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1922

1922: Literature, Culture, Politics examines key aspects of culture and history in 1922, a year made famous by the publication of several modernist masterpieces, such as T. S. Eliot's *The Waste Land* and James Joyce's *Ulysses*. Individual chapters written by leading scholars offer new contexts for the year's significant works of art, philosophy, politics, and literature. *1922* also analyzes both the political and intellectual forces that shaped the cultural interactions of that privileged moment. Although this volume takes post-World War I Europe as its chief focus, American artists and authors also receive thoughtful consideration. In its multiplicity of views, *1922* challenges misconceptions about the "Lost Generation" of cultural pilgrims who flocked to Paris and Berlin in the 1920s, thus stressing the wider influence of that momentous year.

JEAN-MICHEL RABATÉ, Professor of English and Comparative Literature at the University of Pennsylvania since 1992, is a curator of Slought Foundation, a Philadelphia gallery that he co-founded. He is also an editor of the *Journal of Modern Literature* and a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He has authored or edited more than thirty books on modernism, psychoanalysis, and philosophy. Recent books include *Crimes of the Future* and *The Cambridge Introduction to Literature and Psychoanalysis*. Forthcoming is *The Pathos of Distance*.

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Literature, Culture, Politics

EDITED BY
JEAN-MICHEL RABATÉ
University of Pennsylvania



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Chronology for 1922

- January 1st André Breton moves to 42, rue Fontaine in Paris, near Place Blanche and Pigalle. His apartment was to receive his collection of more than 5,000 objects, paintings, drawings, sculptures, photographs, books, art catalogs, journals, manuscripts, and works of popular and Oceanic art.
- January 13th The conference of Cannes concerning German retribution payments ends.
- January 15th The Irish Free State is formed, and Michael Collins becomes its first premier.
- January 19th Erich von Stroheim releases his Hollywood film, *Foolish Wives*, in which he plays the main part. It is the most expensive film to date, with a budget of one million dollars.
- January 20th Premiere of Arthur Honegger's ballet for skaters, *Skating-Rink, symphonie chorégraphique*, at the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées in Paris. The Cubistic costumes and stage settings are designed and painted by Fernand Léger.
- January 27th Kafka begins writing *The Castle*, using notes and plans dating from 1914.
- February Rilke's patron Werner Reinhart, having renovated the Château de Muzot, a thirteenth-century fortified manor house in Switzerland's Rhone Valley, invites Rilke to live here for free. It is there that Rilke finishes *the Duino Elegies* and writes the *Sonnets to Orpheus*.

For a comprehensive and detailed chronology of the year 1922, see Kevin Jackson's *Constellation of Genius: 1922, Modernism, Year One*. New York: Farrar, Strauss and Giroux, 2012.

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February 2nd	James Joyce's <i>Ulysses</i> is published in Paris (1,000 copies printed). He liked the numerological coincidence of 2/2/22.
February 4th	In the <i>Journal du Peuple</i> , for the first time André Breton publicly attacks Tristan Tzara, whom he calls an "impostor."
February 5th	The first <i>Reader's Digest</i> magazine is published in New York City.
February 6th	The Cardinal Achille Ratti is elected as Pope Pius XI.
February 15th	Marconi begins regular broadcasting transmissions from Essex, UK.
February 20th	Vilnius, Lithuania, agrees to separate from Poland.
February 27th	George Bernard Shaw's <i>Back to Methuselah</i> premieres in New York City.
February 27th	The U.S. Supreme Court unanimously upholds the Nineteenth Amendment granting women the right to vote.
February 28th	Egypt regains independence from Britain, but British troops remain on the territory.
March	Alfred Hitchcock obtains his first contract as a director with Gainsborough Pictures with a two-reel comedy, set in the Rotherhite docks of South London, entitled <i>Number 13</i> . In the film, Clare Greet and Ernest Thesiger are husband and wife. Hitchcock abandons the film after its budget falls apart; it is soon pulled from production and only a handful of scenes are shot.
March 3rd	Italian Fascists occupy Fiume and Rijeka.
March 5th	Murnau's famous vampire film, <i>Nosferatu</i> , premieres in Berlin.
March 13th	Charles Francis Jenkins files U.S. patent No. 1,544,156 (<i>Transmitting Pictures over Wireless</i>), which is finally granted on June 30, 1925.
March 18th	British magistrates in India sentence Mahatma Gandhi to six years of imprisonment for disobedience.
March 22nd	André Breton organizes the Congress for the Determination and Defense of the Modern Spirit, which he sees as a declaration of war against Tzara and Dadaism.

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- March 24th Central Lithuania, with Vilnius as its capital, holds a controversial election that is boycotted by the Jews, Lithuanians, and Belarusians, and is annexed by Poland.
- April 2nd Charlie Chaplin releases his last two-reel film, *Pay Day*, in Hollywood.
- April 3rd Stalin is appointed General Secretary of the Communist Party in Russia.
- April 6th Henri Bergson, who has just published *Duration and Simultaneity (About Einstein's Theory)* with Alcan, meets Albert Einstein at a session of the Société française de Philosophie in Paris.
- April 16th The Treaty of Rapallo is signed in Italy. By this agreement, Germany and Russia renounce all territorial and financial claims against each other following World War I.
- April 27th Fritz Lang's *Doktor Mabuse, der Spieler*, Lang's most lavish production, premieres in Berlin. The whole film runs for four and a half hours and is shown in two parts.
- May 21st The Pulitzer Prize is awarded to Eugene O'Neill for his play *Anna Christie*.
- May 22nd During the Festival of the Bauhaus School in Weimar, Tristan Tzara stages the funeral of Dada.
- May 23rd Walt Disney incorporates his first film company Laugh-O-Gram Films in Kansas City, Missouri. There, Disney produces his first real cartoon.
- May 26th Lenin suffers his first stroke.
- June 14th President Warren G. Harding is the first American president to use the radio, when he dedicates a memorial in Baltimore.
- June 16th Henry Berliner demonstrates his helicopter at College Park, Maryland, to the U.S. Navy's Bureau of Aeronautics. This is the debut of the helicopter.
- June 22nd D. H. Lawrence publishes his novel *Aaron's Rod* in London with Martin Secker.
- June 22nd Walther Rathenau, a German industrialist, politician, and Foreign Minister of Germany, is assassinated by right-wing extremists.
- June 22nd Ludwig Wittgenstein transfers the rights for the publication of his *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus* to Kegan Paul in London. The book, translated by Frank P.

- Ramsey and C. K. Ogden, is published in London with Bertrand Russell's introduction.
- July 5th For the first time, women are allowed to vote in Dutch elections.
- July 14th The two German socialist parties, the SPD and USPD, form a common working group.
- July 28th Adolf Hitler gives rabble-rousing speeches in which he develops his anti-Semitic rhetoric that brings Munich crowds to frenzy: "Just as the Jew could once incite the mob of Jerusalem against Christ, so today he must succeed in inciting folk who have been duped into madness to attack those who, God's truth! Seek to deal with this people in utter honesty and sincerity" (from Adolf Hitler's speeches, Munich).
- July 31st Italy's general strike against fascist violence takes place.
- August 8th The Italian general strike is broken by fascist terror.
- August 22nd Michael Collins is shot and killed in an ambush during the Irish Civil War.
- September Willa Cather publishes her "war" novel *One of Ours* with Alfred Knopf in New York. It will be awarded the Pulitzer Prize in 1923.
- September 9th Turkish troops conquer Smyrna and murder scores of Greek citizens.
- September 9th William T. Cosgrave replaces Irish premier Collins.
- September 11th The British mandate of Palestine begins.
- September 16th Turkish troops chase Greeks out of Asia.
- September 21st President Warren G. Harding signs a joint resolution of approval to establish a Jewish homeland in Palestine.
- September 23rd Bertold Brecht's "Drums in the Night" (*Trommeln in der Nacht*) premieres in Germany.
- September 24th At Nuremberg, the two Socialist parties of Germany unite, and the reformist Karl Kautsky is elected as the head of the new party.
- September 25th In Paris, spurred by René Crevel, André Breton starts the series of hypnotic and trancelike "sleeps" that will become popular with the Surrealists.

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- September 26th Dada-Constructivist Congress is held in Weimar, with Tristan Tzara, Kurt Schwitters, and Hans Arp among the attendees.
- September 28th Benito Mussolini marches on Rome.
- October 1st Kafka's "A Hunger Artist" is first published in *Die neue Rundschau*.
- October 4th The protocol of Geneva is signed, by which Austria is granted independence.
- October 6th The Allies of World War I withdraw from Istanbul.
- October 11th Turkey and Greece sign a ceasefire.
- October 15th The first issue of T. S. Eliot's *Criterion* is published in the United Kingdom (600 copies). In it, one finds the first publication of *The Waste Land*, an essay by Valéry Larbaud on Joyce's *Ulysses*, Hermann Hesse on German poets, and a short story by May Sinclair.
- October 17th Scottish workers begin hunger march from Glasgow to London.
- October 18th The British Broadcasting Company is incorporated. The British Broadcasting Company Ltd, a British commercial company, is formed by British and American electrical companies doing business in the United Kingdom and is licensed by the British General Post Office.
- October 24th Irish Parliament adopts a constitution for an Irish Free State.
- October 26th Italian government resigns due to pressure from the Fascists and Benito Mussolini.
- October 26th *Jacob's Room* is published by the Hogarth Press. It is Virginia Woolf's third novel.
- October 31st Benito Mussolini (Il Duce) becomes premier of Italy.
- November 1st First U.S. publication of T. S. Eliot's *The Waste Land* in *The Dial*.
- November 13th Black Renaissance begins in Harlem, New York.
- November 14th The BBC begins its domestic radio service at Marconi House in the Strand, London.
- November 18th Marcel Proust dies in Paris.

- November 20th The third issue of the Dadaist review, *Mécano Red*, edited in Amsterdam by Theo van Doesburg with the help of Tristan Tzara, is ready for publication, but will only be distributed in the last week of December.
- November 25th The archaeologist Howard Carter enters King Tutankhamun's tomb.
- November 30th Hitler speaks to six thousand national-socialists in Munich.
- December Le Corbusier exhibits his notorious plans and sketches for a "Contemporary City of Three Million People" at the Salon d'Automne in Paris.
- December 3rd The first successful technicolor movie, *The Toll of the Sea*, is shown in New York City. It is directed by Chester M. Franklin, produced by the Technicolor Motion Picture Corporation, and released by Metro Pictures.
- December 6th The first constitution of the Irish Free State comes into operation.
- December 10th Nobel Prizes are awarded to Fridtjof Nansen, Niels Bohr, and Albert Einstein. The Nobel Prize in Literature is awarded to the Spanish playwright Jacinto Benavente "for the happy manner in which he has continued the illustrious traditions of the Spanish drama."
- December 15th The Hague International Peace Congress convenes.
- December 17th The last British troops leave the Irish Free State.
- December 20th The dress rehearsal of Jean Cocteau's play *Antigone* takes place. The performance, directed by Dullin and with music by Honegger, is marked by demonstrations from the Dadaists.
- December 26th Having suffered a second stroke that paralyzes his left side, Lenin dictates his "Political Testament" and retires from active involvement in Soviet politics.
- December 30th The Soviet Union is organized as a federation comprised of Russia, Ukraine, Belorussian, and Transcaucasian Soviet Republics.