

READING SWIFT'S POETRY

Poets are makers, etymologically speaking. In practice, they are also thieves. Over a long career, from the early 1690s to the late 1730s, Jonathan Swift thrived on a creative tension between original poetry-making and the filching of familiar material from the poetic archive. The most extensive study of Swift's verse to appear in more than thirty years, *Reading Swift's Poetry* offers detailed readings of dozens of major poems, as well as neglected and recently recovered pieces. This book reaffirms Swift's prominence in competing literary traditions as diverse as the pastoral and the political, the metaphysical and the satirical, and demonstrates the persistence of unlikely literary tropes across his multifaceted career. Daniel Cook also considers the audacious ways in which Swift engages with Juvenal's satires, Horace's epistles, Milton's epics, Cowley's odes, and an astonishing array of other canonical and forgotten writers.

DANIEL COOK is the Head of the English department at the University of Dundee. The author and editor of numerous books, he has written extensively on eighteenth- and nineteenth-century British and Irish literature. His books include *The Afterlives of Eighteenth-Century Fiction* and *The Cambridge Companion to 'Gulliver's Travels'*, both published by Cambridge University Press.





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CAMBRIDGEUNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom
One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA
477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre, New Delhi – 110025, India
79 Anson Road, #06–04/06, Singapore 079906

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning, and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org
Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108840958
DDI: 10.1017/9781108888172

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First published 2020

 $\label{eq:Acatalogue} A\ catalogue\ record\ for\ this\ publication\ is\ available\ from\ the\ British\ Library.$

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

NAMES: Cook, Daniel, 1981— author.

TITLE: Reading Swift's poetry / Daniel Cook, University of Dundee.

DESCRIPTION: Cambridge; New York, NY: Cambridge University Press, [2020] | Includes bibliographical references and index.

IDENTIFIERS: LCCN 2020000274 (print) | LCCN 2020000275 (ebook) | ISBN 9781108840958 (hardback) | ISBN 9781108744591 (paperback) | ISBN 9781108888172 (epub) SUBJECTS: LCSH: Swift, Jonathan, 1667–1745–Poetic works. | Swift, Jonathan, 1667–1745–Criticism and interpretation.

CLASSIFICATION: LCC PR3728.P58 C66 2020 (print) | LCC PR3728.P58 (ebook) | DDC 821/.5–dc23 LC record available at https://lccn.loc.gov/2020000274 LC ebook record available at https://lccn.loc.gov/2020000275

ısвn 978-1-108-84095-8 Hardback

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Acknowledgements

Early versions of some material printed here appeared in two proceedings of the Münster Swift symposia, 'Swift after Horace' and 'Cadenus and Vanessa: The Self-Conscious Muse'. I wish to thank the editors of those volumes, Hermann J. Real, Kirsten Juhas, Janika Bischof and Sandra Simon, for inviting me to speak in Germany and for allowing me to rework that material for this book. Matthew McCormack, editor of the Journal for Eighteenth-Century Studies, kindly permitted me to reuse my essay 'The Ungrateful Muse: Jonathan Swift's A Panegyrick on the Dean and Other Poems'. I also benefited greatly from airing short papers at multiple BSECS conferences in Oxford, the English Research Seminar at the University of St Andrews, the Jonathan Swift 350 conference in Dublin, and an Eighteenth-Century Ireland Society conference in Armagh; many thanks to the organisers and the delegates. Stephen Karian and James Woolley have supported my work for some time now - and their comments on the present book proved invaluable, as ever. Hermann Real, similarly, has always been very generous with his time and expertise – I take this opportunity to thank him properly. James McLaverty has been my main model of scholarliness and generosity since I first him more than a decade ago when I joined the Cambridge Edition of the Works of Jonathan Swift project as a postdoctoral fellow. Countless conversations with Liz Bellamy, Conrad Brunström, Paddy Bullard, Andrew Carpenter, Alan Downie, Rebecca Ferguson, Brean Hammond, Moyra Haslett, Ian Higgins, Joseph Hone, Greg Lynall, Jim May, Don Mell, Heather and Andrew McHendry, John McTague, Ruth Menzies, Dirk Passmann, Melinda Rabb, Claude Rawson, Pat Rogers, Valerie Rumbold, Nick Seager, Dan Sperrin, David Taylor, Marcus Walsh, James Ward, Howard Weinbrot, Abigail Williams and many, many other eighteenth-century scholars have directly informed my thinking throughout. During the commissioning, production and marketing of this book, Bethany Thomas and Natasha Burton have been very supportive and courteous editors;



Acknowledgements

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Sophie Gillespie delivered excellent copyediting guidance; and the anonymous readers for the Press provided wholly constructive and cordial reports, both of which significantly improved my revisions. I'm thankful to the British Academy and the Leverhulme Trust for funding research trips to Yale and Oxford, and to the Arts and Humanities Research Institute at Dundee for allocating me research leave during the writing-up stage. My heartiest thank-you goes to my family, Laura and wee Julia.



Abbreviations

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Pennsylvania Press, 1963).

Correspondence The Correspondence of Jonathan Swift, ed. Harold

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is titled Proceedings of The First Münster Symposium on

Jonathan Swift).