Proxies
Essays Near Knowing
By Brian Blanchfield

Past compunction, as in the lifewriting of Eileen Myles or Alison Bechdel, and incisive in the traditions of Roland Barthes and Guy Davenport, these twenty-four single-subject essays train focus on a startling miscellany of topics—Foot Washing, Dossiers, Br'er Rabbit, Housesitting, Man Roulette, the Locus Amoenus—that begin to unpack the essayist himself, weighing out his identity as a noted "queer intellectual" poet; his upbringing in working-class, Primitive Baptist, central piedmont North Carolina; and his prospects entering middle age at the margins of the gig economy.

In Proxies an original compositional constraint, a "total suppression of recourse to other authoritative sources," engineers the disarming mode of independent inquiry in which Brian Blanchfield addresses his rotating concerns: sex and sexuality, poetry and poetics, family and fallout, and subject positions in American labor (not excluding academia). The "repeatable experiment" to draw only from what he knows, estimates, remembers, and misremembers about the subject at hand often opens onto an unusually candid assessment of self and situation. The project's driving impulse, courting error, peculiar in an era of crowd-sourced consensus knowledge, is at least as old as the one Montaigne had when, putting all the books back on the shelf, he asked, "What do I know?".
Hell Figures
By E. Tracy Grinnell

Hell Figures ventures into the fragmented mythical and literary histories of Helen of Troy, Sappho, Cassandra, Antigone, and others by way of our current condition of perpetual war, violence, and environmental destruction. Grinnell employs the transliteration of musical forms, such as the fugue and humoresque, and homophonic translation as methods of giving form and voice to obscured, inaudible, illegible, unintelligible, and omitted subject positions.
Dianoia

By Michael Heller

In a multigenre approach, making use of poetry, prose and graphics, Heller articulates with precision and clarity the lyric/anti-lyric boundaries of contemporary life exploring the nature of violence, politics, art, and the literary imagination. Heller’s poetry, impelled by what he calls his “thought-prosody,” in its diction and cadences, its range of references and allusions, strives to create an intelligible aesthetic and ethical vision, which “gives more force to a human argument of the world.”
Remembering Animals

By Brenda Iijima

Remembering Animals chronicles the animal in all the complexity of such a categorization, revealing the ways in which bodies are marked and evaluated, used as resource, violated and occluded from history. It is a botched text—it is problematic and scarred. It hurts and registers the hurt. There is no comfort zone. These poems contort out of the marked position of human to bring an intimate awareness of our interrelational vibrancy.

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The Old Philosopher
By Vi Khi Nao

The Old Philosopher is enigmatic, sexual, biblical, anachronistic, political, and personal all at once. These quiet, implosive poems inhabit a nonlinear temporality in which Vi Khi Nao brings biblical time and political time together in the same poetic space, allowing current affairs to converse with a more ancient and historical reality.
The Consequences of My Body
By Maged Zaher

The varying poetics of both ancient and modern Arabic poetry inflect this book-long exploration of the materiality of the body, negotiating the terrain of love-and its denials. Zaher explores the landscape of life fraught with disappointments and occasional triumphs through fragments, lyrics, metatextual pauses, stutterings, translations of ancient poetry, and the occasional late-night email. This epic foray into fraught emotional territory is alive with Zaher's particular gift of keen observation, deft whimsy, and superb intelligence.
The Art of Forgetting
By Andrei Codrescu

"This poetry punk's supreme corruption is The Art of Forgetting. Like genial Borges, Codrescu is unforgettable. Horror of Codrescu is he is fun. Not serious like Putin who kills for fun. Andrei is a word tsar and wonder smith making crooked beauty. Banish him to an African game park. The giraffes will play polo, hippos rock, and poachers sing Bach in Sunday school." -Willis Barnstone

About the Author:
Andrei Codrescu was born in Transylvania, Romania, and emigrated to the United States in 1966. He has numerous wonderful books: poems, novels, and essays. He founded Exquisite Corpse: a Journal of Books and Ideas. He was a regular commentator on NPR's All Things Considered. He taught literature and poetry at Johns Hopkins University, the University of Baltimore, and Louisiana State University. These days, he lives in Arkansas.
And They Shall Wear Purple
New and Selected Poems
By Jean Hollander

"Jean Hollander has written important poems of mourning that are painful to read, and there are important poems that rejoice in obvious beauty we may miss and beauty she discovered. In this book there are poems of terrible simplicity, profound ignorance—which means "negative capability"—and profound wisdom, matters hidden that are not quite hidden, and things displayed that are not quite naked. After all, poetry is a written language not quite naked, modestly placed between the covers of a book.” -Stanley Moss
Santería, Vodou and Resistance in Caribbean Literature
Daughters of the Spirits
By Paul Humphrey

African-derived religious traditions like Santería and Vodou have long been a site of political, cultural and social resistance in the Caribbean. Through his focus on the body as the juncture between the physical and spiritual planes, Humphrey's analysis of a number of Caribbean novels and plays foregrounds the complex nature of women's negotiation of religious, social and political life as participants in these marginalised religious communities. Examining works from authors such as Cuban playwright Eugenio Hernández Espinosa (1936-), Haitian novelists Kettly Mars (1958-) and Marie Vieux-Chauvet (1916-1973), and Cuban-Puerto Rican writer Mayra Montero (1952-), he demonstrates the manner in which the world views offered by Santería and Vodou permit the divisions within and between concepts such as gender, sexuality, womanhood, space and nation to be transcended. As a result, not only do these narratives resist and subvert hegemonic and patriarchal discourses, but also provide a means through which the voice of the marginalised can be heard.

Paul Humphrey is a Research Affiliate in Romance Languages and Literatures and in Africana and Latin American Studies at Colgate University.

About the Author:
Paul Humphrey is a Research Affiliate in Romance Languages and Literatures and in Africana and Latin American Studies at Colgate University.
Through Platt's trademark of alternating long and short lines, and through occasional lyric prose, Tornadoesque becomes a weather report from middle age, as the poet discovers his bisexuality in a heterosexual marriage of longstanding passion, responds to war in the Middle East and the deaths and illnesses of friends, and gives an eyewitness account of what is lost and what's saved when a tornado touches down.
Wordsworth and the Green Romantics  
Affect and Ecology in the Nineteenth Century  
*Edited by Lisa Ottum and Seth T. Reno*

Situated at the intersection of ecocriticism, affect studies, and Romantic studies, this collection breaks new ground on the role of emotions in Western environmentalism. Recent scholarship highlights how traffic between Romantic-era literature and science helped to catalyze Green Romanticism. Closer to our own moment, the affective turn reflects similar cross-disciplinary collaboration, as many scholars now see the physiological phenomenon of affect as a force central to how we develop conscious attitudes and commitments. Together, these trends offer suggestive insights for the study of Green Romanticism.

While critics have traditionally positioned Romantic Nature as idealized and illusory, Romantic representations of nature are, in fact, ambivalent, scientifically informed, and ethically engaged. They often reflect writers’ efforts to capture the fleeting experience of affect, raising urgent questions about how nature evokes feelings, and what demands these sensations place upon the feeling subject. By focusing on the affective dimensions of Green Romanticism, Wordsworth and the Green Romantics advances a vision of Romantic ecology that complicates scholarly perceptions of Romantic Nature, as well as popular caricatures of the Romantics as naïve nature lovers.

This collection will interest scholars and students of Romanticism, eighteenth- and nineteenth-century British literature, ecocriticism, affect studies, and those who work at the intersection of literature and science.
The Selected Letters of John Cage

By John. Edited by Laura Kuhn. Cage and Edited by Laura Kuhn

This selection of over five hundred letters gives us the life of John Cage with all the intelligence, wit, and inventiveness that made him such an important and groundbreaking composer and performer. The missives range from lengthy reports of his early trips to Europe in the 1930s through his years with the dancer Merce Cunningham, and shed new light on his growing eminence as an iconic performance artist of the American avant-garde. Cage's joie de vivre resounds in these letters - fully annotated throughout - in every phase of his career, and includes correspondence with Peter Yates, David Tudor, and Pierre Boulez, among others. Above all, they reveal his passionate interest in people, ideas, and the arts. The voice is one we recognize from his writings: singular, profound, irreverent, and funny. Not only will readers take pleasure in Cage's correspondence with and commentary about the people and events of a momentous and transformative time in the arts, they will also share in his meditations on the very nature of art. A deep pleasure to read, this volume presents an extraordinary portrait of a complex, brilliant man who challenged and changed the artistic currents of the twentieth century.
Castaway Tales
From Robinson Crusoe to Life of Pi
By Christopher Palmer

Ever since Robinson Crusoe washed ashore, the castaway story has survived and prospered, inspiring a multitude of writers of adventure fiction to imitate and adapt its mythic elements. In his brilliant critical study of this popular genre, Christopher Palmer traces the castaway tales' history and changes through periods of settlement, violence, and reconciliation, and across genres and languages. Showing how subsequent authors have parodied or inverted the castaway tale, Palmer concentrates on the period following H. G. Wells's The Island of Dr. Moreau. These much darker visions are seen in later novels including William Golding's Lord of the Flies, J. G. Ballard's Concrete Island, and Iain Banks's The Wasp Factory. In these and other variations, the castaway becomes a cannibal, the castaway's island is relocated to center of London, female castaways mock the traditional masculinity of the original Crusoe, or Friday ceases to be a biddable servant. By the mid-twentieth century, the castaway tale has plunged into violence and madness, only to see it return in young adult novels such as Scott O'Dell's Island of the Blue Dolphins and Terry Pratchett's Nation to the buoyancy and optimism of the original. The result is a fascinating series of revisions of violence and pessimism, but also reconciliation.
Blue Ravens
Historical Novel
By Gerald Vizenor

Gerald Vizenor weaves an engrossing historical portrayal of Native American soldiers in World War I. 'Blue Ravens' is set at the start of the twentieth century in the days leading up to the Great War in France, and continues in combat scenes at Chateau-Thierry, Montbrehain, and Bois de Fays. The novel contains many of Vizenor's recurrent cultural themes - the power and irony of trickster stories, the privilege of 'survivance' over 'victimry', natural reason and resistance. After serving in the American Expeditionary Forces, two brothers from the Anishinaabe culture return to the White Earth Reservation where they grew up. They eventually leave for a second time to live in Paris where they lead successful and creative lives. With a spirited sense of 'chance, totemic connections, and the tricky stories of our natural transience in the world' Vizenor creates an expression of presence commonly denied Native Americans. 'Blue Ravens' is a story of courage in poverty and war, a human story of art and literature from a recognized master of the postwar American novel and one of the most original and outspoken Native voices writing today. Check for the online reader's companion at blueravens.site.wesleyan.edu.

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Treaty Shirts
October 2034-A Familiar Treatise on the White Earth Nation
By Gerald Vizenor

Gerald Vizenor creates masterful, truthful, surreal, and satirical fiction similar to the speculative fiction of Margaret Atwood and Neil Gaiman. In this imagined future, seven natives are exiled from federal sectors that have replaced federal reservations; they pursue the liberty of an egalitarian government on an island in Lake of the Woods. These seven narrators, known only by native nicknames, are related to characters in Vizenor’s other novels and stories. Vizenor was the principal writer of the Constitution of the White Earth Nation, and this novel is a rich and critical commentary on the abrogation of the treaty that established the White Earth Reservation in 1867, and a vivid visualization of the futuristic continuation of the Constitution of the White Earth Nation, in 2034.

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Calderón: Jealousy the Greatest Monster

Edited by José María Ruano de la Haza, Ann L. Mackenzie and Kenneth Muir

As the title indicates, Pedro Calderón de la Barca's *Jealousy* tragically dramatizes the same key themes and emotions that preoccupied Shakespeare in *Othello*. His portrayal of the mind and passion of King Herod, a ruler traditionally vilified in Catholic Spain during Calderón's age, reveals a compassionate understanding and lack of prejudice. Through the madness of possessive love and jealousy, Herod first destroys his wife's love and trust, and then her life.
Structures of Subjugation in Dutch Literature
By Judit Gera

This book examines both classic and less-known works of Dutch literature from the Middle Ages to the twenty-first century. Its starting-point is that both authors and readers are born into a network of ideologies. But how do these ideologies work, and how do they serve to legitimize various forms of subjugation? Judit Gera surveys literary representations of the Dutch colonial experience and of women's lives in male-dominated societies, showing how colonial and gender-based forms of subjugation are interrelated and often intersect.

Judit Gera is professor of Dutch Literature at the Eötvös Loránd University Budapest, Hungary.

About the Author:
Judit Gera is professor of Dutch Literature at the Eötvös Loránd University Budapest, Hungary.

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