

UMP, British Publisher Form New Partnership

Readers who can't get enough of political and cultural events but find the mainstream coverage lacking in scope and serious criticism will soon have dozens of new titles to bring them up to date. The University of Michigan Press and Britain's prestigious Pluto Press recently began a distribution partnership that should fill the gap in books of current interest.

Pluto, one of the U.K.'s most distinguished independent publishers, is known for some of the best in critical writing across the social sciences and humanities, with a spotlight on Middle East politics and terrorism. Long before Afghanistan, the Taliban, al Qaeda, the war in Iraq, and others made the daily headlines, Pluto was publishing provocative - and prescient -- books on what have turned out to be some of the most urgent discussions of our times.

Among Pluto's timely fall 2004 offerings are *God Willing?*, by David Domke, which takes a look at the Bush administration's brand of political fundamentalism and what it means for both U.S. politics and the global landscape; and Ray Helmick's *Negotiating Outside the Law*, an insider's account of the 2000 Camp David talks between the Clinton administration, Israel, and Palestine, and why they failed.

By partnering with the University of Michigan Press, Pluto will enjoy the advantages of Michigan's extensive and well-established marketing efforts in the academic community as well as UMP's recent push into the trade market. According to Pluto co-director Anne Beech, "We're enormously excited at the prospect of working with UMP in the months and years ahead. The U.S. is a key market for independent publishers like Pluto, but one that many U.K. publishers find hard to crack. We're convinced that Michigan's resources -- and the energy and commitment of the UMP team -- will match our own ambitions for growth in the American market."

The Newsroom Archives
UMP, British Publisher Form New Partnership
July 2004

Michigan's relationship with Pluto is part of the Ann Arbor-based publisher's efforts to offer important books on current regional, political, and international subjects. There's an air of excitement and change at Michigan, according to UMP director Phil Pochoda, and Pluto has a lot to do with that. "We're delighted to enter into a distribution agreement with our old friends at Pluto Press," Pochoda says. "As an early publisher of progressive books on the politics of the Middle East -- as well as of the rest of the world -- Pluto has enjoyed remarkable success in the past two years, a record that we hope UMP can help sustain and expand."

Currently, Pluto Press publishes more than 70 titles a year and has an extensive backlist of over 400 titles. Two of its most successful books in 2003 include Loretta Napoleoni's *Modern Jihad: Tracing the Dollars behind the Terror Networks* and Milan Rai's *Regime Unchanged: Why the War on Iraq Changed Nothing*.

[View Pluto Press titles](#)

[View Pluto Press's website](#)