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Salem Press Announces A New Addition to the *Critical Insights Series; Critical Insights: James McBride*

This volume in the *Critical Insights* series examines a wide range of Wharton's works, including his memoir *The Color of the Water* and his National Book Award winning novel *The Good Lord Bird*. The themes covered include: historical ties to World War II; the Civil War; his family relationships and unique upbringing. The volume provides critical analysis and close readings of his work.

This volume is divided into four sections. The first begins with a biographical sketch of the author, in which the editor Mildred R. Mickle, provides an overview of McBride's life, highlighting his major accomplishments; his expansion of the boundaries of the black diaspora to include his mother's Polish Jewish heritage; his survival from substance abuse; his contribution to American film in collaborating with Spike Lee to write the screenplay for *Miracle at St. Anna* (2008); and his legacy of poignantly written prose. The essays in the next section, critical contexts, aim to provide a background to the author that is a historical, cultural, and biographical foundation for the reader. The four essays in the critical context section include how McBride's works critique the concept, production, and interpretation of history. And finally, readers seeking a deeper understanding of the writer can then move on to other original essays that explore a number of schools of thought. These essays utilize common critical approaches to further analyze the author's work, or specific works according to the selected theme.

Free Online with Print Purchase

Critical Insights: James McBride is available at no additional cost to buyers of the print volume online through Salem's online platform, Salem Literature. A single purchase of the printed version is all it takes to gain access to this important title online.

Analytical yet accessible for high school and college students, all *Critical Insights* essays open the door to critical thinking and analysis that is an imperative for success at the college level, as well as it is a cornerstone for Common Core state standards. This popular series distills the best of both classic and contemporary literary criticism of the world's most studied literature. Each volume in the series focuses on an individual author's body of work, on a single piece of literature, or on a popular literary theme. *Critical Insights* provides authoritative, accessible, and detailed insights and analysis suitable for students and teachers alike.

Critical Insights: James McBride

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