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Cartographic Humanism: The Making of Early Modern Europe

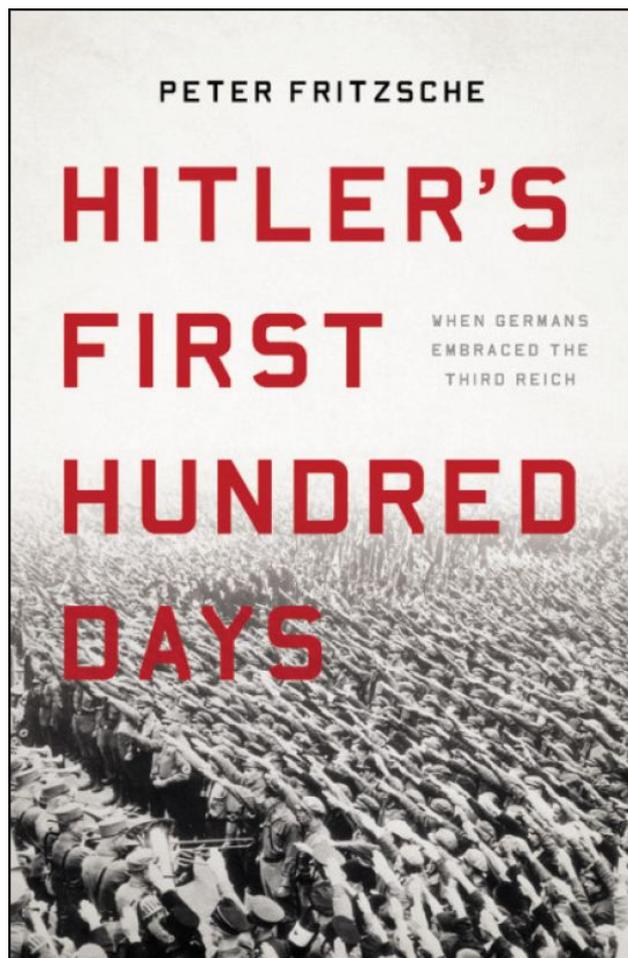
By Katharina N. Piechocki

Associate Professor of Comparative Literature, Harvard University

University of Chicago Press, 2019

Recommended by Ted Cachey, *Interim Chair of Romance Languages and Literatures, Professor of Italian, the Albert J. and Helen M. Ravarino Family Director of Dante and Italian Studies, and Nanovic Faculty Fellow*

“*Cartographic Humanism* is a seminal contribution to the developing field of the history of cartography as a form of cultural criticism. Piechocki’s central idea is that cartography represents a core discipline of Renaissance humanism, and therefore ‘an indispensable heuristic instrument to apprehend the making of the European continent, and as a catalyst to poetic, philological and translational production’ (p. 13). ‘Cartographic humanism,’ according to Piechocki, is galvanized by the geographical discoveries, and decentralized it ‘unfolds as a complex network connecting Europe’s emerging contours in all its cardinal directions’ (p. 13). The general thesis that emerges is that there is a tension characteristic of the early modern period between Ptolemy’s ‘equipollent grid system’ (or the ‘abstract metric system advanced by Strabo’) and center-enhancing models of map-making and other geographic texts such as Pliny that presented a ‘privileged vision of Europe.’ Eventually one arrives in Mercator at a paradoxical image of Europe as central in a context of an ‘alleged apogee of cartographic standardization’ (p. 21). Piechocki describes in nuanced and engaging detail in five chapters the ongoing complex dialectic between ‘equipollent’ and ‘center-enhancing’ paradigms of mapping, between chorography and cosmography and between space and place in the early modern ‘invention’ of Europe.”



Print Copy Available
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Hitler's First Hundred Days: When Germans Embraced the Third Reich

By Peter Fritzsche

W. D. and Sara E. Trowbridge Professor of History, University of Illinois

Basic Books, 2020

Recommended by Moritz Sebastian Graefrath, Ph.D. student in the Department of Political Science and Nanovic Graduate Fellow

“A plethora of books have been written on the rise of Nazism in interwar Germany, detailing how Adolf Hitler transformed Germany in the course of a mere couple of years and ultimately led the country into a devastating war that soon encompassed the entire world. Peter Fritzsche adds a valuable new perspective to the extant literature that has clear implications for political developments in today’s Europe and beyond. Focusing on the first 100 days of Hitler’s chancellorship, Fritzsche is able to show how rapidly radical political and societal transformations can be implemented. He highlights how—and how successfully—Hitler combined violence with an extensive propaganda machinery to consolidate his power within the first weeks of his rule. Always with an eye to how these developments translated into changes in everyday German life at the time, the monograph delivers a depressing message: when the political intent to transform society is met with the ability to impose violence and spread propaganda through a far-reaching media network, it does not take long to bring about radical change.”

Vittorio Hösle

Globale Fliehkräfte



Eine geschichtsphilosophische
Kartierung der Gegenwart

Mit einem Geleitwort
von Horst Köhler

VERLAG KARL ALBER



Globale Fliehkräfte: Eine geschichtsphilosophische Kartierung der Gegenwart / Global Centrifugal Forces: A mapping of the present day in terms of historical philosophy

By Vittorio Hösle

Paul G. Kimball Professor of Arts and Letters in the Department of German and Russian Languages and Literatures and Nanovic Faculty Fellow

With a foreword by [Nanovic Forum speaker] *Horst Köhler, President of the Federal Republic of Germany (2004-2010)*

Verlag Karl Alber, 2019

Are we at the beginning of a major historical crisis? What is going on in world politics right now? There have been many reasons for concern since 2016: right-wing populists undermine the separation of powers, separatists endanger the EU, Donald Trump divides the USA and distances itself from Europe, and migration movements seem inevitable. Vittorio Hösle explains which economic and psychosexual changes favor the rise of right-wing populists, which intellectual undesirable developments have destroyed classical liberalism and how the self-destruction of the West will affect within a geopolitical environment. He combines Hegel's philosophy of history of progress with Spengler's theory of decline.

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POLITICS IN THE MARKETPLACE

Work, Gender, and Citizenship
in Revolutionary France



KATIE JARVIS

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Politics in the Marketplace: Work, Gender, and Citizenship in Revolutionary France

By Katie Jarvis

Assistant Professor of History and Nanovic Faculty Fellow

Oxford University Press, 2019

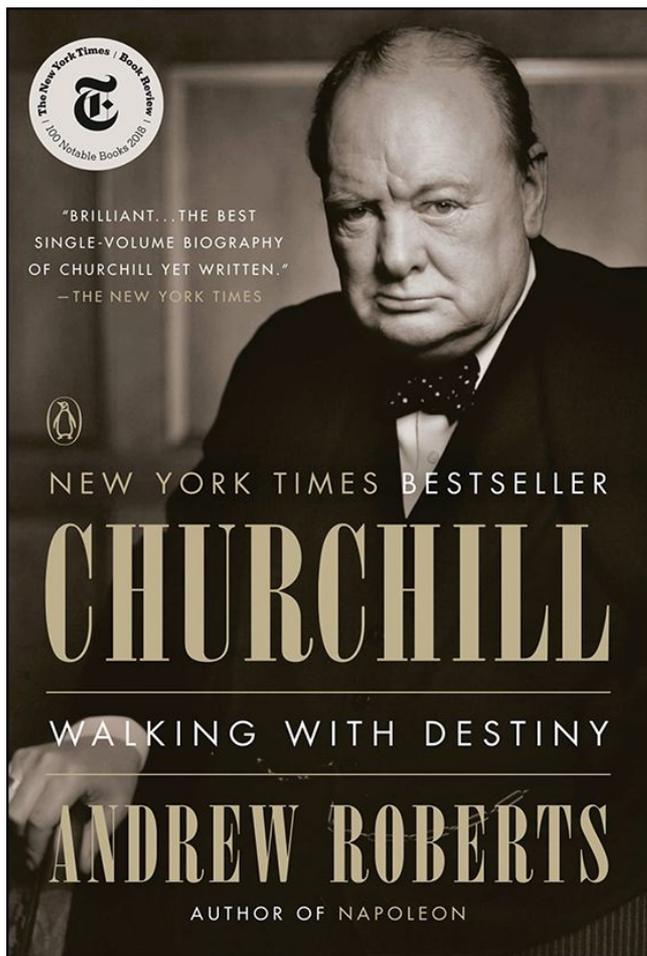
*Winner of the 2020 Louis A. Gottschalk Prize from the American Society for
Eighteenth-Century Studies*

In a remarkable feat of investigative historicism, Katie Jarvis recovers the daily lives and political voices of an unusual community of merchant women—the fish mongers and fruit sellers known as the Dames des Halles, after the great hall in Paris where their stalls had fed the city since the Middle Ages, earning it the moniker “the stomach of Paris.” Jarvis shows how the haggling, selling, and mercantile activities of these working women shaped notions of citizenship during the French Revolution through everyday trade. By means of modest legal documents, surviving rental agreements, and obscure inventories of the few material possessions these women left behind at their deaths, Jarvis reconstructs with panache the work lives, networks, and political influence of these pivotal citizens.

Comments from the Gottschalk Prize judges include:

“Jarvis’s masterful prose is novelistic in its ability to conjure up the market stalls of Revolutionary France with upholstered descriptions of objects and things. After the first few pages, you become hooked and want to know more about these merchant women.”

“Based in original—and inventive—archival research, this book radically revises the traditional account of the French Revolution. Offering a reassessment of the political role of the Parisian market women, Jarvis develops a new conception of Revolutionary citizenship based in public service and social experience. Her lively book opens an entirely new perspective on the role of labor and gender in a revolutionary situation.”



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Churchill: Walking with Destiny

By Andrew Roberts

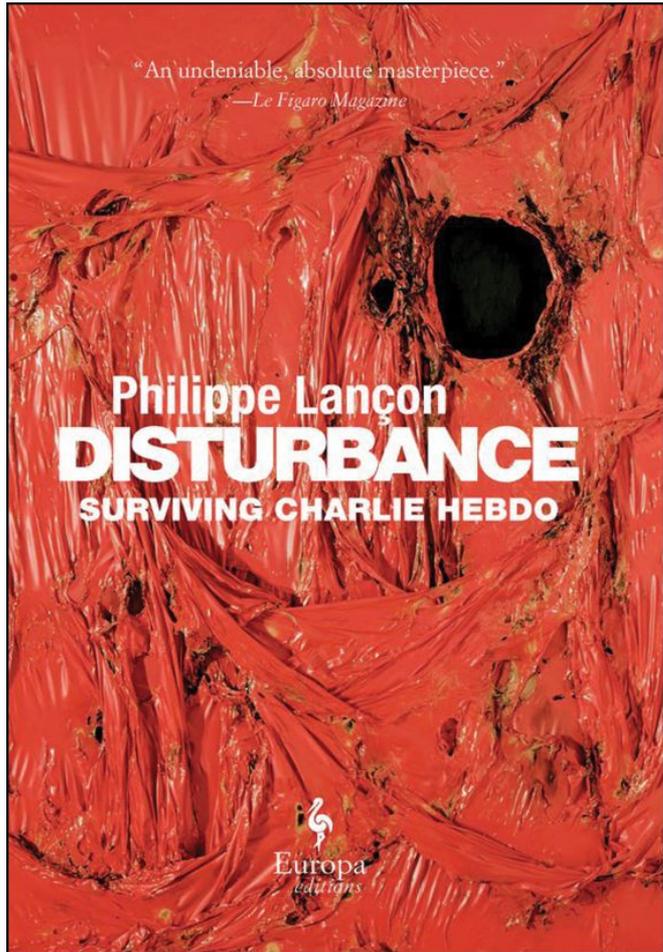
British historian and journalist, Visiting Professor at the Department of War Studies at King's College London, Mertz Visiting Research Fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University, and Lehrman Institute Distinguished Lecturer at the New York Historical Society

Penguin Books/Viking Press, 2018

Recommended by Ian Johnson, P. J. Moran Family Assistant Professor of Military History and Navovic Faculty Fellow

One of the Best Books of 2018 (The Economist, The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal)

When we seek an example of great leaders with unalloyed courage, one person who comes to mind is Winston Churchill: the iconic, visionary war leader immune from the consensus of the day, who stood firmly for his beliefs when everyone doubted him. But how did young Winston become Churchill? What gave him the strength to take on the superior force of Nazi Germany when bombs rained on London and so many others had caved? In *Churchill*, Andrew Roberts gives readers the full and definitive Winston Churchill, from birth to lasting legacy, as personally revealing as it is compulsively readable. Roberts gained exclusive access to extensive new material: transcripts of War Cabinet meetings, diaries, letters, and unpublished memoirs from Churchill's contemporaries. The Royal Family permitted Roberts—in a first for a Churchill biographer—to read the detailed notes taken by King George VI in his diary after his weekly meetings with Churchill during World War II. This treasure trove of access allows Roberts to understand the man in revelatory new ways, and to identify the hidden forces fueling Churchill's legendary drive. We think of Churchill as a hero who saved civilization from the evils of Nazism and warned of the grave crimes of Soviet communism, but Roberts's masterwork reveals that he has as much to teach us about the challenges leaders face today—and the fundamental values of courage, tenacity, leadership and moral conviction.



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Disturbance: Surviving Charlie Hebdo

by Philippe Lançon

Journalist, author, and weekly contributor to *Charlie Hebdo*

Europa Editions, 2019

The Italian translation of the book (*La traversata*) was recommended by Roberto Goisis in his article [“Surviving Coronavirus”](#); the article was translated by Ingrid Rowland, Professor in the Department of History and School of Architecture and Nanovic Faculty Fellow

Winner of the Prix Femina, Prix du Roman News, and Prix Renaudot Jury's Special Prize; A 2019 Best Book of the Year (*Evening Standard*, *Lit Hub*, *New Statesman*)

Paris, January 7, 2015. Two terrorists who claim allegiance to ISIS attack the satirical weekly *Charlie Hebdo*. The event causes untold pain to the victims and their families, prompts a global solidarity movement, and ignites a fierce debate over press freedoms and the role of satire today. Philippe Lançon, a journalist, author, and a weekly contributor to *Charlie Hebdo* is gravely wounded in the attack. This intense life experience upends his relationship to the world, to writing, to reading, to love and to friendship. As he attempts to reconstruct his life on the page, Lançon rereads Proust, Thomas Mann, Kafka, and others in search of guidance. It is a year before he can return to writing, a year in which he learns to work through his experiences and their aftermath. *Disturbance* is not an essay on terrorism nor is it a witness's account of Charlie Hebdo. The attack and what followed are part of Lançon's narrative, which, instead, touches upon the universal. It is an honest, intimate account of a man seeking to put his life back together after it has been torn apart. *Disturbance* is a book about survival, resilience, and reconstruction, about transformation, about one man's shifting relationship to time, to writing and journalism, to truth, and to his own body.



map men

TRANSNATIONAL LIVES AND DEATHS
OF GEOGRAPHERS IN THE
MAKING OF EAST CENTRAL EUROPE

steven seegel

E-Book Available
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Map Men: Transnational Lives and Deaths of Geographers in the Making of East Central Europe

Book by Steven Seegel

Professor of History, University of Northern Colorado

University of Chicago Press, 2018

Recommended by Clemens Sedmak, *Professor of Social Ethics and Interim Director of the Nanovic Institute*

More than just colorful clickbait or pragmatic city grids, maps are often deeply emotional tales: of political projects gone wrong, budding relationships that failed, and countries that vanished. In *Map Men*, Steven Seegel takes us through some of these historical dramas with a detailed look at the maps that made and unmade the world of East Central Europe through a long continuum of world war and revolution. As a collective biography of five prominent geographers between 1870 and 1950—Albrecht Penck, Eugeniusz Romer, Stepan Rudnyts'kyi, Isaiah Bowman, and Count Pál Teleki—*Map Men* reexamines the deep emotions, textures of friendship, and multigenerational sagas behind these influential maps. Taking us deep into cartographical archives, Seegel re-creates the public and private worlds of these five mapmakers, who interacted with and influenced one another even as they played key roles in defining and redefining borders, territories, nations—and, ultimately, the interconnection of the world through two world wars. Throughout, he examines the transnational nature of these processes and addresses weighty questions about the causes and consequences of the world wars, the rise of Nazism and Stalinism, and the reasons East Central Europe became the fault line of these world-changing developments. At a time when East Central Europe has surged back into geopolitical consciousness, *Map Men* offers a timely and important look at the historical origins of how the region was defined—and the key people who helped define it.