Vulcan Historical Review
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**Book Reviews**

*As Seen on TV: The Visual Culture of Everyday Life in the 1950s* by Karal Ann Marling

John Faulkner

*Downtown: My Manhattan* by Pete Hamill

Rebecca Comer Gunter

*The Barbary Wars: American Independence in the Atlantic World* by Frank Lambert

*Tripoli: The United States’ First War on Terror* by David Smethurst

Christopher Null


Zac Peterson

*Popular Culture in the Age of White Flight: Fear and Fantasy in Suburban Los Angeles* by Eric Avila

Jennifer R. Phillips

*Leaves from an Autumn of Emergencies: Selections from the Wartime Diaries of Ordinary Japanese* by Samuel Hideo Yamashita

John E. Van Sant

**Film Reviews**

*“Three Seasons” (1999)*

Megan Howland

*“Talk to Me” (2007)*

Emily A. Nelms
FROM THE EDITORS

To the reader:

The job of the historian is both simple and complex: to attempt to provide readers and listeners with a good story, while at the same time accurately describing and interpreting places and events that have shaped the human experience. While this solemn mission might seem simplistic, it involves the completion of tireless hours of research coupled with close and deliberate thought in order to arrive at the best possible argument. This commitment to explaining the events of the past is reflected superbly in the 2008 Vulcan Historical Review. The editors of this year's edition committed themselves to the inclusion of a diverse range of topics from the dark mills of Britain to the hustle-and-bustle of the Twentieth-Century American city, and all points in between. Likewise, the authors of these works represent almost every conceivable area of historical inquiry and contribute much to the understanding of their areas. The editors hope that you enjoy and learn as much reading this edition, as they did publishing it.

Sincerely,

The Editorial Board

2008 Vulcan Historical Review
**About the Contributors**

**Kristina Brandon** received a B.A. in Art with minors in History and Art History from Auburn University. She then went on to receive a B.A. in History from UAB. She is currently working on her M.A. in History at UAB. She plans to focus her concentration on Russian History.

**Hope Brown** received a B.A. in History from UAB. She is primarily interested in United States legal history and plans to pursue a J.D.

**John Faulkner** graduated from UAB with an M.A. in 1998. He is a member of Phi Alpha Theta, Southern Historical Association, and Alabama Association of Historians. He expects to complete an M.A. in History in 2009. His travels include trips to historic sites in Boston, Williamsburg, and Ireland. John is interested in social history and the effects of war on society.

**Rebecca Comer Gunter** received a B.A. in History and a B.A. in English from UAB in 2006. Gunter expects to receive her M.A. in History in May 2008 with plans to pursue a Ph.D. in History. She is a member of Phi Alpha Theta, and first place winner for best paper presented at the 2008 Phi Alpha Theta regional conference held at Samford University. She is a member of Sigma Tau Delta English honor society and the UAB chapter of the Golden Key International Honour Society.

**Megan Howland** is a senior in the History Department at UAB and will be graduating in August of 2008. She plans on taking a well-deserved year off to enjoy life before rejoining academia in pursuit of her PhD!

**Emily Nelms** received a B.A. in History from UAB in August 2007. She hopes to pursue a Ph.D. in American history, with a focus on urban studies, race relations, and socioeconomics of the communities affected by the race riots of the 1960s, after completing her M.A. in History. She is a member of the American Historical Association, Urban Historical Association, Southern Historical Association, Society of American Archivists, Phi Alpha Theta, and the Golden Key International Honour Society.

**Christopher Null** will receive his M.A. in History in August 2008. He is currently preparing a Master's thesis under the direction of Dr. Brian Steele entitled "The Barbary Wars." Chris will head west in fall 2008 to pursue his Ph.D. in History at UCLA. He would like to thank more people than he can list here for their support.
RALPH PATTERSON II received his B.A. in History from the American University in 1997. He is currently pursuing his Master's Degree in History at UAB, which he hopes to complete in May 2008. Afterward, he plans to pursue a J.D. and hopes to one day practice law or teach at the university level.

TIA PAVLOVICH is a native of Townley, Alabama. She received her B.A. in History in 2006, and her M.A. in History in December 2007, both from UAB. Her interests concern social history and the history of Britain. She would like to thank all those who have helped her throughout the years.

ZAC PETERSON graduated magna cum laude with a B.A. in History from UAB in December 2005. He is working on an M.A. in History, and will graduate in August 2008.

JENNIFER R. PHILLIPS double-majored in History and Political Science at the University of Montevallo. She is a member of Phi Alpha Theta History Honors Society and Pi Sigma Alpha Political Science Honors Society. Her interests are African History, Women's History, and Civil Rights. She hopes to complete her M.A. in Summer 2009, and pursue a Ph.D. in African History.

KATIE SUTTON is currently a junior at UAB. She is pursuing her B.A. in History, which she hopes to complete in December 2008. Afterward, she plans to pursue her M.A. in Public History and hopes to one day pursue a career in museum studies.

JOHN E. VAN SANT received his Ph.D. from the University of Oregon. He joined the faculty at UAB in the fall of 2000. In addition to his teaching experience in East Asian and World History, his research focuses on Japan since 1600 and Japan-United States history. He is currently working on a book-length monograph titled *Eastern Ethics, Western Science*, a conceptual history of how and why Japan adopted and adapted elements of Western knowledge and combined this knowledge to its traditional civilization. Dr. Van Sant has presented papers at numerous national and international conferences, and has been awarded research grants and fellowships from the Huntington Library, the Association for Asian Studies, and the Fulbright Commission.

JOHN PAUL WHITMORE enrolled at UAB in fall 2005 with a double major in History and Business. After receiving his B.A., he remains undecided as to what his career path will be, but he desires to write books and continue his education.
ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTORS

[Text continues on the page]
n the wake of the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917, suddenly everything seemed possible for women: equal wages between men and women, birth control, abortion rights, access to divorce, educational rights, child raising, and sexual freedom. However, these emancipatory freedoms, though good in theory, proved impossible in practice, particularly on the brink of economic collapse, political turmoil, and civil war, but also because these women lived in a nation that was still based on patriarchal traditions. Under Joseph Stalin, forced industrialization left no time for social experiments. Women were pressed into earn the working world while simultaneously maintaining their traditional gender role as mother and housekeeper. "Because Stalin needed to see women as patriarchal tradition, because the country was in a political turmoil during the revolution and because Joseph Stalin refused to drop with women, Soviet women after the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917 were not able to successfully achieve full equality and employment."