

Published in 2019 by the D. H. Lawrence Society, Eastwood, Notts.
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British Library Cataloguing in Publications Data
Lawrence, D. H. Society
Journal of D. H. Lawrence Studies, Volume 5, Number 2

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ISSN 1759-1066

J·D·H·L·S

Journal of D. H. Lawrence Studies

A Publication of the
D. H. Lawrence Society of Great Britain

Journal of D. H. Lawrence Studies

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The *JDHLS* is published annually by the D. H. Lawrence Society of Great Britain. Queries and submissions should be sent to the Editor via email, sue@niallc.co.uk. The D. H. Lawrence Society was formed in 1974 to further knowledge and appreciation of the life and works of D. H. Lawrence. Current membership subscriptions are: Ordinary, £20; Concessions, £18; Overseas, £22. The subscription includes the price of the *JDHLS* and members also receive a regular Newsletter. Cheque subscriptions payable to "The D. H. Lawrence Society" should be sent to Ms Sheila Bamford, 35 West Avenue, Ripley, Derbyshire DE5 3JA.

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SUSAN REID

The cover of this number shows Piccadilly Circus in London in 1908, the year when D. H. Lawrence moved to its suburban outskirts. This famous site – close to the Royal Academy of Arts that he soon visited and the Café Royal later recreated in the ‘Crème de Menthe’ chapter of *Women in Love* – reflects the complexity of Lawrence’s experiences of the city as an exciting place of opportunity juxtaposed with a grimmer reality where, in the poetic voice of his ‘Piccadilly Circus at Night / Street-Walkers’: “Only we fard-faced creatures go round and round, and keep / The shores of this innermost ocean alive and illusory” (*IPoems* 39). London is the city to which Lawrence returned repeatedly until 1926 and which stands in contrast to what he called “the country of my heart” (*5L* 592) – the Nottinghamshire where he grew up. London features throughout Lawrence’s fiction, and in his earliest poems to his late essays, as the articles in this number examine. Introduced and co-curated by Catherine Brown (director of the 14th International D. H. Lawrence Conference held in London in 2017), this is the first collection of essays to interrogate Lawrence’s rich but conflicted relationship with the city that launched and influenced his literary career, and which provoked his ire at least as often as his admiration.

*

We begin with our regular ‘Further Letters’ section, which includes a moving response to eight American high-school students, who asked Lawrence to “send them a letter of encouragement or of help in the battle of life” (*RDP* 239). We also present a timely update from Paul Poplawski to Section F of *A Bibliography of D. H. Lawrence* (Cambridge UP, 2001), which lists critical works published about Lawrence and continues to be an invaluable resource.

This is also a landmark issue for reviews. Jonathan Long celebrates the publication of *The Poems, Volume 3*, completing Christopher Pollnitz's magnum opus and the 40-volume Cambridge Edition of the Works of D. H. Lawrence. The three-volume *Poems* will also be the special focus of essays commissioned for *JDHLS* 2020, guest edited by Holly A. Laird. As the Cambridge Lawrence was completed the fifth in a planned twelve-volume Cambridge Edition of the Works of Virginia Woolf appeared – her London-based novel *Night and Day*, which I revisit in its centenary year and through comparison with Lawrence's wartime writing.

Andrew Harrison's comprehensive *D. H. Lawrence in Context* (Cambridge UP, 2018), an edited collection of 33 essays by leading scholars, is reviewed by Jane Costin. An exceptional reviews section also appraises monographs on Lawrence and music, pre-Einsteinian relativity, Nietzsche, and Hamlet; an essay collection on Lawrence and technology; books with chapters on Lawrence, one about bioaesthetics and one on modernism and the law; and two bio-fictional lives of Frieda Lawrence, one by Annabel Abbs and another, hot off the press, by John Worthen.

*

Holders of unpublished manuscript letters by or to D. H. Lawrence, and researchers who have located unpublished letters in archives, are encouraged to make these available for publication by contacting Andrew Harrison (DrAndrewHarrison@aol.com) or John Worthen (DrJohnWorthen@btinternet.com). Inquiries about submissions and other matters should be directed to the Editor (sue@niallc.co.uk).

The Editor and Society are grateful to Laurence Pollinger Ltd, the Trustees of the Estate of Frieda Lawrence Ravagli, for permission to quote from copyright material. Thanks is due also to the contributors, the expert readers, the D. H. Lawrence Society, and especially to Catherine Brown for guest editing with unstinting energy and commitment, and to Joseph Shafer for his continuing work on the digital archive of *JDHLS* articles under construction at <www.dhlawrencesociety.com/archive-the-journal-of-d-h-studies>.