

Oct. 26, 2015

Contact: Maxwell George, Managing Editor
mgeorge@oxfordamerican.org
501-374-0000 ext. 203



A MAGAZINE OF THE SOUTH

Eliza Borné named editor of the *Oxford American*

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS – We are pleased to announce that **Eliza Borné** is the new editor of the *Oxford American*, succeeding Roger D. Hodge, who left the magazine in June. Borné joined the magazine in 2013 as associate editor and was promoted to managing editor in 2014. Since June 2015, she has served as interim editor.

“This is wonderful news,” said Hodge, who recruited Borné in 2013. “Eliza is a brilliant editor and wonderful person—the *Oxford American* could not have made a better choice. I look forward to reading her magazine for many years.”

“I am incredibly proud of the work we have done under Roger’s leadership for the past three years,” said Borné. “We have published great stories that transcend genre and give our readers new perspectives on the South. With every issue, I am astounded again by the brilliance of our amazing writers, artists, and contributors. I am honored to have the opportunity to lead our talented editorial staff as we continue creating this vital and spirited magazine that I have loved since I was a teenager.”

Under Borné’s direction, the *OA* has maintained its high standard of excellence, publishing work as rich and varied as a 12-page poem by Nikky Finney; fiction by Catherine Lacey and Jamie Quatro; and a deep profile of a transgender drug counselor from the U.S.-Mexico border. Since 2013, she has worked with such acclaimed writers as Lauren Groff, Harrison Scott Key, Beth Ann Fennelly, Stephanie Elizondo Griest, Sarah Menkedick, and many others. Pieces Borné edited have been recognized in *Best American Essays* and *Best American Travel Writing*.

“Eliza is a member of the next generation of readers,” said Vincent LoVoi, *OA* board member and publisher of *This Land Press*. “Her keen insights and long-view will enable the *OA* to continue to grow in the new media environment. She has a timeless talent that will serve us well.”

Borné is the third editor of the *Oxford American*. Hodge led the magazine from September 2012 through June 2015, when he became the national editor of the *Intercept*. Hodge remains on the masthead as editor-at-large. Marc Smirnoff founded the *Oxford American* in 1992.

A native of Little Rock, Borné, 29, previously worked as an editor at *BookPage*, a book review publication based in Nashville. She graduated from Wellesley College and she lives in Little Rock with her husband, John C. Williams, an assistant federal public defender (whom she met when they were both *Oxford American* interns in 2006).

We also welcome longtime contributor **Jay Jennings** to the masthead as senior editor. Jennings brings decades of industry experience as a former editor with *Sports Illustrated*, *Time Out New York*, *Artforum*, and other magazines. He is the author of *Carry the Rock: Race, Football, and the Soul of an American City* and he edited *Escape Velocity: A Charles Portis Miscellany*.

ABOUT THE OXFORD AMERICAN

The *Oxford American* is a national magazine dedicated to featuring the best in Southern writing, while documenting the complexity and vitality of the American South. The *OA* has won three National Magazine Awards and other high honors since it began publication in 1992. The magazine has published the original work of such acclaimed writers as Charles Portis, Roy Blount, Jr., ZZ Packer, Donald Harington, Donna Tartt, and many others, while also discovering and launching the most promising writers in the region. The *OA* is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. For more information, visit oxfordamerican.org.

