

A Note from the Director

The great Charles Dickens would find himself very much at home at NYU Press these days, as the last few months have brought us both enormous successes and unique new hard times. The hard times first: the economy has taken a toll on the sales of all publishers, including university presses, and we face contractions in all of our traditional markets and sales channels: consumer sales, library sales, and sales to college students. However, our unique and balanced mix of strong books, combined with outstanding marketing and sales programs and a very experienced staff, are helping us weather this economic storm.

Back to the more optimistic side of Dickens: this fall we continued to realize tremendous publishing results, led by several frontlist titles that performed well beyond expectation in the current challenging marketplace. We were also delighted by a first in NYU Press history: five book awards in a single week—three for scholarship, two for design and production. These successes are detailed in the pages that follow.

As we face a difficult financial environment, I am confident that because of our experienced and dedicated staff, brilliant scholarship at the heart of our publishing program, and excellent marketing and sales program, we will be well positioned when better days return. We, like all publishers, will face financial challenges and painful choices in the months to come. But we will continue to invest in our core strategic objectives, look for opportunities in the midst of this crisis, and bring scholarly distinction to our authors, our books, and New York University.

—Steve Maikowski, Director

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Editorial Corner

This spring NYU Press celebrates unsung heroes and reveals unseen citizens with a bevy of fascinating books.

Children and those who care for them are often among our least visible. First up is the babysitter, long on responsibility and short on respect. Miriam Forman-Brunell's ***Babysitter: An American History*** (\$29.95 cloth) breathes new life into this slighted and misrepresented character with a comprehensive and nuanced perspective. Our troubled youth, too, are often misunderstood: Frank DiCataldo offers a particularly disturbing example in ***The Perversion of Youth: Controversies in the Assessment and Treatment of Juvenile Sex Offenders*** (\$24.00 paper), which examines the failure of the legal and psychiatric system to deal effectively with adolescent sex offenders. ***International Adoption: Global Inequalities and the Circulation of Children*** (\$24.00 paper) edited by Diana Marre and Laura Briggs offers shrewd analysis of the commodification of children for adoption across national borders. Then we venture into the countryside with ***Out in the Country: Youth, Media, and Queer Visibility in Rural America*** (\$22.00 paper) by Mary L. Gray and see that queer rural youth are boldly carving out their identities in local churches and schools, and on the Internet.

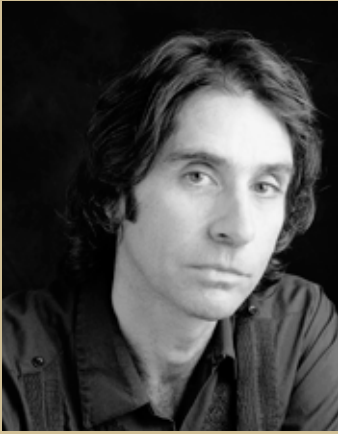
Sometimes people disappear altogether. ***Missing Bodies: The Politics of Visibility*** (\$21.00 paper) by Monica J. Casper and Lisa Jean Moore offers a fascinating look at why some bodies are more publicized and valued than others. Susan M. Schweik's groundbreaking study ***The Ugly Laws: Disability in Public*** (\$35.00 cloth) sheds new light on old laws enacted to keep disabled people and beggars out of sight and out of mind.

Placed between deafness and hearing, ***Deaf Subjects: Between Identities and Places*** (\$21.00 paper) by Brenda Jo Brueggemann explores the negotiation of deaf identity in the modern world. Vivian Bruce Conger's ***The Widows' Might: Widowhood and Gender in Early British America*** (\$48.00 cloth) identifies the unique position of colonial widows, who occupied a third gender role between man and woman.

—Eric Zinner, Editorial Director



NYU Author Feature: Andrew Ross



With job losses reaching new, dismal proportions and the global economy flailing, **Nice Work If You Can Get It: Life and Labor in Precarious Times** (\$27.95 cloth) by Andrew Ross could not be more timely or necessary. Ross, Professor and Chair of the Department of Social and Cultural Analysis at NYU, tracks the development of labor patterns across the United States, Europe, and China, and looks at what the new landscape of contingent employment means, from the high-wage professionals to the low-wage workers across national, class, and racial lines.

Rights and Translations

We are pleased to announce that twenty volumes in the Collected Works of Walt Whitman series are now available for the first time in electronic form through the American Council of Learned Societies' Humanities E-Book Project (www.humanitiesebook.org). See *Press Forward* spring 2008 for more on the Whitman series.

NYU Press recently licensed the second serial rights for Phil Zuckerman's **Society without God: What the Least Religious Nations Can Tell Us About Contentment** (\$35.00 cloth) to *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, which published an excerpt of about 1,700 words in the January 30th issue of the *Chronicle Review*. And while such traditional print serial rights remain important, the Internet, too, is becoming an increasingly important venue for serial rights. Excerpts from NYU Press books now frequently appear on Web sites devoted to particular causes or topics. The progressive advocacy Web site AlterNet.org recently ran excerpts from **Dying to Get High: Marijuana as Medicine** (\$22.00 paper) by Wendy Chapkis and Richard J. Webb and **Our Bodies, Our Crimes: The Policing of Women's Reproduction in America** (\$35.00 cloth) by Jeanne Flavin. Each piece included a hyperlink directly to the book's page on the NYU Press Web site—from which readers can easily purchase a copy of the book.

Books in the News

Society without God by Phil Zuckerman proved to be a huge hit on our fall 2008 list. The book received wonderful reviews from *Publishers Weekly*, *Library Journal*, *Bookforum*, *Salon.com*, *Slate.com*, and *Christianity Today*, and was just featured in Peter Steinfeld's *New York Times* column, "Beliefs." Zuckerman contributed articles to the *Huffington Post*, *The Chronicle Review* and NYU Press's blog, *From the Square*. He also appeared on Air America's *Free Thought Radio*, KERA's *Think*, and KQED's *The Forum* with Michael Klansky.

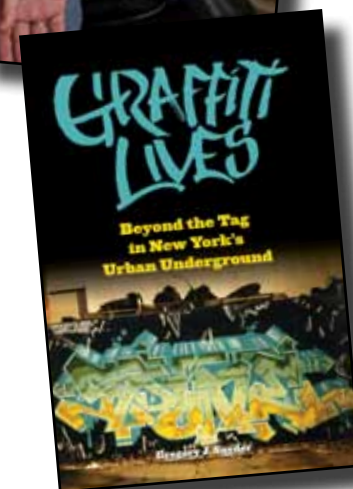
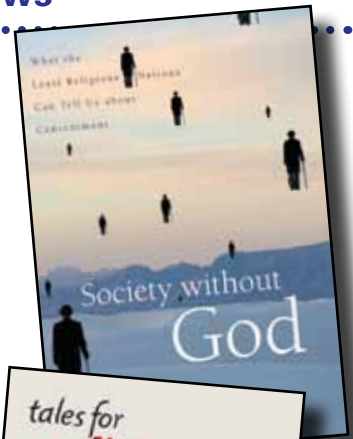
"A ribald, witty, sometimes fun, sometimes thoughtful examination of a wide swath of too little known literature. . . . You will find nothing else like this in the marketplace today," is how *School Library Journal* described **Tales for Little Rebels: A Collection of Radical Children's Literature** (\$32.95 cloth) edited by Julia L. Mickenberg and Philip Nel. The book also received rave reviews from *The Chronicle Review*, *Monthly Review*, *The New Yorker* blog, *The Washington Post Book World* blog, *The Globe & Mail* (Toronto), *The Texas Observer*, and *Utne Reader*. It was also the subject of a fabulous essay by Caleb Crain in the *New York Times Book Review*. The book's editors were guests on WNYC's *The Leonard Lopate Show* and KPFA's *The Living Room* and *Against the Grain*. An event for the book held at the Bluestockings bookstore on Manhattan's Lower East Side aired on C-SPAN's *Book TV*.

Latino Spin: Public Image and the Whitewashing of Race (\$19.00 paper) by Arlene Davila (NYU, Anthropology and Social and Cultural Analysis) received excellent reviews from *Publishers Weekly* and the *San Francisco Chronicle*. *The Chronicle Review* excerpted a portion of the book, and Davila wrote an opinion piece for the *Dallas Morning News*. She appeared on WNYC's *The Leonard Lopate Show*, and *WILL's Afternoon Magazine*. **Latino Spin** was named one of the top ten Latino interest titles in 2008 by the *New York Post*.

A starred *Publishers Weekly* review of Jeanne Marie Flavin's **Our Bodies, Our Crimes** led off a stream of positive press for the book, including reviews in *Bookforum*, *Democracy*, and *Bitch*. Flavin was a guest on WNYC's *The Brian Lehrer Show* and contributed an opinion piece to the *San Francisco Chronicle*.

Graffiti Lives: Beyond the Tag in New York's Urban Underground (\$24.95 cloth) by Gregory Snyder also received a starred review in *Publishers Weekly*, which said, "Snyder's 'the kids are alright' assessment, buttressed by many examples of thrill-seeking taggers finding successful careers in art, design, publishing, and (commissioned) mural-painting, is well-articulated, convincing, and quite possibly reassuring for the urbanites living among (or perhaps raising) today's writers and bombers." The book was also reviewed in *Kirkus Reviews*, *The New York Post*, *Time Out New York*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *Campus Progress*. *The New York Times's* City Room blog did a feature on Snyder and the book, and highlighted some of the art featured in the book.

—Betsy Steve, Publicist



Recent Award Winners

NYU Press is proud to announce the following recent awards:

Modern Language Association 2008 Prize for First Book:

- **Arranging Grief: Sacred Time and the Body in Nineteenth-Century America** (\$24.00 paper) by Dana Luciano

2009 Katherine Singer Kovács Book Award, presented by the Society for Cinema and Media Studies for outstanding scholarship in film and media studies:

- **Heartland TV: Prime Time Television and the Struggle for U.S. Identity** (\$23.00 paper) by Victoria E. Johnson

2009 Society for Military History Distinguished Book Award for Biography, recognizing the best book-length publication in English on military history:

- **Vietnam's Forgotten Army: Heroism and Betrayal in the ARVN** (\$35.00 cloth) by Andrew Wiest

2008 Outstanding Book of the Year, presented by the Academy for Criminal Justice Sciences for extraordinary contribution to the study of criminal justice:

- **When Mothers Kill: Interviews from Prison** (\$22.95 cloth) by Michelle Oberman and Cheryl L. Meyer

2008 Choice Outstanding Academic Titles

- **A Half-Century of Greatness: The Creative Imagination of Europe, 1848-1884** (\$50.00 cloth) by Frederic Ewen, edited by Jeffrey Wollock, with a foreword by Aaron Kramer
- **The Innocence Commission: Preventing Wrongful Convictions and Restoring the Criminal Justice System** (\$40.00 cloth) by Jon B. Gould
- **The Television Will Be Revolutionized** (\$23.00 paper) by Amanda D. Lotz
- **The American Jesuits: A History** (\$29.95 cloth) by Raymond A. Schroth
- **Girls on the Stand: How Courts Fail Pregnant Minors** (\$22.00 paper) by Helena Silverstein

Association of American University Presses 2009 Award for Book Jacket Design:

- **After the Cure: The Untold Stories of Breast Cancer Survivors** (\$22.95 cloth), by Emily K. Abel and Saskia Subramanian



NYU Press and NYU Libraries to Document Experiences of Guantánamo Lawyers

With President Obama pledging to close the Guantánamo Bay Detention Facility, the plight of the detainees held there without charge will inevitably be altered; but it is certain that the work of lawyers who have fought on the detainees' behalf for nearly a decade will continue. Few people know better than the men and women representing the detainees how excruciating and elusive the struggle for justice has been, and what life is like within Guantánamo's walls. Thanks to a joint venture between NYU Press and NYU Libraries, the story of the Guantánamo lawyers and their clients will be more accessible. A book and two digital archives will document the courage, tragedy, anger, humor, frustration, and hope experienced by the lawyers and the inmates.

The book, to be published by NYU Press this fall, is edited by Mark Denbeaux, Professor at Seton Hall University School of Law, and Jonathan Hafetz, formerly of NYU's Brennan Center and now at the American Civil Liberties Union. **The Guantánamo Lawyers: Inside a Prison Outside the Law** (\$32.95 cloth) contains personal accounts from hundreds of lawyers who represent detainees, providing a gripping and often painful picture of the relationships between the inmates and their counsel.

The online archive will present the complete texts that are sources for the book as well as other accounts contributed by Guantánamo lawyers. The documents will be freely available on the Internet for research, teaching, and other non-commercial uses, and will be preserved indefinitely as a historical collection.

—Deborah Gershenowitz, Senior Editor, and Monica McCormick, Program Officer for Digital Scholarly Publishing

Become a Friend and Supporter of the Press

New York University Press is a department of New York University, Division of the Libraries. NYU Press is committed to publishing, in both electronic and print formats, important and distinctive authors and voices—academics, journalists, and writers. Our publishing program includes general interest or trade books, scholarly monographs, regional books, reference books, college texts, paperback reprints, and e-texts. We now publish 100 new books each year and have a strong backlist of 2,000 books in print. Our core publishing disciplines are sociology, law, cultural and American studies, religion, American history, anthropology, politics, criminology, media and film, and psychology.

We are committed to scholarly excellence. But such excellence is expensive, and few academic books are able to recover in sales the direct costs of copyediting, design, and manufacturing. Please become a Friend of the Press by making a donation to support the direct costs of publishing.

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Press Forward General Editor:
Mike Richards

Early American Places

NYU Press is pleased to announce that The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation has agreed to fund a \$650,000 collaborative publishing project to be undertaken in partnership with the University of Georgia Press and Northern Illinois University Press titled **Early American Places**.

Early American Places will attempt to counterbalance overrepresented themes in early American history such as biographies of the Founding Fathers and studies of national politics by examining developments in early North America in the specific places where they occurred. These developments—such as migration; contact between settlers, the enslaved, and native people; economic trade; and war—often involved far-flung parts of the world, but were experienced in the local places where people lived and worked. By restricting its focus to smaller geographic units, but stressing that towns, colonies, and regions were part of much larger networks, the series will combine scholarly sophistication with modesty of scale and attention to local matters that have largely fallen from view. Books in the series will be exclusively based on dissertations.

Each participating university press will focus on specific geographic areas: Georgia on the Southeastern colonies, the plantation economies of the Caribbean, and the Gulf South; NYU on the Northeastern and Middle Atlantic colonies, and French and British Canada; and Northern Illinois on the Great Lakes and the Upper Mississippi Valley including the Ohio and Missouri river valleys.

Early American Places will follow the collaborative model pioneered by an earlier Mellon-funded project, the **American Literatures Initiative**, of which NYU Press is also a member. Each member press will acquire books for the **Early American Places** series in accordance with its standard editorial guidelines. All copyediting and design for books in the program will occur through a single managing-editorial office run by an independent contractor. The presses will also participate in joint marketing campaigns to promote the books in the program.

Recent Book Events

NYU Press held receptions on campus throughout the winter to celebrate the publication of several key books, including:

- **Latino Spin** by Arlene Dávila, at the King Juan Carol I of Spain Center
- **Tales for Little Rebels** edited by Julia L. Mickenberg and Philip Nel, at the Tamiment Library
- **Graffiti Lives** by Gregory J. Snyder, at the Fales Library

Watch for announcements of more book events throughout the spring and summer.



Author Arlene Dávila and NYU Press Editorial Director Eric Zinner at NYU's King Juan Carlos I of Spain Center at a celebration for Dávila's book *Latino Spin*.

New Series Announcement: NYU Series in Social and Cultural Analysis

Both NYU and the Press are leaders in interdisciplinary scholarship, thus a partnership with NYU's Department of Social and Cultural Analysis (SCA) in the form of a new book series is a natural fit and an exciting new venture. With the chair of SCA acting as general editor, the series will publish the best work of this unique department, drawing on a range of transdisciplinary currents

in the humanities and social sciences and exemplifying the mix of methods practiced and taught in the department—historical inquiry, ethnography, textual analysis, and data assessment. Books will cover a broad range, including the migration of people and money, social-movement politics, cultural industries, sports and militarism, and the geography of environmental risk.

—Eric Zinner, Editorial Director