

# UNLIKELY ALLIES

Joel Richard Paul

READ BY ARTHUR MOREY

"An engaging and entertaining account of three of the most colorful characters involved in the American Revolution. It is hard to believe that their story is true, but it is."—GORDON S. WOOD, author of *The Radicalism of the American Revolution*

Silas Deane was a Connecticut merchant and a member of the Continental Congress who in 1776 was sent to France to persuade the king to support the colonists in their struggle with Britain. Pierre-Augustin Caron de Beaumarchais was a successful playwright who had access to the arms, ammunition, and other supplies that Deane and the Continental Army desperately needed. And the Chevalier d'Eon was a diplomat and sometime spy for the French king who became an unwitting catalyst to a crisis that persuaded the French to arm the Americans.

These three were at the heart of a monumental power struggle between Britain and France, with the outcome of the War of American Independence hanging in the balance. Their stories spin a fascinating web of political intrigue that stretches from Versailles to London to Independence Hall in Philadelphia. An edge-of-your-seat story, full of fascinating characters, lavish with period detail and sense of place, *Unlikely Allies* is history in all its juicy glory.

Joel Richard Paul is a professor and associate dean at the University of California Hastings College of the Law, where he teaches and writes about international and constitutional law. He has also taught at the University of Connecticut, Leiden University, Yale University, and American University. Paul lives in northern California.

A former literary manager of Chicago's Body Politic Theatre, Arthur Morey has taught writing at SUNY Rockland and Northwestern University. The winner of three *AudioFile* Earphones Awards, his audiobooks include the *New York Times* Best Book *Waking Giant* by David S. Reynolds and *Munich, 1938* by David Faber.



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