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Vincent Sherry

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## MODERNISM AND THE REINVENTION OF DECADENCE

In *Modernism and the Reinvention of Decadence*, Vincent Sherry reveals a new continuity in literary history. He takes the idea of decadence back to key events from the failures of the French Revolution and reads it forward into the cataclysm of the Great War. Following this powerful trajectory, Sherry's work of literary criticism and history begins with an exposition of the English romantic poets and ends with a reevaluation of modernists as varied as W. B. Yeats, Henry James, Joseph Conrad, Rebecca West, Djuna Barnes, Samuel Beckett, and, centrally, Ezra Pound and T. S. Eliot. This major new book will be essential reading for anyone working in modernist studies and twentieth-century literature more generally.

VINCENT SHERRY is Howard Nemerov Professor in the Humanities and Professor of English at Washington University in St. Louis. He is the editor of the forthcoming *The Cambridge History of Modernism* and the author of several major books on modernist literature and art. He is currently working on *A Literary History of the European War of 1914–1918*.

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*Washington University in St. Louis*



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*in memory of*  
*my father*  
old artificer

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