

SOURCES

situations but would also be valuable to researchers as each entry provides a list of further readings. Given these volumes reasonable price, I would recommend them for purchase as the coverage is expansive and the information could be applicable to multiple disciplines.—*Marissa Ellermann, Public Services Librarian, Shake Library, Vincennes University, Vincennes, Indiana*

Mexico at War: From the Struggle for Independence to 21st Century Drug Wars. By David F. Marley. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2014. 615 p. Acid free, \$100.00 (ISBN 978-1-61069-427-8). E-Book (978-1-61069-428-5) available, call for pricing.

This title is the latest in a series of one-volume encyclopedias from ABC-CLIO concerning the military history of various nations, others being *Japan at War* (2013) and *China at War* (2012). In this vein, the 275 alphabetically arranged entries cover important personalities (“Villa, Pancho [1878–1923]”; “Santa Anna, Antonio Lopez de [1794–1876]”), battles (“Alamo, Siege of the [1836]”; “Mexican-American War [1846–1848]”), weapons (“Madsen Light Machine Gun”), articles of clothing worn by Mexican troops over the years (“Blusas,” a blouse or tunic, for example), and paramilitary operations (“Drug War [1980s–Present]”).

Author David Marley does a fine job of detailing both well-known and obscure facets of Mexican military life and history. His writing style is clear and concise, while the liberal use of quotations from contemporary sources adds punch and clarity to the discussion. The volume is well illustrated with maps, prints, and black and white photographs. Special features include a topical guide to entries by era, an introductory essay giving an overview of Mexican military history, a section of primary documents, chronology, bibliography, and a glossary of terms, many of which, understandably, are in the Spanish language.

Marley is well suited for a project of this nature. Having lived in Mexico City for over thirty years, he carried out research and teaching at the Colegio de Mexico and the Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia. Among his many published works with a concentration on military and naval history are *Wars of the Americas: A Chronology of Armed Conflict in the New World, 1492 to the Present* (ABC-CLIO, 1998) and *Historic Cities of the Americas: An Illustrated Encyclopedia* (ABC-CLIO, 2005).

Overall, this volume is an excellent tool for research into Mexican military history, but beyond that, it is also a browser's delight. One learns of the innovative methods employed by those in desperate circumstances, to wit: “During the Mexican Revolution, lightly armed irregulars would sometimes commandeer a train, fill it with explosives and combustibles, then unleash it to careen unmanned down a track and smash into an oncoming enemy train or plunge destructively into a crowded railyard or siding” (under the entry for “maquina loca,” 206). This volume is recommended for purchase by all public and academic libraries and highly recommended

for purchase by those of the latter that support curricula in Hispanic or military studies.—*Michael F. Bemis, Independent Reference Book Reviewer*

Penguins: the Ultimate Guide. By Tui De Roy, Mark Jones, and Julie Cornthwaite. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2014. 240 p. \$35 (ISBN 978-0-691-16299-7).

This copiously illustrated guide comprehensively elucidates all the penguins of the world. This labor of love, compiled over a number of years, encompasses all eighteen species of penguins, from emperors and kings to the little-known blue penguins. Of all penguin species, only two of them actually live and breed in Antarctica (emperors and adelies). Many others congregate on specific islands in the Southern Oceans and the Australian, New Zealand, or South American coasts, but an African penguin and a tropical Galapagos penguin also exist. One section of the book contains excellent species profiles, with close-up photographs of each kind of penguin, and delineates names, descriptions, colorations, size and weight, voice, a map of its distribution, breeding habits, food, and principal threats to the species.

The authors provided the breathtaking photographs, over four hundred in all. Partners at Roving Tortoise Worldwide Nature Photography of New Zealand, the authors created natural photographs of rare and exotic wildlife. All photographs were taken “in wild and free conditions,” mainly by the three co-authors. The pictures include swimming and diving penguins, overhead and panoramic shots of penguin colonies and habits, and close-up photos of penguin families. Tui De Roy authored the first part, “Life Between Two Worlds,” discussing each family of penguins and their similarities and differences. Jones wrote a long section on both his personal experiences and a quick historical overview, and he followed this with a number of two-page essays by various experts in the field. These essays concentrated on “Science and Conservation” and highlighted current research on penguins, specific problems being addressed, and penguin history and evolution. Some of the pieces include personal stories and adventures experienced by the authors while studying specific species of penguins. Cornthwaite's section addresses detailed species profiles with many pictures, also several pages of “Fascinating Facts,” and a large chart summarizing penguin ranges and population statuses. A similar title, Wayne Lynch's *Penguins of the World* (Firefly Books, 2007), wrote more from a personal viewpoint, aimed for a younger audience, and offered much less specific species information, providing short paragraphs on each species, found in the appendix.

A short list of references and pertinent websites appears, as well as a small section on “Where to see penguins.” An index completes the work. Penguins being one of the best-loved birds in the world, this volume will be welcomed by many. Reasonably priced and suitable for public libraries, it provides an excellent source of information on all penguin species, suitable for upper middle-school students and

above.—Marion S. Muskiewicz, *Science Librarian emerita, University of Massachusetts Lowell*

Pop Culture Places: An Encyclopedia of Places in American Popular Culture. By Gladys L. Knight. Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood, 2014. 3 vols. Acid free \$310 (ISBN 978-0-313-39882-7). E-book (978-0-313-39883-4) available, call for pricing.

The American landscape offers an abundance of places that are enshrined in American cultural memory. Places such as Area 51, surrounded by mystery and intrigue, and Coney Island, arguably America's most historically famous amusement park, have achieved lasting cultural prominence and remain important places in America's collective imagination. Gladys L. Knight's *Pop Culture Places: An Encyclopedia of Places in American Popular Culture* seeks to inform readers about America's most prominent and historically significant popular culture places. This three-volume encyclopedia contains an alphabetical and topical list of entries, a useful preface and introduction, over 350 entries, images, a select bibliography, and an index.

Arranged alphabetically, *Pop Culture Places* offers readers an overview of popular culture places from actual places such as Salem, Massachusetts, home of the Salem witch trials, to more conceptual places such as the American diner and barbershops. This broad array of culturally significant places is among this work's most appealing features. Equally important is Knight's preface, in which she frames the scope and purpose of the encyclopedia. Applying a broad definition to popular culture, *Pop Culture Places* focuses on providing the reader with information on how and why a place entered into America's collective memory and why a particular place's cultural appeal has sustained or why its significance has waned. All entries in this work are structured in a useful and easy to follow format, with each entry containing "historical perspectives" and "images in popular culture" sections.

Most popular culture reference works, such as the *St. James Encyclopedia of Popular Culture* (St. James Press, 2013), focus largely on popular culture personalities, films, and music. With almost no comparable works addressing popular culture places or spaces, *Pop Culture Places* is a relatively unique reference work. While *Pop Culture Places* offers insightful perspectives on American popular culture, the encyclopedia has several shortcomings. From a conceptual perspective, Knight's work is grounded largely in a historical framework in which the historical importance of a place dominates. As an encyclopedia addressing the importance of place, this work would have benefited from a cultural geography framework in which the importance of place and space come more to the fore. Additionally, readers may be disappointed to learn that very few entries contain photographs or images. While cost and copyright were the likely barriers, one would expect more images of the places highlighted in the three volumes.

Pop Culture Places is an informative and useful reference work for general audiences. It provides readers with a less

common perspective on familiar places in the American historical and cultural landscape. With its diverse selection of places, *Pop Culture Places* will appeal to large audiences interested in American popular culture, cultural geography, and cultural history. *Pop Culture Places* is recommended for high school and academic libraries and medium to large public libraries.—Joseph A. Hurley, *Interim Director, Collaborative University Research and Visualization Environment (CURVE), Georgia State University Library, Atlanta, Georgia*

Race and Racism in the United States: An Encyclopedia of the American Mosaic. Ed. By Charles A. Gallagher and Cameron D. Lippard. Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood, 2014. 4 vols. Acid free \$399 (ISBN 978-1-4408-0345-1). E-book available (978-1-4408-0346-8), call for pricing.

This new four-volume set purports to be a definitive source on race-related topics in the United States, both historically and in the present. Not focusing exclusively on black and white race relations, the scope of the set is extensive. The cover images of the handsome print edition give a good representation of the variety of issues covered. A drawing of a slave in chains entitled, "Am I Not a Man and a Brother?" from a broadside edition of an 1835 poem is the oldest image, while a photograph from a Los Angeles May Day rally in 2012 is the most recent. In between chronologically are a black-and-white photograph of Japanese Americans under armed guard at an internment camp, black and white college students holding hands and singing while working to register black voters in the American South, a cross burning at a KKK rally, and a contemporary protest of the Washington Redskins team nickname. These represent some of the typical entries in this encyclopedia, portraying the complex reach of racial issues across American society and history.

Entries cover noteworthy figures and personalities, memorable events, and other sundry race-related topics. Alphabetically ordered, they typically contain "See Also" references and usually at least ten resources for further reading. While relatively brief—usually only a few pages—the entries are also complemented by sidebars providing additional information and context for users. For example, the entry on the Nation of Islam contains side boxes on both the Million-Man March on Washington in 1995 as well as the Reverend Louis Farrakhan. Other features are an index that refers users both to main entries and persons and subjects within entries. Additionally, a topical list of entries, a chronology, preface, and an introduction on the history of American racial issues are also presented. Most of volume 4 of this set consists of primary documents, many representing legal and codified racism, ranging from the old—the Indian Removal Act of 1830 and the Slave Codes of the State of Georgia, 1848—to the new—Arizona Senate Bill 1070 of 2010, which allows law enforcement to detain suspected illegal immigrants.

There are other current and similar encyclopedia sets on the market. The *Encyclopedia of Race and Racism* (Macmillan, 2007), edited by John H. Moore, and the *Encyclopedia*