The Great War of 1914–18 marks a turning point in modern history and culture. This Companion offers critical overviews of the major literary genres and social contexts that define the study of the writings produced by the First World War. The volume comprises original essays by distinguished scholars of international reputation, who examine the impact of the war on the major national literatures, principally those of Great Britain, Germany, France, and the United States. Additional consideration is given to the way the war affected modernism, the European avant-garde, film, and women’s writing. A final section of essays addresses the legacy of the war in subsequent literary and popular culture. The Companion offers readers a chronology of key events and publication dates leading up through and following the war, and it provides a current bibliography of further reading organized by major scholarly topics.
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1 Central London Recruiting Depot, August 1914. Reproduced by permission of Culver Pictures

2 German and British troops, Christmas truce, 1914. Reproduced by the courtesy of the Imperial War Museum, London (Q11718)

3 British soldier, battlefield rites. Reproduced by the courtesy of the Imperial War Museum, London (Q11579)

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5 Women munitions workers, Britain. Reproduced by the courtesy of the Imperial War Museum, London (Q30058)

6 British conscription/recruiting poster. Reproduced by the courtesy of the Imperial War Museum, London (Q79827)


9 Antonio Sant’Elia, *La Città nuova*. Ink and color pencil on paper. 53 × 51.5 cm. Reproduced by permission of The Musei Civici, Como

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NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

CATHARINE SAVAGE BROSMAN is Professor Emerita of French at Tulane University and Honorary Research Professor at the University of Sheffield. Her publications include Malraux, Sartre, and Aragon as Political Novelists (1964); Art as Testimony: The Work of Jules Roy (1989); Visions of War in France: Fiction, Art, Ideology (1999), as well as books on Gide, Martin du Gard, Sartre, Beauvoir, and Camus, various edited volumes, and many essays and articles.

CLAIRE BUCK teaches English at Wheaton College in Massachusetts. Her publications include H. D. and Freud: Bisexuality and a Feminine Discourse (1991); The Bloomsbury Guide to Women’s Literature (1992); and many articles on women’s writing. She is currently writing a study of English nationalism, dissident sexualities, and First World War writing.

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PAUL EDWARDS is Professor of English and History of Art at Bath Spa University College. He is the author of Wyndham Lewis: Art and War (1992) and Wyndham Lewis: Painter and Writer (2000). He has edited books on Vorticism and modernist London, as well as producing critical editions of several of Wyndham Lewis’s books.

EDNA LONGLEY is Professor Emerita in the School of English, Queen’s University, Belfast. Her books include The Living Stream: Literature and...
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Laura Marcus is Reader in English at the University of Sussex. Her publications include Auto/biographical Discourses: Theory, Criticism, Practice (1994); Virginia Woolf: Writers and their Work (1997); and Freud’s “The Interpretation of Dreams”: New Interdisciplinary Essays (1999). She has co-edited, with Peter Nicholls, The Cambridge History of Twentieth-Century English Literature (2004), and is currently working on a book on cinema, literature, and modernity.

John T. Matthews is Professor of English at Boston University. His books include The Play of Faulkner’s Language (1982) and “The Sound and the Fury”: Faulkner and the Lost Cause (1990). He has received an NEH fellowship for his current book-length study, Raising the South: Southern Fictions and the Birth of a Modern Nation. He is editing the Blackwell Companion to the Modern American Novel and Faulkner, A Short Introduction: Seeing Through the South.

Sharon Ouditt is Reader in Modern Literary Studies at Nottingham Trent University. She is author of Fighting Forces, Writing Women: Identity and Ideology in the First World War (1994); Women Writers of the First World War: An Annotated Bibliography (2000); and other publications on gender, literature, and European culture.

Marjorie Perloff is Professor Emerita of English and Comparative Literature at Stanford University. Her most recent books are 21st Century Modernism (2002) and The Vienna Paradox (2004). Her study of the avant-garde, The Futurist Moment (1986), has recently been reissued with a new introduction.


David Trotter is King Edward VII Professor of English Literature at the University of Cambridge. His most recent books are Cooking with Mud: The Idea of Mess in Nineteenth-Century Art and Fiction (2000) and Paranoid Modernism (2001). He currently works on the history of early cinema.
CHRONOLOGY

1895: Crane, *The Red Badge of Courage*
1896: First modern Olympiad, Athens
1898: Zeppelin builds airship
1899: Anglo-Boer War (1899–1902)
1900: International Socialist Congress in Paris
      First radio transmission of human voice
      Freud, *Interpretation of Dreams*
1901: Death of Queen Victoria, Edward VII king
      First Nobel Prizes awarded
1902: Stieglitz, *Camera Work*
1903: First airborne flight by Wright brothers
      Emmeline Pankhurst founds Women's Social and Political Union in Britain
      Shaw, *Man and Superman*
1904: Russo-Japanese War (1904–5)
      Anglo-French entente
      Chekhov, *The Cherry Orchard*
      Hardy, *The Dynasts* I (1906; II, 1908)
1905: Isadora Duncan establishes first school of “modern dance,” Berlin
      Einstein publishes on Special Theory of Relativity
1906: Liberal party wins in British parliamentary elections
      Doughty, *The Dawn in Britain*
      Sinclair, *The Jungle*
      Sorel, *Réflexions sur la violence*
1907: Anglo-Russian entente
      First exhibit of “Cubism” in Paris
      Conrad, *The Secret Agent*
1908: Gertrude Stein, *Three Lives*
1909: North Pole reached by Perry
      Kandinsky’s first abstract paintings
Chronology

Diaghilev, Ballets Russes in Paris
Marinetti, *Futurist Manifesto*
Pound, *Personae*
Schönberg, *Five Orchestral Pieces*

1910:
- Death of Edward VII, George V king
- Post-Impressionist exhibit in London

1911:
- Barrie, *Peter Pan*
- Emma Goldman, *Anarchism and Other Essays*

1912:
- Social Democratic Party wins 110 seats in German Reichstag
- *Titanic* sinks
- Captain Scott’s (lost) expedition to South Pole
- Wars of Balkan States (1912–13)
- Duchamp, *Nude Descending a Staircase*

1913:
- Stravinsky, *Le Sacre du printemps*
- Einstein, *Theory of Relativity*
- Proust, *Du côté de chez Swann*
- Thomas Mann, *Tod in Venedig*
- Blaise Cendrars, *La Prose du Transsibérien*

1914:
- Joyce, *Dubliners*
- Frost, *North of Boston*
- Burroughs, *Tarzan of the Apes*
- Hardy, *Satires of Circumstance*
- *Des Imagistes: An Anthology*, ed. Pound
- Yeats, *Responsibilities*
- Wyndham Lewis founds *Blast* as journal of Vorticism
- Assassination of Jean Jaurès in Paris
- 28 June: Assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand, heir to throne of Austria-Hungary, in Sarajevo, Bosnia
- 28 July: Austria-Hungary declares war on Serbia
- 1 August: Germany declares war on Russia
- 3 August: Germany declares war on France
- 4 August: German troops enter Belgium
- 4 August: Great Britain declares war on Germany
- 4 August: United States President Wilson declares neutrality
- 11–12 August: Austro-Hungarian troops invade Serbia
- 22 August: Battle of Mons begins
- 26–29 August: Germans defeat Russians at Battle of Tannenberg
- 6 September: Battle of the Marne begins
Chronology

14 September: First Battle of Aisne begins
13 October–15 November: First Battle of Ypres
28 October: Turkey enters war on side of Central Powers
21 December: First German air raid on Britain
25 December: Christmas truce (unofficial), Western Front
Deaths in war: Charles Péguy, Alfred Lichtenstein, Georg Trakel

1915:
18 January: First German Zeppelin attacks on England
4 February: German U-boat attacks on Allied and neutral shipping; Germany declares blockade of Britain
18–19 March: Allied naval attack on Dardanelles
28 March: Sinking of first passenger ship, the British liner Falaba
April–June: German concentration on Eastern Front, driving Russians out of Poland
22 April: First gas attack, by Germans, at Ypres
25 April–10 August: Allied landings at Gallipoli
7 May: Sinking of the Lusitania causes diplomatic crisis between Germany and United States
23 May: Italy declares war on Austria-Hungary
25 May: British Liberal Prime Minister Asquith forms coalition government
31 May: First Zeppelin raid on London
6 August: Suvla Bay attack at Gallipoli begins
19 December: Sir Douglas Haig named BEF Commander in France
28 December: Allied withdrawal from Gallipoli begins
Deaths in war: Rupert Brooke, Julian Grenfell, Charles Hamilton Sorley, August Stramm, Henri Gaudier-Brzeska
Romain Rolland, Au-dessus de la mêlée
Rolland wins Nobel Prize for Literature
Rilke, “Fünf Gesänge, August 1914”
Stramm, “Wunde”
René Benjamin, Gaspard
Buchan, The Thirty-Nine Steps
Lawrence, The Rainbow (banned in Britain)
Edith Wharton, Fighting France
May Sinclair, Journal of Impressions in Belgium
Brooke, 1914 & Other Poems
Griffith’s film, Birth of a Nation

1916:
February: Great Britain introduces conscription
21 February–18 December: German attack at Verdun in longest battle of war, ultimately won by French
24–30 April: Easter Rising in Ireland
31 May: Battle of Jutland, major naval engagement of war
5 June: Sinking of HMS Hampshire, death of Lord Kitchener
1 July: Anglo-French offensive at Somme begins; nearly 60,000 British casualties in first assaults
28 August: Hindenburg appointed German Chief of Staff
15 September: British tanks first used, at Flers-Courcelette, Somme front
6 December: David Lloyd George becomes British Prime Minister
18 December: President Wilson requests statements of aims from warring nations
Deaths in war: Alan Seeger, Umberto Boccioni, Antonio Sant’Elia Saussure, *Cours de linguistique générale*
Barbusse, *Le Feu: journal d’une escouade*
Kafka, *Metamorphoses*
1914–1916: Eine Anthologie (verse) published by anti-war *Die Aktion*
Sorley, *Marlborough and Other Poems*
H. D., *Sea Garden*
H. G. Wells, *Mr. Britling Sees It Through*
Dada in Zurich
1917: 1 February: Germany resumes unrestricted submarine warfare
(after respite)
3 February: United States breaks diplomatic relations with Germany
11 March: British capture Baghdad
15 March: Tsar Nicholas II abdicates as result of Russian Revolution
6 April: United States declares war on Germany
9 April: Start of Arras offensive
29 April–10 June: Mutiny in French army
18 May: John Pershing given command of AEF
25 June: First United States troops arrive in France
31 July: Third Battle of Ypres (Passchendaele) begins
October–November: Bolshevik Revolution in Russia, Communist government under Lenin
7 December: United States declares war on Austria-Hungary
9 December: Jerusalem taken by British
22 December: Russia engages in separate peace negotiations with Germany at Brest-Litovsk
Chronology

Deaths in war: T. E. Hulme, Francis Ledwidge, John McCrae, Edward Thomas
Freud, *Introduction to Psychoanalysis*
Eliot, *Prufrock and Other Observations*
Edward Thomas, *Poems*
Sassoon, *The Old Huntsman*
Dos Passos, *One Man's Initiation*
Léon Werth, *Clavel soldat*
Stefan Georg, “Der Krieg”

1918:
8 January: President Wilson announces 14 Points Peace Programme
3 March: Soviet Russia finalizes peace negotiations in Brest-Litovsk treaty, freeing German troops for final campaign on Western Front
21 March: Start of German major spring offensive, in Battle of Picardy
9 April: Second German spring offensive launched, Battle of Lys
25 May: German U-boats appear in United States waters
27 May–5 June: Third German spring offensive, Third Battle of Aisne
15 July: Second Battle of the Marne, final effort of German spring offensive
16–17 July: Former Tsar Nicholas and family murdered by Bolsheviks
18 July–7 August: German retreat at the Marne
22 August: Allied breakthrough at Albert
3 October: Germany and Austria communicate peace initiatives to United States
5 October: Allied forces capture Hindenburg Line
17 October–24 October: British advance to Sambre and Scheldt rivers; Germans surrender in large numbers
21 October: Germany stops unrestricted submarine warfare
30 October: Turkey arranges armistice with Allies
3 November: German fleet mutinies at Kiel
9 November: Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany abdicates
11 November: Armistice
14 December: Lloyd George wins British General Election
Deaths in war: Joyce Kilmer, Isaac Rosenberg, Wilfred Owen, Guillaume Apollinaire
Votes for women in Britain over 30, men over 21
World-wide influenza epidemic
Rebecca West, *Return of the Soldier*
## Chronology

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| 1919 | 10–15 January: Communist revolts in Berlin  
       18 January: Paris Peace Conference begins  
       25 January: League of Nations accepted in principle at Peace Conference  
       6 February: Meeting of German National Assembly in Weimar  
       14 February: Completion of draft covenant for League of Nations  
       7 May–28 June: Drafting and signing of Treaty of Versailles  
       Pound, *Quia Pauper Amavi*  
       Eliot, *Poems*  
       Keynes, *The Economic Consequences of the Peace*  
       Sassoon, *War Poems* |
| 1920 | 1920: First meeting of the League of Nations  
       Eliot, *The Sacred Wood: Essays on Poetry and Criticism*  
       Pound, *Hugh Selwyn Mauberley*  
       Lawrence, *Women in Love*  
       Vernon Lee (Violet Paget), *Satan the Waster*  
       Ernst Jünger, *In Stahlgewittern* |
| 1921 | 1921: Formation of Irish Free State, partition of Northern Ireland  
       Owen, *Poems*, intro. Sassoon  
       Dos Passos, *Three Soldiers*  
       Chaplin, in *The Kid*  
       Pirandello, *Six Characters in Search of an Author* |
| 1922 | 1922: Lloyd George coalition falls  
       BBC established, begins transmissions  
       Mussolini, March on Rome  
       Montague, *Disenchantment*  
       Willa Cather, *One of Ours*  
       Joyce, *Ulysses*  
       Eliot, *The Waste Land*  
       Woolf, *Jacob’s Room*  
       E. E. Cummings, *The Enormous Room* |
| 1923 | 1923: Collapse of German currency |
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<td>Wharton, <em>A Son at the Front</em> (written)</td>
<td>Wallace Stevens, <em>Harmonium</em></td>
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<td>Freud, <em>The Ego and the Id</em></td>
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<td>Roland Dorgelès, <em>Le Réveil des morts</em></td>
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<td>1924</td>
<td>Breton, <em>Manifeste du surréalisme</em></td>
<td>Mann, <em>Der Zauberberg</em></td>
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<td>Death of Lenin, succeeded by Stalin</td>
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<td>1925</td>
<td>Hitler, <em>Mein Kampf</em></td>
<td>Fitzgerald, <em>The Great Gatsby</em></td>
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<td>Yeats, <em>A Vision</em></td>
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<td>Hemingway, <em>In Our Time</em></td>
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<td>Kafka, <em>The Trial</em></td>
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<td>Woolf, <em>Mrs. Dalloway</em></td>
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<td>1926</td>
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<td>Eisenstein, <em>Battleship Potemkin</em></td>
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<td>General Strike in Britain, 26 April–12 May (mine workers for six months more)</td>
<td>Faulkner, <em>Soldier’s Pay</em></td>
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<td>Hemingway, <em>The Sun Also Rises</em></td>
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<td>T. E. Lawrence, <em>The Seven Pillars of Wisdom</em></td>
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<td>Mottram, <em>The Spanish Farm Trilogy</em> (1924–26)</td>
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<td>1927</td>
<td>Lindbergh, solo transatlantic flight</td>
<td>Heidegger, <em>Being and Time</em></td>
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<td>Proust, <em>Le Temps retrouvé</em></td>
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<td>Zweig, <em>Der Streit um den Sergeanten Grischa</em></td>
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<td>Faulkner, <em>Sartoris (Flags in the Dust)</em></td>
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<td>Blunden, <em>Undertones of War</em></td>
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<td>Ford, <em>Parade’s End</em> (tetralogy completed)</td>
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<td>Erich Maria Remarque, <em>Im Westen nichts Neues</em></td>
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<td>Ludwig Renn (Arnold Friedrich Vieth von Golßenau), <em>Krieg</em></td>
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<td>1929</td>
<td>Wall Street crash</td>
<td>Aldington, <em>Death of a Hero</em></td>
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<td>Hemingway, <em>A Farewell to Arms</em></td>
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<td>Graves, <em>Good-bye to All That</em></td>
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<td>Jünger, <em>Das Wäldchen 125, eine Chronik aus den Grabenkämpfen 1918</em></td>
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<td>English translations of Jünger, <em>The Storm of Steel</em>, and Remarque, <em>All Quiet on the Western Front</em></td>
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Chronology

1930: Nazis elected to German Reichstag
Film of All Quiet on the Western Front wins Oscar
“Private 19022” (Frederic Manning), The Middle Parts of Fortune
(also known as Her Privates We)
Sassoon, Memoirs of an Infantry Officer
Williamson, The Patriot’s Progress
English translation of Jünger, Copse 125

1933: Hitler becomes Chancellor of Germany
Roosevelt, “New Deal”
Vera Brittain, Testament of Youth

1934: Fitzgerald, Tender is the Night

1935: Italy invades Abyssinia

1936: Death of George V, Edward VIII king (abdicates to marry Mrs. Simpson), George VI king
Spanish Civil War begins
Mussolini and Hitler form Rome–Berlin Axis
Chaplin, in Modern Times

1937: Chamberlain becomes Prime Minister
German planes bomb Guernica in Spain
Picasso, Guernica
David Jones, In Parenthesis
Rosenberg, Collected Works
Death of Ivor Gurney

1938: Germany invades and annexes Austria
Chamberlain’s policy of appeasement with Hitler, “Munich Agreement”

1939: Germany invades Poland; Second World War begins