



rediscovering
Vardis Fisher
centennial essays

edited by
Joseph M. Flora

Rediscovering Vardis Fisher Centennial Essays

Oregon Historical Society



Rediscovering Vardis Fisher Centennial Essays:

Rediscovering Vardis Fisher Joseph M. Flora, 2000 Distributed by the University of Nebraska Press for the University of Idaho Press Twelve evocative essays contributing to the research about writer intellectual Vardis Fisher and his missing place in American literature The essayists pay close critical attention to Fisher s treatment of characters landscape feminist issues historical events music religion and race

Vardis Fisher Michael Austin, 2021-11-30 Raised by devout Mormon parents Vardis Fisher drifted from the faith after college Yet throughout his long career his writing consistently reflected Mormon thought Beginning in the early 1930s the public turned to Fisher s novels like *Children of God* to understand the increasingly visible Church of Jesus Christ of Latter day Saints His striking works vaulted him into the same literary tier as William Faulkner while his commercial success opened the New York publishing world to many of the founding figures in the Mormon literary canon Michael Austin looks at Fisher as the first prominent American author to write sympathetically about the Church and examines his work against the backdrop of Mormon intellectual history Engrossing and enlightening Vardis Fisher illuminates the acclaimed author s impact on Mormon culture American letters and the literary tradition of the American West

By His Own Hand? John D. W. Guice, James J. Holmberg, Jay H. Buckley, 2014-10-30 For two centuries the question has persisted Was Meriwether Lewis s death a suicide an accident or a homicide *By His Own Hand* is the first book to carefully analyze the evidence and consider the murder versus suicide debate within its full historical context The historian contributors to this volume follow the format of a postmortem court trial dissecting the case from different perspectives A documents section permits readers to examine the key written evidence for themselves and reach their own conclusions

Republic of Detours Scott Borchert, 2021-06-15 A New York Times Book Review Editors Choice Winner of the New Deal Book Award An immersive account of the New Deal project that created state by state guidebooks to America in the midst of the Great Depression and employed some of the biggest names in American letters The plan was as idealistic as it was audacious and utterly unprecedented Take thousands of hard up writers and put them to work charting a country on the brink of social and economic collapse with the aim of producing a series of guidebooks to the then forty eight states along with hundreds of other publications dedicated to cities regions and towns while also gathering reams of folklore narratives of formerly enslaved people and even recipes all of varying quality each revealing distinct sensibilities All this was the singular purview of the Federal Writers Project a division of the Works Progress Administration founded in 1935 to employ jobless writers from once bestselling novelists and acclaimed poets to the more dubiously qualified The FWP took up the lofty goal of rediscovering America in words and soon found itself embroiled in the day s most heated arguments regarding radical politics racial inclusion and the purpose of writing forcing it to reckon with the promises and failures of both the New Deal and the American experiment itself Scott Borchert s *Republic of Detours* tells the story of this raucous and remarkable undertaking by delving into the experiences of key figures and tracing the FWP from its optimistic early days to its

dismemberment by the House Committee on Un American Activities We observe notable writers at their day jobs including Nelson Algren broke and smarting from the failure of his first novel Zora Neale Hurston the most widely published Black woman in the country and Richard Wright who arrived in the FWP s chaotic New York City office on an upward career trajectory courtesy of the WPA Meanwhile Ralph Ellison Studs Terkel John Cheever and other future literary stars found encouragement and security on the FWP payroll By way of these and other stories Borchert illuminates an essentially noble enterprise that sought to create a broad and inclusive self portrait of America at a time when the nation s very identity and future were thrown into question As the United States enters a new era of economic distress political strife and culture industry turmoil this book s lessons are urgent and strong

On Sacred Ground Nicholas O'Connell, 2011-10-01 *On Sacred Ground* explores the literature of the Northwest the area that extends from the Pacific Ocean to the Rocky Mountains and from the forty ninth parallel to the Siskiyou Mountains The Northwest exhibits astonishing geographical diversity and yet the entire bioregion shares a similarity of climate flora and fauna For Nicholas O Connell the effects of nature on everyday Northwest life carry over to the region s literature Although Northwest writers address a number of subjects the relationship between people and place proves the dominant one and that has been true since the first tribes settled the region and began telling stories about it thousands of years ago Indeed it is the common thread linking Chief Seattle to Theodore Roethke Narscissa Whitman to Ursula K Le Guin Joaquin Miller to Ivan Doig Marilynne Robinson to Jack London Betty MacDonald to Gary Snyder Tracing the history of Pacific Northwest literary works from Native American myths to the accounts of explorers and settlers the effusions of the romantics the sharply etched stories of the realists the mystic visions of Northwest poets and the contemporary explosion of Northwest poetry and prose O Connell shows how the most important contribution of Northwest writers to American literature is their articulation of a more spiritual human relationship with landscape Pacific Northwest writers and storytellers see the Northwest not just as a source of material wealth but as a spiritual homeland a place to lead a rich and fulfilling life within the whole context of creation And just as the relationship between people and place serves as the unifying feature of Northwest literature so also does literature itself possess a perhaps unique ability to transform a landscape into a sacred place

Global West, American Frontier David M. Wrobel, 2013-10-15 This thoughtful examination of a century of travel writing about the American West overturns a variety of popular and academic stereotypes Looking at both European and American travelers accounts of the West from de Tocqueville s *Democracy in America* to William Least Heat Moon s *Blue Highways* David Wrobel offers a counter narrative to the nation s romantic entanglement with its western past and suggests the importance of some long overlooked authors lively and perceptive witnesses to our history who deserve new attention Prior to the professionalization of academic disciplines the reading public gained much of its knowledge about the world from travel writing Travel writers found a wide and respectful audience for their reports on history geography and the natural world in addition to reporting on aboriginal cultures before the advent of anthropology as

a discipline Although in recent decades western historians have paid little attention to travel writing Wrobel demonstrates that this genre in fact offers an important and rich understanding of the American West one that extends and complicates a simple reading of the West that promotes the notions of Manifest Destiny or American exceptionalism Wrobel finds counterpoints to the mythic West of the nineteenth century in such varied accounts as George Catlin's *Adventures of the Ojibbeway and Ioway Indians in England France and Belgium* 1852 Richard Francis Burton's *The City of the Saints* 1861 and Mark Twain's *Following the Equator* 1897 reminders of the messy and contradictory world that people navigated in the past much as they do in the present His book is a testament to the instructive ways in which the best travel writers have represented the West

The Hemingway Review ,2003 International Who's Who of Authors and Writers 2004 Europa Publications,2003 Accurate and reliable biographical information essential to anyone interested in the world of literature The *International Who's Who of Authors and Writers* offers invaluable information on the personalities and organizations of the literary world including many up and coming writers as well as established names With over 8 000 entries this updated edition features Concise biographical information on novelists authors playwrights columnists journalists editors and critics Biographical details of established writers as well as those who have recently risen to prominence Entries detailing career works published literary awards and prizes membership and contact addresses where available An extensive listing of major international literary awards and prizes and winners of those prizes A directory of major literary organizations and literary agents A listing of members of the American Academy of Arts and Letters

Look Abroad, Angel Jedidiah Evans,2020-02 Born in Asheville North Carolina Thomas Wolfe 1900 1938 was one of the most influential southern writers widely considered to rival his contemporary William Faulkner who believed Wolfe to be one of the greatest talents of their generation His novels including *Look Homeward Angel* 1929 *Of Time and the River* 1935 and the posthumously published *The Web and the Rock* 1939 and *You Can't Go Home Again* 1940 remain touchstones of U S literature In *Look Abroad, Angel* Jedidiah Evans uncovers the global Wolfe reconfiguring Wolfe's supposedly intractable homesickness for the American South as a form of longing that is instead indeterminate and expansive Instead of promoting and reinforcing a narrow and cloistered formulation of the writer as merely southern or Appalachian Evans places Wolfe in transnational contexts examining Wolfe's impact and influence throughout Europe In doing so he de-territorializes the response to Wolfe's work revealing the writer as a fundamentally global presence within American literature

Finding Lewis and Clark James P. Ronda,Nancy Tystad Koupal,2004 Contains presentations from the conference held in Pierre S D April 11 12 2003 sponsored by the South Dakota State Historical Society in honor of the bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase and the Lewis and Clark Expedition

Idaho Landscapes ,2008 Oregon Historical Quarterly Oregon Historical Society,2001 *The Southern Quarterly* ,1997 The Writers Directory ,2013 **The North Dakota Quarterly** ,2001 Vol 1 includes The installation of Frank Le Rond McVey as president of the University of North Dakota Programs and proceedings called Inauguration number dated Sept 1910

Pacific Northwest Quarterly ,2001 **Choice** ,2001 **American Book Publishing Record** ,2000-07 *South Dakota History* ,2004 **International Who's Who of Authors and Writers 2008** Europa Publications,2007-08-23 An invaluable source of information on the personalities and organizations of the literary world

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