

Tony Harrison: Loiner

This is a full-length study of the work of Tony Harrison - a controversial figure in current British poetry. Spencer discusses Harrison's poetry, translations, verse drama and recent polemical writings, such as those on the Gulf War. While focusing on Harrison's politics, Spencer pays full attention to the poet's formal and technical achievements.

This is the first book-length study of the classicism of Tony Harrison, one of the most important contemporary poets in England and the world. It argues that his unique and politically radical classicism is inextricable from his core notion that poetry should be a public property in which communal problems are shared and crystallised, and that the poet has a responsibility to speak in a public voice about collective and political concerns. Enriched by Edith Hall's longstanding friendship with Harrison and involvement with his most recent drama, inspired by Euripides' Iphigenia in Tauris, it also asserts that his greatest innovations in both form and style have been direct results of his intense engagements with individual works of ancient literature and his belief that the ancient Greek poetic imagination was inherently radical. Tony Harrison's large body of work, for which he has won several major and international prizes, and which features on the UK National Curriculum, ranges widely across long and short poems, plays, translations and film poems. Having studied Classics at Grammar School and University and having translated ancient poets from Aeschylus to Martial and Pallasas, Harrison has been immersed in the myths, history, literary forms and authorial voices of Mediterranean antiquity for his entire working life and his classical interests are reflected in every poetic genre he has essayed, from epigrams and sonnets to original stage plays, translations of Greek drama and Racine, to his experimental and harrowing film poems, where he has pioneered the welding of tightly cut video materials to tightly phrased verse forms. This volume explores the full breadth of his oeuvre, offering an insightful new perspective on a writer who has played an important part in shaping our contemporary literary landscape.

A comprehensive reference presents over five hundred full essays on authors and a variety of topics, including censorship, genre, patronage, and dictionaries.

This volume presents fifteen chapters focusing on different aspects of the work of Tony Harrison, showing how his adaptations and translations explored themes of language, class, access to art, and the causes and effects of war.

The Poetry of Tony Harrison

Studies in Honour of Oliver Taplin

A Kumquat for John Keats

Euripides: Trojan Women

Literature in Society

Conflicts and Continuities of Identity in Tony Harrison's The Loiners, Continuous and V

This text examines the poetry of Tony Harrison, covering typical themes in his work: his translation class; opposition, antagonism and blasphemy with regard to his writings; readings of his class war; and Greek tragedy and the black circle.

Tony Harrison published his first pamphlet of poems in 1964 and for over fifty years has been a prominent force in modern poetry. His poetic range is truly far-reaching, from the intimate tenderness of family life and personal love, to war poems written from Bosnia and savage public outcries against politicians. In The Collected Poems, Harrison draws deeply both on classical tradition and on the vernacular of the street. Combining the private and the public in a way Harrison has made distinctly his own, and drawing on his working-class upbringing in Leeds, these are powerful poems for modern times. This is the first complete paperback collection of one of Britain's most controversial and critically acclaimed poets. Tony Harrison is the greatest poet of the second half of the 20th century. . . He writes brilliantly about class, love and Britain' Daniel Radcliffe

Harrison is a masterly technician, and the most fiery and indelible English poet of the age. This book is a vineyard on a volcano' Paul Farley

The Cambridge Introduction to British Poetry, 1945–2010 provides a broad overview of an important body of poetry from England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland from the postwar period through to the twenty-first century. It offers a comprehensive view of the historical context surrounding the poetry and provides in-depth readings of many of the period's central poets. British poetry after 1945 has been given much less attention than both earlier British and American poetry, as well as postwar American poetry. There are very few single-author studies that present the entirety of the period's poetry. This book is unique for the comprehensive richness with which it presents the historical and literary-historical scene, as well as for its close-up focus on a wide range of major poets and poems.

This book examines the political meanings of Tony Harrison's imaginative works and offers a reassessment of the poet's political character. While Harrison's class political analysis has been central to much of the discussion of his poetry, his concern with colonialism still generates relatively little commentary. The nature of his republicanism and its importance for his poetry has been neglected, while his humanism tends to be seen as at odds with his politics. This study discusses Harrison's concern with internal colonialism in the United Kingdom and internationalist anti-colonial poetic. It witnesses the radical political inclusiveness of his humanism and his giving the dispossessed a voice in his high cultural poetry. Particular attention is accorded to his ambiguous identification with John Milton as a great republican poet, his location of Milton and himself in a radical republican literary lineage, and his wider excavation of that lineage. It also illuminates Harrison's unnoticed elective affinity with Arthur Rimbaud as a regional poet with the wrong accent, as 'a hoodlum poet' who fell silent and became an explorer and fortune-seeker in Africa, as a white 'negre', and as the great outsider now feted as a high cultural poet. Harrison's political convictions and loyalties will be shown to be consistent in the direct historical, literary, and social contexts that the poems take as their subjects, or that are opened up by their allusive fields. The book will newly establish that the creative dialectical interplay between the class, anti-colonial, and radical republican and humanist aspects of the poetry, and his literary elective affinities, are essential for understanding the aesthetics and the politics of the Rimbaud of Leeds. The Rimbaud of Leeds is a literary contextual study of the political meanings of important poems by the Leeds poet Tony Harrison (1937 -). It is based primarily on an examination of Harrison's non-dramatic original poetry that appears in The Loiners (1970), the ongoing sonnet sequence The School of Eloquence (1978-), and the separately published v. (1985), while presenting that work within an awareness of his complete oeuvre. Reference and illuminating comparison is made to other germane works, to Harrison's account of his work in interviews and prefaces, and to his newly available letters, notebooks, and manuscripts. The principal focus of the book is the political character of the poetry. The poems selected for examination are exemplars of what I argue is Harrison's radical humanist and republican poetic, and of how issues of class and colonialism are interrelated in the poetry. The book locates the works in previously unnoticed or neglected contexts, and shows the critical importance of history for understanding the poems. It reveals Harrison's detailed engagement with the politics and history of England and Africa in particular. New contextual information necessary for understanding the political, historical, biographical and literary references in the poems is offered in the book, and it sketches the key political and aesthetic features of the poetry."

The Political Character of Tony Harrison's Poetry

The Loiners

A Companion to Sophocles

The Oxford Encyclopedia of British Literature

Tony Harrison

Tony Harrison: Loiner is published to celebrate the poet and playwright Tony Harrison's sixtieth birthday through an exploration of his work, including his best-known poem v.. Harrison (1937-) has been called 'our best English poet', and has been awarded a number of prizes for his poetry, including the Geoffrey Faber Memorial Prize, the Royal Television Society Award, the Prix Italia, and the Whitbread Prize for Poetry. This book gives his work the serious critical attention it merits, with essays from a number of prominent contributors, including Richard Eyre and Melvyn Bragg, and a foreword by Grey Gowrie. The collection ranges from personal recollections of working with Tony Harrison and personal responses to his poems, to detailed critical analyses of his techniques and themes, covering Harrison's short poems and sonnet sequence, his plays, his television poem-films, and his libretti, spanning the years 1955-1997. A 'loiner' is a native of Leeds, where Tony Harrison was born and spent the early part of his life, and from which he was dispossessed by the enforced translation of the state scholarship system. The word also connotes other aspects of Tony Harrison: the 'loins' of his poetry—its energy and physicality—and the 'loners' who are its main protagonists—men and women dispossessed of their class, nation, language, and identity. At sixty, Harrison is at his poetic peak, producing plays, film-scripts, libretti, journalistic responses to social and national strife, impassioned speeches of love and outrage—always in poetry. Tony Harrison: Loiner introduces the major themes and forms of our most exciting and cosmopolitan as well as technically accomplished poet, and reassesses his achievement and place in twentieth-century literature.

resents a comprehensive A to Z reference with approximately 450 entries providing facts about contemporary British poets, including their major works of poetry, concepts and movements.

This volume traces transitions in British literature from 1960 to 1980, illuminating a diverse range of authors, texts, genres and movements. It considers innovations in form, emergent identities, changes in attitudes, preoccupations and in the mind itself, local and regional developments, and shifts within the oeuvres of individual authors.

A collection of essays dealing with different aspects of Ted Hughes's engagement with the culture and literature of ancient Greece and Rome. Hughes is revealed as a leading figure in literary reception of the Classics in 20th century poetry, a sharply intelligent and sensitive reader of some of the world's foundational texts.

Local Tongues in Heaney, Brooks, Harrison, and Clifton

Under the Cloak

A Cold Coming

Collected Poems

Poet of Radical Classicism

Facing Loss and Death

Tony HarrisonLoinerThe LoinersTony HarrisonLoinerClarendon Press

Tony Harrison's selected versions do justice to the triu-century AD schoolmaster and epigrammatist from Alexandria, compellingly recreating the bitter wit of a man trapped physically in poverty and persecution and metaphysically in a deep sense of the futile.

Set at the end of the Trojan war, "Euripides' Trojan Women" depicts the women of Troy as they wait to be taken into slavery. While choral songs recall the death-throes of the great city, the scenes between the old queen, Hekabe, and the women of her family explore the consequences of the defeat, from the rape of Cassandra, through the triumphant self-exculpation of Helen, to the pitiful death of the child Astyanax, who is thrown from the walls of his ravaged city. Barbara Goff sets the play in its historical, dramatic and literary contexts, and provides a scene-by-scene analysis which brings out the pace and intellectual vigour of the play. The main themes are fully discussed, and the book also introduces readers to the issues that have divided critics, such as the extent to which the play responds to the historical events of the Peloponnesian War. The final chapter, which deals with the reception of the play, offers new insights into several modern works.

A revised edition of Tony Harrison's award-winning Selected Poems This indispensable new selection of Tony Harrison's poems includes over sixty poems from his famous sonnet sequence The School of Eloquence and the remarkable long poem 'v.', a meditation in a vandalized Leeds graveyard which caused enormous controversy when it was broadcast on Channel 4 in 1987 and is now regarded as one of the key poems of the late twentieth century. This substantially revised and updated edition now also features a generous selection of Harrison's most recent work, including the acclaimed poems he wrote for the Guardian on the Gulf War and then from the front line in the Bosnian War which won him the Wilfred Owen Award for Poetry in 2007. Selected

Poems is a collection to be savoured by fans of Carol Ann Duffy, Seamus Heaney, Simon Armitage and Sophie Hannah. 'A voracious appetite for language. Brilliant, passionate, outrageous, abrasive, but also, as in the family sonnets, immeasurably tender' Harold Pinter 'In the front rank of contemporary British poets. Harrison's range is exhilarating, his clarity and technical mastery a sharp pleasure' Melvyn Bragg 'The poem "v." is the most outstanding social poem of the last twenty-five years. Seldom has a British poem of such personal intensity had such universal range' Martin Booth 'Poems written in a style which I feel I have all my life been waiting for' Stephen Spender 'A poet of great technical accomplishment whose work insists that it is speech rather than page-bound silence' Sean O'Brien, The Oxford Companion to Twentieth-Century Poetry

Speaking to You

Tony Harrison and the Classics

An Introduction

Metamodernism and Contemporary British Poetry

Tony Harrison Plays 1

The Cambridge Introduction to British Poetry, 1945–2010

From folk ballads to film scripts, this new five-volume encyclopedia covers the entire history of British literature from the seventh century to the present, focusing on the writers and the major texts of what are now the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland. In five hundred substantial essays written by major scholars, the Encyclopedia of British Literature includes biographies of nearly four hundred individual authors and a hundred topical essays with detailed analyses of particular themes, movements, genres, and institutions whose impact upon the writing or the reading of literature was significant. An ideal companion to The Oxford Encyclopedia of American Literature, this set will prove invaluable for students, scholars, and general readers. For more information, including a complete table of contents and list of contributors, please visit www.oup.com/us/ehl

The first great war between the east and west is over. Hecuba, once queen of Troy, is widowed and enslaved by the conquering Greeks. When her captors demand that her daughter be sacrificed in honour of the great warrior Achilles, and she finds her only surviving son murdered, her mourning turns to a hunger for retribution. One of the most powerful dramas ever written, Hecuba is a vital examination of the psychology of the powerful and the powerless in time of conflict. Euripides' Hecuba, in this translation by Tony Harrison, premiered at the Albery Theatre in March 2005 as part of the RSC's London season.

A Companion to Sophocles presents the first comprehensive collection of essays in decades to address all aspects of the life, works, and critical reception of Sophocles. First collection of its kind to provide introductory essays to the fragments of his lost plays and to the remaining fragments of one satyr-play, the Ichneuta, in addition to each of his extant tragedies Features new essays on Sophoclean drama that go well beyond the current state of scholarship on Sophocles Presents readings that historicize Sophocles in relation to the social, cultural, and intellectual world of fifth century Athens Seeks to place later interpretations and adaptations of Sophocles in their historical context Includes essays dedicated to issues of gender and sexuality; significant moments in the history of interpreting Sophocles; and reception of Sophocles by both ancient and modern playwrights

This first collection of Tony Harrison's poetry for the stage is made up of his masterly adaptations of the medieval cycle of The Mystery Plays. Includes The Nativity , The Passion and Doomsday , with an Introduction by Tony Harrison which places these Northern classics both in the context of the original cycle of plays and of Tony Harrison's own poetry.

Contemporary British and Irish Poetry

H. V., & O

Essays on literary mediation and communication in honour of Roger D. Sell

Selected Poems

Contemporary Poetry and Public Address

Ted Hughes and the Classics

The study of Greco-Roman civilisation is as exciting and innovative today as it has ever been. This intriguing collection of essays by contemporary classicists reveals new discoveries, new interpretations and new ways of exploring the experiences of the ancient world. Through one and a half millennia of literature, politics, philosophy, law, religion and art, the classical world formed the origin of western culture and thought. This book emphasises the many ways in which it continues to engage with contemporary life. Offering a wide variety of authorial style, the chapters range in subject matter from contemporary poets' exploitation of Greek and Latin authors, via newly discovered literary texts and art works, to modern arguments about ancient democracy and slavery, and close readings of the great poets and philosophers of antiquity. This engaging book reflects the current rejuvenation of classical studies and will fascinate anyone with an interest in western history.

In Monsters of Our Own Making, Marina Warner explores the dark realm where ogres devour children and bogeymen haunt the night. She considers the enduring presence and popularity of male figures of terror, establishing their origins in mythology and their current relation to ideas about sexuality and power, youth and age.

Tony Harrison's film-poem meditates on the atrocities of twentieth century, examining the actions of those in power through the image of the Gorgon and her petrifying gaze. The Gaze of the Gorgon won the Whitbread Award for Poetry 1992.

In May 2005 Penguin will publish 70 unique titles to celebrate the company's 70th birthday. The titles in the Pocket Penguins series are emblematic of the renowned breadth of quality of the Penguin list and will hark back to Penguin founder Allen Lane's vision of good books for all'. - a complete collection of previously unpublished poetry -political, tender, sexy, argumentative, passionate, and exposed.

From The School of Eloquence

Encyclopedia of British Poetry, 1900 to the Present

Palladas

translated by Tony Harrison

The Rimbaud of Leeds

Classics in Progress

The Politics of Speech in Later Twentieth-Century Poetry: Local Tongues in Heaney, Brooks, Harrison, and Clifton argues that local speech became a central facet of English-language poetry in the second half of the twentieth century. It is based on a key observation about four major poets from both sides of the Atlantic: Seamus Heaney, Gwendolyn Brooks, Tony Harrison, and Lucille Clifton all respond to social crises by arranging, reproducing, and reconceiving their particular versions of local speech in poetic form. The book's overarching claim is that "local tongues" in poetry have the capacity to bridge aesthetic and sociopolitical realms because nonstandard local speech declares its distinction from the status quo and binds people who have been subordinated by hierarchical social conditions, while harnessing those versions of speech into poetic structures can actively counter the very hierarchies that would degrade those languages. The diverse local tongues of these four poets marshaled into the forms of poetry situate them at once in literary tradition, in local contexts, and in prevailing social constructs.

Written during the Gulf War for The Guardian, the title poem is Harrison's response to Ken Jarecki's potent photo of a charred Iraqi soldier on the road to Basra. As a poet Harrison doesn't fool around... There's something about his working-class temperament that hasn't time nor patience for metaphor and the grand abstraction. A Cold Coming is delivered rapid-fire in ninety-two clipped, rhymed couplets that never waver on the ear, driving the piece with relentless wit, heartbreak and a sick humor that is probably the only sane way to deal with the enormity of the subject...Harrison is a major poet, a tough and tender-minded realist fully aware of his spiritual contradictions. -- Willamette Week. Harrison's poetry is fuelled by the strongest feeling and most exhilarating erudition, and attains a quite remarkable singularity. -- TLS

Lyric poetry as a temporal art-form makes pervasive use of narrative elements in organizing the progressive course of the poetic text. This observation justifies the application of the advanced methodology of narratology to the systematic analysis of lyric poems. After a concise presentation of this transgeneric approach to poetry, the study sets out to demonstrate its practical fruitfulness in detailed analyses of a large number of English (and some American) poems from the early modern period to the present. The narratological approach proves particularly suited to focus on the hitherto widely neglected dimension of sequentiality, the dynamic progression of the poetic utterance and its eventful turns, which largely constitute the raison d'être of the poem. To facilitate comparisons, the examples chosen share one special thematic complex, the traumatic experience of severe loss: the death of a beloved person, the imminence of one's own death, the death of a revered fellow-poet and the loss of a fundamental stabilizing order. The function of the poems can be described as facing the traumatic experience in the poetic medium and employing various coping strategies. The poems thus possess a therapeutic impact.

The essays in this volume focus on the text-world dichotomy that has been a pivotal problem since Plato, implicating notions of mimesis and representation and raising a series of debatable issues. Do literary texts relate only to the fictional world and not to the real one? Do they not only describe but also perform and thus create and transform reality? Is literature a mere reflection/expression of society, a field and a tool of political manipulation, a playground to exercise ideological and social power? Herbert Grabes' seminal essay "Literature in Society/Society and Its Literature", which opens this volume, perfectly captures the essential functions of literature in society, whether it be Derridean belief in a revolutionary potential of literature, "the power of literature to say everything", or Hills Miller's view of literature having the potential to create or reveal alternative realities; or, according to Grabes, the ability of literature "to offer to society a possibility of self-reflection by way of presenting a double of what is held to be reality"; and, last but not least, the ability of literature "to considerably contribute to the joy of life by enabling a particular kind of pleasure" – the pleasure of reading literature. The subsequent essays collected in this volume deal with complex relations between Literature and Society, approaching this issue from different angles and in various historical epochs. They are on diverse thematics and written from diverse theoretical perspectives, differing in scope and methodology.

The Politics of Speech in Later Twentieth-Century Poetry

I is the Other

Poems

Hecuba

Humane Readings

The Peculiar Pleasures of Fear

This book discusses contemporary British poetry in the context of metamodernism. The author argues that the concept of metamodernist poetry helps to recalibrate the opposition between mainstream and innovative poetry, and he investigates whether a new generation of British poets can be accurately defined as metamodernist. Antony Rowland analyses the ways in which contemporary British poets such as Geoffrey Hill, J. H. Prynne, Geraldine Monk and Sandeep Parmar have responded to the work of modernist writers as diverse as T. S. Eliot, H. D. and Antonin Artaud, and what Theodor Adorno describes as the overall enigma of modern art.

This single long poem (later included in Harrison's Penguin Selected Poems) is about relishing the joys of life, and is set in Florida. It is illustrated with five botanical line drawings of kumquats. The drawings are printed in a pastel colour to match the cover, and kumquats.

Performance, Reception, Iconography assembles twenty-three papers from an international group of scholars who engage with, and develop, the seminal work of Oliver Taplin. Oliver Taplin has for over three decades been at the forefront of innovation in the study of Greek literature, and of the Greek theatre, tragic and comic, in particular. The studies in this volume centre on three key areas - the performance of Greek literature, the interactions between literature and the visual realm of iconography, and the reception and appropriation of Greek literature, and of Greek culture more widely, in subsequent historical periods. Since the 1980s, Roger D. Sell's literary criticism has striven to take account of the (often conflicting) approaches available without compromising the human importance of the literary work: either in terms of its creation or its reception. Sell's theory of literature draws strength from the interface between literary studies and linguistics and is grounded on the argument that literary making is a primary communicational act between human beings. Other critics have found Sell's work inspirational. This book both responds to Sell's ideas and demonstrates the multifaceted potential of his work. Aware of his trajectory through Literary-Pragmatic, 'Humanizing' and 'Mediating' criticism, Humane Readings offers a series of original and focused studies which demonstrate the power, provenance and importance of Sell's approach. Ranging in subject matter from the Early Modern Period to the present, a reconfiguration of literary criticism by contemporary readers and practitioners is urged here. Case studies are presented on a range of poetic, novelistic, dramatic and children's works. Each illuminates different aspects of Sell's critical thought./div

5-Volume Set

Monsters of Our Own Making

The Gaze of the Gorgon

Performance, Iconography, Reception

Tony Harrison and the Holocaust

New Poems

Sarah Broom provides an engaging, challenging and lively introduction to contemporary British and Irish poetry. The book covers work by poets from a wide range of ethnic and regional backgrounds and covers a broad range of poetic styles, including mainstream names like Seamus Heaney and Carol Ann Duffy alongside more marginal and experimental poets like Tom Raworth and Geraldine Monk. Contemporary British and Irish Poetry tackles the most compelling and contentious issues facing poetry today.

Speaking to You explores the work of four important poets writing post-1960 - Don Paterson, Geoffrey Hill, W.S. Graham, and C.H. Sisson - in order to show how contemporary British poetry's creative handling of addresses to 'you' are key in its interactions with readers, critics, lovers, editors, fellow poets, and deceased forebears. In his lucid critical study Joe Kelleher brings Tony Harrison's diverse output together under coherent themes, from his early published verse The Loiners (1970), to his accomplished translation and adaptation of The Oresteia (1981), through to his recent work for stage and television including The Shadow of Hiroshima (1995).

Antony Rowland argues that the poetry of Tony Harrison is barbaric. The author discusses how Holocaust literature engages with a number of concepts challenged or altered by historical events, such as love, mourning, memory, culture and barbarism.

And Other Poems

Essays on Ancient Greece and Rome

Narrative and Eventfulness in Lyric Poetry

Loiner

The Cambridge Companion to British Poetry, 1945-2010

British Literature in Transition, 1960-1980: Flower Power