The recent turn to political and historical readings of Romanticism has given us a more complex picture of the institutional, cultural and sexual politics of the period. There has been a tendency, however, to confine such study to the European scene. In this book, Nigel Leask sets out to study the work of Byron, Shelley and De Quincey (together with a number of other major and minor Romantic writers, including Robert Southey and Tom Moore) in relation to Britain’s imperial designs on the ‘Orient’. Combining historical and theoretical approaches with detailed analyses of specific works, it examines the anxieties and instabilities of Romantic representations of the Ottoman Empire, India, China and the Far East. It argues that these anxieties were not marginal but central to the major concerns of British Romantic writers. The book is illustrated with a number of engravings from the period, giving a visual dimension to the discussion of Romantic representations of the East.
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# Contents

**List of illustrations**  page xiii  
**Acknowledgements**  xiv  
**List of abbreviations**  xv  
**Introduction**  1  
1  ‘Byron turns Turk’: Orientalism and the ‘Eastern Tales’  13  
   1 Byron’s ‘Eastern Tales’  13  
   2 The context of the ‘Eastern Tales’, ‘Samples of the Finest Orientalism’  17  
   3 Epics against empire? Samuel Rogers’ ‘Voyage of Columbus’ and Byron’s ‘The Giaour’  25  
   4 Satire against the grain  33  
   5 ‘The Bride of Abydos’  38  
   6 ‘The Corsair’  44  
   7 Resolving ‘The Corsair’; ‘Lara’ and ‘The Island’  54  
2  ‘Sharp Philanthropy’: Percy Bysshe Shelley and Romantic India  68  
   1 Shelley and India  68  
   2 ‘The Assassins’  76  
   3 The word in the wilderness  80  
   4 Brahmans, temples and pyres: some Romantic representations of India  91  
   5 The European dimensions of orientalism  103  
   6 ‘The Revolt of Islam’ and ‘Alastor’: liberating the Orient?  108  
   7 ‘Revolutions of Empire’ or empire as revolution?  118  
   8 Engendering India: the poet and the ‘Light of Asia’  120  
   9 ‘Alastor: or the Spirit of Solitude’  122  
   10 ‘Can Man be free if Woman be a Slave?’: the problem of ‘The Revolt’s’ feminism.  130  
   11 The ‘Reforming Brahmin’ and ‘Prometheus Unbound’  134  
   12 ‘Prometheus Unbound’: reorientating Greece  140
Contents

13 The role of Asia 146
14 Coda: the Indian writings of Thomas Medwin 154

3 ‘Murdering one’s double’: Thomas De Quincey and S. T. Coleridge. Autobiography, Opium and Empire in ‘Confessions of an English Opium Eater’ and ‘Biographia Literaria’ 170

1 Introduction 170
2 The ‘Confessions’: nervous reactions 172
3 John Brown and the debate about the therapeutic use of opium 175
4 ‘Two Transcendentalists who are also [opium eaters]’ 179
5 The ‘Confessions’ and the ‘Biographia Literaria’ 187
6 Autobiography as exculpation 190
7 Stately homes, temples and banks 195
8 Merely a man of letters? 198
9 Saturday night fever 201
10 A vision of Liverpool 206
11 Fear and loathing in Grasmere 209
12 Opium wars 215
13 Troubled dreams 220

Notes 229
Index 258
Illustrations


Frontispiece, vol. 1.
1 ‘The Corsair’, Illustrations to the Works of Lord Byron (London 1840) unpaginated. page 48
2 ‘Neuha’, Illustrations to the Works of Lord Byron (London 1840) unpaginated. 65
3 ‘Tom Raw at a Hindoo Entertainment’, in Tom Raw the Griffin, by Charles D’Oyly (London 1828), facing p. 182. 81
4 ‘Tom Raw rejects the Embraces of the Nabob of Bengal’, Tom Raw the Griffin, facing p. 205. 83
6 ‘Procession of Hindoo Woman to the Funeral Pyre of her Husband’, in William Hodges, Travels in India (London 1793), facing p. 84. 117
7 ‘Raja Ram Mohan Roy’, unknown artist, India Office Library and Records. WD 1288. 135

xiii
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xiv
Abbreviations

Chapter 1

Chapter 2
SPW Shelley’s Poetical Works, ed. Thomas Hutchinson (London: Oxford University Press 1934)

Chapter 3
C Confessions of an English Opium Eater, ed. Alethea Hayter, xv
List of abbreviations

(Harmondsworth 1971). Based on the text as it first appeared anonymously and in two parts, in the Sept. and Oct. 1821 issues of The London Magazine, (vol. iv, nos. xxi, 293–312, and xxii, 35–79)

C 1856 Conessions of an English Opium Eater, revised 1856 (London and New York: Routledge and Dutton ND)

Mass The Collected Writings of Thomas De Quincey, ed. David Masson, 14 vols. (Edinburgh 1890)