

SYMPOSIUM
MANIA: THE LIVES, LITERATURE, AND
LAW OF THE BEATS

A discussion inspired by
Ronald Collins & David Skover, *Mania: The Story of the*
Outraged and Outrageous Lives That Launched a
Cultural Revolution (2013)

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* The transcript of Jean Stefancic's presentation at the symposium, titled "The Beat Women: Their Roles & Ruin," does not appear in this issue. Her article substitutes for the transcript.

† The transcript of Richard Delgado's presentation at the symposium, titled "Literature in Law: *Mania* as a Prototype," does not appear in this issue. His book review substitutes for the transcript.

SYMPOSIUM PARTICIPANTS

Albert Bendich is the Executive Vice-President, business & legal affairs, of The Saul Zaentz Company – a producer of feature films, including Academy Award winners such as *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, *Amadeus*, and *The English Patient*. Until its sale to Concord Records in 2004, he also held the same position at Fantasy Inc., a record and publishing company whose catalogue included artists from the musical world of jazz, folk, rock & roll, rhythm & blues (including, among others, Miles Davis, Thelonious Monk, John Coltrane, Ella Fitzgerald, Sarah Vaughn, and Creedence Clearwater Revival), as well as poets of the San Francisco Renaissance (including Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Kenneth Rexroth and Alan Ginsberg). As a young staff attorney for the Northern California Chapter of the ACLU, Bendich was co-counsel for the defense in the “Howl” trial, *People v. Ferlinghetti*, (1957), the first prosecution undertaken under the modern standards of the federal obscenity law. Subsequently, he successfully represented Lenny Bruce in the San Francisco obscenity prosecution (1961-1962) brought against the famous comedian for his club act at the Jazz Workshop.

Ronald Collins is the Harold S. Shefelman Scholar at the University of Washington School of Law. He specializes in First Amendment law and in constitutional law. In addition to *Mania*, his books coauthored with David Skover include *The Death of Discourse* (2nd ed., 2005), *The Trials of Lenny Bruce* (2002, e-book ed., 2013), and *On Dissent* (2013). Recently, he is the editor of *The Fundamental Holmes: A Free Speech Chronicle and Reader* (2010), and the coauthor of *We Must Not Be Afraid to Be Free: Stories about Free Speech in America* (2011). His last book was *Nuanced Absolutism: Floyd Abrams and the First Amendment* (2013).

Richard Delgado is a former University Professor at Seattle University School of Law. He is the author of 27 books and over 150 journal articles. His books have won eight national book prizes, including six Gustavus Myers Awards for outstanding book on human rights in North America, the American Library Association's Outstanding Academic Book, and a Pulitzer Prize nomination. He is one of the leading commentators on racial justice in the United States, and also a recognized authority within the Law & Literature movement.

David Skover is the Fredric C. Tausend Professor at Seattle University School of Law. He specializes in constitutional law, federal courts law, and First Amendment law. In addition to *Mania*, his books coauthored with Ronald Collins include *The Death of Discourse* (2nd ed., 2005), *The Trials of Lenny Bruce* (2002, e-book ed., 2013), and *On Dissent* (2013). He is also coauthor of *Tactics of Legal Reasoning* (1986).

Jean Stefancic is a Research Professor at Seattle University School of Law. She has written and co-authored 15 books and over 40 articles dealing with law reform, social change, and legal scholarship. Her most recent book, *How Lawyers Lose Their Way*, examines the causes of unhappiness among attorneys. Her 1996 book, *No Mercy: How Conservative Think Tanks and Foundations Changed America's Social Agenda*, won praise by Herbert Gans as a “careful and comprehensive accounting of who did what in trying to kill liberal programs and policies.”

Nadine Strossen is a Professor of Law at New York Law School and the immediate past president of the American Civil Liberties Union (1991-2008). She has written, lectured, and practiced extensively in the areas of constitutional law, civil liberties, and international human rights. Among her more than 300 published works, *Defending Pornography: Free Speech, Sex, and the Fight for Women's Rights* was named by the New York Times as a “Notable Book” of 1995, and her coauthored work, *Speaking of Race, Speaking of Sex* (1995) was deemed an “outstanding book” by the Gustavus Myers Center for the Study of Human Rights in America. The National Law Journal has named Strossen one of “The 100 Most Influential Lawyers in America.”

Matt Theado is a Professor of English at Gardner-Webb University in Boiling Springs, North Carolina. One of America's most distinguished scholars on the Beats, he is the author of *Understanding Jack Kerouac* (2000) and *The Beats: A Literary Reference* (2003). His essay “Revisions of Kerouac” in *What's Your Road, Man?* (2008) details the composition of *On the Road*.