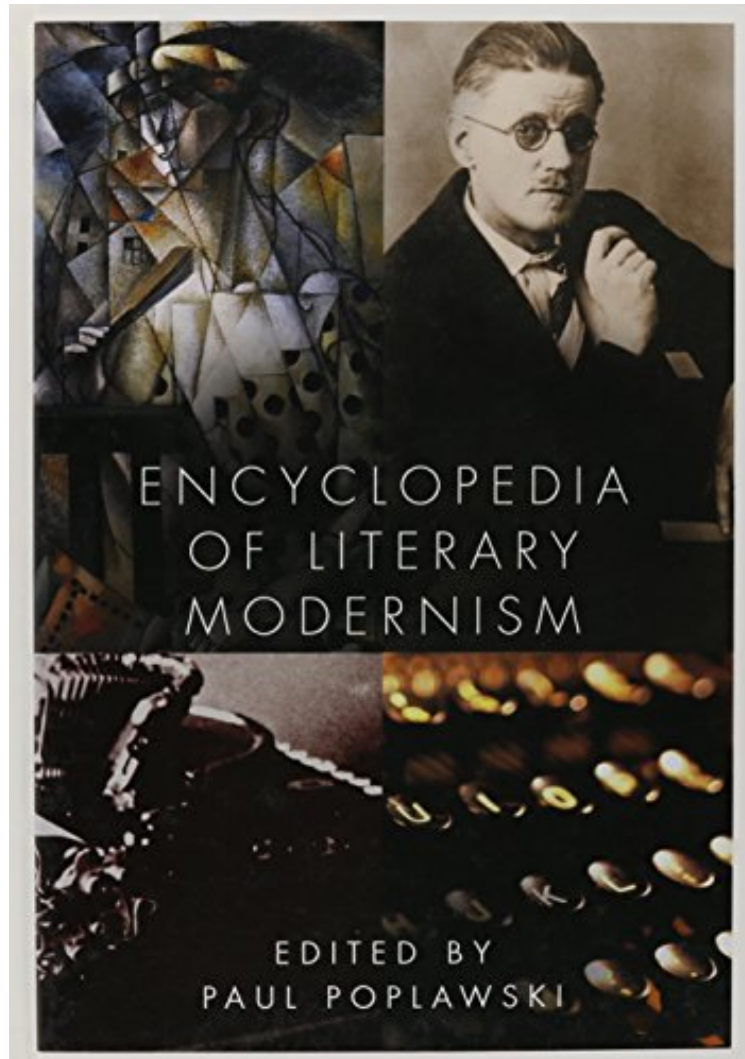


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Encyclopedia of Literary Modernism

Paul Poplawski

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Paul Poplawski : Encyclopedia of Literary Modernism before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Encyclopedia of Literary Modernism:

Modernism is still widely acknowledged as perhaps the most important and influential artistic and cultural phenomenon of the 20th century. Written by expert scholars from around the world and covering hundreds of different topics in a clear, incisive, and critical manner, this reference maps the complex field of modernism in a fresh and original way. The principal focus of the book is on English-language literary modernism and the period 1890-1939, yet

many entries extend beyond those parameters to include important precursors and successors of the movement. The book also covers the crucial European and interdisciplinary dimensions of modernism and provides complementary comparative perspectives from countries and regions not usually included in traditional accounts of the subject. Entries cite works for further reading, and the volume closes with a selected, general bibliography.

From School Library Journal Grade 9 Up The modernist era ran approximately from 1890 to 1939, spawned by such literary figures as Ezra Pound, James Joyce, T. S. Eliot, Gertrude Stein, and Marianne Moore. Strongly linked to movements in the visual arts and the early cinema, modernism is often marked by shifts in perspective, nonlinear narrative development, and experimentation with a kind of literary collage effect that attempted to do with language what artists were doing with paint. Students anxious to comprehend the cacophonous clamor of cubist caterwauling, but unsure where to start, will find much to appreciate in this wonderful book. With signed articles that run from a couple of paragraphs to a few pages, this collection shines with intelligence, insight, and care. Readable articles run the gamut from critical biographies of individual authors to movements. Ancillary figures and issues such as Gustav Mahler, psychoanalysis, dance, film and music, as well as overviews of the movements as they appeared in different countries are also included. The lucid, often luminous writing brings even the most awkward of topics (for instance "Slavic Modernism" and Hugo von Hofmannsthal) to fascinating life. Only the works of Joyce are given individual attention; it seems odd that Eliot's *The Waste Land*, arguably the seminal work of the movement, is not included. Despite some quibbles, Poplawski has pieced together possibly the best resource yet on the subject. Herman Sutter, Saint Agnes Academy, Houston, TX Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist While the main focus of this volume is English-language literary modernism from 1890 to 1939, the scope is actually much broader. The collected entries draw rich connections between literary modernism of this period and other disciplines, precursors and successors, and modernist writers in other languages. Main entries include people (Djuna Barnes, Samuel Beckett, Marcel Proust), disciplines (Anthropology; Dance and literary modernism, 1890-1940; Film and modernism; Music), countries and cultures (Africa and the South; Canada, French; Hispanic American modernismo; Russia), and movements and theoretical approaches (Dada, Expressionism, Primitivism, Psychoanalysis). Literary modernist connections to World War I are covered in a nearly six-page entry, *The War*. There are separate entries for key works of James Joyce and for Stravinsky's *The Rite of Spring*, whose audacious premier is described with a verve unusual for a ready-reference encyclopedia. The several hundred articles from nearly 70 academic contributors range from a few paragraphs (Gruppo 63) to some 15 pages for D. H. Lawrence and his work. Each entry is followed by a selected bibliography, with occasional annotations. A comprehensive index uses bold type to identify the main entry heading. Cross-references within and between entries also ease access. A selective bibliography of general works supplements the more specialized bibliographies at the end of each entry. Encyclopedia of Literary Modernism will be most useful for academic libraries, but larger public and high-school libraries could benefit from having clearly presented ready-reference material on this very "influential artistic-cultural phenomenon" available in a single volume. The preface cites as valuable adjuncts to the current work Malcolm Bradbury and James McFarlane's classic essay collection *Modernism, 1890-1930* (reprint, Penguin, 1991) and *The Cambridge Companion to Modernism* (Cambridge, 1999), though it points out that neither was designed as a reference book. RBB Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved "[O]ffers a rich tapestry an unique and diverse as Joyce's *Bloomusalem*. It maps the convergences between many places, principles and texts alongside reliable factual information, while paying careful attention to the nuances of the various political and aesthetic ideologies....[t]he international perspective found here, easily justifies it as a valuable addition to any college library....[a] unique resource for the student of modernism....[a] book that might well become a landmark."-ENGLISH The Journal of the English Association "The preface claims the purpose of this work is to fill the gap of a quick reference book on modernism and it performs this role admirably."-Reference s "For students and readers having difficulty grasping the enormous changes encompassed in the development of modernism, this guide will be most helpful."-Lawrence Looks at Books "Encyclopedia of Literary Modernism will be most useful for academic libraries, but larger public and high-school libraries could benefit from having clearly presented ready-reference material on this "influential artistic-cultural phenomenon" available in a single volume."-Booklist/Reference Books Bulletin "Students anxious to comprehend the cacophonous clamor of cubist caterwauling, but unsure where to start, will find much to appreciate in this wonderful book. 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readers; undergraduates; graduate students."-Choice"Offers a rich tapestry an unique and diverse as Joyce's Bloomusalem. It maps the convergences between many places, principles and texts alongside reliable factual information, while paying careful attention to the nuances of the various political and aesthetic ideologies....the international perspective found here, easily justifies it as a valuable addition to any college library....a unique resource for the student of modernism....a book that might well become a landmark."-ENGLISH The Journal of the English Association?The preface claims the purpose of this work is to fill the gap of a quick reference book on modernism and it performs this role admirably.?-Reference s?For students and readers having difficulty grasping the enormous changes encompassed in the development of modernism, this guide will be most helpful.?-Lawrence Looks at Books?Encyclopedia of Literary Modernism will be most useful for academic libraries, but larger public and high-school libraries could benefit from having clearly presented ready-reference material on this "influential artistic-cultural phenomenon" available in a single volume.?-Booklist/Reference Books Bulletin?Students anxious to comprehend the cacophonous clamor of cubist caterwauling, but unsure where to start, will find much to appreciate in this wonderful book. With signed articles that run from couple of paragraphs to a few pages, this collection shines with intelligence, insight, and care....Poplawski has pieced together possibly the best resource yet on the subject.?-School Library Journal?[T]his encyclopedia has no direct competitor....numerous companions and critical studies about individual authors, aspects, or themes of modernism provide similar information, but none covers the field so comprehensively nor is intended for undergraduates wanting to learn more about literary modernism....An exemplary title....Recommended. General readers; undergraduates; graduate students.?-Choice?[O]ffers a rich tapestry an unique and diverse as Joyce's Bloomusalem. It maps the convergences between many places, principles and texts alongside reliable factual information, while paying careful attention to the nuances of the various political and aesthetic ideologies....[t]he international perspective found here, easily justifies it as a valuable addition to any college library....[a] unique resource for the student of modernism....[a] book that might well become a landmark.?-ENGLISH The Journal of the English Association