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Edited by Alex Davis and Lee M. Jenkins
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THE CAMBRIDGE COMPANION TO
MODERNIST POETRY

This Companion offers the most comprehensive overview available of modernist poetry, its forms, its major authors and its contexts. The first part explores the historical and cultural contexts and sexual politics of literary modernism and the avant garde. The chapters in the second part concentrate on individual authors and movements, while the concluding part offers a comprehensive overview of the early reception and subsequent canonisation of modernist poetry. As well as insightful readings of canonical poets, the Companion features extended discussions of poets whose importance is now being increasingly recognised, such as Mina Loy, poets of the Harlem Renaissance, British modernists and post-colonial poets in the Caribbean, Africa and India. While modernist poets are often thought of as difficult, these essays will help students to understand and appreciate their experimental and creative responses to contemporary social and cultural change.

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THE CAMBRIDGE COMPANION TO MODERNIST POETRY

EDITED BY
ALEX DAVIS
University College Cork
AND
LEE M. JENKINS
University College Cork

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CONTRIBUTORS

DAVID AYERS is Reader in Modernism and Critical Theory in the School of English at the University of Kent. His publications include *Wyndham Lewis and Western Man* (1992), *English Literature of the 1920s* (1999), *Modernism: A Short Introduction* (2004) and *Literary Theory: A Reintroduction* (2007).

BONNIE COSTELLO is Professor of English at Boston University and the author of many studies on modern and contemporary poetry, including, most recently, *Shifting Ground: Reinventing Landscape in Modern American Poetry* (2003). Her new book, *Planets on Tables: Poetry, Still Life and the Turning World*, will be published by Cornell University Press in 2007.

ALEX DAVIS is Senior Lecturer in Modern English at University College Cork. He is the author of *A Broken Line: Denis Devlin and Irish Poetic Modernism* (2000) and co-author of *Irish Studies: The Essential Glossary* (2003). He has co-edited two collections of essays on modernist poetry: with Lee M. Jenkins, *Locations of Literary Modernism: Region and Nation in British and American Modernist Poetry* (2000) and, with Patricia Coughlan, *Modernism and Ireland: The Poetry of the 1930s* (1995).

RACHEL BLAU DUPLESSIS, Professor at Temple University, is an American poet-critic. Her critical writing includes *Blue Studios: Poetry and Its Cultural Work* (2006), *The Pink Guitar: Writing as Feminist Practice* (2006) and *Genders, Races, and Religious Cultures in Modern American Poetry, 1908–1934* (2001). Earlier work includes *Writing Beyond the Ending: Narrative Strategies of Twentieth-Century Women Writers* (1985) and *H.D.: The Career of that Struggle* (1986), as well as an edition of *The Selected Letters of George Oppen* (1990). DuPlessis's ongoing long poem project is *Drafts* (2001, 2004, 2007).

ANNE FOGARTY is Professor of James Joyce Studies at University College Dublin and Director of the UCD Research Centre for James Joyce Studies. She is editor of the *Irish University Review* and President-elect of the International James Joyce Foundation. She has lectured and published widely on aspects of Irish modernism

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and on twentieth-century Irish women's writing. She is co-editor, with Timothy Martin, of *Joyce on the Threshold* (2005) and is currently completing a monograph entitled *James Joyce and Cultural Memory: Reading History in Ulysses*.

JASON HARDING is Lecturer in English Studies at the University of Durham. He is the author of *The 'Criterion': Cultural Politics and Periodical Networks in Inter-War Britain* (2002) and a co-editor of the collection of critical essays *T. S. Eliot and the Concept of Tradition* (2007). He is currently researching a book on Cold War cultural politics and editing a volume in the Faber *Collected Prose of T. S. Eliot*.

LEE MARGARET JENKINS is Senior Lecturer in Modern English at University College Cork. She has published widely on American and African-American literature and modern poetry and is the author of *Wallace Stevens: Rage for Order* (1999) and *The Language of Caribbean Poetry* (2004). With Alex Davis, she is the editor of *Locations of Literary Modernism: Region and Nation in British and American Modernist Poetry* (2000). She is currently researching a monograph on D. H. Lawrence and America.

SHARON LYNETTE JONES is Associate Professor of English at Wright State University in Ohio. She is the author of *Rereading the Harlem Renaissance: Race, Class, and Gender in the Fiction of Jessie Fauset, Zora Neale Hurston, and Dorothy West* (2002) and co-editor, with Rochelle Smith, of *The Prentice Hall Anthology of African American Literature* (2000). She has also contributed articles to journals such as *Langston Hughes Review* and *Social Alternatives*.

CRISTANNE MILLER is Edward H. Butler Professor of Literature and Chair of the English Department at University at Buffalo, SUNY. Her publications include *Cultures of Modernism: Marianne Moore, Mina Loy, Else Lasker-Schuler* (2005), *Marianne Moore: Questions of Authority* (1996), and she is a co-editor with Bonnie Costello and Celeste Goodridge of the *Selected Letters of Marianne Moore* (1997). She has also written extensively on Emily Dickinson and other US poets.

DREW MILNE is the Judith E. Wilson Lecturer in Drama and Poetry, Faculty of English, University of Cambridge. His critical publications include *Modern Critical Thought: An Anthology of Theorists Writing on Theorists* (2003). His books of poetry include *Bench Marks* (1998), *Mars Disarmed* (2001), *The Damage: New and Selected Poems* (2002) and *Go Figure* (2003).

PETER NICHOLLS is Professor of English and American Literature at the University of Sussex. His publications include *Ezra Pound: Politics, Economics and Writing* (1984), *Modernisms: A Literary Guide* (1995), and many articles and essays on literature and theory. He recently co-edited, with Laura Marcus, *The Cambridge History of Twentieth-Century English Literature* (2005) and his *George Oppen and the Fate of Modernism* will be published by Oxford University Press in 2007. He is

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editor of the journal *Textual Practice* and co-director of the Centre for Modernist Studies at Sussex.

PAUL PEPPIS is Associate Professor of English Literature and Culture at the University of Oregon. He is the author of *Literature, Politics, and the English Avant-Garde: Nation and Empire 1901–1918* (2000) and has published articles on a range of twentieth-century authors, including E. M. Forster, Ford Madox Ford, Wyndham Lewis, Mina Loy and Gertrude Stein. He is currently at work on a book entitled *Sciences of Modernism: Sexology, Psychology, and Anthropology*.

LAWRENCE RAINEY is Professor of Modern Literature at the University of York. He is the founding editor of the journal *Modernism/Modernity*, and his most recent books on T. S. Eliot – *Revisiting 'The Waste Land'* (2005) and *The Annotated Waste Land with Eliot's Contemporary Prose* (2005) – were jointly awarded the 2006 Robert Motherwell Book Prize for the best contribution to the study of modernism.

JAHAN RAMAZANI is Edgar F. Shannon Professor of English and Department Chair at the University of Virginia. He is the author of *Yeats and the Poetry of Death: Elegy, Self-Elegy, and the Sublime* (1990), *Poetry of Mourning: The Modern Elegy from Hardy to Heaney* (1994) and *The Hybrid Muse: Postcolonial Poetry in English* (2001). He co-edited the third edition of *The Norton Anthology of Modern and Contemporary Poetry* (2003) and the eighth edition of *The Twentieth Century and After* in *The Norton Anthology of English Literature* (2006).

MARK SCROGGINS is Associate Professor in the Department of English at Florida Atlantic University. He is the author of *Louis Zukofsky and the Poetry of Knowledge* (1998), *Anarchy* (poems, 2003), *The Poem of a Life: A Biography of Louis Zukofsky* (2007) and editor of *Upper Limit Music: The Writing of Louis Zukofsky* (1997).

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CHRONOLOGY

1876	Internal combustion engine developed.
1890	James Frazer, *The Golden Bough* (3rd edn, in 12 vols, 1906–1915). William James, *Principles of Psychology*.
1893	Independent Labour Party founded in Britain.
1895	Invention of the motion picture. Invention of wireless.
1899	Arthur Symons, *The Symbolist Movement in Literature*.
1900	Sigmund Freud, *The Interpretation of Dreams*. George Santayana, *Interpretations of Poetry and Religion*.
1901	Death of Queen Victoria. Edward VII accedes to the British throne. Theodore Roosevelt elected to the US presidency.
1902	The *Times Literary Supplement* founded.
1903	W. E. B. Du Bois, *The Souls of Black Folk*. *Camera Work* magazine founded. Wright brothers' first aeroplane flight.
1905	George Santayana, *The Life of Reason: Reason in Art*. Albert Einstein announces special theory of relativity.
1907	Picasso, *Les Demoiselles d'Avignon*. Henri Bergson, *Creative Evolution*.
1909	Filippo Tommaso Marinetti, 'The Founding and Manifesto of Futurism'. National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) founded.

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1910	Filippo Tommaso Marinetti delivers 'Futurist Speech to the English' in London. First Post-Impressionist exhibition in London. Death of Edward VII. George V accedes to the British throne.
1911	Franz Boas, *The Mind of Primitive Man*.
1912	Edward Marsh (ed.), *Georgian Poetry* (vols II–V, 1915, 1917, 1919, 1922). Filippo Tommaso Marinetti, 'Technical Manifesto of Futurist Literature'. T. E. Hulme, 'The Complete Poetical Works of T. E. Hulme'. Claude McKay, *Songs of Jamaica* and *Constab Ballads*. *Poetry* (Chicago) magazine founded. Arnold Schoenberg, *Pierrot Lunaire*. Sinking of the *Titanic*.
1913	Igor Stravinsky, *Le Sacre du printemps*. The New York Armory Show. Woodrow Wilson elected to the US presidency.
1914	*Blast* magazine founded (second and final issue 1915). *The Egoist* magazine founded (formerly *The Freewoman/The New Freewoman*, founded 1911). *Little Review* founded. Ezra Pound (ed.), *Des Imagistes*. Gertrude Stein, *Tender Buttons*. Irish Home Rule Bill passed by Parliament. Commencement of First World War.
1915	Ezra Pound, *Cathay*. D. W. Griffith, *Birth of a Nation*. *Others* magazine founded.
1916	H.D., *Sea Garden*. Albert Einstein, *General Theory of Relativity*. First Dada performances at the Cabaret Voltaire, Zurich. Easter Rising in Dublin. First Battle of the Somme.
1917	T. S. Eliot, *Prufrock and Other Observations*. Mina Loy, *Love Songs to Joannes*. Marcel Duchamp, *Fountain*.

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Russian Revolution.
United States enters First World War.

1918 Tristan Tzara, *Dada Manifesto 1918*.
Van Wyck Brooks, 'On Creating a Usable Past'.
Lytton Strachey, *Eminent Victorians*.
Armistice (end of First World War).
Enfranchisement of women aged 30 and over in Britain.
Influenza epidemic.

1919 T. S. Eliot, 'Tradition and the Individual Talent'.
Ezra Pound, *Homage to Sextus Propertius*.
Oswald Spengler, *Decline of the West* (English translation).
Treaty of Versailles.
League of Nations created.
Prohibition Act passed by US Congress.
American Communist Party founded.

1920 T. S. Eliot, *The Sacred Wood*.
T. S. Eliot, *Ara Vos Prec*.
Ezra Pound, *Hugh Selwyn Mauberley*.
William Carlos Williams, *Kora in Hell: Improvisations*.
Lothrop Stoddard, *The Rising Tide of Color Against White World Supremacy*.
Jacques Maritain, *Art and Scholasticism*.
Dial magazine founded.
Nineteenth Amendment grants American women the vote (upheld by Supreme Court in 1922).

1921 Marcel Duchamp and Man Ray, *New York Dada* magazine founded.

1922 Thomas Hardy, *Late Lyrics and Earlier*.
T. S. Eliot, *The Waste Land*.
Claude McKay, *Harlem Shadows*.
James Weldon Johnson (ed.), *The Book of American Negro Poetry*.
Bronislaw Malinowski, *Argonauts of the Western Pacific*.
Ludwig Wittgenstein, *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus*.
Criterion magazine founded.
British Broadcasting Corporation founded.
Creation of the Irish Free State.

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1923	William Carlos Williams, *Spring and All*. Wallace Stevens, *Harmonium*. Jean Toomer, *Cane*. D. H. Lawrence, *Birds, Beasts and Flowers*. Mina Loy, *Lunar Baedecker*. Mina Loy, *Anglo-Mongrels and the Rose*.
1924	Marianne Moore, *Observations*. André Breton, *Manifesto of Surrealism*. First Labour government elected in Britain. Indian Citizenship Act passed in USA.
1925	Alain Locke (ed.), *The New Negro*. Ezra Pound, *A Draft of XVI. Cantos*. Hugh MacDiarmid, *Sangschaw*. Alfred North Whitehead, *Science and the Modern World*. Sergei Mikhailovich Eisenstein, *Battleship Potemkin*. Scopes trial, Tennessee.
1926	Langston Hughes, *The Weary Blues*. *FIRE!!* magazine founded. Hugh MacDiarmid, *A Drunk Man Looks at the Thistle*. T. E. Hulme, *Speculations*. Louis Zukofsky, 'Poem beginning "The"'. General Strike in Britain.
1927	*transition* magazine founded. Wyndham Lewis, *Time and Western Man*. Laura Riding and Robert Graves, *A Survey of Modernist Poetry*. Martin Heidegger, *Being and Time*. Alan Crosland, *The Jazz Singer*. Fritz Lang, *Metropolis*. Charles Lindbergh flies *The Spirit of St Louis* from New York to Paris.
1928	W. B. Yeats, *The Tower*. Enfranchisement of women over 21 in Britain. Television broadcasts commence in USA.
1929	Eugene Jolas et al., 'Revolution of the Word'. Edith Sitwell, *Gold Coast Customs*. Wyndham Lewis, *Paleface: The Philosophy of the Melting Pot*.

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	Museum of Modern Art in New York opens. Wall Street Crash. Censorship of Publications Act (Ireland).
1930	Hart Crane, *The Bridge*. T. S. Eliot, *Ash Wednesday*. W. H. Auden, *Poems*. Allen Tate et al., *I'll Take My Stand*. Sigmund Freud, *Civilization and its Discontents*. Samuel Beckett, *Whoroscope*. Ezra Pound, *A Draft of XXX Cantos*. William Empson, *Seven Types of Ambiguity*.
1931	E. E. Cummings, *Viva*. Britain leaves the Gold Standard.
1932	Louis Zukofsky (ed.), *An 'Objectivists' Anthology*. Sterling A. Brown, *Southern Road*. T. S. Eliot, *Selected Essays*. Michael Roberts (ed.), *New Signatures*. F. R. Leavis, *New Bearings in English Poetry*. *Scrutiny* magazine founded.
1933	Wyndham Lewis, *One-Way Song*. W. B. Yeats, *The Winding Stair and Other Poems*. Adolf Hitler becomes Chancellor of Germany. Franklin Delano Roosevelt elected to the US presidency. Federal Emergency Relief Act passed in USA.
1934	T. S. Eliot, *After Strange Gods*. Hugh MacDiarmid, *Stony Limits and Other Poems*. Thomas MacGreevy, *Poems*. George Oppen, *Discrete Series*.
1935	Marianne Moore, *Selected Poems*. Samuel Beckett, *Echo's Bones and Other Precipitates*. William Empson, *Poems*. Ezra Pound, *Jefferson and/or Mussolini*. Wallace Stevens, *Ideas of Order*. Italy invades Abyssinia.
1936	Michael Roberts (ed.), *The Faber Book of Modern Verse*. Dylan Thomas, *Twenty-Five Poems*. W. B. Yeats (ed.), *The Oxford Book of Modern Verse*. Charlie Chaplin, *Modern Times*.

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	John Maynard Keynes, *General Theory of Employment, Interest and Money*. Death of George V. Edward VIII abdicates. George VI accedes to the British throne. Spanish Civil War begins. BBC television commences broadcasting.
1937	David Jones, *In Parenthesis*. Wallace Stevens, *The Man with the Blue Guitar*. Denis Devlin, *Intercessions*.
1938	Ezra Pound, *Guide to Kulchur*. Brian Coffey, *Third Person*. Cleanth Brooks and Robert Penn Warren, *Understanding Poetry*. Munich crisis. House UnAmerican Activities Committee founded in USA.
1939	W. B. Yeats, *Last Poems and Two Plays*. Louis MacNeice, *Autumn Journal*. Second World War commences.
1940	Charlie Chaplin, *The Great Dictator*. British evacuation at Dunkirk.
1941	John Crowe Ransom, *The New Criticism*. James Agee and Walter Evans, *Let Us Now Praise Famous Men*. Japanese attack Pearl Harbor.
1942	Wallace Stevens, *Notes Toward a Supreme Fiction*.
1943	Hugh MacDiarmid, *Lucky Poet*.
1944	T. S. Eliot, *Four Quartets*. H.D., *The Walls Do Not Fall*. Lynette Roberts, *Poems*. Carl Gustav Jung, *Psychology and Alchemy*.
1945	H.D., *Tribute to the Angels*. End of Second World War in Europe and Far East. Foundation of the United Nations.
1946	William Carlos Williams, *Paterson* Book I (Books II–V published 1948, 1949, 1951, 1958).

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	H.D., *Flowering of the Rod*. Lorine Niedecker, *New Goose*.
1947	India achieves Independence.
1948	Ezra Pound, *The Pisan Cantos*.
1949	Formation of the Republic of Ireland.
1950	Charles Olson, 'Projective Verse'.
1951	Lynette Roberts, *Gods with Stainless Ears*.
1952	David Jones, *The Anathemata*.
1953	Melvin B. Tolson, *Libretto for the Republic of Liberia*.
1955	Hugh MacDiarmid, *In Memoriam James Joyce*.
1960	Charles Olson, *The Maximus Poems* (two further vols, 1968, 1975).
1965	David Gascoyne, *Collected Poems*.
1966	Louise Bennett, *Jamaica Labrish*. Basil Bunting, *Briggflatts*.
1969	J. H. Prynne, *The White Stones*. Ezra Pound, *Drafts & Fragments of Cantos CX–CXVII*. Okot p'Bitek, *Song of Lawino*.
1971	Hugh Kenner, *The Pound Era*.
1973	(Edward) Kamau Brathwaite, *The Arrivants*.
1987	Kamau Brathwaite, *X/Self*. Agha Shahid Ali, *Half-Inch Himalayas*.
1999	Inaugural conference of the Modernist Studies Association.

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