



Virginia Woolf (Authors in Context) (Oxford World's Classics)

By Michael H. Whitworth

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During Virginia Woolf's lifetime Britain's position in the world changed, and so did the outlook of its people. The Boer War and the First World War forced politicians and citizens alike to ask how far the power of the state extended into the lives of individuals; the rise of fascism provided one menacing answer. Woolf's experiments in fiction, and her unique position in the publishing world, allowed her to address such intersections of the public and the private. Michael H. Whitworth shows how ideas and images from contemporary novelists, philosophers, theorists, and scientists fuelled her writing, and how critics, film-makers, and novelists have reinterpreted her work for later generations.

The book includes a chronology of Virginia Woolf's life and times, suggestions for further reading, websites, illustrations, and a comprehensive index.

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Virginia Woolf (Authors in Context) (Oxford World's Classics) By Michael H. Whitworth Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #1203272 in eBooks
- Published on: 2005-01-13
- Released on: 2005-01-13
- Format: Kindle eBook

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Editorial Review

Review

"New readers of Woolf will find many chapters enlightening, for Whitworth's dominant method combines a cultural studies approach with close readings of Woolf's work, thus allowing readers to get history and criticism in one clear, concise, and engaging place. Veteran Woolf scholars may find chapters like the one on medical and scientific contexts intriguing as well, especially as it explores Woolf's familiarity with theories of mental and physical health, the atom, telecommunications, and astronomy. This study has many strengths, among which are accessibility, coherence, and clarity. As is intended, Whitworth's volume will effectively support the common reader's quest for more information, greater understanding, and deeper appreciation for Woolf's artistry. And I think that would please the subject of his book."--*Virginia Woolf Miscellany*

About the Author

Michael Whitworth is a Senior Lecturer in English, University of Wales, Bangor.

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