

book will prove to be a useful research tool because of its fully annotated bibliography of the novels. This book, as well as Barbara Christian's *Black Women Novelists* (CH, Apr '81) and *Black Women Writers (1950-1980)*, ed. by Mari Evans (1984), is evidence of the growing number of critical studies of black American women novelists. It should be part of the holdings in college and university libraries.—A. Deck, *University of Illinois at Urbana—Champaign*

WILCHER, Robert. Andrew Marvell. Cambridge, 1985. 191p (British and Irish authors) bibl 84-21472. 34.50 ISBN 0-521-25819-7; 12.95 pa ISBN 0-521-27722-1. PR 3546. CIP

After a brief account of Marvell's civil service in the 1640s, during the Protectorate, and after the Restoration, this study surveys all of his major lyric poems, considers the longer work (*Upon Appleton House*), and ends with an overview of Marvell's political panegyrics and satires in verse and prose. Close analysis of the poetry is enriched by occasional presentation of literary, cultural, and political contexts to highlight Marvell's ironic and innovative adaptation of formal conventions, traditional themes, and stereotyped images. Marvell's unique achievement is also clarified by comparison and contrast with the work of other 17th-century authors, including John Donne, Ben Jonson, Richard Crashaw, Richard Lovelace, Robert Herrick, Abraham Cowley, and John Milton. Wilcher is uniformly insightful, remarkably lucid, and notably felicitous in analyzing the allusive language, multiple meanings, and unresolved ambiguities of the text; the tonal range of the speaker's voice; and the tension between opposites, such as innocence and experience, youth and moldering flesh in the grave, action and contemplation, hedonism and moralism. As a critical introduction to Marvell, intended primarily for undergraduates, this study is most useful. It has neither documentation nor an index. Select bibliography. Highly recommended.—A.C. Labriola, *Duquesne University*

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE: his world, his work, his influence, ed. by John F. Andrews. Scribner, 1985. 3v 954p ill 85-8305. 180.00 set ISBN 0-684-17851-6. PR 2976. CIP

v.1: *His world*
v.2: *His work*
v.3: *His influence*

An extraordinary collection. Editor Andrews has impeccable credentials: a decade at the Folger, editor of *Shakespeare Quarterly*, and currently at the NEH. The project, to bring together current perspectives on Shakespeare from every possible area of interest, has resulted in 3 volumes of 20 essays each, divided into Shakespeare's England, his life and works, and his influence on later generations. Not every essay is remarkable, of course, but as a compilation of 60 original essays the set is dazzling and immensely valuable—for the experienced scholar who looks for general suggestions about further research, for the graduate student who needs current overviews and bibliographical resources, for the undergraduate being introduced to the range of Shakespeare's work and the various ways to understand and appreciate it, and for the enthusiast who enjoys viewing, reading, and thinking about Shakespeare. The contributors include historians, literary scholars, and professional directors, actors, writers, and theater critics. Andrews has chosen excellent contributors: for example, G.R. Elton on Elizabethan government, Bernard Beckerman on Shakespeare's dramaturgy, Sir John Gielgud on contemporary Shakespearean acting, Ann Jennalie Cook on Shakespeare's audience, and distinct but interrelated essays by Arthur Eastman, Homer Swander, and Maurice Charney on critical trends. There are individual books available on particular topics but no contemporary collection approaches the range and accessibility of this set. Each contributor has been encouraged to step back and address the topic to an educated and interested general audience. Though often presenting highly specialized and complex material, these essays have lucidity and wit, and always with particular reference to Shakespeare. Some contributors urbanely survey a lifetime of research findings or theatrical experience; others present fresh perspectives in pungent argumentative prose. All are stimulating. Brief bibliographies accompany most essays. A full author and title index is located in Volume 3. An absolutely necessary purchase for graduate and undergraduate collections, and recommended for many large public libraries.—C. Rees, *University of Connecticut*

WILLIAMS, Tennessee. Collected stories. New Directions (dist. by Norton), 1985. 574p 85-10642. 19.95 ISBN 0-8112-0952-0. PS 3545. CIP

Editors from New Directions, who published the various earlier collections, have brought together here the best stories from the collections at the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center, the University of Texas at Austin, and the University of Missouri Archives. Published in chronological order are stories that previously appeared in magazines and expensive editions.

Gore Vidal, who knew and admired Tennessee Williams, provides an excellent introduction. The stories are essential to the man. Many tales are autobiographical, with an obsession with certain characters and the sketches fleshed out in plays and films. The elaborate scholarly apparatus, but the useful stories and quotes of some of Williams's own range from his earliest efforts in high school to his diminished scribbles, demonstrating some of his best qualities. The stories are not generally so good as some are truly fine. The handsome cover and range make this an essential book for academic libraries.—N.M. Tischler, *Pennsylvania State University*

See Nonprint Reviews section for related titles
DAYS BEYOND RECALL, BY WILLIAM S. BUSH
LANDSCAPE WITH TRACTOR, BY HENRY D. THOMAS



KROLOW, Karl. On account of: selected poems. Oberlin College, 1985. 117p (Field) 062769. 11.50 ISBN 0-932440-18-5

Krolow's writing is very terse, very spare, and work suggests philosophic depths having the notices winter more often than spring, and down, desires are still strong—even if they are. Therefore the poet sounds like an outsider in the world without making a fuss. At the same time, he describes it, but with touches of irony. Above now 71, writes with grace. The translations they have caught the flavor of Krolow's style had been included in this volume. This collection last 25 years is definitely worth reading. Art division undergraduate level.—H. Jurek

LAWSON, Richard H. Günter Grass (life and life series) bibl index 82-4172-1 2613. CIP

In this compact but comprehensive book of Grass, Lawson scans the author's works to sympathize with his pitiless and ironic sixteenth century. He traverses the whole of Grass's insight to his poetry, plays, and prose work sketch with some useful background material of the various works, Lawson moves to themselves. He does a fine job of showing expression in any of the three genres in which often these images make the journey from or trilogy (*The Tin Drum*, 1963; *Cat and Mouse* receive separate chapters. Grass's own activist is traced, as well as the gradual rate of political change. Important consideration that the term "literature of engagement" is feeling that a writer must not merely observe triumph of art over involvement may be Grass's 1965 play, *The Plebians Rehearse* will not be Grass's way. Grass shows this in *The Meeting at Telgte* (1981) and *Headbri Out* (1982), where he stresses again the politics.—J.M. Burke, *Fitchburg State College*

STIFTER, Adalbert. Indian summer, tr. by 479p 85-4255. 17.40 ISBN 0-8203-02

Stifter, one of the major authors of 19th century, the process of human maturing under the forces of nature. The author's "gentle look, unimportant objects and happenings, is an educational novel *Indian Summer*, which is characterized by love and self-denial. *Der Nach* and was not previously rendered into English technology determined age is a risk as we

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