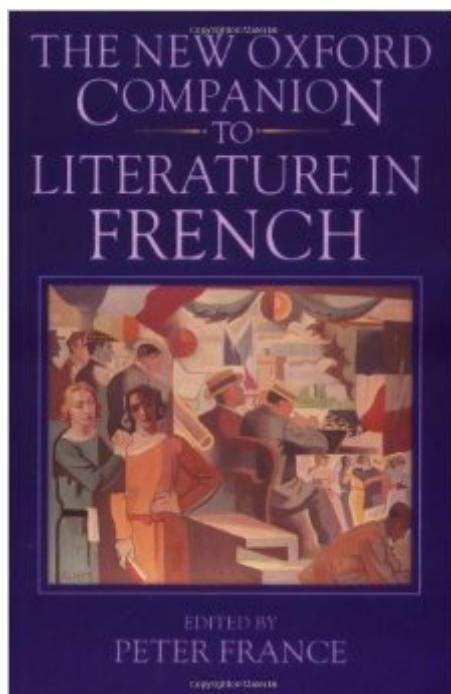


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The New Oxford Companion To Literature In French



Synopsis

Rabelais and Montaigne, Moliere and Racine, Stendhal and Proust--the literature of France boasts a long and glorious tradition. In *The New Oxford Companion to Literature in French*, readers will have at their fingertips a trusted guide to this rich literary heritage. Written by an international team of experts, the Companion's 3,000 entries capture ten centuries of work produced in France and, more recently, in other French-speaking countries around the world. The coverage they provide is superb. The volume highlights not only poets, novelists, and dramatists, but also historians, scientists, statesmen, and philosophers--providing a sweeping tour of French culture. Here readers will find lengthy articles on the giants of French letters, from Voltaire, Flaubert, and Balzac, to Valery, Cocteau, and Sartre. Among the new features of the Companion are substantial essays that reflect the latest scholarship on topics such as literary movements and genres; historical subjects such as chivalry or Occupation and Resistance in wartime France; intellectual movements from Scholasticism to Feminism; linguistic topics; coverage of the sciences; and the arts and media, including opera, cinema, and journalism. There is generous coverage of painters such as Degas and Delacroix, and composers such as Meyerbeer and Debussy. Scientists and philosophers also appear in these pages (ranging from Poincare and Cuvier to Descartes, Pascal, and Rousseau). There is even an entertaining entry that cites 100 well-known quotations from French literature. Finally, the contributors have approached the literature of France in the widest terms possible, challenging the traditional canon as they examine everything from strip cartoons and pamphlets. Adventurous and wide ranging, the New Companion is more than a simple revision of the original work. Whether you are interested in Condillac or Condorcet, Lamartine or Lamarck, Madame de Staël or Madame Deficit (Marie-Antoinette), *The New Oxford Companion to Literature in French* provides informed and engaging coverage of the vast literary tradition of France.

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Customer Reviews

The New Oxford Companion to Literature in French is well written, clear, concise. It takes you 30 seconds to 5 minutes to read any subject and yet get a pretty good idea about it. I am at the Graduate Level of French Studies and I have found every entry that I have searched for: from critics' profiles to genre definitions, it has all the major authors and their writings, as well as explanations about historical and political issues relevant to French Literature. It is a strictly informative text; by this I mean that it does not intend to express any particular point of view. Finally, the editing and printing make it very easy to use and read.

This is an extraordinarily detailed desktop reference (perhaps the most detailed I have ever seen). It is essential for those conducting French literature research.

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