
Robert A. Aken
University of Kentucky, robaken@uky.edu

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Tucker (C. W. Post Campus, Long Island University), editor of the literary journal Confrontation (1968– ), and compiler of a number of literary encyclopedias for Ungar, e.g., The Critical Temper (5v., 1969–89), has put together this international guide to modern exiled writers. The main body of the text lists, alphabetically, entries for some 550 exiled writers, living and dead. A useful introductory essay explores the varied types of exile and the difficulty in defining the terms and in categorizing artistic victims and the ways their exile affects their work. The entries often continue this exploration, and cross-references are made when a shared exilic milieu exists. Since the selection is made to be a "representative survey" and full entries are provided for only those who have received "wide acceptance and high critical evaluation," a number of important writers are omitted, particularly women (e.g., Marjorie Agosín, Marta Traba, and Cristina Peri Rossi). Major figures are covered at length (Beckett, Conrad, and Lawrence get five to nine pages each), and most entries contain references to specific works influenced by or reflecting on exile as well as additional titles and sources of critical commentary at the end. Some short entries are questionable and lack explanation for their inclusion (e.g., Raymond Andrews and Italo Calvino), and some entries offer little analysis (Andrei Codrescu's entry is made up of excerpts from an interview and his autobiographical works). Additional sections list exiles by categories (e.g., gay and lesbian writers), and the appendices cover additional categories and geographic points of departure and refuge. A valuable survey and biographical source.

—R. A. Aken, University of Kentucky

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