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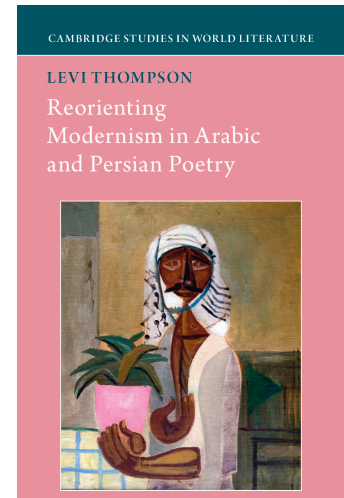
# Reorienting Modernism in Arabic and Persian Poetry

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*Re-orienting Modernism in Arabic and Persian Poetry* is the first book to systematically study the parallel development of modernist poetry in Arabic and Persian. It presents a fresh line of comparative inquiry into minor literatures within the field of world literary studies. Focusing on Arabic-Persian literary exchanges allows readers to better understand the development of modernist poetry in both traditions and in turn challenge Europe's position at the center of literary modernism. The argument contributes to current scholarly efforts to globalize modernist studies by reading Arabic and Persian poetry comparatively within the context of the Cold War to establish the Middle East as a significant participant in wider modernist developments. To illuminate profound connections between Arabic and Persian modernist poetry in both form and content, the book takes up works from key poets including the Iraqis Badr Shakir al-Sayyab and Abd al-Wahhab al-Bayati and the Iranians Nima Yushij, Ahmad Shamlu, and Forough Farrokhzad.

A Note on Transliteration; Acknowledgments; Introduction: mapping a modernist geography in Arabic and Persian poetry; Part I. Crafting a Modernist Geography Across Arabic and Persian Poetry: 1. Formal connections, literary criticism, and political commitment; 2. Travel forms: Arabic prosody, craft, and Nīmā Yūshij's Persian new poetry; Part II. Imagining New Worlds: 3. Aḥmad Shāmlū's manifesto and proto-third world literature; 4. Badr Shākīr al-Sayyāb between communism and world literature; Part III: Aftermath: Modernist Ends in Arabic and Persian Poetry; 5. Honoring commitments: 'Abd al-Wahhāb al-Bayātī's existential trials; 6. Winter in the modernist garden: Furūgh Farrukhzād's posthumous poetry and the death of modernism; Conclusion: re-orienting modernism; Bibliography; Index.



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