



# magazines

By Clayton A. Couch

## **New England Watershed Magazine.**

**2005. bi-m. \$47. Ed: Russell Powell. www.newenglandwatershed.com. ISSN 1557-3095. Illus. adv. Aud: GA (Subject: New England Culture. Issue examined: Vol. 1, No. 1, October 2005)**

*New England Watershed Magazine (NEWM)* captures the soul of the New England region with its stealthily offbeat yet informative and level-headed approach. “Candiasis and the Origin of Clowns,” a squirm-inducing article by Dorion Sagan (with Lynn Margulis), perfectly represents *NEWM*’s quirky nature, while “This Land Is Our Land: The Challenge of the Immigrant,” by Ilan Stavans, represents its instructive, sober side. Recommended for academic and public libraries with New England ties.

**Isotope. 2003. bi-a. \$10. Ed: Christopher Cokinos. isotope.usu.edu. ISSN 1544-8479. Illus. Aud: GA (Subject: Literary Nature and Science Writing. Issue examined: Vol. 3, No. 2, Fall/Winter 2005)**

Nature writing and science writing have often been presented as distinct genres, as if the Thoreaus and Einsteins of the world lived on planets unconnected to one another. *Isotope* looks to rectify this by pub-

lishing materials, as exemplified by David Copland Morris’s essay from the profiled issue (“David Copland Morris Listens to the Voice from Nowhere”), that intelligently challenge these arbitrary boundaries. Unafraid to ask difficult questions with its poetry, articles, and visual art, *Isotope* is

**jubilat. 2001. bi-a. \$14. Ed: Christian Hawkey & Michael Teig. www.jubilat.org. ISSN 1529-0999. Illus. Aud: Ac, GA (Subject: Contemporary American Poetry. Issue examined: No. 10, 2005)**

Recently featured on NPR’s *All Things Considered* and in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, *jubilat* is fast gaining a reputation for publishing excellent poetry. The journal’s editors refuse, however, to view this deserved attention as any reason to rest on their laurels: their smart-looking tenth issue includes a loquacious interview with poet Cole Swensen, first-rate poems by James Wagner, Jen Bervin, and others, and entries from Goethe’s compelling “Italian Journey” journal. Recommended for most public and academic libraries.

**New York Spaces. 2004. bi-m. \$9.95. Ed: Rita Guarna. www.newyorkspacesmagazine.com. ISSN 1552-9762. Illus. adv. Aud: GA (Subject: NY Metro-area Interior Design. Issue examined: Vol. 2, No. 4, October 2005)**

At first glance, *New York Spaces*—“the home design magazine of metropolitan New York”—comes across as a publication for and about wealthy (no surprise) New Yorkers. To be sure, there’s an element of NYC glitz and ritz here. But features on interior design ideas for college dorm rooms, R.L. Stine’s Upper West Side apartment and its renovation, and the restoration of a Somerville, NJ, mansion—along with numerous product reviews—should attract a diverse group of New York and non-New York public library patrons.

**Maximum Fitness. 2006. bi-m. \$14.97. Ed: Matt Nicholls. www.maxfitmag.com. ISSN 1533-6352. Illus. adv. Aud: GA (Subject: Men’s Fitness. Issue examined: Vol. 1, No. 1, January/February 2006)**

*Maximum Fitness (MF)* is a lean new release from the Comag Marketing Group and an improvement over other titles in the men’s fitness genre, which are generally more concerned with men’s sex lives than their health. Instead of packaging soft-core pornography, *MF* presents fairly diverse articles, like a profile of Phoenix Suns point guard Steve Nash

and an in-depth article on the Serra Brazilian Jui-Jitsu Academy, the so-called toughest gym in America. It belongs in medium to large public libraries.

**Silent Voices. 2005. a. \$13.85. Ed: Peter A. Balaskas. www.exmachinapress.com. Adv. Aud: GA (Subject: Contemporary Short Fiction. Issue examined: Vol. 1, 2005)**

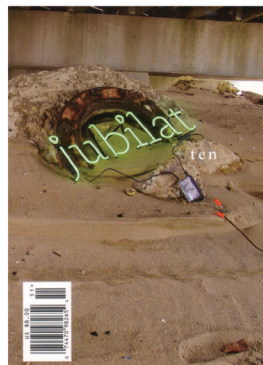
Ex Machina Press has bravely entered the crowded field of literary journal publishing with *Silent Voices*, a mag dedicated to contemporary short fiction. Its interesting, somewhat unique approach deserves applause: each issue is organized around a single “unifying harmony.” Volume 1 includes short fiction from Chuck Rosenthal, Louise Domaratus, Tamar Love, and others. For libraries with strong contemporary literature collections.

**Land Lines. 1988. q. Free. Ed: Ann LeRoyer. www.lincolninst.edu. ISSN 1051-3035. Illus. Aud: SA, GA (Subject: Land Policy and Taxation. Issue examined: Vol. 18, No. 1, January 2006)**

*Land Lines*, a 20- to 25-page professional newsletter containing two or more feature articles per issue, is published quarterly by the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, an organization that seeks to “expand the body of useful knowledge” in three areas: valuation and taxation, planning and development, and international studies. Indeed, the profiled issue—with its articles on tax increment financing and regional land use policies—does just that. Published with professionals in mind, *Land Lines* may nevertheless be of interest to public library patrons.

**The Journal of Short Film. 2005. q. \$36. Ed: Susan B. Halpern, Paul Hill, & Jennifer Lange. www.thejsf.org. ISSN 1558-9846. Aud: Ac, GA (Subject: Short Films. Issue examined: Vol. 2, Winter 2006)**

Blame it on the Hollywood-blockbuster model or the typical moviegoer’s addiction to spectacle, but there’s little doubt that well-made short films don’t receive the attention, respect, or box office they deserve. If the Winter 2006 issue of the DVD format *The Journal of Short Film* tells us anything, it’s that the short film—despite its minimal impact on the marketplace—is unquestionably alive and well: witness *Bludren*, *Final Lap*, and *We’re Just Walking*, three of the 11 shorts in the profiled issue. Recommended for most libraries.



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