Tracy
Morgan Freeman: Biography
sold to Barricade
by Bob Diforio at
D4EO Literary Agency

Ezra Glinter
Becoming the Messiah
(Menachem Mendel Schneerson)
sold to Yale University Press
by Rob McQuilkin at Lippincott
Massie McQuilkin

Jane Ridley
In Search of George
(King George V)
sold to Harper
by Zoe Pagnamenta at
the Zoe Pagnamenta Agency on behalf
of Caroline Dawnay at United Agents

Rob Sheffield
On Bowie
sold to Dey Street Books
by Daniel Greenberg at
Levine Greenberg Rostan

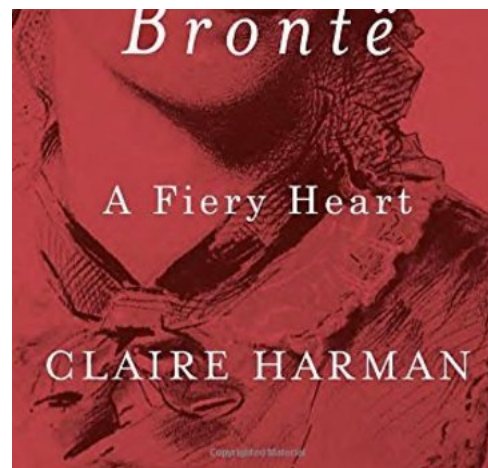
Mary Childs
The Bond King
(Bill Gross)

their first major due—should satisfy the most discriminating readers. Reviewing the announced titles, *TBC* came up with a selection of books most likely to receive considerable attention in the coming months. We're highlighting some here and in the list below. You can see a longer list, compiled from the publishing database [Edelweiss](#) at the [BIO website](#).

TBC does its best to learn about new books, and our monthly In Stores feature will include even more spring and summer titles. Should we have missed any here, please let us know so we can add them to the list on the website.

A literary biography is one of the most notable books in March, Clair Harman's *Charlotte Brontë: A Fiery Heart*. Another March release garnering attention is *Rightful Heritage: Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Land of America* by Douglas Brinkley.

Books about two literary figures, one from each side of the manuscript, are among the highlights for April: *The Lady with the Borzoi: Blanche Knopf, Literary Tastemaker Extraordinaire* by Laura Claridge and *Chasing the Last Laugh: Mark Twain's Raucous and Redemptive Round-the-World Comedy Tour* by Richard Zacks. April also brings us biographies on two of Hollywood's most talented stars, *Her Again: Becoming Meryl Streep* by Michael Schulman and *Barbra Streisand: Redefining Beauty, Femininity, and Power* by Neal Gabler. Staying in the world of



Harman's sources included previously unavailable letters.

sold to Flatiron Books
by Christy Fletcher at
Fletcher & Company

Joanna Scutts
The Extra Woman
(Marjorie Hillis)
sold to Liveright
by Kate Johnson of
Wolf Literary Services

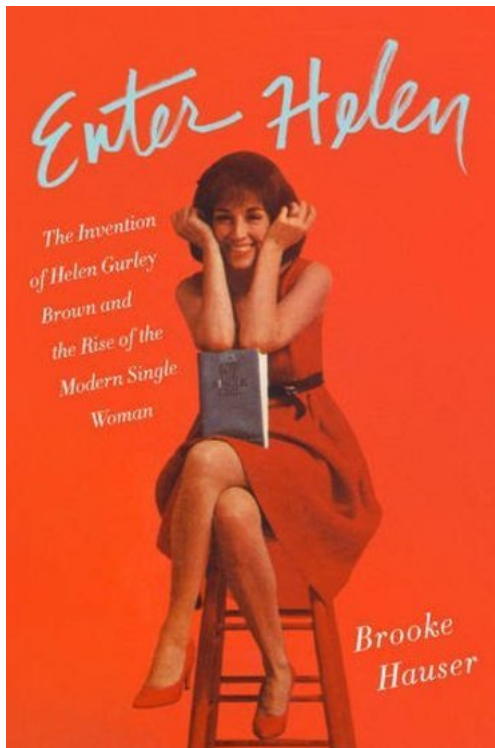
John Hardman
Cassandra of the Nation:
The Life of Louis XVI
sold to Yale University Press
by Andrew Lownie at Andrew Lownie
Literary Agency

Benjamin Balint
Kafka's Last Trial
sold to W. W. Norton
by Deborah Harris of the
Deborah Harris Agency

Don Fulsom
Nixon and the Mafia
sold to Thomas Dunne Books
by Ronald Goldfarb at
Goldfarb & Associates

Tom McMillan

entertainment, Simon Callow publishes the third volume of his biography of Orson Welles, *One-Man Band* (a fourth volume is still to come).



Hauser's book is the first of two about Helen Gurley Brown.

Abraham Lincoln, 1809–1849. A less-well known subject is sure to draw attention this spring with Jill Lepore's *Joe Gould's Teeth*. A notable university press release is *Robert Parris Moses: A Life in Civil Rights and Leadership at the Grassroots* by Laura Visser-Maessen. And turning to the world of pop culture, a musical titan gets time in the spotlight in Philip Norman's *Paul McCartney: The Life*. Later in

Moving to magazine publishing, the first of two battling bios about Helen Gurley Brown comes out in April, Brooke Hauser's *Enter Helen: The Invention of Helen Gurley Brown and the Rise of the Modern Single Woman*. (Its competitor, *Not Pretty Enough: The Unlikely Triumph of Helen Gurley Brown* by Gerri Hirshey comes out in July.) Rounding out April, the long shelf of books about TR gets another addition with *The Naturalist: Theodore Roosevelt, A Lifetime of Exploration, and the Triumph of American Natural History* by Darrin Lunde.

Speaking of subjects whom readers can't seem to get enough of, May's highlights include Sidney Blumenthal's *A Self-Made Man: The Political Life of*

Gettysburg Rebels
sold to Regnery History
by Uwe Stender at TriadaUS
Literary Agency

Ben McGrath
Old Man River: An American Odyssey
(Dick Conant)
sold to Knopf
by Rachel Clements at Abner Stein, on
behalf of Susan Hobson at
McCormick Literary

Karen Abbott
*The Whole External World: A True Story
of Murder, Bootlegging, and Justice in
the Jazz Age*
(George Remus)
sold to Crown
by Simon Lipskar at Writers House

Ed Caesar
The Moth and the Mountain
(Maurice Wilson)
sold to Simon & Schuster
by Sloan Harris at ICM on behalf of
Karolina Sutton at Curtis Brown

Marcus Thompson
Untitled biography of Steph Curry
sold to Touchstone

gets time in the spotlight in Philip Norman's *Paul McCartney: The Life*. Later in the season, Mark Ribowsky looks at another pop music icon in *Sweet Dreams and Flying Machines: The Life and Music of James Taylor*.

Heading into the summer months, June sees new works on two great military minds, *William Tecumseh Sherman: In the Service of My Country: A Life* [0] by James Lee McDonough and *Douglas MacArthur: American Warrior* by Arthur Herman. Moving from war to affairs of the heart, Michael Shelden brings us *Melville in Love: The Secret Life of Herman Melville and the Muse of Moby-Dick*. Another notable book in June is *The Man Who Built the Sierra Club: A Life of David Brower* by Robert Wyss.

Another group of subjects who inspire no shortage of biographies is the Kennedy family. July brings Larry Tye's *Bobby Kennedy: The Making of a Liberal Icon*, and the first of two books this summer on Kathleen "Kick" Kennedy, who died in 1948 at 28: *Kick: The True Story of JFK's Sister and the Heir to Chatsworth* by Paula Byrne. The competing title, *Kick Kennedy: The Charmed Life and Tragic Death of the Favorite Kennedy Daughter* by Barbara Leaming, comes out in August. The death of a subject can stir interest in a biography, so the passing of Harper Lee last month should bring attention to Charles J. Shields's *Mockingbird: A Portrait of Harper Lee: From Scout to Go Set a Watchman*, an updating of his earlier Lee biography.

Finally, while for most sports fans August means heated pennant races and the coming of football season, Roland Lazenby's new book should have them thinking about basketball with his *Showboat: The Life of Kobe Bryant*.

March

- *Éamon de Valera: A Will to Power* by Ronan Fanning (Harvard University

by Daniel Greenberg at Levine
Greenberg Rostan

Randy Roberts and Johnny Smith
Year of the Slugger
(Mickey Mantle)
sold to Basic Books

by Sylvie Greenberg and Donald Lamm
at Fletcher & Company

Membership Up for Renewal?

Please respond promptly to your membership renewal notice. As a nonprofit organization, BIO depends on members' dues to fund our annual conference, the publication of this newsletter, and the other work we do to support biographers around the world. When renewing, please make sure the contact information we have for you is up to date.

Press)

- *Young Mr. Turner: The First Forty Years, 1775-1815* by Eric Shanes (Yale University Press)
- *The Rise of a Prairie Statesman: The Life and Times of George McGovern* by Thomas J. Knock (Princeton University Press)
- *The Grand Tour: The Life and Music of George Jones* by Rich Kienzle (Dey Street Books)
- *Rightful Heritage: Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Land of America* by Douglas Brinkley (Harper)
- *The First Nazi: Erich Ludendorff, The Man Who Made Hitler Possible* by Will Brownell, Denise Drace-Brownell, and Alex Rovt (Counterpoint)
- *Frederick the Great: King of Prussia* by Tim Blanning (Random House)
- *Charlotte Brontë: A Fiery Heart* by Claire Harman (Knopf)
- *The Immortal Irishman: The Irish Revolutionary Who Became an American Hero* by Timothy Egan (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)

April

- *Dante: The Story of His Life* by Marco Santagata (Belknap Press)
- *Her Again: Becoming Meryl Streep* by Michael Schulman (Harper)
- *Barbra Streisand: Redefining Beauty, Femininity, and Power* by Neal Gabler (Yale University Press)
- *Orson Welles, Volume 3: One-Man Band* by Simon Callow (Viking)
- *The Lady with the Borzoi: Blanche Knopf, Literary Tastemaker Extraordinaire* by Laura Claridge (Farrar, Straus and Giroux)
- *The Midnight Assassin: Panic, Scandal, and the Hunt for America's First Serial Killer* by Skip Hollandsworth (Henry Holt)
- *The Naturalist: Theodore Roosevelt, A Lifetime of Exploration, and the*

Are You a Student?

Or do you know one who is interested in biography? BIO now has a special student membership rate. Visit [the BIO website](#) to find out more.



A Letter from the Vice President

Grad Student to Journalist to Editor to Biographer

Triumph of American Natural History by Darrin Lunde (Crown)

- *Enter Helen: The Invention of Helen Gurley Brown and the Rise of the Modern Single Woman* by Brooke Hauser (Harper)
- *Chasing the Last Laugh: Mark Twain's Raucous and Redemptive Round-the-World Comedy Tour* by Richard Zacks (Doubleday)

May

- *Your Friend Forever, A. Lincoln: The Enduring Friendship of Abraham Lincoln and Joshua Speed* by Charles B. Strozier (Columbia University Press)
- *Robert Parris Moses: A Life in Civil Rights and Leadership at the Grassroots* by Laura Visser-Maessen (University of North Carolina Press)
- *Paul McCartney: The Life* by Philip Norman (Little, Brown and Company)
- *Joe Gould's Teeth* by Jill Lepore (Knopf)
- *A Self-Made Man: The Political Life of Abraham Lincoln, 1809 – 1849* by Sidney Blumenthal (Simon & Schuster)

June

- *Commander in Chief: FDR's Battle with Churchill, 1943 (FDR at War)* by Nigel Hamilton (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)
- *Hunter S. Thompson: Fear, Loathing, and the Birth of Gonzo* by Kevin T. McEneaney (Rowman & Littlefield)
- *Diane Arbus: Portrait of a Photographer* by Arthur Lubow (Ecco)
- *Sweet Dreams and Flying Machines: The Life and Music of James Taylor* by Mark Ribowsky (Chicago Review Press)
- *Louis D. Brandeis: American Prophet* by Jeffrey Rosen (Yale University Press)

I have to laugh when I think of everything I had to learn about working on a biography. I had already been published for decades (in newspapers and magazines), so I was an old hand at hooking the reader, weighing the plausibility of information, and meeting a deadline. I had done graduate work, so I was undaunted by specialized terminology and the need to develop a thesis. Having worked as an editor of art catalogues, I was also acquainted with the *Chicago Manual of Style*.

But, like beginners in most fields, I didn't even know what I didn't know—most of which was involved with the mechanics of book publishing.

In journalism, of course, there are no endnotes. The only method I knew of creating them dates back to the Typewriter Era, when I was in grad school: typing a superscript numeral (which used

- *William Tecumseh Sherman: In the Service of My Country: A Life* by James Lee McDonough (W. W. Norton)
- *Douglas MacArthur: American Warrior* by Arthur Herman (Random House)
- *The Man Who Built the Sierra Club: A Life of David Brower* by Robert Wyss (Columbia University Press)

July

- *Mockingbird: A Portrait of Harper Lee: From Scout to Go Set a Watchman* by Charles J. Shields (Henry Holt)
- *Marie-Antoinette* by H el ene Delalex, Alexandre Maral, and Nicolas Milovanovic (J. Paul Getty Museum)
- *Kick: The True Story of JFK's Sister and the Heir to Chatsworth* by Paula Byrne (Harper)
- *Bush* by Jean Edward Smith (Simon & Schuster)
- *Not Pretty Enough: The Unlikely Triumph of Helen Gurley Brown* by Gerri Hirshey (Sarah Crichton Books)
- *Bobby Kennedy: The Making of a Liberal Icon* by Larry Tye (Random House)
- *Gene Roddenberry: The Man Who Created Star Trek: A Biography* by Lance Parkin (Aurum Press)

August

- *Showboat: The Life of Kobe Bryant* by Roland Lazenby (Little, Brown and Company)
- *Kick Kennedy: The Charmed Life and Tragic Death of the Favorite Kennedy Daughter* by Barbara Leaming (Thomas Dunne Books)

to involve a delicate twist of the platen knob) and separately adding a numbered citation to the end of the text. This painstaking effort became truly onerous when I began shifting passages around, sometimes to a different chapter. It was a revelation to learn, all-too-belatedly, that MS Word allows you to create an endnote bonded to its source—a devoted, if long-distance, marriage that will not be torn asunder.

Then there was my old grad school friend, *ibidem*, known by his nickname, Ibid. He was now persona non grata, my publisher's copy editor told me. Instead, you were supposed to supply a shortened form of the reference. And farewell to the neat little underscore that was once the proper way to indicate material by the same author in a bibliography. Now, for some inscrutable reason, the author's name was to

- *Marconi: The Man Who Networked the World* by Marc Raboy (Oxford University Press)
- *Libertarians on the Prairie: Laura Ingalls Wilder, Rose Wilder Lane, and the Making of the Little House Books* by Christine Woodside (Arcade Publishing)

On the Road

Center Helps Preserve Women's History

By Sallie Bingham

The Sallie Bingham Center for Women's History and Culture, the Center I founded with Professor Jean O'Barr

decades ago, joins distinguished company. The Center, along with the John Hope Franklin Research Center for African and African American History and Culture, the Human Rights Archive, and the Archive of Documentary Arts, among others,



Virginia Woolf's desk, part of the center's collection.

be repeated.

I hadn't realized that I was supposed to record the page numbers of vintage newspaper articles, many of which came to me as clippings denuded of such details. (Faced with a ridiculous number of these citations, I pushed back, declaring that it would be a waste of my time to try to track down this information.)

Although I dutifully filled out the publisher's form asking for any unusual elements in the manuscript, it hadn't occurred to me that a particular term that is second nature in my field needed to be enumerated for the copyeditor. I was aghast to discover in the proof that every mention of "Old Master paintings," had morphed into *Old Masters paintings*—an error rather like saying "anyways" instead of "anyway."

It all ended well, thanks to my

are all part of the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina.

Since the Center's founding, it has grown and bloomed, supported by the university and an extraordinary cadre of archivists who reach out to diverse women and persuade them to leave their papers in a place where they will be preserved, catalogued and made available to generations of students and the general public.

Highlights include the papers of Robin Morgan, Kate Millet, Dorothy Allison, and Minnie Bruce Pratt, Anne Bradstreet, Harriett Beecher Stowe, among many others—and Virginia Woolf's painted writing desk.

The Center also sponsors symposia on relevant issues of women's sexuality, health, writing, religion and education.

It all came about because during my long life as a writer, I heard many stories of women's papers being consigned to attics or basements after their deaths, or even thrown into Dumpsters. Traditionally, the papers of well-known men have been preserved, but often a woman's papers, if they are kept at all, can only be found buried in her husband's collection and catalogued under his name. Single women, less well-known women, poor women, radical transformers of our society, and LGBTQ leaders and scholars often disappear entirely in a few short years after their deaths.

I've often encountered women who are bewildered after having inherited a trove of a relative's writing, not knowing how to evaluate it or where in the world it might be stored. Too often, our history is erased because what we wrote with pain and daring was not preserved.

wonderful editor, two hard-working production editors who allowed me to add a few footnotes (for general readers unlikely to consult the copious endnotes), and a copyeditor who patiently shored up a rather idiosyncratic bibliography. Thank goodness I remembered to thank her for all the careless errors from which she saved me before I started enumerating the new ones she introduced! *I invite those of you who are poised on the threshold of publication or who (for some obscure reason) want to relive those clueless early days, to join me, Paul Sorrentino, Marlene Trestman, Sonja Williams, and moderator Anne Boyd Rioux for the panel, Trial by Fire: Lessons From Publishing a First Biography, at the BIO Conference on June 4.*

Cathy

The seed was planted years ago when I realized that I needed to do something with my own papers and began a conversation with Robert Byrd, Jean O'Barr, and other noteworthies at Duke University. I remember how astonished I was when Bob Byrd journeyed to Louisville, where I was then living, to collect my first box of manuscripts, letters and news stories and carry it back with him on the plane to Durham.

It soon became clear to me that I could not be satisfied with preserving my own collection alone. Too many other women did not have the access that was so precious and so essential to me. And so began my financial support of the center, supported generously by Duke, and the housing of the greatly increased and growing archive in the newly renovated Rubenstein Library.

When I visit, I often see students deeply immersed in some part of a collection that might never have become available if the Center did not exist.

I am blessed, and the blessing is shared with a large group of other women.

Visiting the Sallie Bingham Center for Women's History and Culture

[The Center's website](#)

[David M. Rubenstein Library](#)

[Durham Convention and Visitors Bureau](#)

Campus Restaurants:

[Saladella Cafe at Perkins](#)

[Twinnies](#)

[Divinity Cafe](#)

[Joe Van Gogh](#)

Travel Grants

Cathy Curtis

BIO Vice President

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Joanny Moulin

Hans Renders

William Souder

Will Swift

The Sallie Bingham Center provides travel grants of up to \$1,000 for researchers whose work would benefit from access to the women's history collections held at Duke University's Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library. The application deadline for 2016 has passed. For more information on the grants, go [here](#).

Shorts

Editors Talk Biography at NYU Seminar

The New York University Biography Seminar is hosting a panel on Monday, March 14, featuring four editors discussing biography. The panelists are:

- Tim Duggan, publisher, Tim Duggan Books, an imprint of Crown
- Gerald Howard, executive editor and vice president, Doubleday
- Ileene Smith, executive editor and vice president, Farrar, Straus & Giroux
- Robert Weil, editor-in-chief, Liveright, a division of W.W. Norton

Seminar members James Atlas and Gayle Feldman will moderate the discussion, which starts at 6:30 p.m. and will be held at 20 Cooper Square, Fifth Floor.

Franklin Gives Works in Progress Lecture

Ruth Franklin will discuss her upcoming biography of Shirley Jackson at the Dorothy O. Helly Works in Progress Lecture on Monday, March 14, sponsored by Women Writing Women's Lives (WWWL). Franklin's book, due out in September, explores Jackson's literary work beyond her famous 1948 "The Lottery," as well as her sometimes-turbulent private life. Franklin is a book critic and the author of *A Thousand Darknesses: Lies and Truth in Holocaust Fiction*, which was a finalist for the Sami Rohr Prize for Jewish Literature. The lecture will

Advisory Council

Debby Applegate, Chair

Carol Berkin

Douglas Brinkley

Catherine Clinton

Amanda Foreman

Joan Hedrick

Michael Holroyd

Eric Lax

David Levering Lewis

John Matteson

William S. McFeely

Jon Meacham

Marion Meade

Nancy Milford

Andrew Morton

Martin J. Sherwin

T. J. Stiles

William Taubman

Terry Teachout

be held at the CUNY Graduate Center, 365 Fifth Avenue at 34th Street, Room C197, from 4 to 5:30 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. Its co-sponsors include the Women and Gender Studies Certificate Program, the Leon Levy Center for Biography, and the Feminist Press at CUNY. For more information, go [here](#).

WWWL Update

TBC reported on the October 2, 2015, Women Writing Women's Lives 25th Anniversary Conference. Now [you can watch videos](#) of the three conference panels online: "Whose Lives?", "Telling the Life Story," and "Sources and Secrets." The links to the video are in the opening paragraph.

Russian Publisher Self-Censors Putin Biography

Russian journalist Masha Gessen, whose recent books include a biography of Vladimir Putin, says the Russian president does not need to censor unflattering books about his life or how the country functions under his rule. Russian publishing houses do it for him. In an article for The Intercept, Gessen relates how she met with a publisher who said he could publish anything he wanted—but not a Russian translation of Gessen's *The Man Without a Face: The Unlikely Rise of Vladimir Putin*. Gessen writes that while prior censorship is outlawed in Russia, the country has "a slew of laws and practices that have restricted publishing in ways that are much less clear than the old Soviet system." Those laws make booksellers reluctant to take on titles that might lead to legal challenges, so publishers don't risk bringing out the books in the first place. That means books never come out that put Putin in a negative light or that challenge the government's stance on such things as gay rights.

["Russian Purge: Putin Doesn't Need to Censor Books. Publishers Do It for Him."](#)

The Biographer's Craft

Editor

Michael Burgan

Consulting Editor

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(Hawaii)

Member Interview

Six Questions with Patricia Albers

What is your current project and what stage is it at?

I've completed most of the research, and I'm well into the writing of the first biography of the Hungarian-born photographer André Kertész. Kertész was the arguably the foundational modernist photographer. He pioneered street photography and invented subjective photojournalism. His pictures are irresistible. Yet, for various reasons, he was alternately celebrated and ignored. So the subtext of my book has to do with changing ideas about what photography is and what it should be.

What person would you most like to write about?

An artist who could grip the public imagination. Agents report that, strangely, artists' biographies are the toughest of all to sell. Yet many artists have lived richly imaginative lives, and their stories are relevant to everyone's creativity.

Who is your favorite biographer or what is your favorite biography?

I can't name a single favorite, but my list would include Judith Thurman's *Secrets*



Albers's most recent biography is *Joan Mitchell, Lady Painter: A Life*.

Pat McNees
(Washington, D.C.)

Dona Munker
(New York)

To contact any of our correspondents,
click [here](#).

of the Flesh: A Life of Colette and Annalyn Swan and Mark Stevens's *De Kooning: An American Master* for the writers' phenomenal research, commanding voices, and fusion of the narrative with the interpretive. Obviously, I love magisterial biographies. But I'm also a fan of Julian Bell's 163-page *Van Gogh: A Power Seething*. It should be impossible to write a fresh and concise biography of van Gogh, whose every twitch has been analyzed and whose every painting has been blockbusterized. However, Bell pulls it off. It's a great read for its lessons in economy, writing, and insight.

What have been your most satisfying moments as a biographer?

My first biography was a life of the photographer Tina Modotti. In the course of my research, I tracked down relatives of Modotti's companion when she lived in California in the 1910s. For decades these relatives had been storing his belongings in two trunks in the attic of their farmhouse in Oregon. They graciously let me borrow the trunks. I drove them to my home in California, and I kept them for three years. Inside I discovered a hundred Modotti photographs, some of them previously unknown, along with letters and documents that cast new light on her important years in Mexico—all great material for my book, and great for promotion, too, because the discovery itself drew attention in the press. Today the pictures are in the collection of the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, and the trunks are back in the attic.

Your most frustrating moment?

My most frustrating moments always have to do with politics and territoriality. For example, because of the book ambitions of a staff member, my subject's foundation unexpectedly denied me access to the translation of reams of material in their possession. Think ten-page letters written in old-fashioned script *in Hungarian!* I don't speak Hungarian, so that left me not knowing even what I

needed to have translated. I got around that by hiring a Hungarian teacher and a Hungarian film editor, who took turns going with me to the Getty Archives. They would look over the documents and translate certain sections, and we'd talk. In some ways that was better than using a translation. On the other hand, it was pricey and time-consuming, and I still wonder if I've missed important things.

One research/marketing/attitudinal tip to share?

A Zen teacher friend of mine used to say that the way you do anything is the way you do everything. My way seems to be the hard and messy way. I have outlines, systems, self-imposed deadlines, etc., and they work pretty well. Yet the piles on the floor grow like mushrooms, and I don't always feel in control of the process. I usually think of this as a shortcoming. Recently, however, I read a review of a science book about the nature of creativity. In underscoring a point made by the authors, the reviewer cites a series of interviews with MacArthur Foundation "genius grant" recipients. Virtually all, she writes, have lived periods of uncertainty about where their work was going and often slogged on "without regard for practicality or efficiency." My tip is to organize *and* embrace the chaos.

Prizes

Rowley Prize Finalists

BIO's Hazel Rowley Prize Committee has announced the finalists for this year's prize:

- Andrew Marble, for a biography of General John Shalikashvili
- Robert Marshall, for a biography of Carlos Castaneda



Rowley wrote four

- Jessica Max Stein, for a biography of the late Muppet performer Richard Hunt
- well-regarded biographies.

Prize-winning biographers John Matteson and Linda Leavell will choose the winner, who will receive the prize at the Seventh Annual BIO Conference on June 4. Every two years, BIO gives the Hazel Rowley Prize to help a first-time biographer of real promise in four ways: through funding (the \$2,000 prize); by securing a careful reading from at least one established agent; a year's membership in BIO; and publicity through the BIO website, *The Biographers Craft* newsletter, etc. The prize is a way for BIO, a grassroots organization of working biographers, to advance its mission and extend its reach to talented new practitioners. The prize is named in memory of Hazel Rowley (1951-2011), born in London, educated in England and Australia, and a long-time resident of the United States. Hazel was a BIO enthusiast from its inception, understanding the need for biographers to help each other. To learn more about Rowley and the prize, go [here](#).

The members of the Rowley Prize Committee are: Gayle Feldman, chair; Jenny Cockburn, Anne Heller, Carl Rollyson, Roy Schreiber, Carol Sklenicka, and Will Swift.

PEN/Jacqueline Bograd Weld Award

Nancy Princenthal won the PEN/Jacqueline Bograd Weld Award for Biography for *Agnes Martin: Her Life and Art*. The award includes a \$5,000 prize. Princenthal and other PEN Award winners will be honored April 11 in New York City.

***Los Angeles Times* Book Prizes**

The *Los Angeles Times* announced finalists in ten categories for its Book Prizes. The books in the Biography category are:

- *Fortune's Fool: The Life of John Wilkes Booth* by Terry Alford

- *Listening to Stone: The Art and Life of Isamu Noguchi* by Hayden Herrera
- *Jonas Salk: A Life* by Charlotte DeCroes Jacobs
- *Young Orson: The Years of Luck and Genius on the Path to Citizen Kane* by Patrick McGilligan
- *Mary McGrory: The First Queen of Journalism* by John Norris

In addition, one biography was chosen in the Science and Technology category: *The Invention of Nature: Alexander von Humboldt's New World* by Andrea Wulf.

Winners will be announced on April 9.

George Washington Prize

The finalists for this year's George Washington Prize include three biographies:

- *The Washingtons: George and Martha, "Join'd by Friendship, Crown'd by Love"* by Flora Fraser
- *Washington's Revolution: The Making of America's First Leader* by Robert Middlekauff
- *War of Two: Alexander Hamilton, Aaron Burr, and the Duel that Stunned the Nation* by John Sedgwick

The \$50,000 George Washington Prize recognizes the past year's best-written works on the nation's founding era, especially those that have the potential to advance broad public understanding of early American history. The prize is sponsored by Washington College, the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, and George Washington's Mount Vernon. This year's winner will be announced on May 25.

Windham Campbell Prizes

Among the winners of this year's Windham Campbell Prizes for nonfiction is

Stanley Crouch, whose books include a biography of bebop pioneer Charlie Parker. The first of a two-volume work, *Kansas City Lightning: The Rise and Times of Charlie Parker*, was published in 2013. Awarded by Yale University, the \$150,000 Windham Campbell Prizes recognize fiction and nonfiction writers as well as dramatists and are open to anyone who writes in English.

PROSE Awards

Several biographies were honored with PROSE Awards, given annually by the Association of American Publishers to honor the best in professional and scholarly publishing in 54 categories. *The Scholar Denied: W. E. B. Du Bois and the Birth of Modern Sociology* by Aldon D. Morris won the top prize, the R.R. Hawkins Award, which recognizes outstanding scholarly works in all disciplines of the arts and sciences. The book also won the Award for Excellence in the Social Sciences and the Sociology & Social Work Category. In Biography & Autobiography, the winner was *Stalin: New Biography of a Dictator* by Oleg V. Khlevniuk. Two books received honorable mention: *Empire and Revolution: The Political Life of Edmund Burke* by Richard Bourke and *Jonas Salk: A Life* by Charlotte DeCroes Jacobs. Winning honorable mention in the category of Outstanding Scholarly Work by a Trade Publisher was *The Weather Experiment: The Pioneers Who Sought to See the Future* by Peter Moore. Receiving honorable mention in Popular Science & Popular Mathematics was *Planck: Driven by Vision, Broken by War* by Brandon R. Brown. For US History, *Fortune's Fool: The Life of John Wilkes Booth* by Terry Alford received an honorable mention.

NAACP Image Awards

Two biographies took top honors in their respective categories at the NAACP Image Awards. The winner for Outstanding Literary Work—Non-Fiction was *Spectacle: The Astonishing Life of Ota Benga* by Pamela Newkirk. (TBC profiled Newkirk when her book was released; you can read the story [here](#).) In the Outstanding Literary Work—Children category, the winner was *Gordon Parks:*

How the Photographer Captured Black and White America by Carole Boston Weatherford and illustrated by Jamey Christoph.

British Columbia National Award

Rosemary Sullivan's *Stalin's Daughter: The Extraordinary and Tumultuous Life of Svetlana Alliluyeva* won the British Columbia National Award for Canadian Non-Fiction. The award, established in 2005, recognizes the best nonfiction work by a Canadian writer and comes with a \$40,000 CAD (\$29,543) prize.

Call for Applications/Papers

Women's International Study Center (WISC) Residency

The Women's International Study Center (WISC) is accepting applications for its residential fellowships at the Acequia Madre House in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The Fellowships-in-Residence are for women and men who wish to pursue work in WISC's five focus areas of women in the arts, sciences, cultural preservation, business, and philanthropy. Applications are welcome from individuals or groups needing a place to work on a publication or creative work; scholars with research interests in a local archive or collection; project developers seeking a space to develop a program or proposal; or others whose work relates to advancing scholarship and awareness of the achievements of women in WISC's focus areas. The Individual Fellowship-in-Residence averages two to six weeks in length. Selected applicants receive a \$1,000 stipend for residencies lasting four or more weeks to offset associated costs. Each Fellow is expected to make a public presentation during the period in residence, and to credit WISC in any publications or exhibitions that result from the work conducted during the residency. The deadline for applying is March 15, 2016. For more details, go

[here](#).

Modernist Studies Association

For the upcoming Modernist Studies Conference, Michael Lackey is organizing a panel on the role of modernism in the rise and legitimization of biographical novels. His detailed call for papers is available [here](#). Those interested in this panel should send a CV and a 250-word abstract to Lackey [via email](#) by March 20, 2016. The conference takes place in Pasadena, California, on November 17-20, 2016.



The Writer's Life

Who Needs a Publicist?

Perhaps the better question is, who can afford a publicist? With publishing houses cutting back on their promotional spending, many authors, if they have the money, are hiring their own publicists to spread the word about their books. But is it money well spent? That depends. Writing for *Writer's Digest*, clinical neuropsychologist-turned-author Jenni Ogden recounts her experiences hiring a publicist for her first novel. The first decision for a writer, she says, is whether you want to try to sell your books in stores or simply go the online route. For the former, Ogden recommends getting a publicist, and while acknowledging the service is not cheap, she writes, "But here's the thing; if you intend to write more books, the right publicity will help get your name and your writing voice known and build those crucial loyal readers." You can read more of Ogden's thoughts [here](#).

Words are but the vague shadows of the volumes we mean. Little audible links,

they are, chaining together great inaudible feelings and purposes.

—Theodore Dreiser

When Academics Write Popular History

Historian James M. McPherson acknowledges that for a scholarly writer, being known as a “popularizer” can be the “the kiss of death.” But in an interview with the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, the academic best known for his history of the Civil War, *Battle Cry of Freedom*, thinks the popularizer criticism is misguided when an author succeeds in presenting “good historical writing based on sound scholarship” that is “accessible and meaningful to an expert as well as a popular audience, so long as the canons of accuracy and sound interpretation are not violated. “If this kind of accessibility is ‘popularizing,’ I consider it a badge of honor rather than shame,” McPherson says. McPherson’s peeve with most academic writing is that “too much of it is aimed at fellow specialists and inaccessible to a general reader,” he says. “Technical terms, jargon, words that the reader has to look up in a dictionary, opaque prose, abstract concepts, and the like characterize a great deal of academic prose.” More advice for historians: “I urge students to think of an iceberg: six-sevenths of it is invisible below the surface but is necessary to support the one-seventh that is visible. The same is true of historical research and writing: Only one-seventh of the data, quotations, and other information one finds in one’s research should make it into the text, but the invisible six-sevenths of that research is necessary to support the text.” You can read the entire interview [here](#).

Words are sacred. They deserve respect. If you get the right ones, in the right order, you can nudge the world a little.

—Tom Stoppard

Research Tip

NYPL Expands Online Access

Earlier this year, the New York Public Library announced that the public can now download free high-resolution copies of more than 180,000 items from its digital archives of public domain material. As the NYPL website puts it, “No permission required, no hoops to jump through: just go forth and reuse!” You can find the public domain collection [here](#).

Obituaries

Margaret Forster

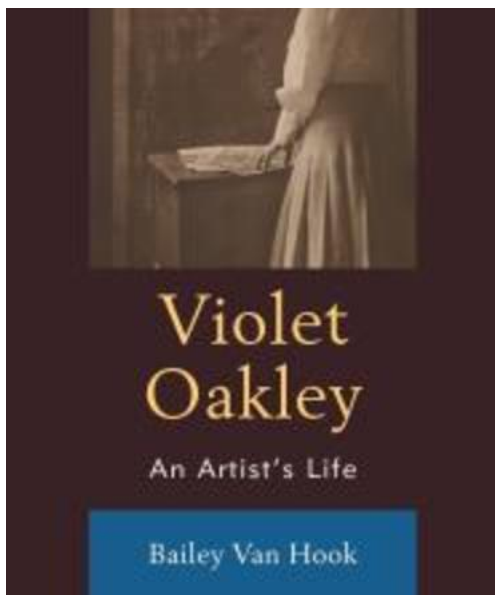
Margaret Forster, who wrote both fiction and nonfiction, died on February 8 in London. She was 77.

Five years after graduating from Oxford, Forster published her best-known novel, *Georgy Girl*, which inspired a popular movie and song of the same name. While continuing to write fiction, Forster also published several biographies. The first, *The Rash Adventurer: The Rise and Fall of Charles Edward Stuart*, came out in 1974. Forster’s later biographies included one of Daphne Du Maurier, which won the Fawcett Society Book Prize in 1994. In *Good Wives*, published in 2001, she looked at the lives of several women in history married to famous men.



News and Notes

Last month we listed **Bailey Van Hook**’s



Oakley was considered the unofficial visual historian of the League of Nations.

Violet Oakley: An Artist's Life in the In Stores feature, but we neglected to mention it in News and Notes. Bailey's book is the first full-length biography of Oakley, the only major female artist of the beaux-arts mural movement. **Patricia Scott-Bell**, whose *The Firebrand and the First Lady: Portrait of a Friendship: Pauli Murray, Eleanor Roosevelt, and the Struggle for Social Justice* also came out last month, scored a positive review of the book in the *New York Times Book Review*, which you can read [here](#). Patricia hit the road this month to promote the book, making stops in Washington, DC, New York City, and the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library in

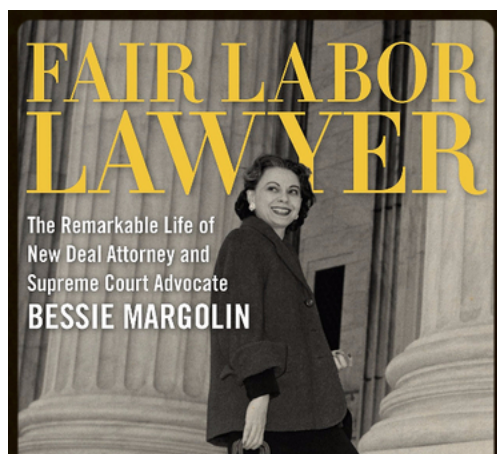
Hyde Park, New York. On March 24, she'll be at the Atlanta History Center. Another member with a new book that drew attention from the *Times* is **Anne Boyd Rioux**. Her *Constance Fenimore Woolson: Portrait of a Lady Novelist* made the cover of the March 6 issue and the review mentioned the book Anne edited of her subject's work. You can read it [here](#). **Carl Rollyson** also reviewed Anne's new book for the *Star Tribune*. New in paperback this month is **Joshua Kendall's** *America's Obsessives: The Compulsive Energy That Built a Nation*. Out in hardcover this month is **Marlene Trestman's** *Fair Labor Lawyer: The Remarkable Life of New Deal Attorney and Supreme Court Advocate Bessie Margolin*. Marlene will be making several stops to promote the book. She also wrote a [blog post](#) about her relation to her subject for the Hadassah-Brandeis Institute and taped an interview for PBS's *To The Contrary With Bonnie Erbe*,

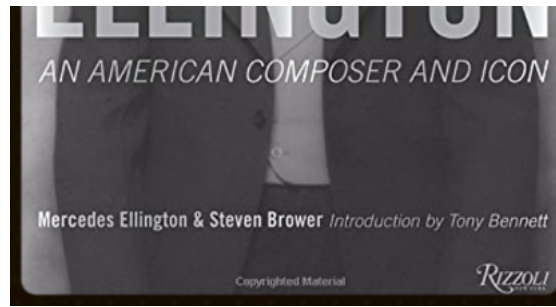
which will air this month. Marlene was also honored this month at the Jewish Roots of Celebration! for her dedication to the New Orleans Jewish community. Next month, new BIO member **Susan Jaques** is celebrating the release of her first biography, *The Empress of Art: Catherine the Great and the Transformation of Russia*. It's an art-focused biography that examines Catherine II's reign through the lens of art and architecture. It's already picked up excellent reviews from *Kirkus*, *Publishers Weekly*, and *Library Journal*. We didn't receive word of the Leon Levy Center for Biography's Conference, which was held on March 8, in time to highlight it in the February issue, but BIO was well represented, with **Cathy Curtis** and **Patrick McGilligan** taking part. Look for an article on the conference in next month's issue. While he was in *TBC*'s hometown last month helping to raise money for the Friends of the Santa Fe Public Library, **Stephen Grant** also spoke about the First Folio of Shakespeare's works that was on display at the New Mexico Museum of Art, then signed copies of his *Collecting Shakespeare: The Story of Henry and Emily Folger*. While in Florida working on his biography of John Steinbeck, **William Souder** found time to speak about one of his previous subjects, Rachel Carson, at the Coastal Branch Library near Seaside. Although his updated biography of Harper Lee won't be out until this summer, **Charles J. Shields** has already given an interview to AL.com about *Mockingbird: A Portrait of Harper Lee from Scout to Go Set a Watchman*. Read it [here](#). **Justin Martin** just sold the rights to his new book, *A Fierce Glory*, about the Battle of Antietam. The book goes on sale on September 17, 2018, the 156th anniversary of the battle. Also making a sale was **Marc Leepson**, of his untitled biography of Barry Sadler, the Green Beret best known for writing "The Ballad of the Green Berets." **Nigel Hamilton** has been busy writing blog posts for the Biography Society, a new scholarly organization headquartered in France. Nigel is on the society's board, along with **Joanny Moulin** and **Hans Renders**, and his

recent posts look at [biography and fiction](#), and [biography and literary criticism](#). Abigail Santamaria recently did an [interview with the online magazine World](#) about her book *Joy: Poet, Seeker, and the Woman Who Captivated C. S. Lewis*. **Jon Meacham** appeared on *Well Read TV* to discuss his biography of George H. W. Bush; you can see the interview [here](#). **Charlotte Jacobs** has garnered two more honors for *Jonas Salk: A Life*. It's a finalist for the *LA Times* Book Prize for Biography and was named an honorable mention in the Biography & Autobiography category of the PROSE Awards. Also making the list of finalists for the *Times*' biography prize is **Patrick McGilligan** for *Young Orson: The Years of Luck and Genius on the Path to Citizen Kane*. **David Maraniss** is also a finalist for an *LA Times* award, in the History category, for his *Once in a Great City: A Detroit Story*. Congratulations to all three.

[Send us your news!](#)

In Stores





Fair Labor Lawyer: The Remarkable Life of New Deal Attorney and Supreme Court Advocate Bessie Margolin

by Marlene Trestman
(LSU Press)

The Rev. J. W. Loguen, as a Slave and as a Freeman: A Narrative of Real Life

by Jennifer A. Williamson and J. W. Loguen
(Syracuse University Press)

Queen Elizabeth II: A Celebration of Her Majesty's 90th Birthday

by Tim Ewart
(Andre Deutsch)

Beirut on the Bayou: Alfred Nicola, Louisiana, and the Making of Modern Lebanon

by Raif Shwayri
(SUNY Press) University of Pennsylvania Press

God Almighty Hissself: The Life and Legacy of Dick Allen

Duke Ellington: An American Composer and Icon

by Steven Brower and Mercedes Ellington
(Rizzoli)

Tesla Vs Edison: The Life-Long Feud that Electrified the World

by Nigel Cawthorne
(Chartwell Books)

A Civil War Captain and His Lady: A True Story of Love, Courtship, and Combat

by Gene Barr
(Savas Beatie)

Adele Briscoe Looscan: Daughter of the Republic

by Laura McLemore
(Texas Christian University Press)

by Mitchell Nathanson
(University of Pennsylvania Press)

Éamon de Valera: A Will to Power
by Ronan Fanning
(Harvard University Press)

Young Mr. Turner: The First Forty Years, 1775-1815
by Eric Shanes
(Yale University Press)

Cursed Legacy: The Tragic Life of Klaus Mann
by Frederic Spotts
(Yale University Press)

The Rise of a Prairie Statesman : The Life and Times of George McGovern
by Thomas J. Knock
(Princeton University Press)

America's Social Arsonist: Fred Ross and Grassroots Organizing in the Twentieth Century
by Gabriel Thompson
(University of California Press)

Alben Barkley: A Life in Politics
by James K. Libbey
(University Press of Kentucky)

The Grand Tour: The Life and Music of George Jones

Burchell's Travels: The Life, Art and Journeys of William John Burchell | 1781-1863

by Susan Buchanan
(Penguin Random House South Africa)

Guy Martin: Portrait of a Bike Legend
by Phil Wain
(Carlton Publishing Group)

María de Molina, Queen and Regent: Life and Rule in Castile-León, 1259-1321

by Paulette Lynn Pepin
(Lexington Books)

Jonathan Swift: Our Dean
by Eugene Hammond
(University of Delaware Press)

Jonathan Swift: Irish Blow-In
by Eugene Hammond
(University of Delaware Press)

E. G. Barnhill: Florida Photographer, Adventurer, Entrepreneur
by Gary Monroe
(University Press of Florida)

by Rich Kienzle
(Dey Street Books)

The First Nazi: Erich Ludendorff, The Man Who Made Hitler Possible

by Will Brownell, Denise Drace-Brownell, and Alex Rovit
(Counterpoint)

Frederick the Great: King of Prussia

by Tim Blanning
(Random House)

Charlotte Brontë: A Fiery Heart

by Claire Harman
(Knopf)

The Immortal Irishman: The Irish Revolutionary Who Became an American Hero

by Timothy Egan
(Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)

David Astor

by Jeremy Lewis
(Jonathan Cape)

The Romanovs: 1613-1918

by Simon Sebag Montefiore
(W & N)

Cowboy Song: The Authorised Biography of Philip

The Making of an SS Killer: The Life of Colonel Alfred Filbert, 1905-1990

by Alex J. Kay
(Cambridge University Press)

Shadow on the Mountain: Nancy Pfister, Dr. William Styler, and the Murder of Aspen's Golden Girl

by Stephen Singular and Joyce Singular
(St. Martin's Press)

Butterfly in the Rain: The 1927 Abduction and Murder of Marion Parker

by James L. Neibaur
(Rowman & Littlefield)

The Demon of Geopolitics: How Karl Haushofer "Educated" Hitler and Hess

by Holger H. Herwig
(Rowman & Littlefield)

Soulmaker: The Times of Lewis Hine

by Alexander Nemerov
(Princeton University Press)

Lynott

by Graeme Thomson
(Constable)

Trouble Boys: The True Story of the Replacements

by Bob Mehr
(Da Capo)

*At the Existentialist Café: Freedom, Being, and
Apricot Cocktails with Jean-Paul Sartre, Simone de
Beauvoir, Albert Camus, Martin Heidegger, Maurice
Merleau-Ponty and Others*

by Sarah Bakewell
(Other Press)

*The Legends Club: Dean Smith, Mike Krzyzewski,
Jim Valvano, and an Epic College Basketball Rivalry*

by John Feinstein
(Doubleday)

*The Profiteers: Bechtel and the Men Who Built the
World*

by Sally Denton
(Simon & Schuster)

Ross Calvin, Interpreter of the American Southwest

by Ron Hamm
(Sunstone Press)

*Boys Among Men: How the Prep-to-Pro Generation
Redefined the NBA and Sparked a Basketball*

John Owen and English

Puritanism: Experiences of Defeat

by Crawford Gribben
(Oxford University Press)

Clarina Nichols: Frontier

Crusader for Women's Rights

by Diane Eickhoff
(Quindaro Press)

*A Notorious Woman: Anne Royall
in Jacksonian America*

by Elizabeth J. Clapp
(University of Virginia Press)

Casanova the Irresistible

by Phillippe Sollers
(University of Illinois Press)

*Veit Harlan: The Life and Work
of a Nazi Filmmaker*

by Frank Noack (University
Press of Kentucky)

*The Medici: Power, Money, and
Ambition in the Italian*

Renaissance

by Paul Strathern
(Pegasus)

Revolution

by Jonathan Abrams

(Crown Archetype)

The King and Queen of Malibu: The True Story of the Battle for Paradise

by David K. Randall

(W. W. Norton)

The Violet Hour: Great Writers at the End

by Katie Roiphe

(The Dial Press)

The Civil Wars of Julia Ward Howe: A Biography

by Elaine Showalter

(Simon & Schuster)

Fighting for General Lee: Confederate General Rufus Barringer and the North Carolina Cavalry Brigade

by Sheridan R. Barringer

(Savas Beatie)

John Quincy Adams: Militant Spirit

by James Traub

(Basic Books)

Hustle, Loyalty & Respect: The World of John Cena

by Steve Pantaleo

(DK)

Harry T. Burleigh: From the Spiritual to the Harlem

Cass Hite: The Life of an Old Prospector

by James Knipmeyer

(University of Utah Press)

Undiagnosed, Unscrupulous and Unbeatable: The Paul Haber Story

by Monty Nereim

(BookBaby)

The Cooler King: The True Story of William Ash, the Greatest Escaper of World War II

by Patrick Bishop

(The Overlook Press)

Stanley Fish, America's Infant Terrible: The Authorized Biography

by Gary A. Olson

(Southern Illinois University Press)

Brave as a Lion: The Life and Times of Field Marshal Hugh Gough, 1st Viscount Gough

by Christopher Brice

(Helion and Company)

Luigi Nono: A Composer in

Renaissance

by Jean E Snyder
(University of Illinois Press)

*The Selling of the Babe: The Deal That Changed
Baseball and Created a Legend*

by Glenn Stout
(Thomas Dunne Books)

*DiMag & Mick: Sibling Rivals, Yankee Blood
Brothers*

by Tony Castro
(Lyons Press)

Is that Kafka?: 99 Finds

by Reiner Stach, translated by Kurt Beals
(New Directions)

Godfather of the Music Business: Morris Levy

by Richard Carlin
(University of Mississippi Press)

Franklin D. Roosevelt: The War Years, 1939-1945

by Roger Daniels
(University of Illinois Press)

*Finley Ball: How Two Baseball Outsiders Turned the
Oakland A's into a Dynasty and Changed the Game
Forever*

by Nancy Finley
(Regnery History)

Context

by Carola Nielinger-Vakil
(Cambridge University Press)

*Bernard Madoff and His
Accomplices: Anatomy of a Con*

by Lionel S. Lewis
(Praeger)

*In Search of Kings and
Conquerors: Gertrude Bell and
the Archaeology of the Middle
East*

by Lisa Cooper
(I.B. Tauris)

*Comrade Huppert: A Poet in
Stalin's World*

by George Huppert
(Indiana University Press)

*Matthew Flinders, Maritime
Explorer of Australia*

by Kenneth Morgan
(Bloomsbury Academic)

*The Christian Soldier: The Life of
Lt. Col. Bernard William Vann,
V.C., M.C. and Bar, Croix de
Guerre avec palmes*

by Charles Beresford

Stan Levey: Jazz Heavyweight

by Frank R. Hayde
(Santa Monica Press)

Conan Doyle and the Mysterious World of Light

by Matt Wingett
(Life is Amazing)

*The Practical Prophet: Bishop Ronald O. Hall of
Hong Kong and His Legacies*

by Moira Chan-Yeung
(Hong Kong University Press)

Real Love, No Drama: The Music of Mary J. Blige

by Danny Alexander
(University of Texas Press)

Enver Hoxha: The Iron Fist of Albania

by Blendi Fevziu
(I.B. Tauris)

Lost Rockers: Broken Dreams and Crashed Careers

by Steven Blush and Paul Rachman
(powerHouse Books)

*Wounded Lions: Joe Paterno, Jerry Sandusky, and
the Crises in Penn State Athletics*

by Ronald A. Smith
(University of Illinois Press)

(Helion and Company)

*Big Jim Larkin: Hero or
Wrecker?*

by Emmet O'Connor
(University College Dublin Press)

*Marie Stopes: The Scientist Who
Ignited a Sexual Revolution*

by Clare Debenham
(I.B. Tauris)

*The Boy in the Mask: The Hidden
World of Lawrence of Arabia*

by Dick Benson-Gyles
(The Lilliput Press)

*Broken Vows: Tony Blair The
Tragedy of Power*

by Tom Bower
(Faber & Faber)

*A Girl's Got to Breathe: The Life
of Teresa Wright*

by Donald Spoto
(University Press of Mississippi)

*From Silk to Silicon: The Story of
Globalization Through Ten*

Extraordinary Lives
by Jeffrey E. Garten

The King's Bed: Ambition and Intimacy in the Court of Charles II

by Don Jordan and Michael Walsh
(Pegasus)

Stealing Games: How John McGraw Transformed Baseball with the 1911 New York Giants

by Maury Klein
(Bloomsbury)

The Devil's Diary: Alfred Rosenberg and the Stolen Secrets of the Third Reich

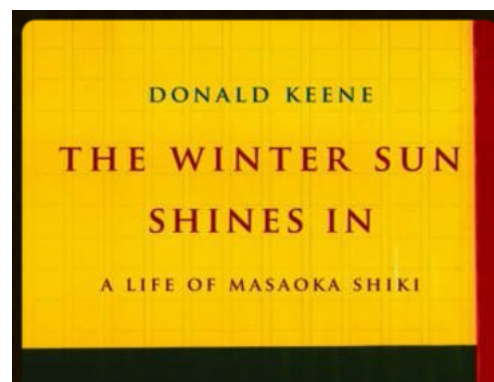
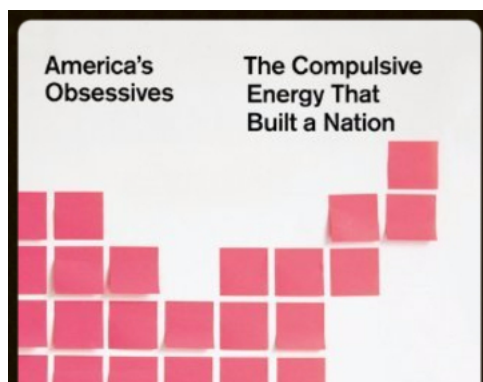
by Robert K. Wittman and David Kinney
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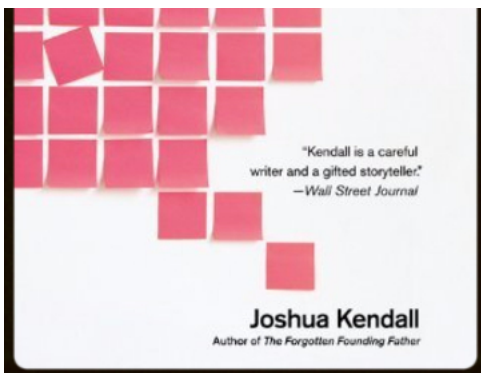
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Astronomer Who Was Never Eclipsed
by Stephen R. Halliwell
(Vanguard Press)

Amanuensis

Amanuensis: A person whose employment is to write what another dictates, or to copy what another has written: Source: *Webster's Revised Unabridged Dictionary* (1913).

In the course of researching Svetlana [Alliluyeva]'s life, I interviewed over 40 people. The geography I covered was as vast as the history. I traveled to Russia, Georgia, England and across the US, scouring archives and hunting down interview subjects.

Not unexpectedly, the most resonant part of my journey was my trip to Moscow, in the course of which I visited the Kremlin; Svetlana's Model School 25; Moscow University where she studied; the Gorky Institute where she worked; the House on the Embankment, where she lived with her two children (it was formerly nicknamed the House of Detention because so many of its elite were sent to camps or executed in the 1930s and 1940s); the Government

archives where I read her poignant adolescent letters to her Papa; the Memorial Archives dedicated to victims of the Gulag, her friends among them.

I was time travelling into the past, examining a life that spanned the history of the 20th century. It was all there: the Gulag; Stalin's Terror of the late 1930s; World War II and the tragic cost to Russia; Stalin's anti-Semitic plots of the 1940s; the Cold War and its ruthless intrigues on both sides.

Svetlana was the subject in the foreground of my book, but there was always that murderous backdrop. The challenge was to keep the two worlds in sync. [[more](#)]

Rosemary Sullivan, "Writing *Stalin's Daughter* Was An Adventure Of A Lifetime"

Bio

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