

**PRESS RELEASE  
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Umbrage Editions is pleased to announce the Fall 2002 publication of

**RAISING THE BAR:  
NEW HORIZONS IN DISABILITY SPORTS**

with a preface by Christopher Reeve

Essay by Artemis A.W. Joukowsky III and Larry Rothstein

An Umbrage Editions book  
Produced in collaboration with US Paralympics and  
the International Paralympic Committee

"The pleasure of sports is to discover at every moment that you have arrived and you have overcome—that you have achieved your goals, which you thought to be possible only in your dreams." —Beatrice Hess

"Perhaps the most valuable thing an athlete can learn from sports has nothing to do with physical achievement, and everything to do with spirit. As a sportsman, *Raising the Bar* is a lesson in humility. As a human being, it is an inspiration."  
--- Muhammad Ali



© Jamie Sanchez

Power, Speed, Agility: these qualities are necessary to any athlete. Perhaps more than any other public sports events, athletes competing with disabilities challenge us to think about these qualities and about athleticism in new and exhilarating ways. Disability sports are an expanding frontier for human achievement, showcasing the accomplishments of athletes with physical disabilities but without limitations. *Raising the Bar* compiles the finest portraits and sports photography on this topic, and goes further, introducing the reader to the diverse, international community of athletes with disabilities via their own words, compiled from a series of interviews conducted exclusively for this book. *Raising the Bar* is a first --- a breathtakingly handsome, emotionally moving, international look at para-athletes making history in sports today.

**With Star Athletes** Franck Barre, Monica Bascio, Kirk Bauer, Sara Billmeier, Jayne Craike, Jean Driscoll, Pam Fernandes, Beatrice Hess, Claude Issorat, Ann Romney, Marlon Shirley, Chris Waddell, Erik Weihenmayer, and more.

Biographies

**Artemis A.W Joukowsky III** is a venture capitalist, executive coach, and a para-athlete currently training for the National Championships in table tennis. He serves as a board member of the families of Spinal Muscular Atrophy and Partners for Youth with Disabilities, among other organizations. Joukowsky is also the Chairman and co-founder of No-Limits Media.

**Larry Rothstein** is a writer and collaborator who holds a doctorate from Harvard in public policy analysis and maintains an interest in the field of civil rights, particularly as it applies to people with disabilities. Rothstein is a co-founder of No-Limits Media.



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# RAISING THE BAR: NEW HORIZONS IN DISABILITY SPORTS

An Umbrage Editions Book

*Authors Artemis A.W. Joukowsky III and Larry Rothstein, as well as a number of athletes featured in the book will be available to speak to the press upon request.*

## Quotes from RAISING THE BAR

**The pleasure of sports is to discover at every moment that you have arrived and you have overcome—that you have achieved your goals, which you thought to be possible only in your dreams....My discovery, as somebody handicapped, is that swimming opens the door to everything for me. First, it gave me freedom, then a place in society. I believe that life is only worth living if it brings novelty and pleasure every day. Sports reflect this at every level.**  
—Beatrice Hess (France)

Highlights: Total 18 Gold, 2 Silver, 1 Bronze Paralympics Metals, 16 Gold, 2 Silver, 2 Relay Team Gold Metals at the European Championships, Received the title of Knight of the Legion of Honor (Chevallier de la Legion d'Honneur) in 1996.  
Events: Swimming (50m Butterfly, 50m Backstroke, 100m and 200m Freestyle, among others).

**Sport is a tremendous vehicle for education. In the athletic arena, disability is seen as a characteristic like hair color or shoe size, rather than a defining principle. When sports events are integrated, the focus turns from the person with a disability to the guy with a great shot or the gal with a fast 800 meter time.**  
—Jean Driscoll (United States)

Highlights: Boston Marathon—winner, 1990–96, 2000. Broke World Record 1990–94, holds current World and Course Record; 3 Gold, 2 Silver, and 3 Bronze Paralympic Medals, World Record in 10,000 m, “Jean Driscoll Day” in various cities, “Jean Driscoll Week” April 14-20 1996 in Champaign, IL to celebrate 100th running of Boston Marathon and Jean’s 7th consecutive victory; 1997 Gene Autry Award recipient.  
Events: Wheelchair Marathon, 10,000 m Track Event.

**I don't see myself as a crazy blind guy. I see myself as someone who uses innovation and a lot of ingenuity. I take a situation that looks impossible and try to figure out how to attack it, how to make it possible. People can't figure out how the words blind and climber go together, so it's been fun trying to show people that they can and do belong in the same sentence. My goal has always been to surpass people's expectations. Sometimes when those expectations become boundaries, I want to just get rid of them altogether. Sometimes we write off things as impossible a little too quickly. To reach the summit is to say, “Look at what is possible.” It takes those narrow parameters and shatters them. We can all get to the top—we just have to figure out our own special way to do it.**  
—Erik Weihenmayer (United States)

Highlights: First Blind Climber to Summit Mount Everest

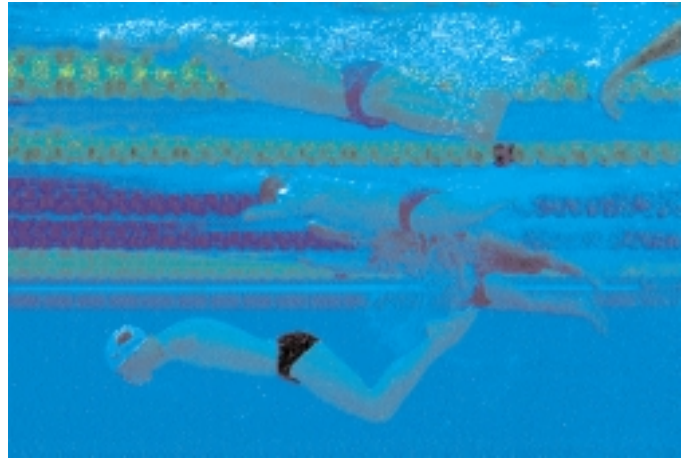
## About Umbrage

Umbrage Editions, based in New York City, is a publisher of high-quality visual books, traveling exhibitions, and multimedia projects. Founded in 1991 by Nan Richardson, former editor of Aperture, Umbrage Editions works on the creation of content-rich books, exhibitions, websites, theater productions, and CD-ROMs from their conception to development and final production. In the past, published works have varied in subject matter from pop culture to global human rights, from the closets of drag queens to the runways of fashion, from classic photojournalism to cutting-edge art. Umbrage has produced co-editions with numerous publishers, including Random House, Twin Palms, Bulfinch, Abrams, HarperCollins, Abu Michel, teNues, and many more.

# RAISING THE BAR PRESS IMAGES

## An Umbrage Editions Book

The images below will be available for press promotion of RAISING THE BAR. Please contact Umbrage Editions (t: 212-965-0197, f: 212-965-0276, [press@umbragebooks.com](mailto:press@umbragebooks.com)) for further information on the photographs, or their subjects.



### CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:

Gold medal winner and fashion model Aimee Mullins (US) training in San Diego. Lynn Johnson/Aurora & Quanta

Junquan He (China) in action during the Mens 100 Metres Freestyle S5 Heat at the Sydney International Aquatic Centre during the Paralympic Games in Sydney, Australia, October, 2000. Jamie Squire/Getty Images

Stretching before a friendly match between Bosnia-Herzegovina and Iran. The legacy of the wars in Bosnia and Iran war means that thousands of men have lost legs due to mines and other war injuries. Paul Lowe  
Neil Fuller (Australia) wins the Mens 400m T44 Final at the 2000 Sydney Paralympic Games. Nick Wilson/Getty Images

Chris Waddel (US) Alpine Skiing, Slalom, Wheelchair Racing. Jamie Sanchez  
Shea Cowart (US), Track and Field. Jamie Sanchez

