SALEM PRESS
Published & Distributed by Grey House Publishing

For Immediate Release

January 5, 2015

Contact: Jessica Moody, VP Marketing
(800) 562-2139 x101
jmoody@greyhouse.com

Salem Press Announces A New Title in the Introduction to Literary Context series *Introduction to Literary Context: American Poetry of the 20th Century*

Salem Press' *Introduction to Literary Context series* is designed to introduce students to the world's greatest works of literature – including novels, short fictions, novellas, plays, and poems – not only placing them in the historical, societal, scientific, and religious context of their time, but illuminating key concepts and vocabulary that students are likely to encounter.

Introduction to Literary Context: American Poetry of the 20th Century covers 34 poems written by American poets who represent a variety of ages, life styles, and political beliefs, including those whose work has been banned, burned, and revered. Their work is based on personal experiences and struggles, as well as societal issues of the time.

With in depth analysis of works by the likes of Edgar Allen Poe, Allen Ginsberg, Sylvia Plath, and Langston Hughes, *Introduction to Literary Context: American Poetry of the 20th Century* offers students the tools to grasp more firmly and dig deeper into the meanings of not only the works covered here, but literature as it has been created around the world.

The essays in *American Poetry of the 20th Century* appear alphabetically by the title of the work. Each is 6-8 pages in length and includes the following sections:

- **Content Synopsis** — summarizes the poem, describing the main points and prominent characters in concise language.

- **Historical Context** — describes the relevance of the moods, attitudes, and conditions that existed during the time period that the poem was written.

- **Societal Context** — describes the role of society in relation to the content of the poem, from the acceptance of traditional gender roles to dealing with mental illness

- **Religious Context** — explains how the religious views of the author specifically, or a group generally, influenced the poem.

- **Scientific & Technological Context** — analyzes to what extent scientific and/or technological progress has affected the writing of the poem

- **Biographical Context** — offers biographical details of the poet's life, which often helps students to make sense of the work.

- **Discussion Questions –** a list of 8–10 thoughtful questions that are designed to develop stimulating and productive classroom discussions.

- **Essay Ideas –** a valuable list of ideas that will encourage students to explore themes, writing techniques, and character traits.

- **Works Cited –** also includes an additional general Bibliography and Subject Index at the end of volume.

The essays in *Introduction to Literary Context: American Poetry of the 20th Century* also include a list of Complementary Texts, Discussion Questions, and Essay Questions to help students get the most out of their study of these works. *Poetry* covers authors, works and themes that are addressed in core reading lists at the undergraduate level, making this title a perfect reference for any student or researcher.

Free Online with Print Purchase
Introduction to Literary Context: American Poetry of the 20th Century is available online at no additional cost to buyers of the print volume through Salem's online platform, Salem Literature. A single purchase of the printed set is all it takes to gain access to this important title online.

Introduction to Literary Context: American Poetry of the 20th Century
Hardcover ISBN: 978-1-61925-713-9
Ebook ISBN: 978-1-61925-714-6 300 pages $165.00
Publisher: Salem Press