

# Continuing Diversity: A Column of Periodical Reviews

By Renee Rude

Several new or special-issue serials for academic libraries are reviewed in this installment of "Continuing Diversity." They include not only regular serial publications but also multivolume series.

## **Women's History in Global Perspective, Volume**

**1.** ISBN 0-252-02931-3 (cl); 0-252-07183-2 (pb). Vol. 1, October 2004. Editor: Bonnie G. Smith. Managing Editor: Danielle Wilberg. Publisher: University of Illinois Press, 1325 South Oak St., Champaign, IL 61820-6903; (217) 244-4689; e-mail: [dwilberg@uillinois.edu](mailto:dwilberg@uillinois.edu); web site: [www.press.illinois.edu](http://www.press.illinois.edu). Published with the American Historical Association. Each vol.: \$45.00 (cl); \$22.00 (pb).

Editor Smith begins her seven-page introduction with "This volume, and the two that follow it, testify to an exciting new stage in teaching women's and gender history: the development of a global perspective on the past." She goes on to state, "Several classroom uses are intended for this volume and those that follow—and we stress again the practical intent of these overviews." The second and third volumes in the series were published in fall 2005.

Margaret Strobel and Marjorie Bingham contribute "The Theory and Practice of Women's History and Gender History in Global Perspective," an excellent overview to precede the more specialized articles that make up this volume. Among those articles are "Family History as World History," by Ann B. Waltner and Mary Jo Maynes; "Exemplary Women and Sacred Journeys: Women and Gender in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam from Late Antiquity to the Eve of Modernity," by Julia Clancy Smith; Alice Kessler-Harris's "Gender and Work: Possibilities for a Global, Historical Overview;" and "Race and Ethnicity in Women's and Gender History in Global Perspective," by Pamela A. Scully. Two other selections on gender, national identity, and feminism, comparing societies around the world, complete this weighty volume. Paragraphs about the contributors, which list their other works, follow the text; there is also a comprehensive index.

## **Journal of GLBT Family Studies: Innovations in Theory, Research, and Practice.**

ISSN 1550-428X. Volume 1, Number 1, Spring 2005. Editor: Jeffrey J. Bigner. Associate Editor: Joseph L. Wetchler. Publisher: Haworth Press/Harrington Park Press, 10 Alice St., Binghamton, NY 13904; (800) 429-6784; web site: [www.haworthpress.com/web/GLBTF](http://www.haworthpress.com/web/GLBTF). Quarterly. Subscriptions: \$38.00 (individuals); \$80.00 (institutions); \$350.00 (libraries).

The Editor's Note states, "The new journal is essentially

formalizing a new branch of the field of family studies by focusing exclusively on GLBT (Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender) family issues." Contents include "A Process of Change: The Intersection of the GLBT Individual and Their Family of Origin," by Colleen M. Connolly; "Same Sex Marriage and Legalized Relationships: I Do, or Do I?" by Esther D. Rothblum; and "Sex, Drugs, Rock 'n' Roll...and Children: Redefining Male Couples in the 21st Century," by David E. Greenan and Gil Tunnell.

At a time when same-sex marriage and adoption of children by same-sex couples have become cultural and political flashpoints in the United States (while same-sex marriage has been legalized in Canada and three other countries), this journal is especially timely. Sympathetic to the cause of marriage equality and human rights, the articles nevertheless offer thorough and objective considerations of the issues facing GLBT youth, GLBT parents, and same-sex couples and their dependent children. Thus, the journal is of interest not only to scholars and GLBT individuals, but also to teachers and others who work with GLBT teens or children of GLBT parents.

**New England Review.** Volume 25, Numbers 1 & 2, 2004. Editor: Stephen Donadio. Managing Editor: Carolyn Kuebler. Publisher: Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT 05753; (802) 443-5075 / (800) 450-9571; e-mail [NEReview@middlebury.edu](mailto:NEReview@middlebury.edu); web site: <http://cat.middlebury.edu/~nereview>. Quarterly. Subscriptions: \$25.00; single issues \$6.00.

The press release that announced this special issue of *New England Review* on translation stated, "This issue contains the exceptional array of contemporary poems, stories, and in addition, probing essays on ideas of translation and on the process of translation itself." Contents include the confessions of medieval monk and scholar Peter Abelard, translated from Latin by William Levitan with Debra Nails; a haunting fable written in 1939 by Polish author Witold Gombrowicz (translation: Bill Johnston); psalms by twentieth-century French mystic



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poet Patrice de la Tour du Pin (translation: Jennifer Grotz); and Mark Harman's biographical essay on Kafka and the missing doll letters. Vladimir Jabotinsky, the Russian-born Zionist best known for the formation of Jewish fighting brigades in both world wars (brigades that after his death in 1940 became the militant Irgun), has a short story entitled "What Is Permitted?" in the volume, translated from Russian by Michael R. Katz.

Much of the work in this issue appears for the first time in English; the original texts were written in French, Italian, German, Latin, Spanish, Russian, Polish, Portuguese, Danish, and Urdu. Two poems written in prison by Pakistani poet Faiz Ahmed Faiz (translated from Urdu by Ted Genoways) are followed by new fiction in English by authors Joann Kobin, Peter LaSalle, Glen Pourciau, Trudy Lewis, and Mark Wisniewski. Several of these new stories depict cross-cultural and cross-linguistic experiences.

In his introduction to the double volume, editor Donadio writes, "For if any language in which people form their thoughts may be understood to be a comprehensive account of experience, then the need for translation arises from our undeniable awareness of the insufficiency of the terms available to each of us...in the end, each must look to others to capture what its own particular account of the range of human possibilities has managed to leave out."

Representing many genres—poetry, fiction, memoir, biographical essay, and criticism—these compositions span almost a thousand years, from the Middle Ages to the present. The introduction and the vast variety of contributions that make up this volume raise important questions. Have we been sufficiently patient with those who speak differently from us? Have we allowed everyone enough time for their authentic voice to be heard in this cacophony of voices? All progressive souls, in all professions, must display honest effort to this effect.

***Radical History Review: Transnational Black***

***Studies***. ISSN 0163-6545. Issue 87, 2004. Issue Editors: Lisa Brock, Robin D. G. Kelley, and Karen Sotiropoulos. Managing Editor: George Derek Musgrove. Publisher: Duke University Press, 905 W. Main St., Suite 18B, Durham, NC 27701. (919) 687-3602. Editorial and Book Review Office: Tamiment Library, New York University, 70 Washington Square South, 10th Floor, New York, NY 10012; (212) 998-2632; e-mail: rhr@igc.org; web site: <http://chnm.gmu.edu/rhr/>. Published three times a year. Subscriptions: \$99.00 (institutions); \$89.00 (electronic version only for institutions); \$35.00 (individuals); \$22.00 (students with valid ID).

Established in 1982, *Radical History Review* publishes three issues a year, with scholarly articles on topics of class, race, gender, ethnicity, labor, globalization, and social movements from a leftist perspective. Most of the issues address specific themes. The most recent, for example, is entitled "Another World Was Possible: A Century of Movements," and others published in the past several years

address radical methodologies for global history and Latin American political and cultural history.

With its esteemed editors and contributors and breadth of coverage, the special issue "Transnational Black Studies" is one of the more interesting to appear in recent years. An introductory essay by Martha Biondi traces the history of the reparations movement. Four feature articles highlight Afro-Cuban and African-American interaction in the 1930s and the 1940s, at a time of extensive cultural cross-fertilization; Zora Neale Hurston's Caribbean ethnography during the same period; gender and sexuality in U.S.-occupied Trinidad; and Blacks in cyberspace. Most issues of *Radical History Review* contain an interview, but this one offers two, with poet/essayist Amiri Baraka and current head of TransAfrica Bill Fletcher, Jr.

One of the highlights of this journal is its emphasis on teaching. The feature articles explore theoretical concepts and often obscure events, but each issue contains a section entitled "Teaching Radical History" that helps college and university instructors to communicate these ideas and develop curricula and lessons of interest to students. Douglas M. Haynes has an article entitled "Teaching Twentieth-Century Black Britain," and Anthony Bogues explores the classroom possibilities for radical African intellectual history.

The section "Directions in Research" addresses diverse areas that scholars have yet to explore; here Africans in the Middle East and India, the changing borders of Black political space, and the origins of the musical genre ska. Reviews of two books round out this very full issue. *Radical History Review* is indexed in *America: History and Life*; *Historical Abstracts*; *Social Science Citation Index*; *Left Index*; *Book Review Index*; *Current Contents*; *New Periodicals Index*; *Alternative Press Index*; and *Sociological Abstracts*. 