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## Salem Press Announces *Critical Insights: Henry James*

*Critical Insights: Henry James*, edited by Tom Hubbard, a Scottish novelist, poet, and itinerant scholar, explores the work of one of the central novelists and proponents of 19<sup>th</sup> Century realism. This title is divided into four main sections, starting with **Career, Life, and Influence**. This section discusses James' career and certain themes of his writings in fairly broad terms, along with a biography about the man behind the literature. The rest of the text examines the writings of Henry James and their growing legacy.

**Critical Contexts** begins with Owen Dudley Edwards, exploring the implications of James' Irish pedigree in the context of the troubled relationships, during much of the nineteenth century, between Britain and Ireland. Zsuzsanna Varga then discusses the criticism of James during his lifetime, as well as in the years immediately following his death. Next, Editor, Tom Hubbard compares Henry James to one of his peers, Stephen Crane. Lastly, Eric Haralson returns to theory and practice of fiction by showing a view of Henry James through the critical lens of Joseph Conrad (who, like Crane, was an associate of James during this residence in the English county of Sussex).

The chapters in the **Critical Readings** section are arranged in order of the date of publication of the James work under scrutiny. Jamesian scholar and professional singer Michael Halliwell begins this section by focusing on an early tale, "The Last of the Valerii" (1874), but takes an unusual approach to it. Halliwell focuses on James' career in theater by discussing the composer Thea Musgrave's opera, *The Voice of Ariadne*, which is based on James' story. This is a fascinating account of the relationships between literature and another art form, and it links interestingly with Pierre A. Walker's chapter on "Collaboration" (1892), a tale which concerns a writer and a composer, and Daniel Hannah's chapter on visual art, especially portraiture, as a theme in much of James' oeuvre. Pierre A. Walker has been engaged, together with Greg W. Zacharias, in the prodigious task of a new edition of James' letters. Walker has provided two chapters, one on the early novel *The American* (1877) and the other on the incredibly neglected "Collaboration." Walker reinforces the strong presence of history (French, this time) in the present volume by offering us both "insight" and "context" in abundance. Donatella Izzo is also very well-known in Jamesian circles: she and Carlo Martinez provide perspectives of James' beloved (but not always benign) Italy. Robert Louis Stevenson and friend Henry James entered into a literary controversy of the mid-1880s and enjoyed an exchange of views that often diverged, though always amicably. Glenda Norquay probes the nature of their debate and, in the

process, provides us with a two-way lens: Stevenson on James' work, James on Stevenson's. Next, Christopher Harvie brings together many of his diverse interests in a sparkling account of what is generally regarded as at once James' most Victorian and most political novel. Other essays include:

- "Art and Nationalism: The Short Story "Collaboration" by Pierre A. Walker
- "Two tales of the 1890s, "The Altar of the Dead" and "Paste": A Diptych-Essayette by Tom Hubbard
- "Educating Miles: Thinking the Evil in *The Turn of the Screw*" by Hazel Hutchison
- "Blank Canvases: Henry James' Portraitists and the Limits of Analogy" by Daniel Hannah
- "A Native Gone Tourist? Henry James, Travel, and *The American Scene*" by Carlo Martinez

Each essay in *Critical Insights: Henry James* 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 Henry James' Life**, a list of **Works by Henry James**, 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: Henry James* 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: Henry James* 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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