

# SALEM PRESS

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## **Salem Press Announces a New Addition to the *Critical Insights* Series *Critical Insights: Sense and Sensibility***

This volume looks at Jane Austen’s famous novel from many points of view. Beginning with a discussion of Austen’s own life and times and their relevance to understanding *Sense and Sensibility*, this title goes on to explore the enduring popularity, especially in recent decades, of Austen’s writings in general and of this novel in particular.

Important past critical analyses are summarized, illustrating the historical, social, and cultural forces that helped shape both the writing of the novel and the ways in which it has been received. Comparison to other literary texts helps readers explore *Sense and Sensibility* through the lens of the many literary theories currently available to serious students and readers of literature. Discussions of various film versions reveal how these visual versions can illuminate Austen’s novel, and vice versa. How this book succeeds (or fails) as a work of art is also examined, as is its continuing relevance in the twenty-first century to present-day concerns over gender, class, and race.

This volume on Jane Austen’s novel *Sense and Sensibility*, like all the other volumes in the *Critical Insights* series, is divided into several parts. It opens with an introductory essay, moves to a deliberately brief biography of Austen, transitions to a “Critical Contexts” section consisting of four essays (each with a distinctive focus), and then presents eleven different “Critical Readings.” Next comes a “Resources” section consisting of a chronology of Austen’s life, a listing of her works, and a secondary bibliography. The volume concludes with a biography of the editor, biographies of the contributors, and a comprehensive index.

The introductory essay to the current volume is written by Collins Hemingway, who offers a helpful survey of many different aspects of Austen’s life and career in general and of *Sense and Sensibility* in particular. He discusses the novel’s varied historical and cultural contexts as well as its characters, plotlines, and reception, and he also comments on the particular strengths of various editions.

Next comes the Critical Readings section of this book, which contains the following essays:

- “‘Sense and Sensibility’” in *Sense and Sensibility: The Use of a Key Phrase* by Jane Austen’s Contemporaries and Its Relevance to Elinor,” Robert C. Evans

- “Self-Command and Selfishness: Civility and Wildness in *Sense and Sensibility*”, Nicolas Tredell
- ““No, Sir; we had *talk* enough, but no *conversation*”: Idle Talk in *Sense and Sensibility*”, Brandon Schneeberger
- “Propriety, Privacy, and Power in *Sense and Sensibility*”, Melissa Anderson
- “The 1995 Film of *Sense and Sensibility*: A Survey of Reviews”, Kathryn Duncan
- “The 2008 BBC *Sense and Sensibility* Miniseries: A Survey of Reviews,” Robert C. Evans
- “Jane Austen’s Colonel Brandon on the Screen”, Christopher Baker
- “The Real Jane Austen: A Praiseworthy Filmed Documentary” Robert C. Evans
- “Kate Hamill’s Dramatic Version of *Sense and Sensibility*: Its Conception, Design, and Reception”, Robert C. Evans
- “Kate Hamill’s Dramatic Version of *Sense and Sensibility*: Multiple Responses to Major Productions”, Robert C. Evans
- “The Reception—of *Sense and Sensibility* in Spanish-Language Editions”, Cinthia García Soria

This volume concludes with a variety of scholarly resources that should prove helpful to readers of *Sense and Sensibility*. These include a chronology of Austen’s life, a listing of her writings, a secondary bibliography focused on books *about* her book, and a comprehensive 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: Sense & Sensibility* 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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