

# WHY X MATTERS

Featuring intriguing pairings of authors and subject, each volume in the Why X Matters series presents a concise argument or the continuing relevance of an important idea.



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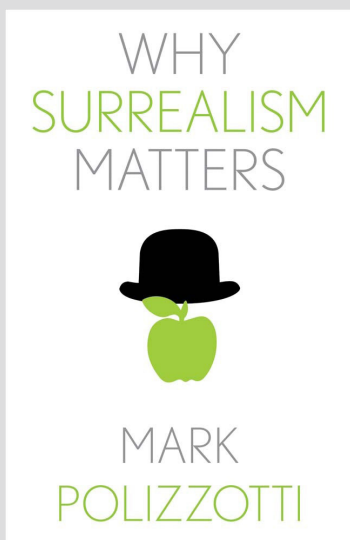
## Why **Sound** Matters

### Damon Krukowski

Hardback | 9780300272246 | Forthcoming: Jan 2026 | £18.99 | 128 pages

A poignant consideration of the material aspect of sound and how it fundamentally shapes our experience of the world, both in its presence and absence

From the joyous communal connections fostered through shared auditory experience to the devastating impact of noise pollution in the deep sea, musician and author Damon Krukowski urges readers to reconsider the significance of sound and its role in both our personal and collective well-being.



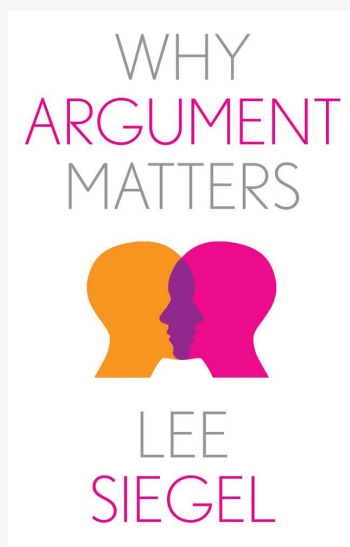
## Why **Surrealism** Matters

### Mark Polizzotti

Paperback | 9780300285543 | Forthcoming: Nov 2025 | £12.99 | 232 pages  
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An elegant consideration of the Surrealist movement as a global phenomenon and why it continues to resonate

Mark Polizzotti vibrantly reframes the Surrealist movement in contemporary terms and offers insight into why it continues to inspire makers and consumers of art, literature, and culture.



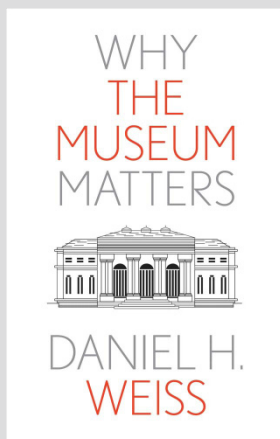
## Why **Argument** Matters

### Lee Siegel

Paperback | 9780300271072 | May 2023 | £14.99 | 160 pages  
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An impassioned case for argument's central role in human life, by one of America's sharpest cultural critics

In this dazzling reformulation of argument, renowned critic Lee Siegel portrays the true art of argument as much deeper and far more embracing than mere quarrel, dispute, or debate. It is the supreme expression of humanity's longing for a better life, born of empathy and of care for the world and those who inhabit it.



## Why **The Museum** Matters

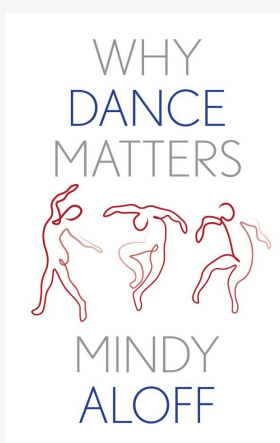
Daniel H. Weiss

Paperback | 9780300259353 | May 2024 | £14.99 | 224 pages

Hardback | 9780300259353 | Jan 2023 | £16.99 | 224 pages

A powerful reflection on the universal art museum, considering the values critical to its history and anticipating its evolving place in our cultural future

Art museums have played a vital role in our culture, drawing on Enlightenment ideals in shaping ideas, advancing learning, fostering community, and providing spaces of beauty and permanence. In this thoughtful and often personal volume, Weiss contemplates the idea of the universal art museum.

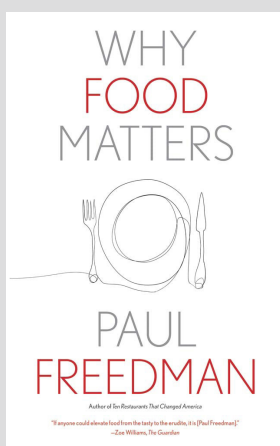


## Why **Dance** Matters | Mindy Aloff

Hardback | 9780300204520 | Jan 2023 | £16.50 | 280 pages

A passionate and moving tribute to the captivating power of dance, not just as an art form but as a language that transcends barriers

Mindy Aloff, a journalist, an essayist, and a dance critic, analyzes dance as the ultimate expression of human energy and feeling and takes us on a journey through various forms of dance—rituals, religious observances, storytelling, musical interpretations—to show why dance matters to human beings.

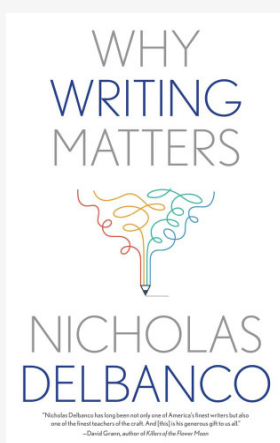


## Why **Food** Matters | Paul Freedman

Paperback | 9780300268089 | Nov 2022 | £12.99 | 216 pages

An exploration of food's cultural importance and its crucial role throughout human history

In this short, passionate book, Paul Freedman makes the case for food's vital importance, stressing its crucial role in the evolution of human identity and human civilizations, presenting a highly readable and illuminating account of food's unique role in our lives.



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Distinguished writer and scholar tackles central questions of the discipline of writing. Part memoir, part literary history, and part analysis, this unique text will resonate with students, writers, writing teachers, and bibliophiles.

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