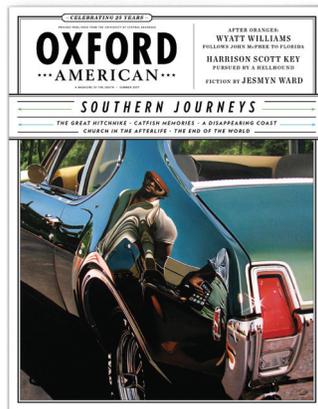


May 24, 2017

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The *Oxford American's* Summer issue will be available on newsstands nationwide on June 13, 2017

LITTLE ROCK, AR — The *Oxford American* continues its twenty-fifth anniversary celebration with the magazine's 97th issue, presenting a collection of powerful and surprising stories and images by more than thirty-five writers and artists. For the second year in a row, the magazine's summer issue contains a themed "**Southern Journeys**" section, with essays and dispatches from across the region. Plus: the second installment in a series of excerpts from **Jesmyn Ward's** highly anticipated forthcoming novel, *Sing, Unburied, Sing* (Scribner, September 2017). The cover art is **Cheryl Kelley's** painting "Cutlass with iPod."

In a letter from the editor, Eliza Borné emphasizes the magazine's "tradition of featuring well-known talents . . . alongside emerging voices." In addition to Ward, the summer issue includes longtime contributors **Harrison Scott Key** and **Michael Parker**, as well as the *OA's* second editor, **Roger D. Hodge**. And the issue introduces two rising fiction writers: "The Domestic Front," a dystopian story by **Van Diamondfinger**, and "Botlalaote Hill" by **Gothataone Moeng**, a recent graduate of the University of Mississippi's MFA program whose work concerns her home place of Serowe, Botswana.

In the Southern Journeys section: **Anne Gisleson** travels through grief to the End of the World, a.k.a. Venice, Louisiana. **John O'Connor** reminisces about the catfish in Arkansas's White River. **Molly McArdle** revisits the disappearing islands of North Carolina's Outer Banks. **Jamie Quatro** explores the second lives of former churches around where she lives on Lookout Mountain (with images by **Maude Clay**, the *OA's* original photo editor). And **Joel Finsel** traverses the South by thumb as a participant in the annual Great Hitchhiking Race.

Other highlights from the issue: **Sarah Stacke** writes about the work of artists **Johanne Rahaman** and **Renata Cherlise** to document a Jacksonville housing project, featuring a selection of Rahaman's photos; **Holly Haworth** examines Tennessee's endangered freshwater mussels; four new poems by **Tracy Brimhall**; and columns by **Chris Offutt** and **John T. Edge**, author of the new book, *The Polikker Papers* (Penguin). In addition to exceptional writing, the issue features artworks and photographs by **Larry Fink**, **Tatum Shaw**, **Tori Tinsley**, **Ysabel LeMay**, **Allison V. Smith**, **Sally Gall**, **Meleko Mokgosi**, and many others.

To order a single copy of the Spring issue, visit your local bookstore or newsstand, or purchase a copy at OxfordAmericanGoods.org. For bulk orders, contact Julia Hofheimer at jhofheimer@oxfordamerican.org or 501-374-0000 x 206.

ABOUT THE OXFORD AMERICAN

Oxford American is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit arts organization and national magazine dedicated to featuring the very best in Southern writing, while documenting the complexity and vitality of the American South. The *Oxford American* is committed to the development of young individuals aspiring to work in the publishing industry and to the production and presentation of multidisciplinary arts events in and around Little Rock, Arkansas. Billed as "A Magazine of the South," it has won four National Magazine Awards—including the 2016 Award for General Excellence in the category of Literature, Science and Politics—and other high honors since it began publication in 1992. The *Oxford American* is published from the University of Central Arkansas. For more information, visit OxfordAmerican.org.