The Oxford American’s Spring issue will be available on newsstands nationwide on March 15, 2016

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS – The Oxford American is proud to release its 92nd issue, which celebrates writing and art by more than forty contributors. A few highlights: In “Blood Ties,” Alex Mar—a recent nonfiction book Witches of America—writes about ancestry and her relationship to Juan Ponce de León. Will Stephenson evaluates Texas-born writer Terry Southern. John McElwee and Chris Fowler travel to Itta Bena, Mississippi, to seek the source material for Lewis Nordan’s fiction. Pia Z. Ehrhardt recreates an unforgettable soccer season for a New Orleans team. A poem by C.D. Wright, the brilliant Arkansas-born poet who died on January 12, 2016, accompanies a selection of recently rediscovered photographs by Richard Leo Johnson.

The issues also includes a letter from Eliza Borné, the magazine’s third editor since its founding in 1992, whose appointment was announced in October 2015. Borné, who is the OA’s first female editor, writes: “The American South has always been a home of thriving, raging diversities, and I believe this magazine will be better—more interesting, indispensable—if our coverage reflects the region’s depths. The OA welcomes diverse and surprising ideas, voices, writing styles, works of art, and musical traditions.”

Both Crystal Wilkinson (a finalist for the Orange Prize for Fiction and the Hurston/Wright Legacy Award) and C. E. Morgan (the winner of a Whiting Award and a National Book Foundation “5 under 35” award) contribute fiction. The cover photograph is “The Dish Trick” by Jo Ann Callis.

This is the first edition of the Oxford American since the publication won a National Magazine Award in General Excellence in February 2016. In their citation for the award, the judges wrote: “The Oxford American is a thriving example of a modern literary magazine—eager to experiment, yet firmly in control of its editorial voice; alive to history but bracingly contemporary.”

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 Stephanie Smittle at ssmittle@oxfordamerican.org or 501-374-0000 x 206. Retail outlets interested in carrying the OA should contact Matt Baker at mbaker@oxfordamerican.org.

ABOUT THE OXFORD AMERICAN

The 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. Billed as “A Magazine of the South,” it has won four National Magazine Awards and other high honors since it began publication in 1992. The magazine has featured the original work of such literary powerhouse figures as Charles Portis, Roy Blount, Jr., ZZ Packer, Donald Harington, Donna Tartt, Ernest J. Gaines, and many other distinguished authors, while also discovering and launching the most promising writers in the region. In 2007, The New York Times stated that the Oxford American “may be the liveliest literary magazine in America.” 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. The Oxford American is published from the University of Central Arkansas. For more information, visit OxfordAmerican.org.