



## The Modernist Party

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### Leading international scholars illuminate the party's significance in Modernism

In 12 chapters internationally distinguished scholars explore the party both as a literary device and as a forum for developing modernist creative values, opening up new perspectives on materiality, the everyday and concepts of space, place and time. There are chapters on Conrad and domestic parties, T S Eliot's 'Prufrock', the party vector in Joyce's 'The Dead' and 'Finnegans Wake', Katherine Mansfield's party stories, Virginia Woolf's idea of a party, the textual parties of Proust, Ford Madox Ford and Aldous Huxley and the real-life parties of Sylvia Beach, Adrienne Monnier, Natalie Barney and Gertrude Stein, the black 'after-party' of the Harlem Renaissance and the parties in extremis in D H Lawrence's 'Women in Love'.

Like guests at a party, the chapters talk to and argue with each other. They contribute different approaches: formal, historical, thematic, biographical and theoretical. They address gender and sexuality, race, genre, class, sociality and privacy. And they establish critical viewpoints. The party is shown to be the site both of introspection and self-display. It provokes competition, collaboration and violence. It is an occasion of nihilism as well as a model for creative production.

#### Key Features:

Develops the concept of space, currently of central concern to Modernist scholars

Explores the tensions between Modernism as an aesthetics of intensity and Modernism as a movement of the everyday

Adds a new and vital area of research to investigations of Modernism as the product of intellectual and social networks

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