

Columbus State University Press

About

History



Columbus State University
PRESS

The Donald L. Jordan Endowment was established in 2016, in part, to facilitate the formation of Columbus State University Press, which was officially formed in 2021. CSU Press is pleased to recognize Mr. Jordan as the founder of the press, which serves as the publishing venue for the Donald L. Jordan Prize for Literary Excellence, and DLJ Books has been installed as a permanent imprint at the press. Mr. Jordan's foresight made CSU Press a reality, and we are grateful for his generosity. Mr. Jordan passed away on May 15, 2023 after a very successful business career. The author of literary novels, short stories, and works of non-fiction, he was also particularly interested in helping other writers attain publication.

Mission

The mission of the CSU Press is to support and enhance the University's reputation as a national and globally connected institution by publishing judged or peer-reviewed creative and scholarly works from a diverse body of authors. In addition to publishing work by writers from across the nation or from other countries, the press is also deeply interested in publishing titles about our state and the Southern region.

Contact Information

Phone: 706-565-1200

Email: csupress@columbusstate.edu

Board Members

Travis Chambers

Goodwill Industries of the Southern Rivers

Alan Harkness

Director, Chattahoochee Valley Libraries

Sandra Okamoto

Retired, Columbus Ledger TV Book Editor and Arts Writer

Melissa Pritchard

Author, Professor Emeritus, Arizona State University

Tyler Townsend

Managing Partner, Townsend Wealth Management

Internships

Internships for those interested in learning about publishing are available for CSU undergraduates in the English Department and for other students. Assignments are usually made in the fall.

Interns for 2025/2026

Ivory Alexander
Alana Armor
Lennox Dodd
Savannah McGill
Emma Silverstein
Lauren Vanhorn

Partners

- [The University of Georgia Press](#)
- [CSU English Department](#)
- [Carson McCullers Center](#)

Useful Links

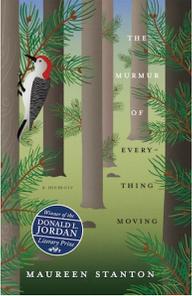
- [Bo Bartlett Center](#)
- [Ma Rainey Museum](#)
- [Visit Columbus](#)
- [The Columbusite](#)
- [Georgia Center for the Book](#)
- [Margaret Mitchell House](#)
- [Association of University Presses](#)
- [Poets & Writers](#)
- [Associated Writing Programs](#)
- [Indie Bound](#)
- [Digital Library of Georgia](#)

Our Books

Published March 15, 2025: *The Murmur of Everything Moving* by Maureen Stanton

Maureen Stanton's *The Murmur of Everything Moving*, a superb memoir won the 2024 Donald L. Jordan Prize for Literary Excellence.

Maureen Stanton's memoir, *The Murmur of Everything Moving* shares with readers the most sincere and bravest of love stories. Stanton brings us back to a fateful time in her twenties, when life was filled with aspirations and dreams, until her passionate relationship with Steve, a hard-working electrician and recent divorcee, is intruded upon by serious illness. From there we are led into a finely-wrought exploration of devotion and hope, leaving us to wonder who we are ourselves as family members and caregivers.



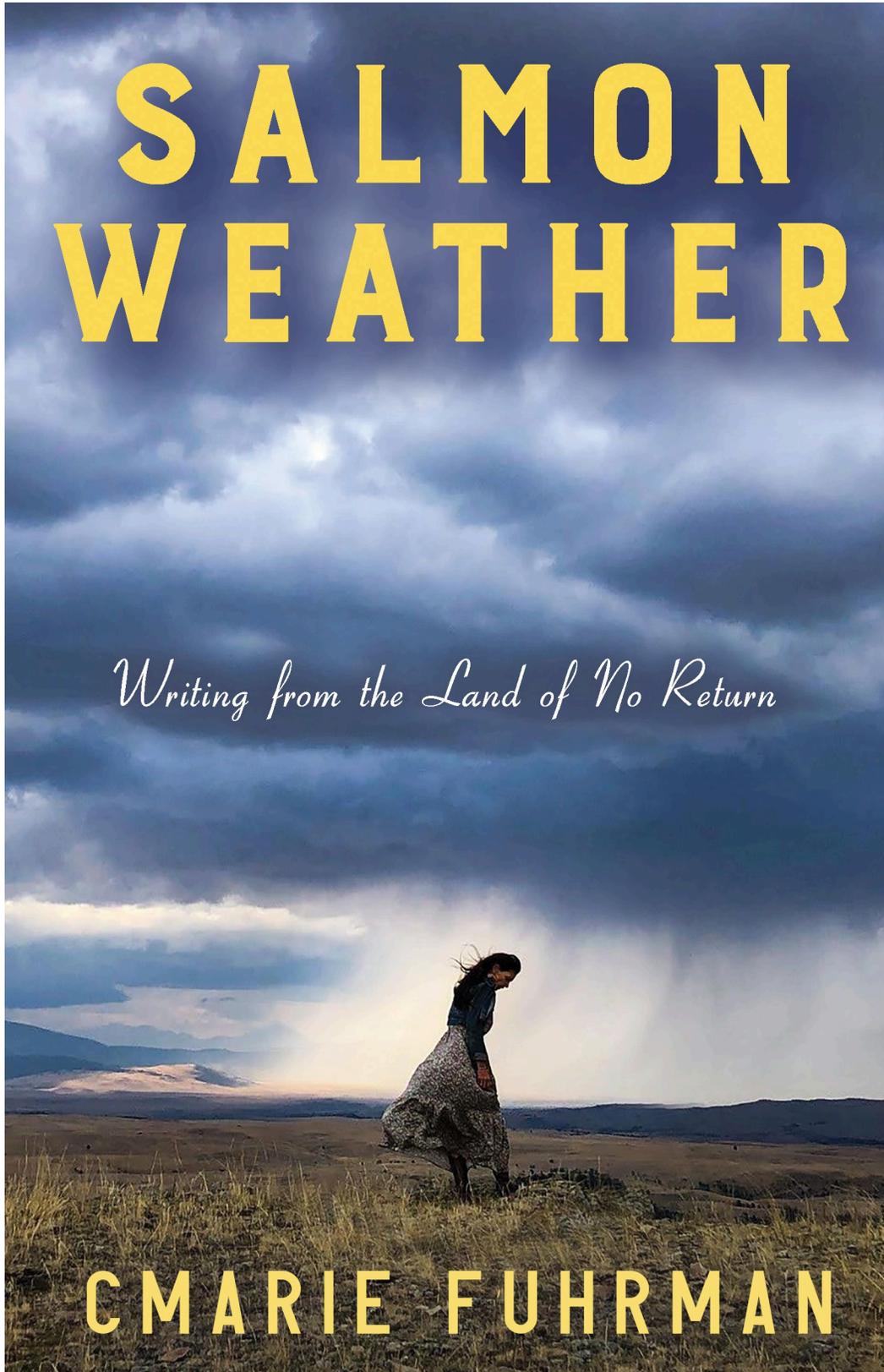
Murmur of Everything Moving by Maureen Stanton

Published March 15, 2025: *Salmon Weather: Writing From the Land of No Return* by CMarie Fuhrman

The

CMarie Fuhrman's *Salmon Weather: Writing From the Land of No Return* is the second title in The Nature Series at DLJ Books.

CMarie Fuhrman's *Salmon Weather: Writing From the Land of No Return* invites readers on a journey of introspection and connection through lyrical prose and intimate stories from the heart of Idaho's Salmon River Mountains and other rural landscapes of the West. Drawing on a lifetime of witnessing the rhythms and transformations of these lands, Fuhrman invokes themes of grief and healing; explores the land's complicated history, her struggle to find peace after the drowning of her husband, and shares her deep connection to nature. Her essays remind us of the urgency of protecting these landscapes and the enduring power of love in the face of loss.



Writing from the Land of No Return

CMARIE FUHRMAN

Weather by CMarie Fuhrman

Salmon

Published November 21, 2024: *Cartographic America* by David Owings and Eric Spears.

Cartographic America, selections from the J. Kyle Spencer Map Collection, charts nearly three hundred years of American historical geography from the late 1500s to the late 1800s. It uses the unique J. Kyle Spencer Map Collection at Columbus State University in Columbus, Georgia, as a lens to illuminate some of the most pivotal years of American history. Housed in the Columbus State University Archives and Special Collections, the collection contains over one hundred antiquarian maps, of which approximately fifty are featured in this book. The Spencer Map Collection documents the emergence and evolutions of the American colonies, specifically Georgia, and the formation of the United States as a whole, ranging from the late 1500s to the late 1800s. Each of the maps has its own incredible story, and as such, this book strives to contextualize each in its original historical time period, providing readers a unique way to discover and revisit the past.

Cartographic America

Selections from the J. Kyle Spencer Map Collection



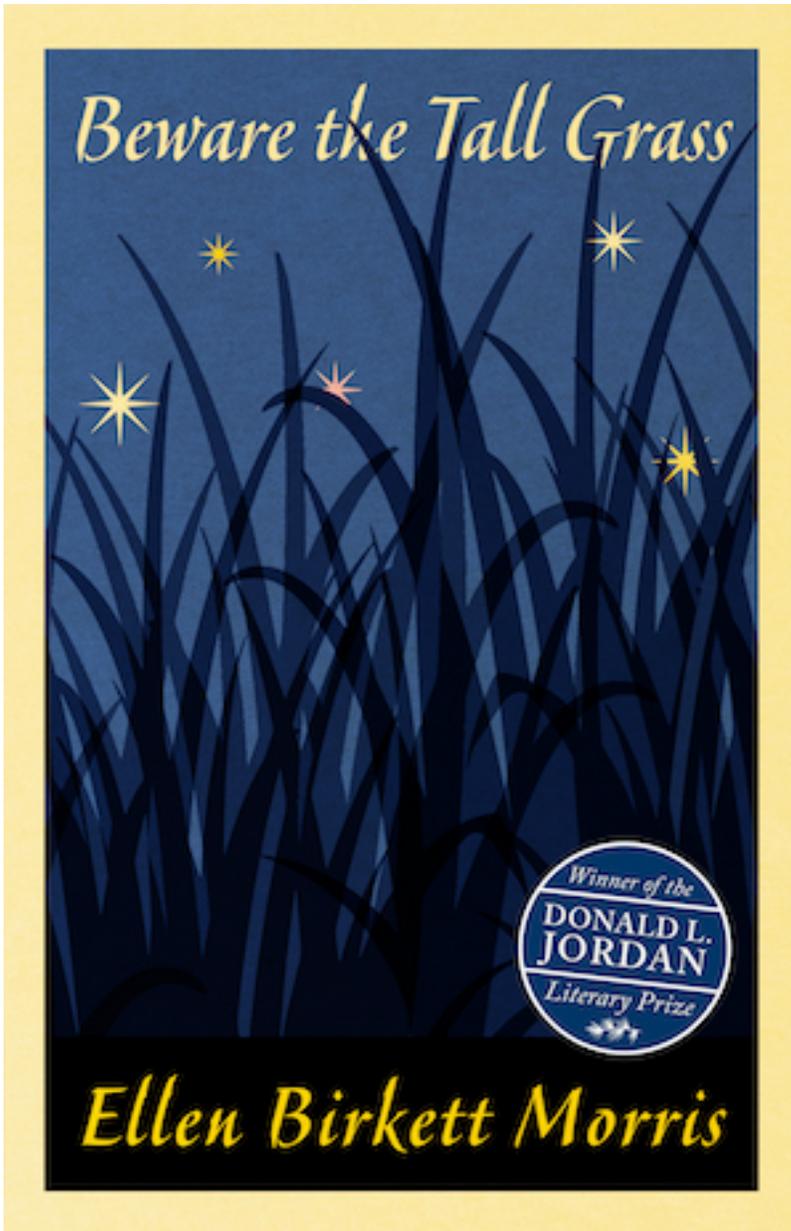
America by David Owings and Eric Spears

Published March 15, 2024: ***Beware the Tall Grass*** by Ellen Birkett Morris

Beware the Tall Grass won the 2023 Donald L. Jordan Prize for Literary Excellence.

Beware the Tall Grass weaves the stories of the Sloans, a modern family struggling with their young son Charlie's troubling memories of a past life as a soldier in Vietnam, and Thomas Boone, a young man caught up in the drama of mid-sixties America who is sent to Vietnam. Eve Sloan struggles as a mother to make sense of Charlie's increasing

references to war, and her attempts to get to the bottom of Charlie's past life memories threaten her marriage, while Thomas struggles with loss and first love, before being thrust into combat and learning what matters most. *Beware the Tall Grass* explores the power of love and mercy with grace and artful sensitivity in a world where circumstances often occur far beyond our control.



the Tall Grass by Ellen Birkett Morris

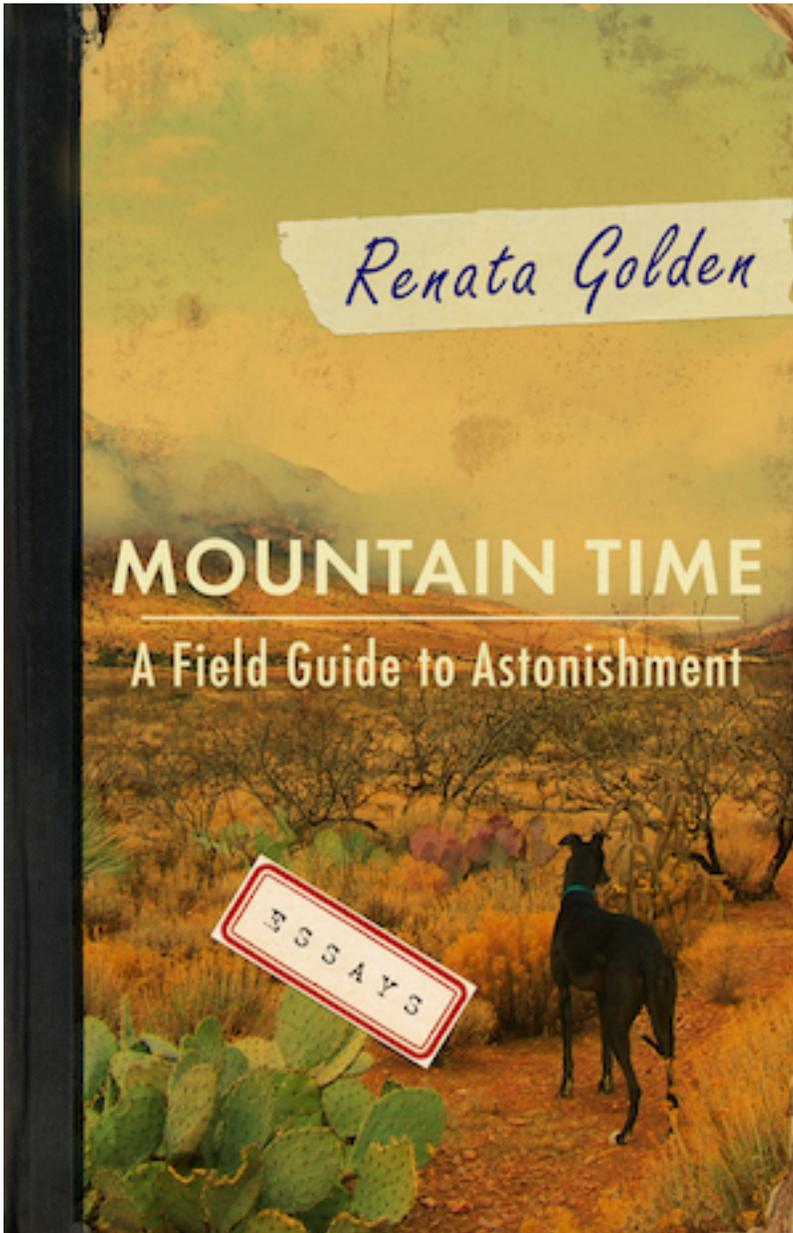
Published March 15, 2024: *Mountain Time: A Field Guide to Astonishment*, by Renata Golden.

Renata Golden's *Mountain Time: A Field Guide to Astonishment* was the inaugural title for DLJ Books' The Nature Series.

Mountain Time: A Field Guide to Astonishment brings us close to the Chiricahua Mountains and explores the fascinating lives of humans and other creatures. These finely crafted essays focus on our need to be attentive in heart and mind, and to ponder natural sites on broader scopes, confronting migration, extinction, land ownership, and who we are at this crucial juncture in history. As Golden shares her personal and ethical challenges in a harsh and isolated environment,

Beware

lessons are evoked on the borders of Arizona, New Mexico, and Mexico. This is essential reading for those who seek to know more about “thin” places, helping us to better understand our place in an increasingly fragile world.



Time: A Field Guide to Astonishment by Renata Golden

***While It Lasts* by Scott Nadelson**

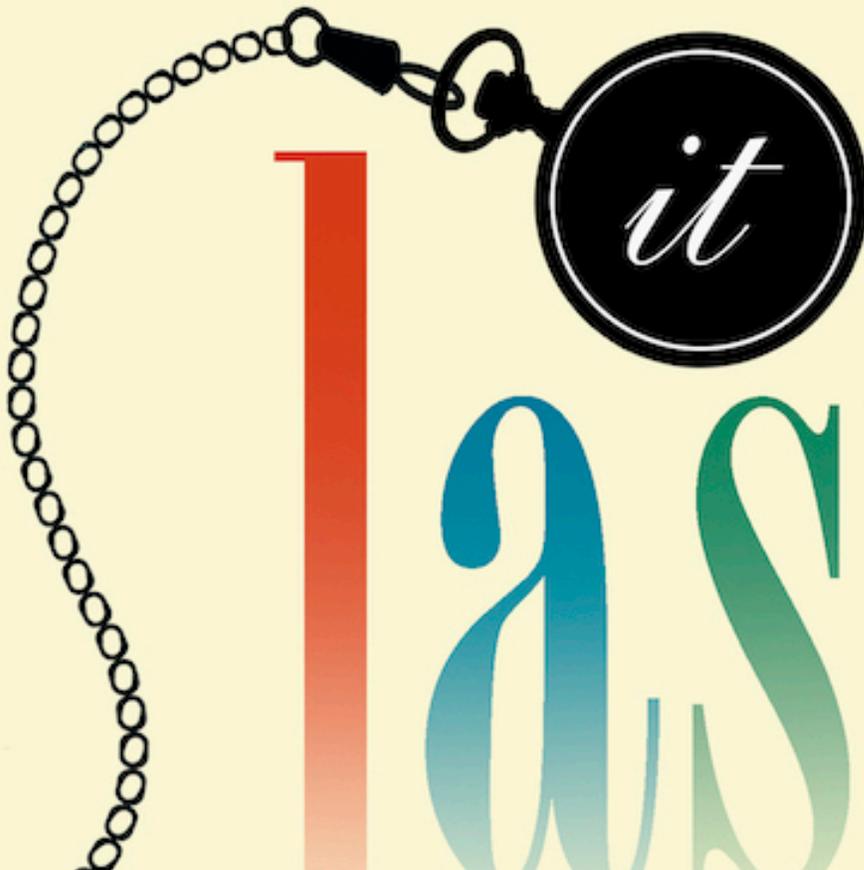
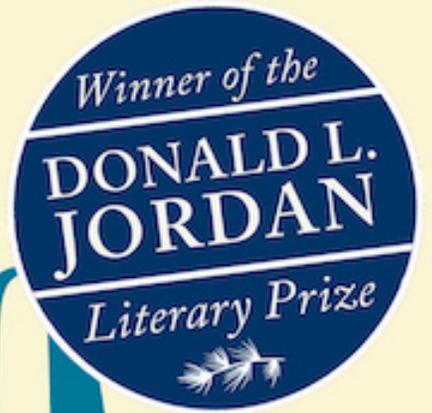
CSU Press’s second publication is Scott Nadelson’s short story collection, *While It Lasts*, which won the Donald L. Jordan Prize for Literary Excellence in 2022. The publication date is March 15, 2023

This award-winning short story collection brings us moments of tenuousness, in which characters seek out or struggle to hold on to what’s most precious in the face of change and loss. The stories take us from suburban New Jersey to prewar Vienna to Western Oregon, chronicling the lives of, among others, a suburban teenage boy taking revenge with a stolen Revolutionary War bayonet; a woman adrift, literally and figuratively, amid a workplace affair; a nearly forgotten and destitute musician attempting to reclaim his creative spark; and a young Mark Rothko finding his way after several

early failures. *While It Lasts* speaks to how we are all bound by limited time to achieve what we must despite our own knowledge of how everything is fleeting.

SCOTT NADELSON

While



casts

***Close-Up* by Michelle Herman**

CSU Press's first publication is Michelle Herman's novel *Close-Up*, which won the Donald L. Jordan Prize for Literary Excellence in 2020. The publication date is March 15, 2022.

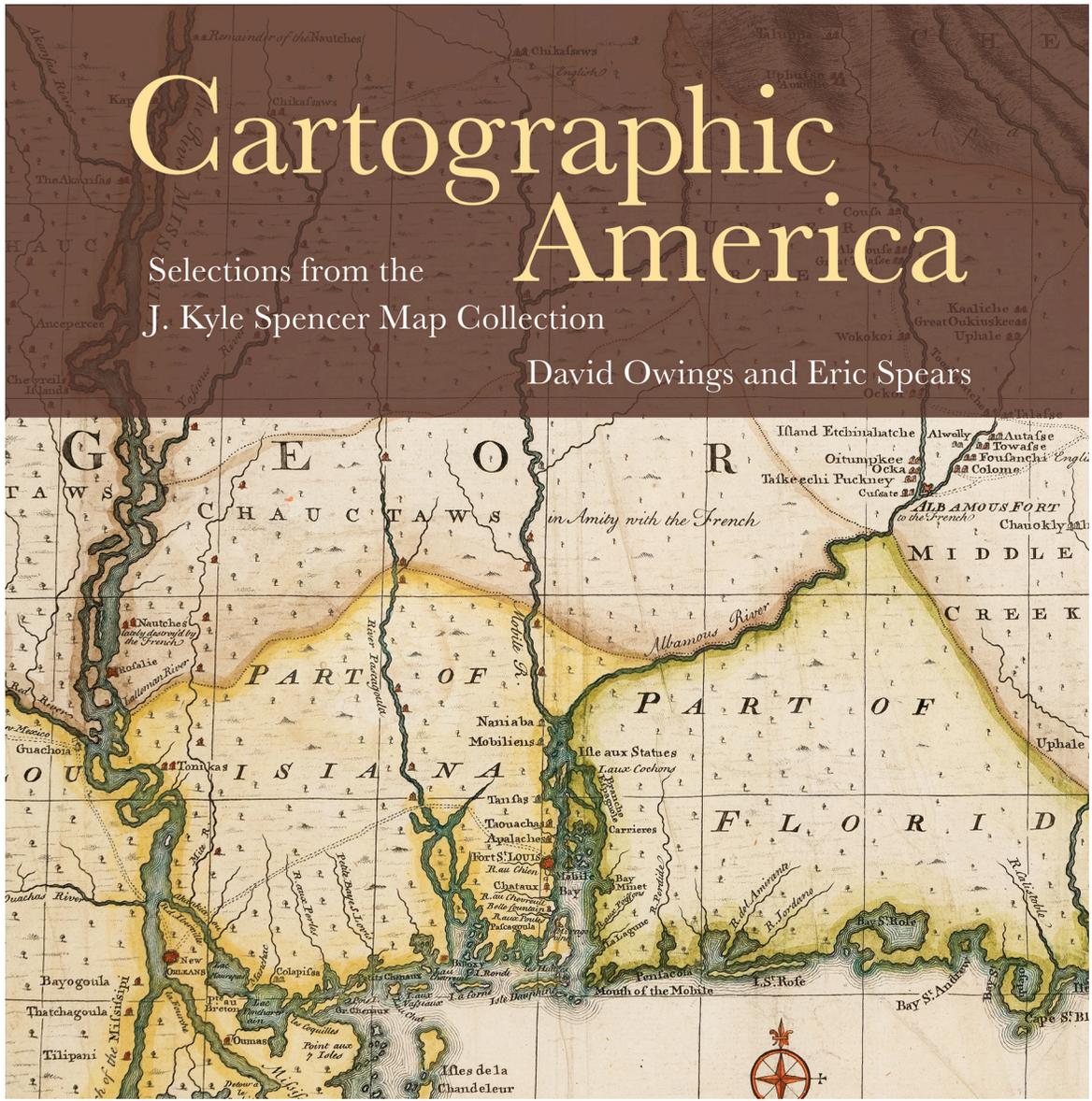
Close-Up artfully renders how the lives of a young magician, and his father, a famous novelist, intertwine with the lives of a young poet and the single poet who raised her. *Close-Up* reveals what drives and complicates and undermines our most important relationships. This is a robust novel about friendship, romance, marriages and the ties between parents, children, and grandchildren. The novel follows five fully rendered characters—Jacob, Martin, Caroline, Jeanie, and Jill—through their rifts and reconciliations, as their whole story brings us through loneliness, longing, missed connections and grievances, and ultimately to a desirable place of understanding.



Up by Michelle HermanPurchase Books
CSU Press is currently partnering with UGA Press for marketing and distribution.

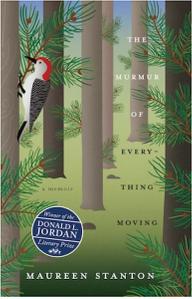
Close-

Cartographic America (David Owings and Eric Spears)



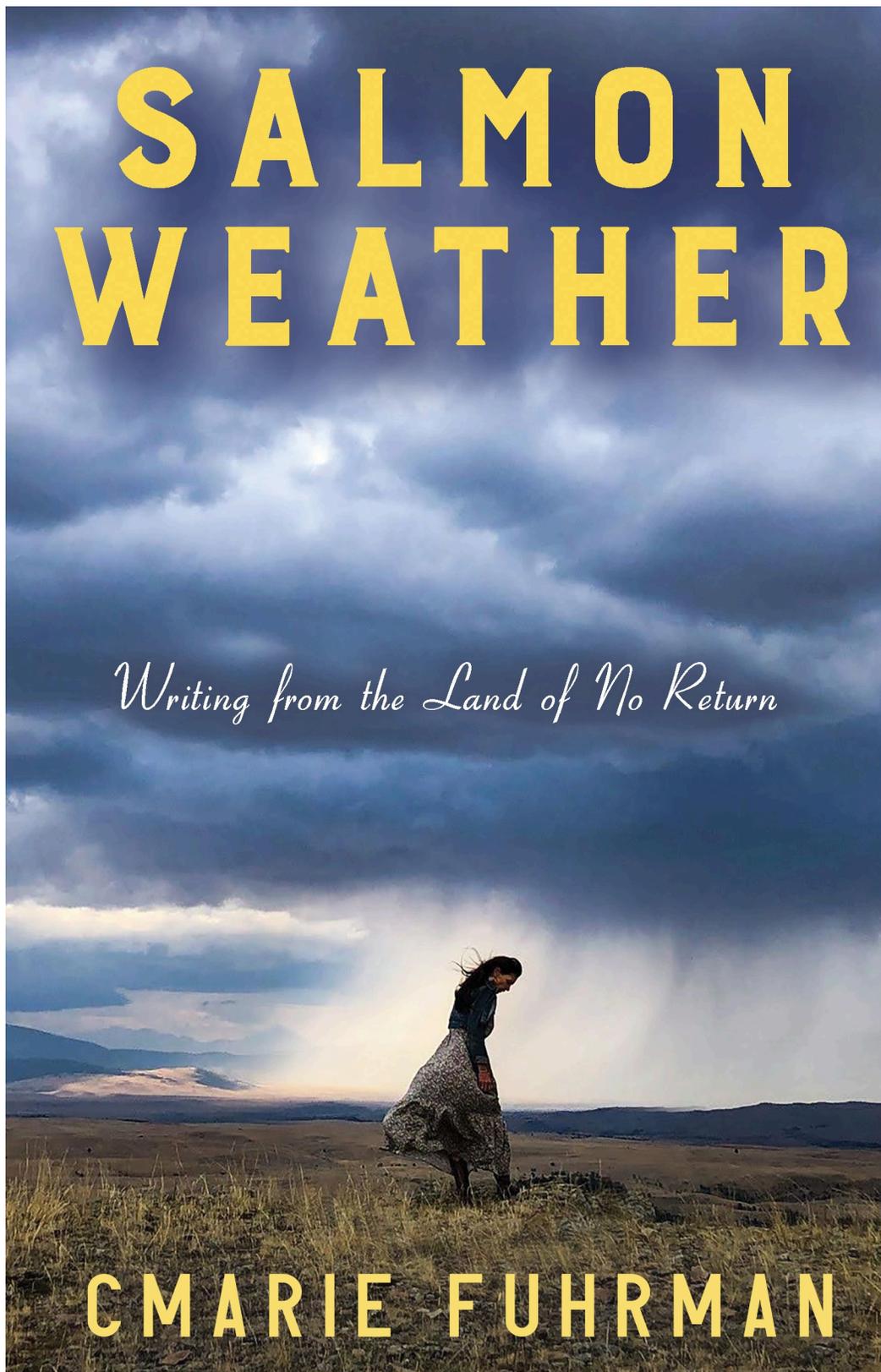
• Barnes & Noble

***The Murmur of Everything Moving* (Maureen Stanton)**



- [UGA Press](#)
- [Amazon](#)

***Salmon Weather: Writing From the Land of No Return* (CMarie Fuhrman)**

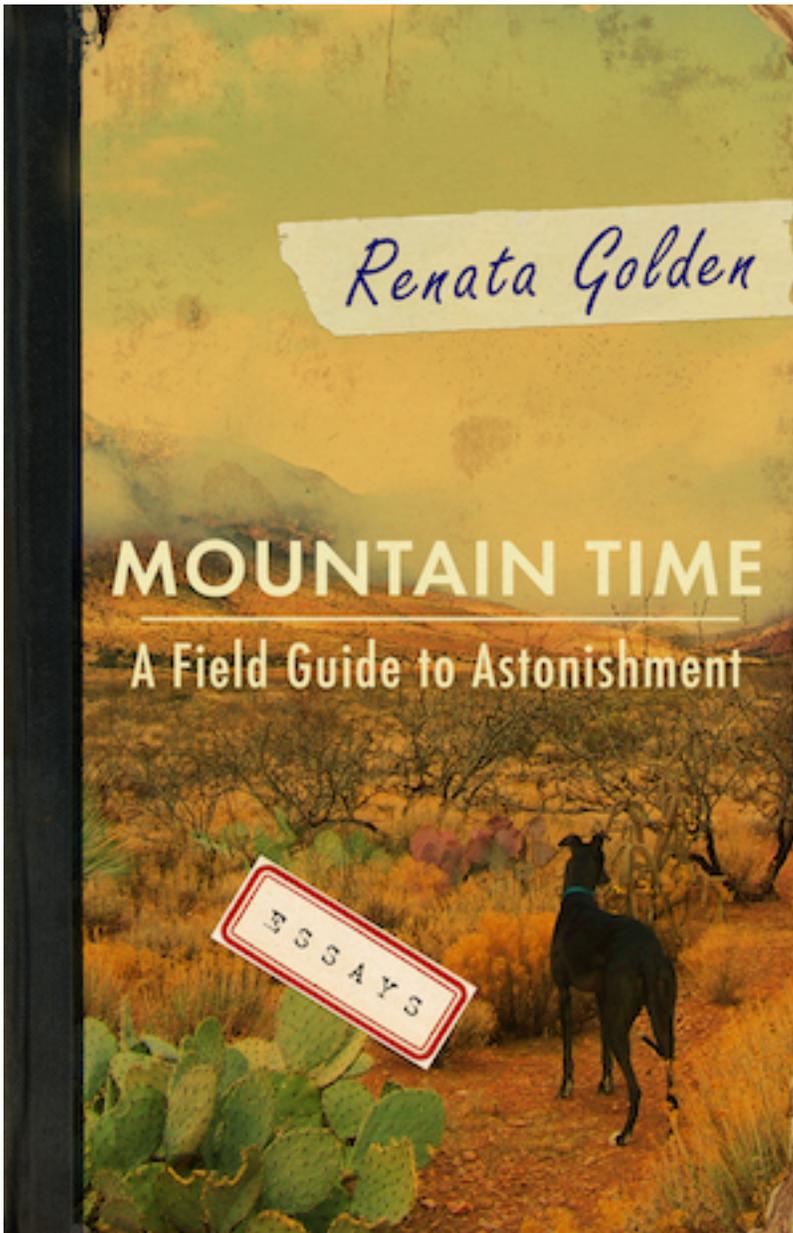


- [UGA Press](#)
- [Amazon](#)

***Beware the Tall Grass* (Ellen Birkett Morris)**



- [UGA Press](#)
- [Amazon](#)

***Mountain Time: A Field Guide to Astonishment* (Renata Golden)**

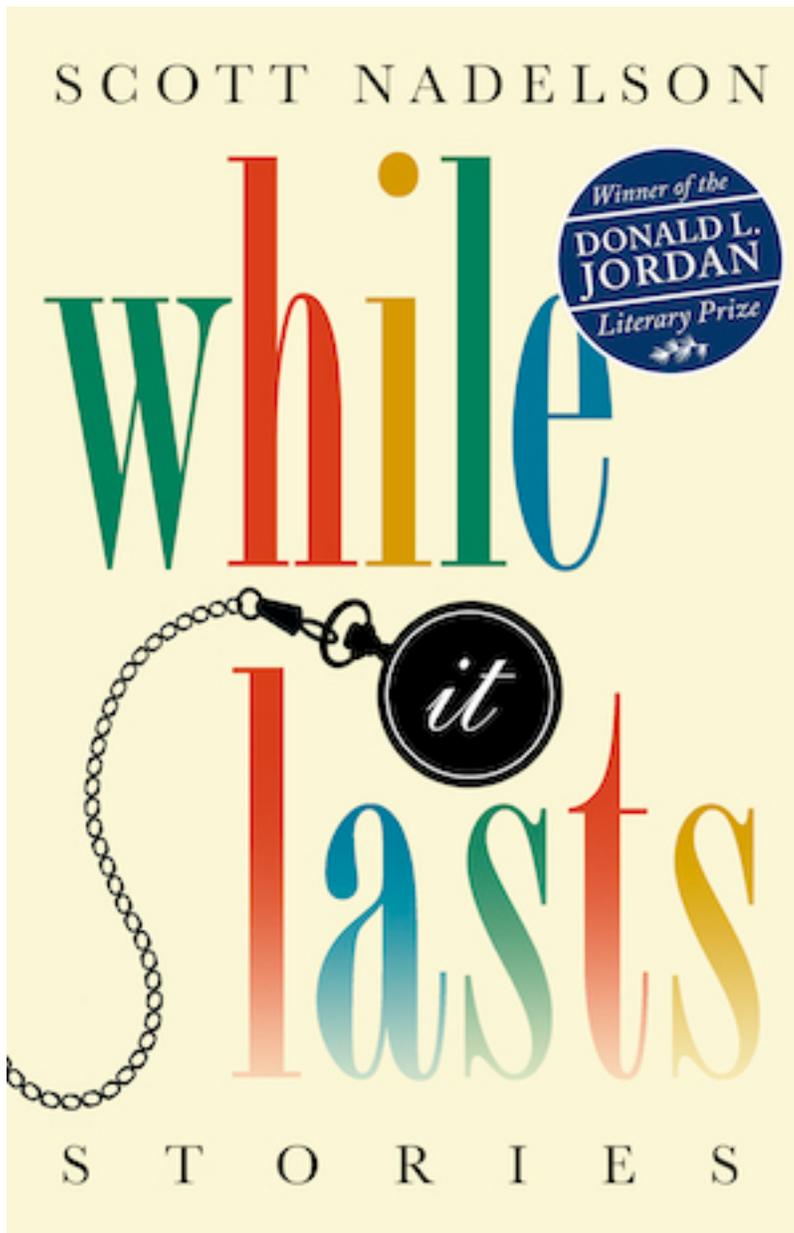
- [UGA Press](#)
- [Amazon](#)

Close-Up (Michelle Hermann)



- [UGA Press](#)
- [Amazon](#)

***While It Lasts* (Scott Nadelson)**



- [UGA Press](#)
- [Amazon](#)

News and Social Media

News

Cartographic America by David Owings and Eric Spears is now available for purchase online.

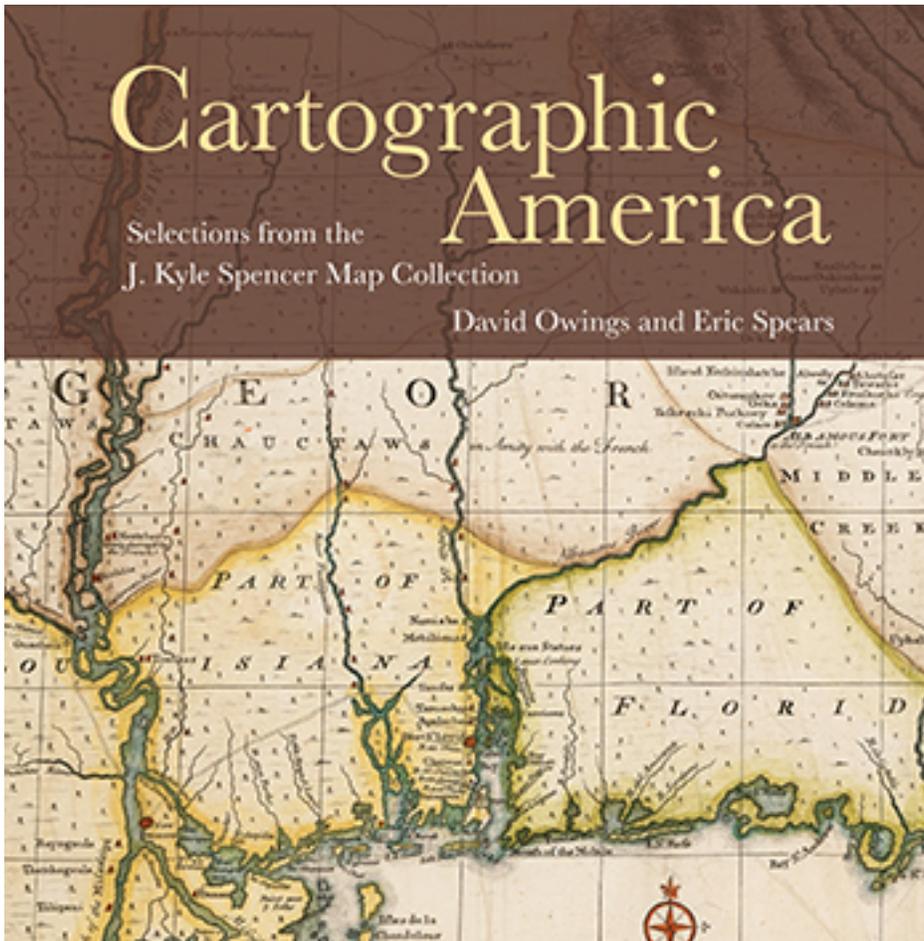
Cartographic America, David Owings and Eric Spears

2025 Donald L. Jordan Prize for Literary Excellence

The 2025 Winner of the Donald L. Jordan Prize for Literary Excellence, chosen by judge Debra Immergut, is Melanie Pappadis Faranello's short story collection, *Everybody Needs Something*.

CSU Publishing

- CSU Press is proud to have just published *Cartographic America*, featuring selections from the J. Kyle Spencer Map Collection at Columbus State University, by David Owings and Dr. Eric Spears. *Cartographic America* will soon be available for ordering here and via Amazon. Copies can currently be purchased at Columbus Bound Books at 1328 13th St Ste 3, Columbus, GA.



- We are currently seeking submissions for our third title for The Nature Series at DLJ Books. Please view our guidelines under The Nature Series tab on the home page for CSU Press.

The entry period for the 2025 Donald L. Jordan Prize for Literary Excellence has closed, and we anticipate announcing the finalists in late December. This year's judge is novelist Debra Jo Immergut, and her website can be found at: <https://debrajoimmergut.com>.

This year's contest for the 2024 Donald L. Jordan Prize is open for entries from August 15 to December 31, 2023, and the judge is novelist [Stephen P. Kiernan](#). For more information, please visit the [The Donald L. Jordan Prize for Literary Excellence website](#).

- We're excited to announce the endowment of the *Longleaf Nature Writing Series*, which will be published under DLJ Books at CSU Press. We're thrilled that the inaugural title in the series will be *Mountain Time: A Field Guide to Astonishment* by Renata Golden, and we'll begin an open submissions process for the series in spring of 2024!
- Scott Nadelson's fabulous collection, *While It Lasts*, was published on March 15, 2023. You can [order the collection from our marketing and distribution partner, UGA Press](#).
- We are very excited about the publication of Michelle Herman's *Close-Up*; the publication date was March 15, 2022. *Close-Up* is now available for pre-order from [UGA Press](#).

Please follow us!

Facebook: [DLJ Books](#)

Twitter: [@CSUPress](#)

Instagram: [CSUPress](#)

Community
- *Coming soon!*

Submissions

We are not currently accepting submissions for the Donald Jordan Literary Prize for Excellence. We are accepting submissions for The Nature Series through May 15th. As the press grows and forms imprints in addition to DLJ Books, or as DLJ Books publishes books beyond the Jordan Prize winning manuscript and The Nature Series, we'll be sending out calls or notices for submissions.

The Nature Series at DLJ Books: Submissions

We are not currently accepting submissions for the Nature Series.