

*Contemporary
Authors*

volume 176

Contemporary Authors[®]

A Bio-Bibliographical Guide to
Current Writers in Fiction, General Nonfiction,
Poetry, Journalism, Drama, Motion Pictures,
Television, and Other Fields

volume 176



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Library of Congress Catalog Card Number 62-52046

ISBN 0-7876-2674-0

ISSN 0010-7468

Printed in the United States of America

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Contemporary Authors[®]

Preface

Contemporary Authors (CA) provides information on approximately 100,000 writers in a wide range of media, including:

- Current writers of fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and drama whose works have been issued by commercial publishers, risk publishers, or university presses (authors whose books have been published only by known vanity or author-subsidized firms are ordinarily not included)
- Prominent print and broadcast journalists, editors, photojournalists, syndicated cartoonists, graphic novelists, screenwriters, television scriptwriters, and other media people
- Authors who write in languages other than English, provided their works have been published in the United States or translated into English
- Literary greats of the early twentieth century whose works are popular in today's high school and college curriculums and continue to elicit critical attention

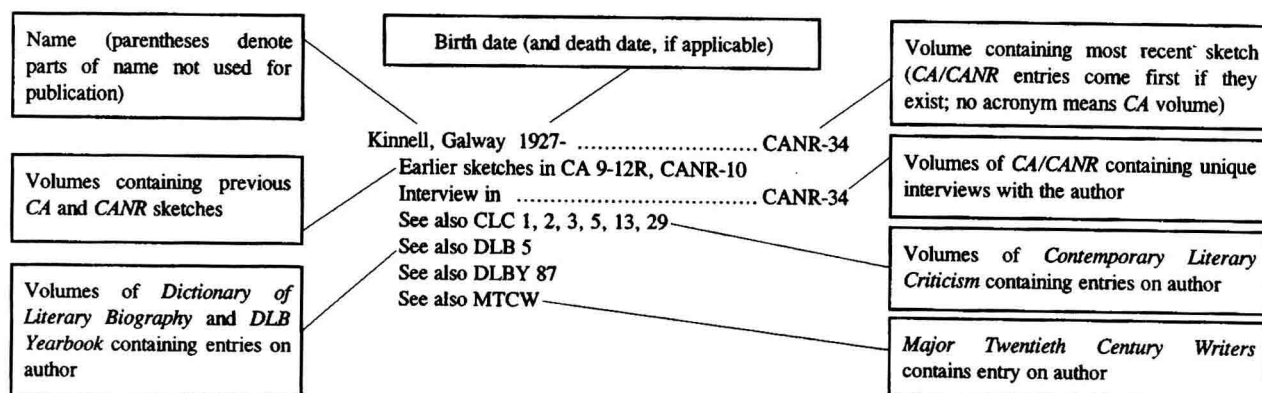
A *CA* listing entails no charge or obligation. Authors are included on the basis of the above criteria and their interest to *CA* users. Sources of potential listees include trade periodicals, publishers' catalogs, librarians, and other users.

How to Get the Most out of *CA*: Use the Index

The key to locating an author's most recent entry is the *CA* cumulative index, which is published separately and distributed twice a year. It provides access to *all* entries in *CA* and *Contemporary Authors New Revision Series (CANR)*. Always consult the latest index to find an author's most recent entry.

For the convenience of users, the *CA* cumulative index also includes references to all entries in these Gale literary series: *Authors and Artists for Young Adults*, *Authors in the News*, *Bestsellers*, *Black Literature Criticism*, *Black Writers*, *Children's Literature Review*, *Concise Dictionary of American Literary Biography*, *Concise Dictionary of British Literary Biography*, *Contemporary Authors Autobiography Series*, *Contemporary Authors Bibliographical Series*, *Contemporary Literary Criticism*, *Dictionary of Literary Biography*, *Dictionary of Literary Biography Documentary Series*, *Dictionary of Literary Biography Yearbook*, *DIScovering Authors*, *DIScovering Authors: British*, *DIScovering Authors: Canadian*, *DIScovering Authors: Modules* (including modules for Dramatists, Most-Studied Authors, Multicultural Authors, Novelists, Poets, and Popular/Genre Authors), *Drama Criticism*, *Hispanic Literature Criticism*, *Hispanic Writers*, *Junior DIScovering Authors*, *Major Authors and Illustrators for Children and Young Adults*, *Major 20th-Century Writers*, *Native North American Literature*, *Poetry Criticism*, *Short Story Criticism*, *Something about the Author*, *Something about the Author Autobiography Series*, *Twentieth-Century Literary Criticism*, *World Literature Criticism*, and *Yesterday's Authors of Books for Children*.

A Sample Index Entry:



How Are Entries Compiled?

The editors make every effort to secure new information directly from the authors; listees' responses to our questionnaires and query letters provide most of the information featured in *CA*. For deceased writers, or those who fail to reply to requests for data, we consult other reliable biographical sources, such as those indexed in Gale's *Biography and Genealogy Master Index*, and bibliographical sources, including *National Union Catalog*, *LC MARC*, and *British National Bibliography*. Further details come from published interviews, feature stories, and book reviews, as well as information supplied by the authors' publishers and agents.

An asterisk () at the end of a sketch indicates that the listing has been compiled from secondary sources believed to be reliable but has not been personally verified for this edition by the author sketched.*

What Kinds of Information Does An Entry Provide?

Sketches in *CA* contain the following biographical and bibliographical information:

- **Entry heading:** the most complete form of author's name, plus any pseudonyms or name variations used for writing
- **Personal information:** author's date and place of birth, family data, ethnicity, educational background, political and religious affiliations, and hobbies and leisure interests
- **Addresses:** author's home, office, or agent's addresses, plus e-mail and fax numbers, as available
- **Career summary:** name of employer, position, and dates held for each career post; resume of other vocational achievements; military service
- **Membership information:** professional, civic, and other association memberships and any official posts held
- **Awards and honors:** military and civic citations, major prizes and nominations, fellowships, grants, and honorary degrees
- **Writings:** a comprehensive, chronological list of titles, publishers, dates of original publication and revised editions, and production information for plays, television scripts, and screenplays
- **Adaptations:** a list of films, plays, and other media which have been adapted from the author's work
- **Work in progress:** current or planned projects, with dates of completion and/or publication, and expected publisher, when known
- **Sidelights:** a biographical portrait of the author's development; information about the critical reception of the author's works; revealing comments, often by the author, on personal interests, aspirations, motivations, and thoughts on writing
- **Interview:** a one-on-one discussion with authors conducted especially for *CA*, offering insight into authors' thoughts about their craft
- **Autobiographical Essay:** an original essay written by noted authors for *CA*, a forum in which writers may present themselves, on their own terms, to their audience
- **Photographs:** portraits and personal photographs of notable authors

- **Biographical and critical sources:** a list of books and periodicals in which additional information on an author's life and/or writings appears

Obituary Notices in *CA* provide date and place of birth as well as death information about authors whose full-length sketches appeared in the series before their deaths. The entries also summarize the authors' careers and writings and list other sources of biographical and detail information.

Related Titles in the *CA* Series

Contemporary Authors Autobiography Series complements *CA* original and revised volumes with specially commissioned autobiographical essays by important current authors, illustrated with personal photographs they provide. Common topics include their motivations for writing, the people and experiences that shaped their careers, the rewards they derive from their work, and their impressions of the current literary scene.

Contemporary Authors Bibliographical Series surveys writings by and about important American authors since World War II. Each volume concentrates on a specific genre and features approximately ten writers; entries list works written by and about the author and contain a bibliographical essay discussing the merits and deficiencies of major critical and scholarly studies in detail.

Available in Electronic Formats

CD-ROM. Full-text bio-bibliographic entries from the entire *CA* series, covering approximately 100,000 writers, are available on CD-ROM through lease and purchase plans. The disc combines entries from the *CA*, *CANR*, and *Contemporary Authors Permanent Series (CAP)* print series to provide the most recent author listing. The *CA CD-ROM* is searchable by name, title, subject/genre, nationality/ethnicity, personal data, and as well as by using Boolean logic. The disc is updated every six months. For more information, call 1-248-699-4253.

Contemporary Authors is also available on CD-ROM from SilverPlatter Information, Inc.

Online. The *Contemporary Authors* database is made available online to libraries and their patrons through online public access catalog (OPAC) vendors. Currently, *CA* is offered through Ameritech Library Services' Vista Online (formerly Dynix).

GaleNet. *CA* is available on a subscription basis through GaleNet, an online information resource that features an easy-to-use end-user interface, the powerful search capabilities of the BRS/Search retrieval software, and ease of access through the World-Wide Web. For more information, call 1-248-699-4253.

Magnetic Tape. *CA* is available for licensing on magnetic tape in a fielded format. The database is available for internal data processing and nonpublishing purposes only. For more information, call 1-248-699-4253.

Suggestions Are Welcome

The editors welcome comments and suggestions from users on any aspect of the *CA* series. If readers would like to recommend authors for inclusion in future volumes of the series, they are cordially invited to write the Editors at *Contemporary Authors*, Gale Group, 27500 Drake Rd., Farmington Hills, MI 48331-3535; or call at 1-248-699-4253; or fax at 1-248-699-8054.

CA Numbering System and Volume Update Chart

Occasionally questions arise about the CA numbering system and which volumes, if any, can be discarded. Despite numbers like “29-32R,” “97-100” and “175,” the entire CA print series consists of only 182 physical volumes with the publication of CA Volume 176. The following charts note changes in the numbering system and cover design, and indicate which volumes are essential for the most complete, up-to-date coverage.

CA First Revision

- 1-4R through 41-44R (11 books)
Cover: Brown with black and gold trim.
There will be no further First Revision volumes because revised entries are now being handled exclusively through the more efficient *New Revision Series* mentioned below.

CA Original Volumes

- 45-48 through 97-100 (14 books)
Cover: Brown with black and gold trim.
- 101 through 176 (76 books)
Cover: Blue and black with orange bands.
The same as previous CA original volumes but with a new, simplified numbering system and new cover design.

CA Permanent Series

- CAP-1 and CAP-2 (2 books)
Cover: Brown with red and gold trim.
There will be no further Permanent Series volumes because revised entries are now being handled exclusively through the more efficient *New Revision Series* mentioned below.

CA New Revision Series

- CANR-1 through CANR-79 (79 books)
Cover: Blue and black with green bands.
Includes only sketches requiring significant changes; **sketches are taken from any previously published CA, CAP, or CANR volume.**

If You Have:

You May Discard:

CA First Revision Volumes 1-4R through 41-44R and <i>CA Permanent Series</i> Volumes 1 and 2.	CA Original Volumes 1, 2 ,3, 4 Volumes 5-6 through 41-44
CA Original Volumes 45-48 through 97-100 and 101 through 176	NONE: These volumes will not be superseded by corresponding revised volumes. Individual entries from these and all other volumes appearing in the left column of this chart may be revised and included in the various volumes of the <i>New Revision Series</i> .
CA New Revision Series Volumes CANR-1 through CANR-79	NONE: The <i>New Revision Series</i> does not replace any single volume of CA. Instead, volumes of CANR include entries from many previous CA series volumes. All <i>New Revision Series</i> volumes must be retained for full coverage.

A Sampling of Authors and Media People Featured in This Volume

Bernardo Dominguez Alba

A Panamanian author, educator, and diplomat, Alba wrote poetry, short stories, and novels known for their innovative blending of Panamanian heritage, German expressionism, French cubism, and Italian futurism.

Sven Birkerts

A literary critic and author, Birkerts developed his analytical skills through voracious reading. His titles include *The Gutenberg Elegies*, in which he laments the demise of the book in the electronic age. In an autobiographical essay written for *CA*, Birkerts discusses the influence of family and culture on his life as a writer.

Myriam Chancy

Chancy, a Canadian author born in Haiti, has authored such works as *Searching for Safe Spaces: Afro-Caribbean Women Writers in Exile* and *Framing Silence: Revolutionary Novels by Haitian Women*, both of which explore the theme of “Afro-Caribbean diasporic feminism.”

Edward Field

Field’s poetry, known for its openness and innocence, has generated both positive and mixed reviews. His work include *A Full Heart*, for which he was nominated for the Lenore Marshall Poetry Prize. In an autobiographical essay written for *CA*, Field asserts that his poetry “speaks to ordinary people, aims for common ground.”

Eddie Little

Little drew from his own experience as a convicted criminal to produce his 1998 debut novel *Another Day in Paradise*. The first person narrative, which depicts the downward spiral of a teenager, has been adapted to a film starring James Woods and Melanie Griffith.

Andrei Makine

Russian native Makine is the author of *Le Testament Francais*, winner of 1995 Prix Goncourt and Prix Medecis awards. The autobiographical novel, concerned with the migration of a character into a foreign culture, reflects the author’s own departure from Russia to live in France.

Anna Michener

Michener delved into her own troubled past to produce the memoir *Becoming Anna: The Autobiography of a Sixteen-Year-Old*. Published in 1998, the volume describes scenes of physical and emotional abuse at the hands of the author’s parents and grandmother as well as hospitalization in a mental facility.

Leopoldo Panero

Panero was a Spanish poet who published verse during the Spanish Civil War, an era when literary experimentation in that country was considered risky. His volume *Escrito a Cada Instante* won a Fastenrath Prize from the Spanish Royal Academy and a Premio Nacional de Literatura award.

Norma B. Rickerts

Ricketts has written several historical works related to Mormon activities in the American West during the nineteenth century, including *Mormon Battalion: U.S. Army of the West, 1846-1848*. Arranged as a daily journal, *Mormon Battalion* utilizes the accounts of several participants in the Mormon westward march.

S. L. Rottman

An award-winning writer of young adult fiction, Rottman is the author of *Hero*, a novel about a young man’s transformation from an isolated troublemaker to a more caring individual who is capable of both helping others and being helped.

Mary C. Smith

A U.S. foreign service officer for twenty-two years, Smith drew upon her experience to write *The Undesirables*, an award-winning science fiction novel that details a corrupt twenty-second-century government.

Serge Patrice Thibodeau

Thibodeau, a French-Canadian poet, produces works which encompass a wandering motif and are inspired by Islamic religion and his travels through southwest Asia and the Middle East.

Acknowledgements

Grateful acknowledgment is made to those publishers, photographers, and artists whose work appear with these authors' essays.

Photographs/Art

Sven Birkerts: Photograph portrait of Birkerts by Richard Howard. Reproduced by permission.

Text

Albert Cook: Poem "In Memory of My Grandfather" and excerpt from the poem "Coming Along," from *Progressions*, by Albert Cook. University of Arizona Press, 1963. Copyright by Albert Cook.\ Excerpts from two sections of *Modes*, by Albert Cook. Copyright by Albert Cook. All reprinted by permission of Albert Cook.

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Indexing note: All *Contemporary Authors* entries are indexed in the *Contemporary Authors* cumulative index, which is published separately and distributed twice a year.

As always, the most recent *Contemporary Authors* cumulative index continues to be the user's guide to the location of an individual author's listing.

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* Indicates that a listing has been compiled from secondary sources believed to be reliable, but has not been personally verified for this edition by the author sketched.

ABT, Lawrence Edwin 1915-1994

OBITUARY NOTICE—See index for CA sketch: Born January 5, 1915, in Canton, OH; died August 18, 1994, in Santa Barbara, CA. Psychotherapist. Abt received his B.S. degree in 1936 and his Ph.D. in 1947 from New York University, and his M.A. degree in 1939 from Columbia University. He served in the U.S. Naval Reserve from 1942 to 1946, attaining the rank of lieutenant commander. Abt began his career as a psychotherapist in private practice, in Larchmont and New York City, in 1939, retiring in 1980. He was also a consultant to the Veterans Administration from 1946 to 1964. He was a fellow of both the American Psychological Association and the American Orthopsychiatric Association, and a member of Sigma Xi. His first book, which he wrote with Leopold Bellak, was *Projective Psychology* (1950). He later wrote or co-wrote *Progress in Clinical Psychology*, *Acting Out*, *The Creative Experience*, *Children of Separation and Divorce*, *Interracial Marriage*, *Essays in Creativity*, *The Creative Expression*, *Social Psychology and Discretionary Law*, and *The New Therapies*.

—Obituary by Robert Reginald and Mary A. Burgess

* * *

ACKER, William R(eynolds) B(eal) 1910(?) -1974

PERSONAL: Born c. 1910 (some sources say 1907); died April 20, 1974.

CAREER: Professor of Chinese language and culture.

WRITINGS:

(Translator) *T'ao the Hermit: Sixty Poems by T'ao Ch'ien (365-427)*, Thames & Hudson (New York City), 1952.
(Editor and translator) *Some T'ang and Pre-T'ang Texts on Chinese Painting*, E. J. Brill (Leiden, Netherlands), 1954, Hyperion Press (Westport, CT), 1979.

BIOGRAPHICAL/CRITICAL SOURCES:

PERIODICALS

New York Times, April 25, 1974.
Washington Post, April 25, 1974.*

* * *

ADACHI, Ken 1929(?) -1989

PERSONAL: Born c. 1929; found dead after an apparent suicide, February 10, 1989, in Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

CAREER: Educator, journalist, and author. *Toronto Star*, Toronto, Ontario, book review columnist, 1972-89. Teacher of English at University of Toronto and University of Maryland at College Park. Also worked as a reporter in England. Interred in a camp for Japanese Canadians during World War II.

AWARDS, HONORS: National Newspaper Award.

WRITINGS:

(Contributor) *Two Monographs on Japanese Canadians*, Arno Press (New York City), 1978.
The Enemy That Never Was: A History of the Japanese Canadians, McClelland & Stewart (Toronto), 1976.

BIOGRAPHICAL/CRITICAL SOURCES:

PERIODICALS

Globe and Mail (Toronto), February 11, 1989.*

* * *

ADAMS, Cedric M. 1902-1961

PERSONAL: Born May 27, 1902, in Adrian, MN; died February 18, 1961.

CAREER: Radio and television news commentator; newspaper columnist.

WRITINGS:

Poor Cedric's Almanac, edited by Angelo Cohn, with contributions by Arthur Godfrey and Bob Hope, illustrated by Robert Day, Doubleday (Garden City, NY), 1952.

Other books include *The Country Plumber*. Columnist, *Minneapolis Star*. Contributor to magazines, including *Holiday*, *Esquire*, and *Reader's Digest*.

BIOGRAPHICAL/CRITICAL SOURCES:

PERIODICALS

Bookmark, January, 1953.
Chicago Sunday Tribune, December 21, 1952, p. 6.
Kirkus Reviews, August 15, 1952.
Library Journal, September 15, 1952.
New York Times, November 16, 1952, p. 42.
Saturday Review, December 13, 1952.*

* * *

ADAMS, Donald K(napp) 1924-1987

PERSONAL: Born November 1, 1924, in Cranbrook, British Columbia, Canada; died of an apparent stroke, August 17, 1987, in Los Angeles, CA.

CAREER: Educator, publisher, and editor. Occidental College, Los Angeles, CA, member of English faculty for more than thirty years. Fulbright lecturer in India, twice during the 1960s. *Mystery and Detection Annual*, publisher, beginning in 1972.

WRITINGS:

(Editor) *Mystery and Detection Annual*, Donald K. Adams, beginning in 1972.

Editor of *The Vampyre*, by John Williams Polidori. Compiler of a bibliography of mystery and detective fiction, unpublished at time of death.

BIOGRAPHICAL/CRITICAL SOURCES:

PERIODICALS

Choice, June, 1973.
Los Angeles Times, August 20, 1987.
Times Literary Supplement, April 13, 1973, p. 427.*

* * *

ADAMS, Maurice 1915(?) -1985

PERSONAL: Born c. 1915; died of cancer, May 9, 1985, in New York, NY; immigrated to the United States, 1954.

CAREER: *Sydney Morning Herald*, Sydney, Australia, staff member, 1954-80, including assignments as White House and State Department correspondent; *Canberra Times*, Canberra, Australia, U.S. bureau chief, beginning 1980.

WRITINGS:

Writer for the *Sydney Morning Herald*, 1954-80.

BIOGRAPHICAL/CRITICAL SOURCES:

PERIODICALS

New York Times, May 11, 1985.*

* * *

ADAMS, Nancy 1943(?) -1987

PERSONAL: Born c. 1943; died after a long illness, August 15, 1987, in Michigan City, IN.

CAREER: *Sun-Times*, Chicago, IL, journalist; *Chicago Tribune*, Chicago, feature writer, 1975-84. Also worked as a realtor in Harbert, MI.

WRITINGS:

Journalist, with articles published in *Chicago Sun-Times* and *Chicago Tribune*; member of editorial staff for *Metropolitan Home*, beginning 1984.

BIOGRAPHICAL/CRITICAL SOURCES:

PERIODICALS

Chicago Tribune, August 19, 1987.*

* * *

ADAMS, Rachel Leona White 1905(?) -1979

PERSONAL: Born c. 1905; died December 16, 1979, in Lincoln, NH; married Sherman Adams (in lumber business, later a politician).

CAREER: Artist and writer. New Hampshire Commission of the Arts, member, 1965-71.

WRITINGS:

On the Other Hand (autobiography), Harper (New York City), 1962.

BIOGRAPHICAL/CRITICAL SOURCES:

PERIODICALS

Best Sellers, June 1, 1963.

Chicago Tribune, December 18, 1979.

Christian Science Monitor, May 23, 1963, p. 11.

Library Journal, May 1, 1963.

New York Times, December 17, 1979.*

* * *

ADAMSON, Ed(ward Joseph) 1915(?) -1972

PERSONAL: Born c. 1915; died October 1, 1972.

CAREER: Film and television producer; scriptwriter for films, radio programs, and television programs.

WRITINGS:

(With others) *The Rifleman*, ABC-TV, between 1961-63.

Also scriptwriter for other television series, as well as for radio and film.

BIOGRAPHICAL/CRITICAL SOURCES:

PERIODICALS

New York Times, October 3, 1972.*

* * *

ADDLESHAW, George William Outram 1907(?) -1982

PERSONAL: Born c. 1907 (some sources cite 1906); died June 14, 1982.

CAREER: Theologian and member of the clergy. York Minster, York, England, canon residentiary and treasurer, c. 1946-62; Chichester Cathedral, Chichester, England, dean, beginning 1963.

WRITINGS:

The High Church Tradition: A Study in the Liturgical Thought of the Seventeenth Century, Faber (London), 1941.

Jocism: An Account of the Continental Youth Movement, La Jeunesse Ouvriere Chretienne, S.P.C.K. (London), 1942.

(With Frederick Etchells) *The Architectural Setting of Anglican Worship: An Inquiry into the Arrangements for Public Worship in the Church of England from the Reformation to the Present Day*, Faber, 1948.

Author of pamphlets, including *Dogma and Youth Work*, Dacre Press (London), 1941; *Rectors, Vicars, and Patrons in Twelfth- and Early Thirteenth-Century Canon Law*, St. Anthony's Press (London), 1956; *The Early Parochial System and the Divine Office*, Mowbray (London), 1957; *Lectionaries Old and New*, S.P.C.K., 1957; *Four Hundred Years: Architects, Sculptors, Painters, Craftsmen, 1560-1960, Whose Work Is to Be Seen in York Minster*, Friends of York Minster (York, England), 1962; *The Pastoral Organization of the Modern Dioceses of Curham and Newcas-*

tle in the Time of Bede, J. and P. Bealls (Newcastle upon Tyne, England), 1963; *Chester Cathedral: The Stained Glass Window, Mosaics, Monuments, and Some of Its Other Treasures*, British Publishing (Gloucester, England), 2nd edition, 1967; *The Ecclesiology of the Churches of the Dead Cities of Northern Syria*, Ecclesiological Society (London), 1973; *The Pastoral Structure of the Celtic Church in Northern Britain*, St. Anthony's Press, 1973; and *The Beginnings of the Parochial System*, St. Anthony's Press.

BIOGRAPHICAL/CRITICAL SOURCES:

PERIODICALS

Times (London), June 18, 1982.*

* * *

ADOLPH, E. F.

See ADOLPH, Edward F(rederick)

* * *

ADOLPH, Edward F(rederick) 1895-1986 (E. F. Adolph)

PERSONAL: Born July 5, 1895, in Philadelphia, PA; died of cardiac arrest, December 15, 1986, in Rochester, NY.

CAREER: University of Rochester, Rochester, NY, professor of physiology, later professor emeritus.

WRITINGS:

(Co-author) *Physiology of Man in the Desert*, Wiley (New York City), 1947.

The Regulation of Size as Illustrated in Unicellular Organisms, C. C. Thomas (Baltimore, MD), 1931.

Physiological Regulations, Jaques Cattell Press (Lancaster, PA), 1943.

Physiological Regulations in Action, American Physiological Society (Bethesda, MD), 1982.

Author of *Origins of Physiological Regulations* and the pamphlet *Tolerance of Man toward Hot Atmospheres*, U.S. Government Printing Office (Washington, DC), 1946; other writings appear in *Hypothermia*, New York Academy of Sciences, 1959; *The Development of Ho-*

meostasis, Academic Press (New York City), 1960; and *Basic Quantitative Studies of Severe Hypothermia*, Department of Physiology, University of Rochester (Rochester, NY), 1961. Some writings appear under the name E. F. Adolph.

BIOGRAPHICAL/CRITICAL SOURCES:

PERIODICALS

Colorado Springs Gazette Telegraph, December 19, 1986.*

* * *

ADRIAN, L. R.

See GRIFFITHS, Rhys Adrian

* * *

ADRIAN, Rhys

See GRIFFITHS, Rhys Adrian

* * *

AGAR, William (Macdonough) 1894-1972

PERSONAL: Born February 14, 1894; died June 10, 1972. **Education:** Earned Ph.D.

CAREER: Geologist and educator. Worked as an official of the United Nations.

WRITINGS:

Contact Metamorphism in the Western Adirondacks, Lancaster Press (Lancaster, PA), 1923.

(Compiler with Richard Foster Flint and Chester R. Longwell) *Geology from Original Sources: Organized Collateral Readings for Students in General Geology*, Holt (New York City), 1929.

Catholicism and the Progress of Science, Macmillan (New York City), 1940.

The Dilemma of Science, Sheed (New York City), 1941.

Author of the pamphlets *The Geology of the Shepang Aqueduct Tunnel, Litchfield County, Connecticut*, with

a contribution by Robert A. Cairns, State Geological and Natural History Survey (Hartford, CT), 1927; *Food or Freedom: The Vital Blockade*, Farrar & Rinehart (New York City), 1941; *Where Do Catholics Stand?*, Farrar & Rinehart, 1941; and *Cooperate or Die: A Study on World Resources . . .*, [London, England], 1946.

BIOGRAPHICAL/CRITICAL SOURCES:

PERIODICALS

New York Times, June 12, 1972.*

* * *

ALBA, Bernardo Dominguez 1904-1994 (Rogelio Sinan, a pseudonym)

PERSONAL: Born April 25, 1904 (some sources say 1902), in Taboga, Panama; died in 1994. **Education:** National Institute of Panama, graduated with a *bachillerato* (equivalent to baccalaureate degree), 1923; attended University of Rome, 1926; attended universities in Chile, Italy, and Mexico.

CAREER: Author, and educator. Panamanian consul to Calcutta, 1938-40; Department of Fine Arts, government of Panama, director, 1941-c.53; Biblioteca Selecta, Panama, founder, 1941; National Department of Culture, Panama Ministry of Education, director; Panamanian diplomat in Mexico, 1953-60, and in India; University of Panama, drama instructor, c. 1960s; National Institute of Panama, Spanish instructor, c. 1960s; instructor of literature and theatre at universities in Brazil.

AWARDS, HONORS: Inter-American Short Story Prize, *El Nacional*, 1954, for *La boina roja*; has received three Ricardo Miro National Literature Prizes, Panama, for *Plenilunio*, *La isla magica*, and *Semana santa en la niebla*.

WRITINGS:

UNDER PSEUDONYM ROGELIO SINAN

Onda (title means "Wave"), Casa Edifrice (Rome), 1929.

Incendios (title means "Fires"), Mar del Sur (Panama City), 1944.

Dos aventuras en el Lejano Oriente (title means "Two Adventures in the Far East"), Biblioteca Selecta (Panama City), 1947.

Plenilunio (title means "Full Moon"), [Panama City], 1947.

Semana santa en la niebla (title means "Holy Week in the Cloud"), Ediciones del Departamento de Cultura y Publicaciones (Panama City), 1949.

La boina roja (title means "The Red Beret"), Nacional (Panama City), 1954.

Los valores humanos en la lirica de Maples Arce, Conferencia (Mexico City), 1959.

Chiquilinga, Panama (Panama City), 1961.

La poesia panamena, (Panama City), 1962.

Cuna comun, Tareas (Panama City), 1963.

A la orilla de las estatuas maduras, Secretaria de Educacion Publica, Subsecretaria de Asuntos Culturales (Mexico City), 1967.

Saloma sin salomar (title means "Saloma without Salomar"), Ministerio de Educacion (Panama City), 1969.

Cuentos de Rogelio Sinan (title means "Stories by Rogelio Sinan"), Editorial Universitaria Centroamericana (San Jose), 1971.

Teatro infantil, Geminis (Panama City), 1977.

La isla magica, Instituto Nacional de Cultura (Panama City), 1977.

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SIDELIGHTS: Considered by some literary critics to be most important Panamanian author of the twentieth century, Bernardo Dominguez Alba, who was known by his pseudonym, Rogelio Sinan, devoted his life to promoting the cause of literature in his native land. As a writer, Sinan was widely known for his works of poetry and his short stories, as well as for two exceptional, award-winning novels. His countrymen also recognize him for his contributions as a public servant and an educator. In addition to having served as the director for the National Department of Culture in Panama's Ministry of Education, Sinan was also a diplomat, serving his country in both Mexico and India. In addition to these duties, Sinan taught both literature and theater at some of Brazil's most distinguished universities. His writing bloomed and matured during a time when the vanguard movement was sweeping through Panamanian literary

circles during the 1920s and 1930s, and that movement's influence is evident in his work.

A world traveler, Sinan was exposed to a range of styles, including German expressionism, French cubism, and Italian futurism. Together with his deep understanding and appreciation for his Panamanian heritage, Sinan melded these traits and developed a distinct style that has profoundly influenced a new generation of writers in Panama. His unique voice became evident with the publication of *Onda* ("Wave"), his first volume of poetry, in 1929, a work that some critics point to as Panamanian literature's break with modernism. In addition to this work, some of Sinan's more renowned collections of poetry include *Incendios* ("Fires"), *Semana santa en la niebla* ("Holy Week in the Cloud"), and *Saloma sin Salomar* (title means "Saloma without Salomar"), all containing inventive language and creative structure. Many critics believe Sinan's prose was even more innovative, as he employed narrative techniques such as inner monologue and stream-of-consciousness, as well as creating surrealistic scenes and dream sequences, that demand much of the reader.

Born on the lush island of Taboga, which is just off of the mainland, Sinan was imbued with the importance of nature in the Panamanian psyche. His stories reflect this importance, as they are filled with vivid images of the country's physical landscape. "Rogelio Sinan," asserted *Dictionary of Literary Biography* contributor Maida Watson Espener, "has always believed that universal values in literature must spring from a thorough knowledge of the writer's own national reality. His poetry, fiction, and drama are permeated with a sense of Panama's history, landscape, and racial relations." Yet, being a diplomat who had come to know his country from both a native and foreign perspective, Sinan had a deep understanding of Panama's social and political landscapes as well. His works are especially critical of oppressive foreign influences, as well as the country's upper class, both of which he usually symbolizes as being from the white, or lighter race. The heroes of his stories are usually of a darker skin color, symbolizing the indigenous native. Though Sinan never makes specific mention of it, the island of Taboga plays a significant role in some of his works, particularly in *La isla magica*, his most praised novel. The exotic island setting, separated from the rest of the world, is an allusion to a time before colonialism and the invasion of foreign influences. A complex work, *La isla magica* is also important because it signifies Sinan's divergence into magical realism.

Sinan's peers recognized his literary achievements, as he collected a host of awards for his work. *Plenilunio*, *La isla magica*, and *Semana santa en la niebla* all were awarded the prestigious Ricardo Miro National Literature Prize, Panama's highest literary prize, and Sinan also won many other awards. His crowning moment may have come in 1988 when the Panamanian government bestowed upon him several medals, as he received national homage for his fiction and his endless promotion of the art. Sinan was, according to Espener, "not only . . . an innovative writer but . . . a teacher and mentor to numerous writers during his many decades as the undisputed leader of the country's literary circles."

BIOGRAPHICAL/CRITICAL SOURCES:

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ALBERT, Richard N(orman) 1930-

PERSONAL: Born January 11, 1930, in Kaukauna, WI; son of Carl (a machinist) and Elsie (a homemaker; maiden name, Paschen) Albert; married Catherine M. Behm, March 25, 1951; children: Eric Scott, Kristin Lee Albert Burke. **Ethnicity:** "German." **Education:** University of Wisconsin-Madison, B.S., 1953, M.S., 1957; attended University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 1966-68. **Politics:** Republican. **Religion:** Lutheran. **Avocational interests:** Bible study and research, jazz reading, listening, and collecting.

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CAREER: High school English teacher and department head in Neenah, WI, 1957-63, and Normal, IL, 1965-78; Illinois State University, Normal, began as assistant professor, became associate professor of English, 1978-93. **Military service:** U.S. Army, 1953-55.

MEMBER: Illinois State University Annuitants Association.