



Volume

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Journal 103

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**An asterisk means that the book is in print; if you wish to purchase it from our friends at Splintered Light Books, call 1.800.979.3310.*

The issue date for Volume 103 is May/June 2010.

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Law, Society, & Ultimate Commitments

Steven D. Smith's *The Disenchantment of Secular Discourse** (2010) was published by Harvard University Press, which also published his 2004 book *Law's Quandary**. *Foreordained Failure: The Quest for a Constitutional Principle of Religious Freedom** (1995) was published by Oxford. Smith's 1998 book, *The Constitution and the Pride of Reason* (Oxford) is an exploration of the relationship between constitutional law and politics in the United States. Smith makes the argument in that book that the Constitution "is the expression or embodiment not of politics, but of reason." Stanley Fish discussed Smith's most recent book in a *New York Times* column entitled "Are There Secular Reasons?" on February 22, 2010. Many of Smith's law review articles dealing with First Amendment issues, with the moral and metaphysical basis of law, and with the character of public discourse may be found online at the Social Science Research Network website (ssrn.com).

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Alfred Hitchcock & David Thomson

David Thomson's *The Moment of Psycho: How Alfred Hitchcock Taught America to Love Murder** (2009) was published by Basic Books. The theme of how our exposure to so much acting through movies (and now, TV and the Internet) is explored in Thomson's *The Whole Equation: A History of Hollywood** (Knopf, 2005). In 2010, *Sight & Sound*, the publication of the British Film Institute, polled 50 international film critics to find out what they considered to be the most important books about film ever written. David Thomson's *A Biographical Dictionary of Film** (first published in 1975 by Morrow, later editions by Knopf as *The New Biographical Dictionary of Film*) was the number one book named. The fifth edition will be released in October 2010. Thomson's interest in Orson Welles resulted in the 1996 book *Rosebud: The Story of Orson Welles** (Knopf). In 2008, Knopf published a collection of 1,000 page-long reviews by Thomson of the most important films ever made (or at least the ones he likes to write about). It is called *Have You Seen . . . ?** Important books about Hitchcock include François Truffaut's *Hitchcock** (Simon & Schuster, 1967), which placed in the top five in *Sight & Sound's* poll. Robin Wood's *Hitchcock's Films** was published in 1965 and released in a revised edition in 2002 by Columbia University Press. *Alfred Hitchcock's Psycho: A Casebook** (Oxford, 2004), edited by Robert Kolker, contains excerpts from Wood's book and from many

other important volumes on the film. Eric Rohmer, like Truffaut an important French director, wrote *Hitchcock, the First Forty-four Films* (Ungar) in 1979. Donald Spoto's somewhat chattier studies, *The Art of Alfred Hitchcock: Fifty Years of His Motion Pictures* (Knopf, 1976) and *The Dark Side of Genius: The Life of Alfred Hitchcock* (Da Capo, 1983) combine a lot of historical background with a reading of the important films. Hitchcock wrote and spoke quite a bit about his work and its intentions. A collection of his own commentary is available in *Hitchcock on Hitchcock: Selected Writings and Interviews**, edited by Sidney Gottlieb (UC-Berkeley, 1995). Other Hitchcock studies include Nicholas Haefner's *Alfred Hitchcock** (Longman, 2005) and a volume that Hitch would have enjoyed, *Alfred Hitchcock, The Master of Suspense: A Pop-up Book** (2006), produced by Kees Moerbeek and Simon & Schuster, and probably, despite the marketing, not for kids.

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Other Works Mentioned

Adam McHugh's *Introverts in the Church: Finding Our Place in an Extroverted Culture** (2009) was published by InterVarsity Press. Rev. McHugh's website, introvertedchurch.com, features many resources that complement his book. Glenn Arbery's *The Southern Critics: An Anthology* (2010) was published by ISI Books, as was his earlier *Why Literature Matters: Permanence and the Politics of Reputation* (2001). Eric Miller's *Hope in a Scattered Time: A Life of Christopher Lasch* (2010) was published by Eerdmans. Eric Metaxas's *Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy* (2010) was published by Thomas Nelson.

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