

Literature And Domination Sex Knowledge And Power In Modern Fiction

Zulfikar Ghose - Mansoor Abbasi 2015-06-18

In 1963, Zulfikar Ghose received a special award from the E. C. Gregory Trust that was judged by T. S. Eliot, Henry Moore, Herbert Read and Bonamy Dobrée. A year earlier, in an issue devoted to the newly emerging Commonwealth literature, the Times Literary Supplement featured Zulfikar Ghose as the most prominent poet from the former British colonies by conspicuously printing three of his poems spread across half a page. By the time he was featured in The Review of Contemporary Fiction, Ghose had been accorded major status as a writer of international repute: the editors of The Review of Contemporary Fiction noted that “Zulfikar Ghose has both ranked with and outranked several of the best English language writers in England and America,” and went on to present him as “a unique figure in contemporary literature,” whose “evolution across languages and national boundaries” was comparable to Conrad, Nabokov and Beckett. In spite of receiving such notable attention, Ghose has remained a marginal presence and, in fact, an “untouchable,” among writers accorded a world-class status. Of the several reasons suggested for Ghose’s marginalization by scholars of world literature and post-colonial studies, the most significant one is that his oeuvre resists categorisation. For Ghose, to use Proust’s phrases, “Quality of language and the beauty of an image are the heart of great writing.” Ghose’s work is full of meditative reverberations and has a fastidious style that scintillates the reader’s mind with its brilliance. His genius lies in the construction of a language that is lyrical and full of vivid imagery. He captures the images of his native Punjab as well as the South American landscape, and imbues the air with the fragrance of Amazon rainforest while his prose sends a shiver between the “shoulder blades.” In his experimentation with form, he “make[s] it new,” to use Pound’s phrase. His literary journey from the imitation of nineteenth-century realism to his most experimental and ambitious works like Hulme’s Investigations into the Bogart Script and The Triple Mirror of the Self reflects his wide range of experimentation with form and style. This book investigates the structural patterns in the novels of Zulfikar Ghose that give each of his works its peculiar aesthetic design. While on the one hand, this work notes his role as a pioneer among South Asian writers of the post-colonial era, on the other hand, his novels are examined in the critical framework erected by the writer himself with its emphasis on style: that is the central concern of this study.

Thomas Pynchon, Sex, and Gender - Ali Chetwynd 2018

Thomas Pynchon's fiction has been considered masculinist, misogynist, phallogocentric, and pornographic: its formal experimentation, irony, and ambiguity have been taken both to complicate such judgments and to be parts of the problem. To the present day, deep critical divisions persist as to whether Pynchon's representations of women are sexist, feminist, or reflective of a more general misanthropy, whether his writing of sex is boorishly pornographic or effectually transgressive, whether queer identities are celebrated or mocked, and whether his departures from realist convention express masculinist elitism or critique the gendering of genre. Thomas Pynchon, Sex, and Gender reframes these debates. As the first book-length investigation of Pynchon's writing to put the topics of sex and gender at its core, it moves beyond binary debates about whether to see Pynchon as liberatory or conservative, instead examining how his preoccupation with sex and gender conditions his fiction's whole worldview. The essays it contains, which cumulatively address all of Pynchon's novels from V. (1963) to Bleeding Edge (2013), investigate such topics as the imbrication of gender and power, sexual abuse and the writing of sex, the gendering of violence, and the shifting representation of the family. Providing a wealth of new approaches to the centrality of sex and gender in Pynchon's work, the collection opens up new avenues for Pynchon studies as a whole.

A Companion to the British and Irish Novel, 1945 - 2000 - Brian W. Shaffer 2008-04-15

A Companion to the British and Irish Novel 1945-2000 serves as an extended introduction and reference guide to the British and Irish novel between the close of World War II and the turn of the millennium.

Covers a wide range of authors from Samuel Beckett to Salman Rushdie Provides readings of key novels, including Graham Greene’s ‘Heart of the Matter’, Jean Rhys’s ‘Wide Sargasso Sea’ and Kazuo Ishiguro’s ‘The Remains of the Day’ Considers particular subgenres, such as the feminist novel and the postcolonial novel Discusses overarching cultural, political and literary trends, such as screen adaptations and the literary prize phenomenon Gives readers a sense of the richness and diversity of the novel during this period and of the vitality with which it continues to be discussed

Literature and Domination - M. Keith Booker 1993

For all of the texts read, such issues are explored in terms not only of content but of style and form. What is distinctive about many modern texts, Booker claims, is the reflexive way literary meditations on power, authority, and domination turn inward to involve examinations of textuality and reading as images of the kinds of struggles for mastery that inform society at large.

The Dystopian Impulse in Modern Literature - M. Keith Booker 1994-05-17

A detailed discussion of literary dystopias as social criticism in Zamyatin's We, Huxley's Brave New World, Orwell's 1984, and in contemporary works.

Pynchon Notes - 1995

Reading Rushdie - M. D. Fletcher 1994

Salman Rushdie is perhaps the most important writer of the present time. His significant and controversial literary interventions in debates on post-colonial culture and contemporary South Asian Islam are matched by the contribution he has made to postmodern literature in the West (culminating in the award to him in 1993 of the twenty-fifth-anniversary Booker of Bookers prize). This collection of articles focuses on Rushdie's five novels. The context is set by the introduction, The Politics of Salman Rushdie's Fiction, which discusses the political stance of Rushdie's fiction, the various influences on his work, and the textual strategies and techniques he employs, for political expression and cultural critique. The postmodern/post-colonial interface, the carnivalesque, and satire are major themes treated here and in the articles that follow, which also provide diverse other perspectives on Rushdie's thought and method. A number of essays have been commissioned specially for this volume. An appendix listing selected writings by Rushdie and articles on the Satanic Verses Affair is followed by a comprehensive bibliography annotating critical studies of Rushdie's work.

The Palgrave Handbook of Affect Studies and Textual Criticism - Donald R. Wehrs 2017-12-01

This volume provides a comprehensive account of how scholarship on affect and scholarship on texts have come to inform one another over the past few decades. The result has been that explorations of how texts address, elicit, shape, and dramatize affect have become central to contemporary work in literary, film, and art criticism, as well as in critical theory, rhetoric, performance studies, and aesthetics. Guiding readers to the variety of topics, themes, interdisciplinary dialogues, and sub-disciplinary specialties that the study of interplay between affect and texts has either inaugurated or revitalized, the handbook showcases and engages the diversity of scholarly topics, approaches, and projects that thinking of affect in relation to texts and related media open up or enable. These include (but are not limited to) investigations of what attention to affect brings to established methods of studying texts—in terms of period, genre, cultural contexts, rhetoric, and individual authorship.

Colonial Power, Colonial Texts - M. Keith Booker 1997

Half a century after the Raj, India retains a major place in the British imagination. In Colonial Power, Colonial Texts, M. Keith Booker examines a number of British novels that deal with colonial rule in India in the first half of the twentieth century. The works discussed—by authors such as Rudyard Kipling, E. M. Forster, George Orwell, Paul Scott, and J. G. Farrell—date from both the colonial and postcolonial periods,

and Booker pays attention as well to representations of India in both British and American popular culture, especially film. These various cultural texts open multiple viewpoints on the role of literature in the British vision of India and the role of India in the British conception of literature. Drawing particularly on the work of Georg Lukács and Fredric Jameson, Booker focuses on the treatment of British colonial power in these fictions as that treatment indicates how colonialism and decolonization participate in a larger historical process of modernization. The author uses a Marxist model of bourgeois cultural revolution to illustrate the ways these texts engage in productive exchanges with their historical context. *Colonial Power, Colonial Texts* will be of particular value to those who study the role of culture in colonialism and anticolonial resistance, as well as to students and scholars of modern British literature and culture. M. Keith Booker is Associate Professor of English, University of Arkansas.

Dream Tonight of Peacock Tails - Umberto Rossi 2015-09-04

Dream Tonight of Peacock Tails marks the first in-depth examination of Pynchon's debut novel, which was immediately recognized as a breakthrough masterpiece. The eight essays collected in the volume provide both scholars and avid readers with new and original insights into a too-often underestimated work that, probably even more than *Gravity's Rainbow*, established Pynchon as one of the great masters of twentieth-century American literature. This book deliberately privileges a multidisciplinary and transnational approach, encompassing collaborations from a particularly international and diverse academic context. As such, this volume offers a multifaceted pattern of expanding investigation that tackles the novel's apparently chaotic but meticulously organized structure by rereading it in the light of recent US and European history and economics, as well as by exploring its many real and imagined locations. Not only are the essays brought together here revelatory of Pynchon's way of working, but they also tell us something about our own ways of approaching his fiction.

Choice - 1993

Flann O'Brien, Bakhtin, and Menippean Satire - M. Keith Booker 1995-10-01

This work applies Mikhail Bakhtin's theory of literary discourse and the concept of carnivalisation to the work of Flann O'Brien. The author emphasizes the political and social implications of the writings, arguing that O'Brien maintained a reflexive focus on language throughout his career.

First Pages - Giancarlo Maiorino 2010-11

&"Titology,&" a term first coined in 1977 by literary critic Harry Levin, is the field of literary studies that focuses on the significance of a title in establishing the thematic developments of the pages that follow. While the term has been used in the literary community for thirty years, this book presents for the first time a thoroughly developed theoretical discussion on the significance of the title as a foundation for scholarly criticism. Though Maiorino acknowledges that many titles are superficial and &"indexical,&" there exists a separate and more complex class of titles that do much more than simply decorate a book's spine. To prove this argument, Maiorino analyzes a wide range of examples from the modern era through high modernism to postmodernism, with writings spanning the globe from Spain and France to Germany and America. By examining works such as *Essais*, *The Waste Land*, *Ulysses*, and *Don Quixote*, *First Pages* proves the power of the title to connect the reader to the thematic, cultural, and literary context of the writing as a whole. Much like a façade to a building, the title page serves as the frontispiece of literature, a sign that offers perspective and demands interpretation.

Encyclopedia of the Novel - Paul Schellinger 2014-04-08

First Published in 1999. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

Techniques of Subversion in Modern Literature - M. Keith Booker 1991

Mario Vargas Llosa is one of the world's most respected and widely read living writers. His work is marked by technical sophistication and by its alliance with a variety of trends in modern culture. To date little criticism of his work has made use of the important developments in literary theory in the past two decades. This book does that, analyzing Vargas Llosa's place in modern and postmodern criticism.

Late Modernism - Tyrus Miller 1999-02-25

The late modernists were the ones who let down the side; they saw the wave of the future, the erosion of literary and political borders, and they let the world in and so distinguished themselves from the

refinements of the early modernists. This is the first book to make this fascinating distinction and to highlight this aspect of intellectual history and to situate Mina Loy, Djuna Barnes, Wyndham Lewis, and Samuel Beckett at this critical juncture.

Cold War American Literature and the Rise of Youth Culture - Denis Jonnes 2014-09-04

Demands placed on many young Americans as a result of the Cold War give rise to an increasingly age-segregated society. This separation allowed adolescents and young adults to begin to formulate an identity distinct from previous generations, and was a significant factor in their widespread rejection of contemporary American society. This study traces the emergence of a distinctive post-war family dynamic between parent and adolescent or already adult child. In-depth readings of individual writers such as, Arthur Miller, William Styron, J. D. Salinger, Tennessee Williams, Vladimir Nabokov, Jack Kerouac, Flannery O'Connor and Sylvia Plath, situate their work in relation to the Cold War and suggest how the figuring of adolescents and young people reflected and contributed to an empowerment of American youth. This book is a superb research tool for any student or academic with an interest in youth culture, cultural studies, American studies, cold war studies, twentieth-century American literature, history of the family, and age studies.

Dystopian Literature - M. Keith Booker 1994-05-25

Dystopian literature is a potent vehicle for criticizing existing social conditions and political systems. While utopian literature portrays ideal worlds, dystopian literature depicts the flaws and failures of imaginative societies. Often these societies are related to utopias, and the dystopian writers have chosen to reveal shortcomings of those social systems previously considered ideal. This reference overviews dystopian theory and summarizes and analyzes numerous dystopian works. By reviewing the critical thought of particular dystopian theorists, the beginning of the volume provides a theoretical context for the remainder of the book. Because dystopian literature is so closely related to utopian writing, the reference profiles and discusses eight important utopian works. The rest of the book includes entries for numerous dystopian novels, plays, and films. Each entry summarizes the work and discusses dystopian themes. The entries include short bibliographies, with full bibliographic information provided at the end of the volume. This comprehensive guide covers the full period from Thomas More's *Utopia* to the present day.

The Author in Criticism - Elio Attilio Baldi 2020-03-11

The Author in Criticism: Italo Calvino's Authorial Image in Italy, the United States, and the United Kingdom explores the cultural and historic patterns and differences in the critical readings of Italian author Italo Calvino's works in the United States of America, the United Kingdom, and Italy. It considers the external factors that contribute to create recognizable patterns in the readings of Calvino's texts in different contexts. This volume therefore covers, most notably, matters of genre (science fiction, postmodernism), cultural perceptions and conventions, the (re)current image of the author in different media, academic schools, -curricula and -canons, biographical information (such as gender and background), and translation and the language in which the author speaks (or fails to speak) to us. It traces the influence of these aspects in the academic discourse on Calvino. *The Author in Criticism* also analyzes Calvino's various professional roles as writer, editor, essayist, journalist, private correspondent, and public, cosmopolitan intellectual, reappraising their often little acknowledged importance for academic criticism. An important underlying idea is that the preconceived image that every critic has of Calvino before even opening one of his books is often solidified and repeated even in the most refined and complex critical analyses. This volume purposefully foregrounds the textual and non-textual parts that are usually considered peripheral to the works of an author, such as book covers, blurbs, reviews, talks, interviews, etc. In this way, this book provides insight into the reception of Calvino's works in different countries. Moreover, it forms a broader reflection of and on important constants in the workings of literary criticism, and on the way academic discourses have developed in various cultural contexts over the last decades.

Games of Property - Thadious M. Davis 2003-06-16

In *Games of Property*, distinguished critic Thadious M. Davis provides a dazzling new interpretation of William Faulkner's *Go Down, Moses*. Davis argues that in its unrelenting attention to issues related to the ownership of land and people, *Go Down, Moses* ranks among Faulkner's finest and most accomplished works. Bringing together law, social history, game theory, and feminist critiques, she shows that the book is

unified by games—fox hunting, gambling with cards and dice, racing—and, like the law, games are rule-dependent forms of social control and commentary. She illuminates the dual focus in *Go Down, Moses* on

property and ownership on the one hand and on masculine sport and social ritual on the other. *Games of Property* is a masterful contribution to understandings of Faulkner's fiction and the power and scope of property law.

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