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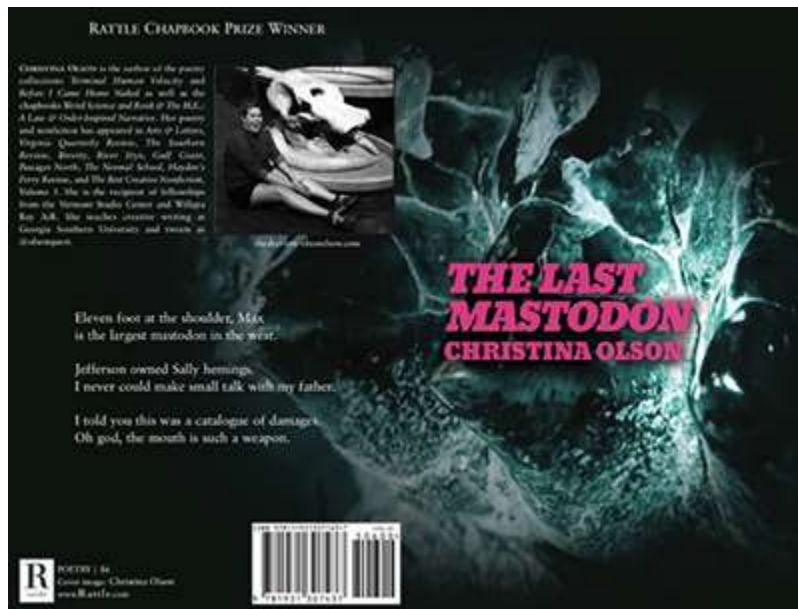
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Inspired by paleontologists, professor publishes book of poetry

September 23, 2020



In summer 2017, Christina Olson was invited by College of Science and Mathematics professor Katy Smith to serve as poet-in-residence for a paleontology conference and exhibition (“The Valley of the Mastodons”) at the Western Science Center in Hemet, California.

These poems, exploring the nature of history, assembly, and ownership, were inspired by that time spent among paleontologists, as well as Olson’s observations of the museum’s collection of fossils, particularly Max the Mastodon. The resulting chapbook of poetry, “The Last Mastodon,” won the 2019 Rattle Chapbook Prize and was published December 2019.

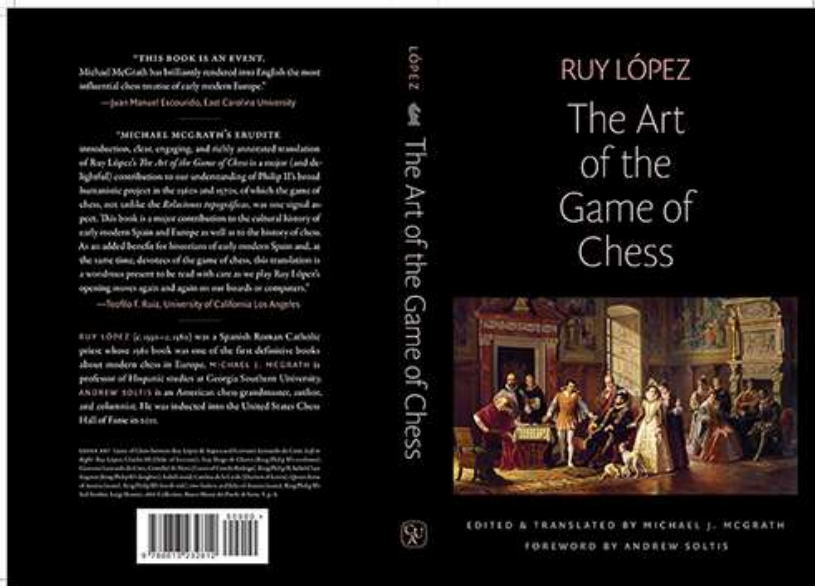


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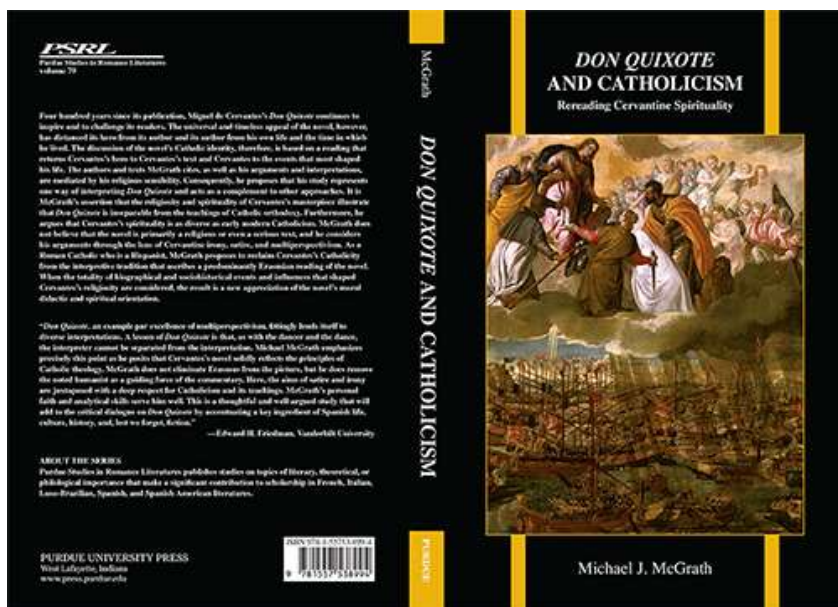
Work by McGrath published recently

September 23, 2020

Michael J. McGrath, professor of Spanish, is the editor and translator of one book published July 2020 by the Catholic University of America Press and the author of another book published August 2020 by Purdue University Press.



McGrath also serves as the editor and translator of “The Art of the Game of Chess,” which is the first English translation of Ruy Lopez’s book “Libro de la invención liberal y arte del juego del ajedrez” (Catholic University of America Press). Lopez is widely acclaimed as one of the most influential chess thinkers of all time whose theories of chess are an integral part of how chess is played today. Academics, including historians, linguists, sociologists, and Hispanists, as well as non-academics, especially chess enthusiasts, will appreciate this translation. The translation opens with a foreword by Andrew Soltis, who is a Grandmaster and a United States Chess Hall of Fame Inductee, and includes a critical introduction and more than 275 footnotes.



McGrath is also the author of “Don Quixote and Catholicism: Rereading Cervantine Spirituality” (Purdue University Press). In this book, McGrath proposes to reclaim Cervantes’s Catholicity from the interpretive tradition that ascribes a predominately Erasmian reading of the novel. When the totality of biographical and sociohistorical events and influences that shaped Cervantes’s religiosity are considered, the result is a new appreciation of the novel’s moral didactic and spiritual orientation.

Posted in [Foreign Languages](#)

[Batchelor to present information on mapping project](#)

September 23, 2020



Robert Batchelor, professor in the Department of History, will give two opening talks Wednesday, Sept. 23, for the launch of a new digital historical mapping project for Southeast Asia.

The project is sponsored by Yale and the National University of Singapore (NUS). The president of Yale and NUS, the famous historian of Singapore Tan Tai Yong, will moderate the discussion between Batchelor and renowned historian Matthew Edney.

Registration for the event and the entire series, which runs through October, is available at <https://historicmapssea.commons.yale-nus.edu.sg/circulations/>. Times on the website refer to Singapore (GMT+8, EST+12). The event runs from 7 to 9 a.m. EST.

Posted in [History](#)