

OXFORD AMERICAN

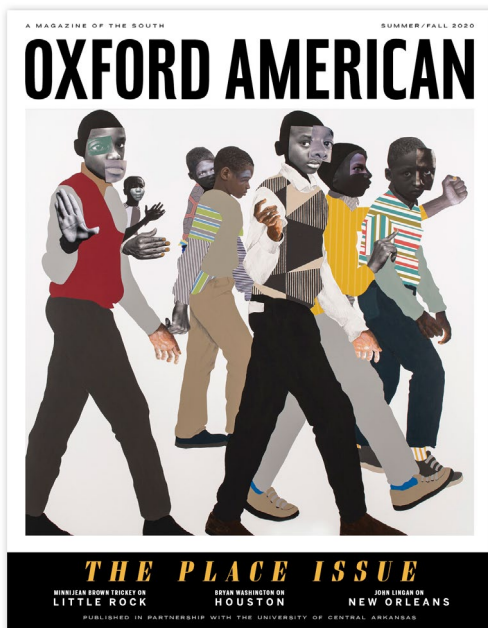
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Introducing the *Oxford American's* Summer/Fall 2020 Issue *Special place-themed issue is longest in the magazine's history*

August 4, 2020—LITTLE ROCK, AR—The *Oxford American* presents its place-themed Summer/Fall 2020 Issue. At 224 pages, and featuring more than 65 writers and visual artists, this is the thickest issue the *OA* has published since the magazine's founding in 1992.

This issue includes a special section on place centered around the “elements” of soil, wood, water, and stone. A few highlights: **Frederick McKindra** mines the fiber of cotton as troubled symbol and ubiquitous product—framed through the lens of his family's history and **Timothy Hursley's** architectural photography series capturing storehouses of cotton seed. **Martin Padgett** traces the sweet gum tree from its namesake community in the Florida panhandle to the Sweet Gum Head in Atlanta, a landmark drag club, and records an important chapter in the South's LGBTQ history. **Kerry Rose Graning** visits a barrier island on the Louisiana coastline and tells a story of tropical storms, hurricanes, erosion, and an unlikely surfing culture. **David Searcy** reflects on a drag-racing strip near Dallas, a tale bolstered by history, philosophy, and geology.



Among the many other notable contributors are **Minnijean Brown Trickey** (international activist and a member of the Little Rock Nine), **Bryan Washington** (a National Book Foundation 5 Under 35 winner), and **Jayne Anne Phillips** (winner of an Academy Award in Literature from the American Academy of Arts and Letters).

First-time *OA* contributors include journalist **Rosalind Bentley** on Black land ownership in the South, including a reflection on her family's homeplace Florida; **Carly Berlin** on a traveling rabbi dispatched to support Jewish communities in small Southern towns; and **Halle Hill**, whose short story “Bitch Baby” was selected out of more than 500 submissions to the *OA's* 2020 debut fiction call for submissions. The issue also features many writers familiar to *OA* readers, like **Baynard Woods** on Jasper Johns's time on Edisto Island; **John Ligan** on efforts to restore Buddy Bolden's house in

New Orleans; **Karen Good Marable** on taking joyrides in Atlanta during a summer of protest and the pandemic; and contributing editor **Jamie Quatro** on the Ave Maria Grotto in North Alabama. **Rachel Mabe**, whose reporting was supported by the Economic Hardship Reporting Project, writes on the crisis of immigrant teacher recruitment.

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More than 35 visual artists are published in the issue, such as **Deborah Roberts**, whose collage “When you see me” appears on the cover; **Camilo Ramirez**; **Delita Martin**; **Devan Shimoyama**; **Lorna Simpson**; **Jasper Johns**; and **Maury Gortemiller**.

The issue was underwritten by the Fay Jones School of Architecture & Design at the University of Arkansas.

To order a copy of the Summer/Fall 2020 Issue, visit your local bookstore or newsstand, or purchase a copy at OxfordAmericanGoods.org.

The issue is available now in the *OA*'s online store and will be on select newsstands on August 25, 2020. Or, subscribe to the *Oxford American* by visiting OxfordAmerican.org/subscribe.

For bulk orders, contact info@oxfordamerican.org or 501-374-0000.

Oxford American editors and contributors are available for interviews. Please contact them directly by emailing editors@oxfordamerican.org.

ABOUT THE OXFORD AMERICAN

Founded in 1992, the *Oxford American* (*OA*) is a nonprofit arts organization whose mission is to explore the complexity and vitality of the American South through exceptional writing, music, and visual art.