NEW FROM

The Lyric Poem and Aestheticism

Forms of Modernity

Marion Thain

The remaking of lyric poetry in Victorian Modernity

As cultural and philosophical shifts were challenging the fundamental generic identity of 'lyric', aestheticist poets seemed to turn insistently to forms from the past. Yet might those antique forms be understood in relation to the pressures of modernity? How might they have been used to reimagine lyric's presence in the modern world? This book argues that aestheticist poetry (c. 1860 to 1914) responds profoundly to the crisis of lyric's relevance to a rapidly modernizing age, not in spite of these forms but through them. Setting its focal poetry within broader conceptual frames, and featuring innovative analysis of both recently rediscovered and canonical works, this study asks us to reimagine the relationship between poetry and modernity.

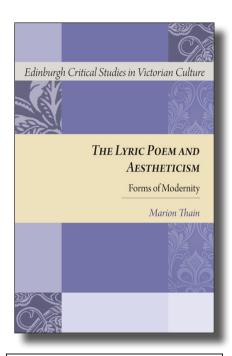
Key Features

- Challenges and transforms existing narratives of the modern formation of the 'lyric' genre through engagement with a body of work that larger-scale genre histories elide.
- Offers innovative analysis of aestheticist poetry from the 1860s to the early years of the twentieth century.
- Provides three fresh theoretical frames to examine the relationship between poetry and modernity.
- Includes case studies featuring a range of literary figures such as Thomas Hardy, D. G. Rossetti, Alice Meynell, Arthur Symons, A. C. Swinburne and Ezra Pound.

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