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NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

A Finalist for a National Book Critics Circle Award in Biography

[Benjamin Franklin](#)

by Edmund S. Morgan



"Engaging and readable.... **illuminating.**" -- *New York Times Book Review*

"**Entrancing**....Lucid [and] entertaining." -- *USA Today*

"**Superb**....[A] concise and beautifully written portrait of an American hero." --Gordon Wood, *New York Review of Books*

Nobody's Perfect

Yale University Press will hold a reception honoring Annabel Patterson upon the publication of her book [Nobody's Perfect: A New Whig Interpretation of History.](#)

April 17, 2003, 5 - 6:30 p.m.
Yale University Press
302 Temple Street
New Haven, Connecticut 06511

For more information please contact:
mae.thibodeau@yale.edu or call (203) 432-4301

What's New at the Press

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Yale Nota Bene: Yale's paperback imprint. Go to [Yalenb.net](#) for more information.

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YALE News Release
CONTACT: Tom Conroy, 203-432-1345, #122

John Donatich Appointed New Director of Yale University Press

New Haven, Conn. -- The Board of Governors of the Yale University Press appointed as its new director John Donatich, currently Vice President and Publisher of Basic Books. Donatich will succeed John Ryden, who retires as director of the University Press after 23 years of service. He will assume his duties on January 13, 2003, reporting to President Richard C. Levin.

As Publisher and Vice President of Basic Books during the last six years, Donatich has been responsible for the publication of over one hundred nonfiction and scholarly books annually. He has been responsible for building the editorial, marketing, production and design teams that have contributed to the growth and financial strength of this well-regarded publishing house. Prior to joining Basic Books, Donatich was at HarperCollins from 1992-1996. Initially he served as Director of National Accounts, and then Vice President and Director of Product and Marketing Development. From 1989-1992, he was Director of National Accounts for the Putnam Publishing Group.

"John's energy, editorial acumen and commitment to serious scholarly publishing make him the ideal leader for Yale University Press," Levin said. "He will also help the Press draw the best from the world of trade publishing while remaining true to its primary mission of disseminating knowledge."

Peter Workman, chair of the Board of Governors of the Yale University Press, said, "John Donatich's experience at Basic Books in overseeing its excellent publishing program is a wonderful match for the work required at the Yale Press."

"John has a scholar's taste, an editor's eye and bookseller's experience and judgment," said Anthony Kronman, dean of Yale Law School and chair of the search committee. "He possesses just the combination of qualities we sought when we began our search and brings to the Press great vitality, high idealism and a profound love of books."

Donatich said, "I am thrilled to be joining this prestigious press and invited to help shape its future. Yale University Press commands a unique and leading position among university presses. I can't imagine a better place for scholars and intellectuals to publish books."

Among the authors Donatich has edited are Stephen Carter, Alan Dershowitz, David Frum, Christopher Hitchens, Douglas Hofstadter, Steven Pinker and Adam Phillips. He created the successful "Art of Mentoring" series, whose future authors include Jessye Norman, Todd Gitlin, Mary Pipher, Daniel Boulud and Wynton Marsalis.

Donatich graduated magna cum laude from New York University in 1982 where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. In 1984 he received a masters degree, summa cum laude, from New York University. He has published articles and commentaries in numerous journals including the Atlantic Monthly, Harpers, The Nation and Bloomsbury Book Review and he is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. He and his wife, Betsy Lerner, a literary agent and author, have a daughter, Raffaella.

Yale University Press was founded in 1908 by George Parmly Day. It was formally made a department of Yale in 1961, but remains financially and operationally autonomous. The Press publishes about 200 new hardcover and 100 new paperback books annually and has about 3,000 books in print comprising a broad and distinguished backlist. Yale University Press books have won many prizes, including five National Book Awards, two National Book Critics Circle Awards, and four Pulitzer Prizes.

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John C. Polkinghorne wins 2002 Templeton Prize

John C. Polkinghorne, author of three Yale University Press books, has been awarded the Templeton Prize for Progress Toward Research or Discoveries about Spiritual Realities. The world's best known religion prize, the Templeton Prize is also the largest monetary award in the world, currently worth 700,000 pounds sterling, or about \$1 million.

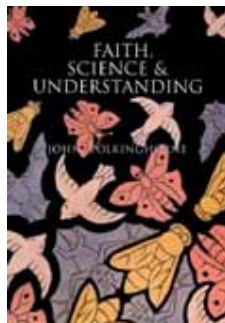
[Read more about the Templeton Prize](#)

Books by Polkinghorne:

[The God of Hope and the End of the World](#)

[Faith, Science, and Understanding](#)

[Belief in God in an Age of Science](#)



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**Yale University Press is Now Exclusive Distributor of
Metropolitan Museum of Art Publications**

Yale University Press became the exclusive worldwide distributor of scholarly publications and exhibition catalogues published by The Metropolitan Museum of Art in May 2000. The Museum currently issues around 20 to 25 such publications per year, and in the new arrangement, Yale University Press will also be responsible for the distribution of nearly 150 of the Museum's previously published titles.

In announcing the distribution agreement, Metropolitan Museum Director Philippe de Montebello noted: "As early as the 1870s, the Metropolitan published guides to the permanent collections and catalogues to accompany special exhibitions. This endeavor has grown and evolved over the years, and now the Met, as one of the world's preeminent publishers of art books, moves to broaden its visibility here and abroad. The new partnership with Yale – an acclaimed, long-time publisher of art and art history titles in its own right – looks to the future in bringing together two strong and highly complementary publishing programs."

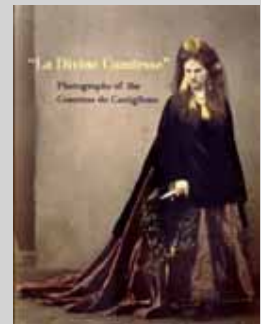
The Museum's earliest publications, produced within a year of its founding in 1870, were written by members of its Board of Trustees. With the formation of an editorial department in 1911, the number of publications designed for visitors to the galleries increased, and by 1913 the Information Desk in the Great Hall carried 54 Museum titles. Books related to the collections – exploring thematic subjects – became an increasingly important part of the Museum's publishing program in the 1920s, and several scholarly or scientific works that were researched and authored by the Museum's professional staff were issued exclusively under the Metropolitan's imprint. At this time, the Museum also began to publish authoritative books on paintings and the decorative arts in conjunction with publishing houses such as Charles Scribner's Sons, Yale University Press, Harvard University Press, and Harry N. Abrams, Inc., in an effort to expand distribution and sales.

During the 1970s, as the collections and the curatorial staff grew, an editor in chief was appointed and the editorial staff enlarged. As a result, the number and variety of titles rose significantly. By the 1980s, the Metropolitan had become one of the largest museum art-book publishers in the United States, and by the 1990s, one of the largest in the world.

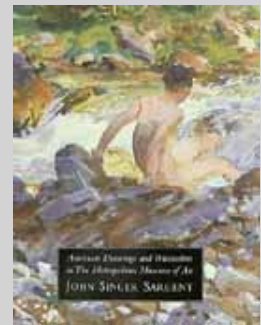
Exhibition catalogues published by the Metropolitan Museum and distributed by Abrams in recent years include: **Velázquez** (1989); **Origins of Impressionism** (1994); **Possessing the Past: Treasures from the National Palace Museum, Taipei** (1996); **Christian Dior** (1996); **The Glory of Byzantium** (1997); **The Private Collection of Edgar Degas** (1998); **Cézanne to Van Gogh: The Collection of Dr. Gachet** (1999); and **Egyptian Art in the Age of the Pyramids** (1999).

Major books scheduled for publication in the fall of 2000, when the new arrangement with Yale University Press begins, include exhibition catalogues for **New York, 1825-1861: Art and the Empire City**; **The Year One**; and **The Golden Deer of Eurasia**, as well as **American Sculpture in The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Volume 1: A Catalogue of Works by Artists Born Before 1865** and **American Sculpture in The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Volume 2: A Catalogue of Works by Artists Born Between 1865 and 1885**.

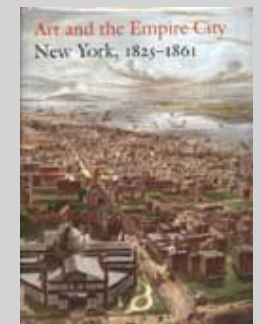
Founded in 1909, Yale University Press is one of the largest American university presses. It publishes over 220 new titles and 70 paperback reprints a year in a wide range of disciplines. Its art list, which includes exhibition catalogues, scholarly monographs, and classroom texts, including the highly acclaimed Yale Pelican History of Art, is considered one of the finest in the world. Many of these titles have won prizes for both their scholarship and their production values. Yale University Press has been the exclusive distributor of books for the National Gallery of London since 1994 and has co-published with many museums in the U.S. and the UK. Of the new agreement, Tina C. Weiner, Yale's Publishing



[La Divine Comtesse](#)



[American Drawings and Watercolors in the Metropolitan Museum of Art: John Singer Sargent](#)



[Art and the Empire City: New York 1825-1861](#)

Director, said; "Yale University Press is delighted to become the Met's worldwide distributor in both the trade and academic markets. We feel the synergy between the two lists is ideal and will form the basis of an effective and mutually rewarding partnership."

For the past 15 years, Harry N. Abrams, Inc. has been the exclusive distributor of books published by the Metropolitan Museum, and of this arrangement Mr. de Montebello said: "We are grateful to Paul Gottlieb and his staff at Abrams for their superb, long-time work in making the Museum's collections and exhibitions better known, understood, and appreciated."

The Metropolitan will continue to offer its publications for sale in its bookstores, satellite shops, and mail-order program, as well as online. The Museum's newly expanded and redesigned Web site at www.metmuseum.org will carry its entire list of published titles.

Metropolitan Museum publications are also available in bookstores and specialized art bookstores worldwide.

Other Museum titles and products are co-published with Princeton University Press, Bullfinch, and other publishers.