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Salem Press Announces a New Addition to the *Critical Insights* Series: *Critical Insights: The Crucible*

The *Critical Insights* series provides students and interested readers with original scholarship to help understand literature in fresh ways and from new perspectives. This volume, on Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*, focuses on a single play that has had a profound influence on literature, film, and culture more broadly. Miller's drama concerning accusations of witchcraft in Massachusetts, lends itself well to revivals. Written originally to warn against the perils of Congressional inquiries into the activities of alleged Communists in the government and entertainment industries, the play can easily be understood as a warning about almost any sort of irrational social ostracism.

About the Editor: **Robert C. Evans** is I.B. Young Professor of English at Auburn University at Montgomery, where he has taught since 1982. In 1984, he received his PhD from Princeton University, where he held Weaver and Whiting fellowships as well as a University fellowship. In 1982, he was awarded the G.E. Bentley Prize and in 1989 was selected Professor of the Year for Alabama by the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education. He is a contributing editor to the John Donne *Variorum Edition* and is the author or editor of over forty books. He is also the author of roughly three hundred published or forthcoming essays or notes (in print and online) on a variety of topics.

The first major section of this book provides a broad overview of the play and several of its contexts. In addition to a general introduction by volume editor Robert C. Evans, this section also includes a set of four original essays approaching the play from different aspects including its biographical and historical origins, its themes and techniques, and the ways it has been represented on stage, on film, and even in a noteworthy audio recording.

The second section of the volume consists of 12 new critical readings on a wide range of subjects touching on *The Crucible* and its broader cultural significance:

- Scapegoats, Satanism and the Sacred: Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*, Nicolas Tredell
- Letters from the Past: Arthur Miller and Communism (a Self-Interview), Alan Wald
- Arthur Miller's Postwar Aesthetics and *The Crucible*, Robert C. Evans
- Arthur Miller's *The Crucible* and Post-World War II Dystopian Writing, Robert C. Evans

- Christopher Bigsby on Arthur Miller's Marxism (and Its Relevance to *The Crucible*), Lyndsey Diane Fifield
- Anti-Communism Criticism of Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*, Jonathan T. Lawrence
- Molly Kazan's *The Egghead* as a Response to Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*, Robert C. Evans
- *The Crucible* in Four Voices: Rouleau, Segal, Hytner, and Farber, Christopher Baker
- Nicholas Hytner's 1996 Film Version of Arthur Miller's *The Crucible: A Survey of Reviews*, Trevor Ramey
- *The Crucible* on Broadway 2016: Miller's Stodgy Shut-In Gets a Wild Night Out on the Town, Thomas A. Greenfield
- Non-Broadway Productions of Arthur Miller's *The Crucible: A survey of Recent Stagings*, Crystie Deuter
- Arthur Miller's *The Crucible* on Audio, Starring Stacy Keach and Richard Dreyfuss, Brant Pope

The final section of the book includes several helpful resources, including a timeline of Miller's life, a general **bibliography** combining the most fruitful avenues for further study, **information about the editor and the contributors**, and an **index**. All together, this volume should be a helpful resource for any and all who wish to explore Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*.

The *Critical Insights* Series distills the best of both classic and current literary criticism of the world's most studied literature. Edited and written by some of academia's most distinguished literary scholars, *Critical Insights: The Crucible* provides authoritative, in-depth scholarship that students and researchers will rely on for years. This volume is destined to become a valuable purchase for all.

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Critical Insights: The Crucible

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