For Immediate Release: May 8, 2014
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The Los Angeles Review of Books Launches “LARB Channels” Division, Building New Community of Partner Digital Magazines

Los Angeles, CA – The Los Angeles Review of Books (LARB) announced today it will begin publishing and partnering with a series of online magazines, called "LARB Channels," in its ongoing mission to build an expansive home for the best emerging and established writers, artists and scholars.

"The Channels division gives us the opportunity to extend our support to other independent magazines who, like us, want to build a community around vanguard writing in literary criticism, politics, science, the arts, and culture" said Tom Lutz, the Editor in Chief of the Los Angeles Review of Books. "We intend for these publications to form a new, cutting edge literary collective in tandem with our flagship magazine, the Los Angeles Review of Books."

The magazines that make up the new Channels division share LARB's mission to bring the best that is thought and written to readers around the world; like LARB they are nonprofit public service publications. The first five Channels to launch are Boom: A Journal of California, The Marginalia Review of Books, The Levantine Review, Avidly and The Philosophers Plant.

Boom: A Journal of California, (http://boom.lareviewofbooks.org) edited by veteran journalist Jon Christensen and published by the University of California Press, is a signature West Coast publication known for its wide range of photography, art, and writing, from scholarly articles to journalism, personal essays and interviews. The launch of a Boom LARB channel creates a partnership between two of the most respected literary magazines in Los Angeles.

“Boom is a journal of California in the world and the world in California,” said Jon Christensen. “So I can’t think of a better place for us to be than in the global literary community that LARB has established with its heart in California.”

The Marginalia Review of Books (http://marginalia.lareviewofbooks.org) examines literature and culture in the nexus of history, theology and religion. Founded and published by T. M. Law, with a luminary staff of nearly 50 editors in the US, UK, Europe, and elsewhere, they cover everything from the early history of the world’s major religions to contemporary debates in religious studies to religious issues in popular culture.

“We want to boldly capture the opportunities of new media while also presenting erudition from the humanities,” said T.M. Law. “From the start, we took inspiration from LARB and Tom's vision, so we are honored by this partnership and excited about the new possibilities for creative collaboration between the two publications.”
The Levantine Review (http://levantine.lareviewofbooks.org), which will publish soon, is a nonpartisan online magazine originally founded in 2004 by the Levantine Cultural Center that publishes scholarship (in English, French, Arabic, Hebrew, Turkish, Syriac, and Levantine vernaculars) on the history, cultures, religions, politics, and the intellectual, philological and literary traditions of the contemporary Levant and Near East.

“We’re excited to be relaunching the Levantine Review in partnership with the Los Angeles Review of Books,” said Jordan Elgrably, the editorial director of the review. “Our mission is to broaden perspectives on the Middle East and North Africa in the media and the public eye, and promote peace through a focus on the arts and culture.”

Avidly (http://www.avidly.org), edited by Sarah Blackwood (Pace University) and Sarah Mesle (UCLA) specializes in short-form critical essays devoted to thinking and feeling about culture. The magazine publishes twice a week, featuring fresh perspectives, whether academic or otherwise, on everything from theory and literature to the cultural mores of gender, sports, politics and entertainment. As its name suggests, Avidly responds to literature and culture by blending critical rigor with enthusiasm.

“We’re thrilled to become a part of the LARB community,” said Sarah Blackwood and Sarah Mesle. “It’s a tremendous opportunity that lets us bring Avidly to a larger audience while maintaining its signature mix of spontaneity, intelligence and fun. LARB’s commitment to supporting independent venues is such a boon to all of us who care not just about books, but also about fostering new kinds of writing, editing, and critical engagement.”

The mission of The Philosopher’s Plant (http://philosoplant.lareviewofbooks.org), as stated by editorial director Michael Marder, is to “lift the curtain on the role of vegetation.” It examines the philosophical tradition and the latest work in various fields of philosophy engaged in thinking about vegetable life.

Marder, who is Ikerbasque Research Professor of Philosophy at the University of the Basque Country, Vitoria-Gasteiz, further stated, “LARB is the ideal host for The Philosopher’s Plant, because of its interdisciplinary appeal and in-depth treatment of cutting-edge developments in contemporary academia.”

To request an interview or feature, please contact Jessica Kubinec, Jessica@lareviewofbooks.org.

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ABOUT THE LOS ANGELES REVIEW OF BOOKS
The Los Angeles Review of Books (http://lareviewofbooks.org) is a nonprofit, multimedia magazine of literature and culture that combines the great American tradition of the serious book review with the evolving technologies of the Web. We are a community of writers, critics, journalists, artists, filmmakers, and scholars dedicated to promoting and disseminating the best that is thought and written, with an enduring commitment to the intellectual rigor, the incisiveness, and the power of the written word.