

American public life, the Founders' understanding of the Constitution, the Federal Reserve Bank, and a review of Adam Bellow's *The State of the American Mind*.

Przywracanie pamięci (Restoring memory), by **Adam Wierciński**. 2nd ed. Opole: Opole University Press, 1997. 153 pages. Bibliography, drawings. ISBN 83-85678-79-4. Paper. In Polish.

While after the Second World War Poles unquestionably surrendered Lithuanian, Belarusian, and Ukrainian territories to the nationalities that have claimed them, a good deal of Polish memories and culture is associated with these territories, acquired by the Polish state by dynastic arrangements in the fourteenth century. These memories concern architecture, universities founded by Polish kings, notable Polish families that lived there, and simply the landscape and the land itself. This book taps into these memories. Chapter after chapter, important events and personalities are recalled, especially those that come from the formerly Polish Lithuania. Leaders like Józef Piłsudski, poets such as Adam Mickiewicz and Czesław Miłosz came from families rooted in Lithuania for centuries. It is not a question of genetic but cultural background. No matter where you were born, the culture you embrace decides your nationality, and you have the right to reminisce about your fathers and grandfathers. The book does just that.

Sweet Days and Sour, by **Rafal Pomian**. Ottawa: Baico Publishing Inc. (info@baico.ca), 2016. 225 pages. ISBN 978-1-77216-065-9. Paper.

A fascinating novel about conemporary China, fast-moving and amazingly knowledgeable about Chinese customs and life. The author has produced a thriller showing that the Chinese are subject to the same human vanities and emotions as the rest of us. A Chinese dictator decides to destroy the western world and he almost succeeds, but human emotions interfere. The author is a talented yet unknown novelist who deserves reviews in the major media.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

David Craig is a Professor of English at Franciscan University of Steubenville. He also is the author of nine collections of poetry.

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Virginie Magnat is an Associate Professor of Performance at the University of British Columbia. Her monograph *Grotowski, Women, and Contemporary Performance: Meetings with Remarkable Women* (Routledge 2014, <http://www.routledge.com/9780415813594>) and its companion documentary film series, featured on the Routledge Performance Archive, are grounded in four years of embodied research and multi-sited fieldwork supported by two major research grants from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

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