

# SALEM PRESS

Published & Distributed by Grey House Publishing

## For Immediate Release

May 6, 2016

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## **Salem Press Announces *Critical Insights:* *George Eliot***

*Critical Insights: George Eliot*, edited by Katie R. Peel, an Associate Professor of English at the University of North Carolina, Wilmington, offers various approaches to George Eliot's material, both familiar and not. This title provides critical approaches to her poetry, journalism, and shorter fiction, as well as her novels. *Critical Insights: George Eliot* also contains essays working in queer historiography, masculinity studies, adaptation studies, and pedagogy.

This title is divided into four main sections, starting with **Career, Life, and Influence**. This introduction section uses an adaptation for readers to consider what is valued in Eliot's work and why it should be shared to readers of all ages. Joanne Cordón biography of Eliot traces both her personal and literary developments and offers context for her literature.

The **Critical Contexts** section takes four approaches to Eliot's work. In "Edith Simcox on George Eliot: Autobiography of a Love," Constance M. Fulmer approaches Eliot via her contemporary, Edith Simcox, a woman who knew and loved Eliot. Katherine Montwieler and Mark Edelman Boren took on the task of wading through a century and a half of scholarship on Eliot and compiled their findings in their overview, "Critical Tipples: Or A Nip into George Eliot Criticism, *Then and Now*." Jeffrey E. Jackson's "Reaching the Limit: *Middlemarch*, George Eliot, and the 'Crisis' of the 'Old-Fashioned English Novel' in the 1870s" is a study in genre and considers the role of *Middlemarch* in the context of the English novel tradition. Lastly, Magdalena Nerio presents Eliot in light of her intellectual predecessors (and subjects of one of Eliot's own essays) Mary Wollstonecraft and Margaret Fuller.

The **Critical Readings** section consists of new essays from a variety of approaches. In "Life, Death, and Identity in *The Lifted Veil*: George Eliot's Experiments with First-Person Fiction," Heidi L. Pennington looks at Eliot's rare use of the first-person point of view in her discussion of *The Lifted Veil* and autothanatology, or the narration of one's own death. Janis Chakars explores Eliot's journalism in "Mary Ann Evans, Marian Evans, George Eliot, and Journalism," which has only been examined as such by a few scholars. Carroll Clayton Savant's "Whistle While You Work": The Construction of the Myth of Englishness through the Working Soundscapes in George Eliot's *Adam Bede*" connects sound, class, and the production of nation. Wendy S. Williams, author of *George Eliot, Poetess*, examines Eliot's poetry in light of sympathy (which others in this volume argue she does in her various other genres) in "George Eliot: Unsung Poet of Sympathy." Gareth Hadyk-DeLodder's essay, "The world must

romanticized’: Tracing George Eliot’s German Influences,” makes connections amongst the influences of Eliot’s extensive German studies and her own writing. Other essays include:

- “Doubt, Devotion, Duty: George Eliot, the Death of God, and the Quest to Combine Transcendence and Coherence” by Shandi Stevenson
- “How Was a Man to Be Explained?”: Masculinity, Manhood, and Mothering in *Silas Marner*” by Danny Sexton
- “Missing Mother: Eliot’s Philosophy of Sympathy and the Effect of Loss in *The Lifted Veil*” by Emilia Halton-Hernandez
- “Casaubon’s “Highly Esteemed...Fable of Cupid and Psyche”; Or, Can We Take Myth Seriously in *Middlemarch*?” by Erin A. Sampinato
- “What Can Be Learned from an Adaptation of *The Mill on the Floss*” by Abigail Burnham Bloom

Each essay in *Critical Insights: George Eliot* is 2,500 to 5,000 words in length, and all essays conclude with a list of Works Cited and detailed endnotes. Also included in this volume are **Appendixes** to provide readers with additional information and opportunities for further research, including a **Chronology of George Eliot’s Life**, a list of **Works by George Eliot**, an annotated **Bibliography**, biographies of the **Editors** and **Contributors**, and an alphabetical **Index**.

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: George Eliot* 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.

### **Free Online with Print Purchase**

In addition, *Critical Insights: George Eliot* comes with complimentary online access via <http://online.salempress.com>. A single purchase of the printed version is all it takes to gain access to this important title on the web.

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*Critical Insights: George Eliot*

Pub. Date: March 2016

Hardcover ISBN: 978-1-61925-838-9

300 pages

\$95.00

Ebook ISBN: 978-1-61925-839-6