

ATHENÆUM BOOKSHELF

September 2009
(Books purchased for August 2009)

FEATURED SELECTIONS

AMERICAN PASSAGE

VINCENT J. CANNATO

Cannato brings our nation's mythology to life with the history of Ellis Island. Once a destination for doomed pirates, it transformed in the late 19th century to become known as the entrance to America. With dramatic and bittersweet accounts from immigrants and officials alike, this often heart-wrenching epic provides readers with a first hand look at our ancestors' struggles to start anew. 487pp., illus.

ART, ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN

CONCRETE REVERIES

MARK KINGWELL

A playful and lyrical look at how we occupy city space and why place is so important to who we are; from ordinary family homes to modern airports, Kingwell investigates how we interact with our surroundings. 292pp., illus.

PHILIP JOHNSON: THE CONSTANCY OF CHANGE

EDITED BY Emmanuel Petit

The first in-depth study of Johnson's architectural career following his death. 278pp., illus.

BIOGRAPHY

AGENT ZIGZAG

BEN MACINTYRE

Eddie Chapman was a charming criminal and conman, as well as a double agent for Britain. Allegedly working for Germany during WWII, Chapman was actually crisscrossing Europe gathering intelligence for the Allies. Macintyre uses recently declassified files to compile his compelling biography on Agent Zigzag; a con artist, philanderer, a dutiful agent. 364pp., illus.

DANCING TO THE PRECIPICE

CAROLINE MOOREHEAD

A compelling biography of Lucie de la Tour du Pin, an eminent chronicler in an era that encompassed the lavishness of Marie Antoinette to the violent rise and fall of Napoleon. 480pp., illus.

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE: THE MAKING OF AN ICON

MARK BOSTRIDGE

Bostridge's exquisitely detailed inquiry into the life of the pacifist and feminist public health pioneer. 672pp.

HISTORY & POLITICS

AMERICAN PASSAGE

VINCENT J. CANNATO

The masterfully illuminated story of Ellis Island during one of the greatest mass immigrations ever; includes accounts of immigrants, officials, interpreters, and social reformers. 487pp., illus.

THE BROTHER GARDENERS

In the 18th century, an American farmer mailed native seeds to London and formed a friendship with a British botanist who cultivated and radically changed the British landscape with new American plants. 354pp., illus.

ANDREA WULF**THE DEATH OF CAPTAIN COOK: A HERO MADE AND UNMADE**

The author examines the widely varying accounts of the death of the British explorer in the Hawaiian Islands in 1780, in a style more akin to a detective novel than an historical compilation. 197pp., illus.

GLYN WILLIAMS**DIGGING IN THE CITY OF BROTHERLY LOVE**

Yamin, an urban archaeologist, takes readers through a series of excavations that unearth new discoveries regarding life in the 18th and 19th centuries in Philadelphia. 239pp., illus.

REBECCA YAMIN**THE ILLUSTRIOUS DEAD**

Napoleon was at the peak of his reign when he began his quest for Russia in 1812 and it seemed nothing could agitate his militant empire. However, his troops began to drop like flies as, unbeknownst to Napoleon and his frantic doctors, typhus had taken hold of the battlefield; a look into the pathogen's origins and its disastrous effects on Napoleon's empire. 315pp., illus.

STEPHAN TALTY**KNICKERBOCKER**

Interesting perspective on Washington Irving's early 19th century satiric character Diedrich Knickerbocker and Knickerbocker's belief that everything good, powerful, and proud in New York City could be traced to New Amsterdam. 191pp.

ELIZABETH L. BRADLEY**MILE-HIGH FEVER**

A vivid portrait of Comstock Lode, the silver mines in Nevada. Drabelle provide insight into the American West and the mine's benefits as well as some of the more tragic consequences. 282pp.

DENNIS DRABELLE**MISCELLANEOUS****BUILDING A HOME WITH MY HUSBAND**

Simon takes readers on an intimate journey as she renovates her home with her husband. Through design sketches to the last stroke of paint, she assesses the various stages of her life and begins a new sort of renovation. 257pp.

RACHEL SIMON**NUTS!**

A trip inside Southwest Airlines' incredible success through unorthodox business strategies and unusual ideas. 364pp., illus.

KEVIN AND JACKIE FREIBERG****TRAVEL****FODOR'S EGYPT**

A modern guide to the ancient cities. 377pp., illus. *

FROMMER'S GREECE

A guide with a native's input and advice for traveling. 692pp., illus. *

BACKROADS AND BYWAYS OF NEW MEXICO	*
Follow Moore through hidden canyons and quiet trails; complete with packaged day trips and weekend getaways.	237pp., illus.
INSIGHT GUIDES NEW MEXICO	*
Maps, museums, and top attractions.	353pp., illus.
OMAN, U.A.E., AND ARABIAN PENINSULA	*
More off-the-beaten-track U.A.E. information than any other guide.	596pp., illus.
OPEN ROAD'S BEST OF PARIS	*
Numerous excursions for a traveler's realistic time-frame.	232pp., illus.
RICK STEVES' PARIS 2007	*
The notorious guidebook for the most romantic city in the world.	582pp., illus.
FODOR'S SINGAPORE	*
A guide to wildlife, shopping, and native culture.	191pp., illus.

FICTION

APPASSIONATA	EVA HOFFMAN
A contemporary story of love and conflict between a renowned concert pianist and a political exile.	265pp.
CHORAL SOCIETY	PRUE LEITH
Three women in various stages of their marriages team up after meeting in a choir and decide to open a spa from the decrepit remains of an old Cornish hotel. They embark on a journey to confront their individual demons and learn a little something about life along the way.	313pp.
THE DEFECTOR	DANIEL SILVA+
Gabriel Allon is trying to enjoy his honeymoon after the conclusion of <i>Moscow Rules</i> when he learns the Russian spy who saved his life has vanished and is accused of being a double agent. Allon and his operatives are pitted against a violent arms dealer in an attempt to clear his friend's soiled name and keep him out of harm's way.	469pp.
EVEN	ANDREW GRANT
David Trevelyan is framed for a homeless man's murder; a modern-day James Bond, he takes matters into his own hands in order to redeem himself.	341pp.
THE GENESIS SECRET	TOM KNOX
A war reporter is sent to an archaeological dig after the oldest human civilization, the birthplace of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, is uncovered while a Scotland Yard detective is dealing with a handful of gruesome and possibly mystical murders.	369pp.

THE GIRL WHO PLAYED WITH FIRE**STIEG LARSSON**

Mikael Blomkist, the crusading journalist from *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*, is about to publish an incriminating story regarding the Swedish sex trade when two reporters are murdered and the primary suspect is Blomkist's old friend Lisbeth Salander, who must revisit her dark past to save herself. 503pp.

THE IGNORANCE OF BLOOD**ROBERT WILSON**

The final installment of the Javier Falcon murder mysteries features the Inspector in the middle of an international conspiracy while he struggles with personal and professional issues; set in Seville, Spain. 422pp.

JERICHO'S FALL**STEPHEN L. CARTER+**

A former head of the CIA is on his deathbed when he summons the woman he threw his career away for years ago; instead of saying goodbye she is drawn into an explosive battle over a formidable secret coveted by governments and powerful corporations alike. 355pp.

NEMESIS**JO NESBØ**

Police Detective Harry Hole's old flame is murdered the day after they reunite while his girlfriend is away, making him the number one suspect. 474pp., map.

RED ROVER**SUSAN STEWART**

In her most recent collection, National Book Critics Circle Award winning poet Susan Stewart discusses the simple beauty of the past, the paradoxes of the present, and the divergent choices of the future. 105pp.

A RELIABLE WIFE**ROBERT GOOLRICK**

A pious young woman moves to the country to be with a stranger after responding to his ad in the paper. However, she is not what she seems and there are darker motives at hand. 291pp.

THE WALKING PEOPLE**MARY BETH KEANE**

A young Irish woman runs away to America to prove herself and struggles for fifty years to keep her past separate and hidden from her close-knit family. 392pp.

WANTING**RICHARD FLANAGAN**

A novel set in mid-19th century South Pacific, studying the effects of tragedy and desire on all people, whether "civilized" or not. 252pp.

AUDIOBOOKS**ROAD DOGS****ELMORE LEONARD*****

An inmate serving a thirty year sentence meets a wealthy Cuban criminal who reduces his sentence and while waiting for his friend to be released, this former prisoner meets up with the man's wife who happens to have an extortion plan in mind for her detained husband. This story begs the question; who can one really trust? 6cds

DETECTIVES

ALL THE DEAD VOICES

DECLAN HUGHES

Three separate men are suspected of killing a woman's father fifteen years ago and Dublin PI Ed Loy is on the case. However, he is simultaneously investigating a dead soccer star with connections to one of the suspects. 311pp.

BREAKING FAITH

ANNA BLUNDY

War correspondent Faith Zanetti is studying an old airplane bombing when the truth begins to hit too close to home. 275pp.

GET REAL

DONALD E. WESTLAKE+

Seasoned crook John Dortmund is planning another job when a reality show decides to push the limits and follow the gang as they embark on another one of their comical debacles. 278pp.

LIVING WITNESS

JANE HADDAM

A stubborn elderly woman is found beaten to the brink of death in a small town torn over an educational debate and Gregor Demarkian is called in as an unbiased investigator. 391pp.

THE LORD OF DEATH

ELIOT PATTISON

An exiled man witnesses the shooting of two women and must find the killer in order to save his son from a horrible fate in a ruthless Chinese prison. 314pp.

MORTAL FRIENDS

JANE STANTON HITCHCOCK

Set in the wealthy glamour of the nation's capital, a serial killer disturbs the socialites and brings an out of place detective to a young woman's doorstep. 334pp.

PAPER BUTTERFLY

DIANE WEI LIANG

Private detective Mei Lang must find a missing starlet in China's capital city while an enraged, and recently freed, labor camp detainee is looking for something of his own. 227pp.

THE SEPTEMBER SOCIETY

CHARLES FINCH

Set in 1866, a student at Oxford disappears and Detective Charles Lenox discovers bizarre clues referring to an unknown group, the September Society, which is quickly implicated in murder. 310pp.

WHISPERS OF THE DEAD

SIMON BECKETT

British doctor David Hunter is thrust into his first U.S. murder investigation after a horribly decomposed body is discovered in a remote cabin in Tennessee, but the evidence shows the crime is too methodical to be amateur and it appears a very intelligent serial killer is on the loose. 307pp.

+ McNAUGHTON RENTAL

* Gift of Rev. J. Michael Pulsifer

** Gift of National History Day

***Gift of Lorraine J. Zwolak, Esq.

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