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.
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).


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.
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.


**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
NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

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.


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CHRONOLOGY

1876  Internal combustion engine developed.

      William James, *Principles of Psychology*.

1893  Independent Labour Party founded in Britain.

1895  Invention of the motion picture.
      Invention of wireless.


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.

      *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.

      Henri Bergson, *Creative Evolution*.

1909  Filippo Tommaso Marinetti, ‘The Founding and Manifesto of Futurism’.
      National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) founded.
CHRONOLOGY

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.


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.
Chronology

Russian Revolution.
United States enters First World War.

1918
Tristan Tzara, *Dada Manifesto 1918*.
Lytton Strachey, *Eminent Victorians*.
Armistice (end of First World War).
Enfranchisement of women aged 30 and over in Britain.
Influenza epidemic.

1919
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
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

1922
Thomas Hardy, *Late Lyrics and Earlier*.
Claude McKay, *Harlem Shadows*.
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.
**Chronology**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Events</th>
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| 1923 | William Carlos Williams, *Spring and All*.  
Wallace Stevens, *Harmonium*.  
Jean Toomer, *Cane*.  
D. H. Lawrence, *Birds, Beasts and Flowers*.  
| 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*.  
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*.  
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*. |
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*.
Allen Tate et al., *I'll Take My Stand*.
Sigmund Freud, *Civilization and its Discontents*.
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
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*.
Chonology

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
Brian Coffey, *Third Person*.
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
chronology

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’.


1952 David Jones, *The Anathemata*.


1955 Hugh MacDiarmid, *In Memoriam James Joyce*.


1966 Louise Bennett, *Jamaica Labrish*.
Basil Bunting, *Briggflatts*.

Okot p’Bitek, *Song of Lawino*.


1987 Kamau Brathwaite, *X/Self*.

1999 Inaugural conference of the Modernist Studies Association.