



# Bohemian New Orleans: The Story of the Outsider and Loujon Press

*Jeff Weddle*

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In 1960, Jon Edgar and Louise "Gypsy Lou" Webb founded Loujon Press on Royal Street in New Orleans's French Quarter. The small publishing house quickly became a giant. Heralded by the *Village Voice* and the *New York Times* as one of the best of its day, the *Outsider*, the press's literary review, featured, among others, Charles Bukowski, Allen Ginsberg, Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Robert Creeley, Denise Levertov, and Walter Lowenfels. Loujon published books by Henry Miller and two early poetry collections by Bukowski.

*Bohemian New Orleans* traces the development of this courageous imprint and examines its place within the small press revolution of the 1960s.

Drawing on correspondence from many who were published in the *Outsider*, back issues of the *Outsider*, contemporary reviews, promotional materials, and interviews, Jeff Weddle shows how the press's mandarin insistence on production quality and its eclectic editorial taste made its work nonpareil among peers in the underground. Throughout, *Bohemian New Orleans* reveals the messy, complex, and vagabond spirit of a lost literary age.

Jeff Weddle is assistant professor of library and information studies at the University of Alabama. His work has appeared in *Publishing History* and *Beat Scene*.

Learn about Director Wayne Ewing's documentary film "The Outsiders of New Orleans: Loujon Press" and watch a trailer at <http://www.loujonpress.com/>

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