

*Contemporary
Authors*

volume 125

Contemporary Authors®

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

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Authors and Media People Featured in This Volume

Robert Sam Anson (American journalist)—A prominent reporter and writer, Anson is well known for his journalistic books. They include *"They've Killed the President!," Exile: The Unquiet Oblivion of Richard M. Nixon,* and *Best Intentions: The Education and Killing of Edmund Perry.* (Sketch contains interview.)

Tony Brown (American broadcaster)—Since 1970 Brown has been producer, scriptwriter, and host of "Tony Brown's Journal," a highly acclaimed newsmagazine carried by stations of the Public Broadcasting Service.

Martin Buber (Austrian-born Israeli philosopher who died in 1965)—One of this century's major existentialists, Buber is widely known for his masterwork *I and Thou*. He was deeply influenced by the Hasidic branch of Judaism and in turn profoundly influenced the thinking of Christian theologians.

Shirley Christian (American journalist)—While reporting from Central America for the *Miami Herald* Christian won both a Pulitzer Prize and the George Polk Memorial Award. Now with the *New York Times*, she wrote the critically acclaimed *Nicaragua: Revolution in the Family* in 1985. (Sketch contains interview.)

Birago Diop (Senegalese veterinarian and writer)—One of Africa's most widely read authors, Diop is best known for writing short stories inspired by the folktales of West Africa. Among his award-winning collections is *Tales of Amadou Koumba*.

Sheila Fugard (British-born author)—As a young girl Fugard moved to South Africa, which provides the settings for her novels *A Revolutionary Woman*, *The Rite of Passage*, and *The Castaways*, winner of two prestigious South African prizes.

William Greaves (American filmmaker)—Greaves is regarded as a first-rate filmmaker whose documentaries and feature productions focus primarily on aspects of the black experience. His scriptwriting credits include "In the Company of Men," "Voice of La Raza" and "Ali the Fighter."

Nicolas Guillen (Cuban poet)—Considered Cuba's greatest living poet, Guillen is a master of the Afro-Cuban style. A synthesis of Spanish, black Cuban, and African elements, Guillen's poems are available to readers in English in his volumes *Tengo*, *El gran Zoo*, and *Man-Making Words*.

Paul Carter Harrison (American playwright)—Writer in residence at Chicago's Columbia College, Harrison won an Obie Award for his play "The Great MacDaddy." His book of essays, *The Drama of Nommo*, has influenced others writing for and about black theater. (Sketch contains interview.)

Geoffrey H. Hartman (American literary theorist)—Hartman has been the Karl Young Professor of English and Comparative Literature at Yale since 1974. He is best known for his radical and difficult books on the deconstruction theory of literary criticism, such as *Beyond Formalism*, *The Fate of Reading*, and *Criticism in the Wilderness*.

Adam Hochschild (American writer)—Co-founder and editor of *Mother Jones* magazine, Hochschild has long contributed to periodicals such as *Ramparts* and *Village Voice*. In addition, he is the author of *Half the Way Home*, in which he recounts his relationship with his father, wealthy entrepreneur Harold Hochschild. (Sketch contains interview.)

A. E. Housman (British scholar, educator, and poet who died in 1936)—Although Housman wrote the enormously popular *Shropshire Lad* and two other volumes of poems, he is probably most revered as one of the world's foremost classical scholars. Housman edited the five-volume *Astronomica* of Manilius as well as works by Juvenal and Lucan.

Keri Hulme (New Zealand writer)—Hulme won international praise for her first novel, *The Bone People*, for which she received Britain's prestigious Booker McConnell Prize in 1985. Centering on the stormy relationship of three social outcasts, the book is considered a masterpiece of New Zealand fiction. (Sketch contains interview.)

Lee Iacocca (American entrepreneur)—The man who took charge of Chrysler Corporation when it was on the verge of bankruptcy and turned its fortunes around, Iacocca has been called America's first corporate folk hero. His memoirs, *Iacocca: An Autobiography* and *Talking Straight*, were both best-sellers.

Jamaica Kincaid (Antiguan-born American writer)—Kincaid is the widely praised author of *Annie John* and *At the Bottom of the River*. Her short stories about life on the island of Antigua employ a highly poetic literary style and have established the author as a prominent voice in American literature.

Diane Kurys (French screenwriter and director)—Kurys came recently to filmmaking and already has three acclaimed films to her credit, "Peppermint Soda," "Cocktail Molotov," and "Entre Nous." Popular both in Europe and America, her films have garnered the Prix Louis Delluc and an Academy Award nomination.

R. M. Lamming (British writer)—The author of two novels, Lamming won the David Higham Award for her first work, *The Notebook of Gismondo Cavalletti*, which is set in Renaissance Italy. *In the Dark*, about a modern-day octogenarian, was also well received. (Sketch contains interview.)

Andrea Lee (American author)—Lee, who is a staff writer for *New Yorker* magazine, has produced two successful books, the novel *Sarah Phillips* and *Russian Journal*, a nonfiction account of the author's stay in the Soviet Union. The latter volume was nominated for an American Book Award in 1981.

Spike Lee (American filmmaker)—Deemed one of the most promising comedic filmmakers to appear in the late 1980s, Lee is notable for addressing issues of the black community. He wrote and directed "She's Gotta Have It" and "School Daze," which have earned him a reputation as a provocative and important talent.

Nelson and Winnie Mandela (South African political activists)—Nelson Mandela, a lawyer imprisoned since 1962, and his wife Winnie, harassed and periodically jailed for her outspokenness, are living symbols of the anti-apartheid struggle in South Africa. Winnie's autobiography, *Part of My Soul Went With Him*, was published in 1985, and collections of Nelson's statements were published as *No Easy Walk to Freedom* and *The Struggle Is My Life*.

James Melville (British novelist)—James Melville is the pseudonym of Peter Martin, author of popular crime fiction featuring Japanese police superintendent Tetsuo Otani. Martin served twice in Japan as a cultural affairs officer. His books include *The Wages of Zen* and *The Chrysanthemum Chain*. (Sketch contains interview.)

H. L. Mencken (American journalist who died in 1956)—Mencken exercised enormous influence on the life and letters of his time, and is still considered the epoch's premier satirist. His writings include books on philosophy and literary criticism, a series of volumes titled *Prejudices*, and the autobiographical *Days of H. L. Mencken: Happy Days, Newspaper Days, Heathen Days*.

Margaret Mitchell (American writer who died in 1949)—Mitchell worked as a journalist for the *Atlanta Journal* early in her career, but she achieved enduring fame when her only novel, *Gone With the Wind*, was published in 1936. A perennial favorite, the novel sells a quarter of a million copies each year.

Pauli Murray (American activist who died in 1985)—Murray began fighting for racial and sexual equality in the late 1930s and went on to become an educator, an attorney, and an Episcopal priest. She wrote such books as *Proud Shoes: The Story of an American Family* and the autobiographical *Song in a Weary Throat: An American Pilgrimage*.

Sembene Ousmane (Senegalese writer and filmmaker)—Since publication of his first novel in 1956, Ousmane has become widely acclaimed for both his books and for his films. Among his most popular works are the two novellas published together in translation as *The Money Order, With White Genesis*, and his films "Mandabi" and "Xala."

Dora Russell (British activist who died in 1986)—Russell campaigned for feminist and social causes all her life and was an early advocate of free love, birth control, and open marriage. With her first husband, philosopher Bertrand Russell, she founded the progressive Beacon Hill School. She wrote several books, including her three-volume autobiography, *The Tamarisk Tree*.

Leopold Sedar Senghor (Senegalese intellectual, statesman, and writer)—Senghor, who helped establish and shape negritude in the 1930s and 1940s, was president of the Republic

of Senegal from its independence in 1960 until 1980. He is considered one of Africa's leading intellectuals and is revered for his literary and political accomplishments. His works include *On African Socialism* and the poetry collections *Ethiopiques* and *Nocturnes*.

Raymond M. Smullyan (American professor of mathematics and philosophy)—A man "whose mind seems to have been largely his own invention," Smullyan has written several unusual and challenging puzzle books for the general reader. His volumes include *Alice in Puzzle-Land*, *To Mock a Mockingbird*, and *The Chess Mysteries of Sherlock Holmes*. (Sketch contains interview.)

Gary Soto (American poet)—An award-winning poet and prose writer often associated with the Fresno school of poets, Soto garnered an American Book Award in 1985 for his book of prose memoirs, *Living up the Street*. Soto's other well-received volumes include *The Elements of San Joaquin* and *The Tales of Sunlight*. (Sketch contains interview.)

Dale Spender (Australian writer)—A full-time writer since 1978, Spender has published several nonfiction works celebrating women's achievements. Among her titles are *Women of Ideas and What Men Have Done to Them*, *Feminist Theorists: Three Centuries of Key Women Theorists*, and *Invisible Women: The Schooling Scandal*. (Sketch contains interview.)

Art Spiegelman (Swedish-born artist and writer)—Spiegelman is the author of *Maus*, a critically acclaimed comic saga originally published in the underground work *Funny Animals* and subsequently issued by Pantheon. The artist, who "redefines the comic book," also publishes *Raw*, an annual magazine of avant-garde comics.

George Stevens, Jr. (American filmmaker)—Stevens apprenticed under his famous father, George Stevens, and later wrote, produced, and directed the critically acclaimed biographical film "George Stevens: A Filmmaker's Journey." (Sketch contains interview.)

Desmond M. Tutu (South African prelate and social reformer)—The Nobel Peace Prize received by Tutu in 1984 gave worldwide visibility to his efforts to abolish apartheid in South Africa. Many of Tutu's orations have been collected in *Hope and Suffering: Sermons and Speeches*.

Nathanael West (American novelist and screenwriter who died in 1940)—West's best-known work is the novel *Miss Lonelyhearts*, about a young advice columnist who becomes personally involved in the lives of his unhappy readers. West's reputation languished until the late 1950s, when his brand of brooding humor began appearing in the works of other American writers.

Preface

The nearly 900 entries in *Contemporary Authors* (CA), Volume 125, bring to more than 91,000 the number of authors now represented in the *Contemporary Authors* series. CA includes nontechnical writers in all genres—fiction, nonfiction, poetry, drama, etc.—whose books are issued by commercial, risk publishers or by university presses. Authors of books published only by known vanity or author-subsidized firms are ordinarily not included. Since native language and nationality have no bearing on inclusion in CA, authors who write in languages other than English are included in CA if their works have been published in the United States or translated into English.

Although CA focuses primarily on authors of published books, the series also encompasses prominent persons in communications: newspaper and television reporters and correspondents, columnists, newspaper and magazine editors, photojournalists, syndicated cartoonists, screenwriters, television scriptwriters, and other media people.

Starting with Volume 104, the editors of CA began to broaden the series' scope to encompass authors deceased since 1900 whose works are still of interest to today's readers. (Previously, CA covered only living writers and authors deceased 1960 or later.) Since the great poets, novelists, short story writers, and playwrights of the early twentieth century are popular writers for study in today's high school and college curriculums, and since their writings continue to be analyzed by literary critics, these writers are in many ways as contemporary as the authors CA has regularly featured.

Each volume of CA, therefore, includes a limited number of entries on authors deceased before 1960. Providing commentary about writers' lives and literary achievements, these sketches in addition offer both a historical and contemporary review of the authors' critical reputations. The entries in this volume on A. E. Housman, H. L. Mencken, Margaret Mitchell, and Nathanael West reflect the variety of early twentieth-century authors to be featured in future CA volumes.

No charge or obligation is attached to a CA listing. Authors are included in the series solely on the basis of the above criteria and their interest to CA users.

Compilation Methods

The editors make every effort to secure information directly from the authors through questionnaires and personal correspondence. If writers of special interest to CA users are deceased or fail to reply to requests for information, material is gathered from other reliable sources. Biographical dictionaries are checked (a task made easier through the use of Gale's *Biography and Genealogy Master Index* and other volumes in the "Gale Biographical Index Series"), as are bibliographical sources such as *Cumulative Book Index* and *The National Union Catalog*. Published interviews, feature stories, and book reviews are examined, and often material is supplied by the authors' publishers. All sketches, whether prepared from questionnaires or through extensive research, are sent to the biographees for review prior to publication. Sketches on recently deceased authors are sent to family members, agents, etc., if possible, for a similar review.

Format

CA is designed to present, clearly and concisely, biographical and bibliographical information in three kinds of listings: sketches, brief entries, and obituary notices. The series' easy-to-use format ensures that a reader needing specific information can quickly focus on the pertinent portion of an entry. Sketches, for instance, contain individual paragraphs with rubrics identifying addresses, memberships, and awards and honors. Furthermore, in sketch sections headed "Writings," the title of each book, play, and other published or unpublished work appears on a separate line, clearly distinguishing one title from another. This same convenient bibliographical presentation is featured in the "Biographical/Critical Sources" sections of sketches and brief entries and in the "Obituaries and Other Sources" sections of obituary notices where individual book and periodical titles are also listed on separate lines. CA readers can therefore quickly scan these often-lengthy bibliographies to find the titles they need.

Informative Sidelights

Numerous *CA* sketches contain sidelights, which provide personal dimensions to the listings, supply information about the critical reception the authors' works have received, or both. Some authors presented in Volume 125 worked closely with *CA*'s editors to develop interesting, incisive sidelights. Educator, musician, and composer David Michael Hertz, for example, tells *CA* that his goal "is to live the double life of artist and scholar," adding that "from both a scholarly and artistic point of view, I believe that real originality must happen organically, from within, and must never be self-conscious."

CA's editors also compile sidelights when authors and media people of particular interest do not supply sidelights material or when demand for information about the critical reception accorded their writings is especially high. Volume 125, for instance, profiles Leopold Sedar Senghor, poet and former president of the Republic of Senegal, who in the 1920s sparked a new black cultural consciousness called "negritude." For this, writes a *CA* editor, Senghor "is credited with contributing to Africa's progress toward independence from colonial rule." Also featured in this volume is feminist screenwriter and director Lizzie Borden, whose independently produced films "Born in Flames" and "Working Girls" have generated the interest of Hollywood studios.

We hope these sketches, as well as others with sidelights compiled by *CA*'s editors, provide informative and enjoyable reading.

Exclusive Interviews

CA provides exclusive, primary information on certain writers in the form of interviews. Prepared specifically for *CA*, the never-before-published conversations presented in the section of the sketch headed "*CA* Interview" give users the opportunity to learn the authors' thoughts, in depth, about their craft. Subjects chosen for interviews are, the editors feel, authors who hold special interest for *CA*'s readers.

Writers and journalists in this volume whose sketches include interviews are Robert Sam Anson, Shirley Christian, Paul Carter Harrison, Adam Hochschild, Keri Hulme, R. M. Lamming, James Melville, Raymond M. Smullyan, Gary Soto, Dale Spender, and George Stevens, Jr.

Brief Entries

CA also includes short entries on authors of current popular appeal or literary stature whose full-length sketches are not yet ready for publication. Identified by the heading "Brief Entry," these short listings highlight the authors' careers and writings and often include a few sources where additional information may be found.

Obituary Notices Make *CA* Timely and Comprehensive

To be as timely and comprehensive as possible, *CA* publishes obituary notices on deceased authors within the scope of the series. These notices provide date and place of birth and death, highlight the author's career and writings, and list other sources where additional biographical information and obituaries may be found. To distinguish them from full-length sketches, obituaries are identified with the heading "Obituary Notice."

CA includes obituary notices for writers who already have full-length entries in earlier *CA* volumes—47 percent of the obituary notices in this volume are for such authors—as well as for authors who do not yet have sketches in the series. Deceased writers of special interest currently represented only by obituary notices will be scheduled for full-length sketch treatment in forthcoming *CA* volumes.

Contemporary Authors New Revision Series

A major change in the preparation of *CA* revision volumes began with the first volume of *Contemporary Authors New Revision Series*. No longer are all of the sketches in a given *CA* volume updated and published together as a revision volume. Instead, entries from a number of volumes are assessed, and only those sketches requiring *significant change* are revised and published in a *New Revision Series* volume. This enables us to provide *CA* users with updated information about active writers on a more timely basis and avoids printing entries in which there has been little or no change. As always, the most recent *CA* cumulative index continues to be the user's guide to the location of an individual author's revised listing.

Contemporary Authors Autobiography Series

Designed to complement the information in *CA* original and revision volumes, the *Contemporary Authors Autobiography Series* provides autobiographical essays written by important current authors. Each volume contains twenty to thirty specially commissioned autobiographies and is illustrated with numerous personal photographs supplied by the authors. The range of contemporary writers describing their lives and interests in the *Autobiography Series* encompasses authors such as Dannie Abse, Vance Bourjaily, Doris Grumbach, Elizabeth Forsythe Hailey, Marge Piercy, Frederik Pohl, Alan Sillitoe, William Stafford, Diane Wakoski, and Elie Wiesel. Though the information presented in the autobiographies is as varied and unique as the authors, common topics of discussion 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.

Autobiographies included in the *Contemporary Authors Autobiography Series* can be located through both the *CA* cumulative index and the *Contemporary Authors Autobiography Series* cumulative index, which lists not only personal names but also titles of works, geographical names, subjects, and schools of writing.

Contemporary Authors Bibliographical Series

The *Contemporary Authors Bibliographical Series* is a comprehensive survey of writings by and about the most important authors since World War II in the United States and abroad. Each volume concentrates on a specific genre and nationality and features approximately ten major writers. Volume 1, for instance, covers the American novelists James Baldwin, John Barth, Saul Bellow, John Cheever, Joseph Heller, Norman Mailer, Bernard Malamud, Carson McCullers, John Updike, and Eudora Welty. *Bibliographical Series* entries consist of three parts: a primary bibliography that lists works written by the author, a secondary bibliography that lists works about the author, and an analytical bibliographical essay that thoroughly discusses the merits and deficiencies of major critical and scholarly works. Complementing the information in other *CA* volumes, the *Bibliographical Series* is a new key to finding and evaluating information on the lives and writings of those authors who have attracted significant critical attention.

Each author's entry in the *Contemporary Authors Bibliographical Series* can be located through both the *CA* cumulative index and, beginning with Volume 2, the *Contemporary Authors Bibliographical Series* cumulative author index. A cumulative index to the critics discussed in the bibliographical essays also appears in each *Bibliographical Series* volume.

CA Numbering System

Occasionally questions arise about the *CA* numbering system. Despite numbers like "97-100" and "125," the entire *CA* series consists of only 87 physical volumes with the publication of Volume 125. The following information notes changes in the numbering system, as well as in cover design, to help users better understand the organization of the entire *CA* series.

CA First Revisions

- 1-4R through 41-44R (11 books)
Cover: Brown with black and gold trim.
There will be no further *First Revisions* 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 125 (25 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 New Revision Series

- CANR-1 through CANR-25 (25 books)
Cover: Blue and black with green bands.
Includes only sketches requiring extensive change; sketches are taken from any previously published *CA* volume.

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 be-

cause revised entries are now being handled exclusively through the more efficient *New Revision Series* mentioned above.

CA Autobiography Series

- *CAAS-1* through *CAAS-8* (8 books)
Cover: Blue and black with pink and purple bands.
Presents specially commissioned autobiographies by leading contemporary writers.

CA Bibliographical Series

- *CABS-1* and *CABS-2* (2 books)
Cover: Blue and black with blue bands.
Provides comprehensive bibliographical information on published works by and about major modern authors.

Retaining CA Volumes

As new volumes in the series are published, users often ask which *CA* volumes, if any, can be discarded. The Volume Update Chart on page xiii is designed to assist users in keeping their collections as complete as possible. All volumes in the left column of the chart should be retained to have the most complete, up-to-date coverage; volumes in the right column can be discarded if the appropriate replacements are held.

Cumulative Index Should Always Be Consulted

The key to locating an individual author's listing is the *CA* cumulative index bound into the back of alternate original volumes (and available separately as an offprint). Since the *CA* cumulative index provides access to *all* entries in the *CA* series, the latest cumulative index should always be consulted to find the specific volume containing an author's original or most recently revised sketch.

For the convenience of *CA* users, the *CA* cumulative index also includes references to all entries in these related Gale literary series: *Authors in the News*, *Children's Literature Review*, *Concise Dictionary of American Literary Biography*, *Contemporary Literary Criticism*, *Dictionary of Literary Biography*, *Short Story Criticism*, *Something About the Author*, *Something About the Author Autobiography Series*, *Twentieth-Century Literary Criticism*, and *Yesterday's Authors of Books for Children*.

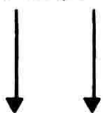
Acknowledgments

The editors wish to thank Judith S. Baughman for her assistance with copy editing.

Suggestions Are Welcome

The editors welcome comments and suggestions from users on any aspects of the *CA* series. If readers would like to suggest authors whose entries should appear in future volumes of the series, they are cordially invited to write: The Editors, *Contemporary Authors*, Gale Research Inc., Book Tower, Detroit, MI 48226-1822; or call toll-free at 1-800-521-0707.

Volume Update Chart

| IF YOU HAVE: | YOU MAY DISCARD: |
|---|--|
| 1-4 First Revision (1967) | 1 (1962) 2 (1963) 3 (1963) 4 (1963) |
| 5-8 First Revision (1969) | 5-6 (1963) 7-8 (1963) |
| Both 9-12 First Revision (1974) AND <i>Contemporary Authors Permanent Series</i> , Volume 1 (1975) | 9-10 (1964) 11-12 (1965) |
| Both 13-16 First Revision (1975) AND <i>Contemporary Authors Permanent Series</i> , Volumes 1 and 2 (1975, 1978) | 13-14 (1965) 15-16 (1966) |
| Both 17-20 First Revision (1976) AND <i>Contemporary Authors Permanent Series</i> , Volumes 1 and 2 (1975, 1978) | 17-18 (1967) 19-20 (1968) |
| Both 21-24 First Revision (1977) AND <i>Contemporary Authors Permanent Series</i> , Volumes 1 and 2 (1975, 1978) | 21-22 (1969) 23-24 (1970) |
| Both 25-28 First Revision (1977) AND <i>Contemporary Authors Permanent Series</i> , Volume 2 (1978) | 25-28 (1971) |
| Both 29-32 First Revision (1978) AND <i>Contemporary Authors Permanent Series</i> , Volume 2 (1978) | 29-32 (1972) |
| Both 33-36 First Revision (1978) AND <i>Contemporary Authors Permanent Series</i> , Volume 2 (1978) | 33-36 (1973) |
| 37-40 First Revision (1979) | 37-40 (1973) |
| 41-44 First Revision (1979) | 41-44 (1974) |
| 45-48 (1974) 49-52 (1975)  125 (1989) | 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 will be revised and included in the <i>New Revision Series</i> . |
| Volumes in the <i>Contemporary Authors New Revision Series</i> | NONE: The <i>New Revision Series</i> does not replace any single volume of <i>CA</i> . All volumes appearing in the left column of this chart must be retained to have information on all authors in the series. |

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Contemporary Authors

*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.

ABBEY, Lloyd (Robert) 1943-

PERSONAL: Born April 4, 1943, in London, Ontario, Canada; married, 1976. **Education:** McMaster University, B.A., 1966; University of Western Ontario, M.A., 1968; University of Toronto, Ph.D., 1971.

ADDRESSES: *Office*—Victoria College, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5S 1K7.

CAREER: McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, assistant professor of English, 1971-72; University of British Columbia, Vancouver, assistant professor of English, 1972-77; University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, assistant professor of English, 1977—.

MEMBER: Modern Language Association of America.

WRITINGS:

Flies (poems), Oberon Press, 1973.

Braindances (poems), Oberon Press, 1979.

Destroyer and Preserver: Shelley's Poetic Skepticism, University of Nebraska Press, 1979.

The Antlered Boy (poems), Oberon Press, 1984.

Contributor to journals, including *English Studies in Canada*, *Mosaic*, and *Keats-Shelley Journal*.*

* * *

ABRAHAM, Gerald Ernest Heal 1904-1988

OBITUARY NOTICE—See index for CA sketch: Born March 9, 1904, in Newport, Isle of Wight, England; died March 18, 1988. British educator, radio programmer, composer, editor, critic, and author. Abraham, a noted authority on Russian classical music, published his first book, *Borodin: The Composer and His Music*, in 1927. In his long and varied career he edited periodicals, including *Radio Times* and *Listener*, and was associated with the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) in the 1940s and 1960s, eventually becoming assistant controller of music. Between his stints with the BBC he was professor of music at the University of Liverpool; he later taught at the University of California, Berkeley. Abraham composed reconstructions for missing or unfinished pieces of classical music such as Richard Wagner's *Siegfried Idyll* and Franz Schubert's "Unfinished Symphony," edited books on classical

music, and penned books on philosophers and Russian novelists in addition to those he wrote in his field of specialization. His writings include *This Modern Stuff: A Fairly "Plaine and Easie"*, *Introduction to Contemporary Music*, *Masters of Russian Music*, *Chopin's Musical Style*, *Rimsky-Korsakov: A Short Biography*, and *Slavonic and Romantic Music: Essays and Studies*. In 1979 he published the *Concise Oxford History of Music*.

OBITUARIES AND OTHER SOURCES:

BOOKS

International Who's Who in Music and Musicians' Directory, 9th edition, Melrose, 1980.

Who's Who, 140th edition, St. Martin's, 1988.

The Writers Directory: 1988-1990, St. James Press, 1988.

PERIODICALS

Times (London), March 18, 1988.

* * *

ACKER, Alison 1928-

PERSONAL: Born October 8, 1928, in London, England; daughter of William (an insurance agent) and Ruth (a music teacher; maiden name, Sterland) Sutherland; married Philip Hunt, September 1, 1955 (died, 1964); married Harold Acker (a sculptor), August 12, 1969 (deceased); children: (second marriage) John. **Education:** University of London, B.A. (with honors), 1952; University of Toronto, M.A., 1968. **Politics:** Socialist. **Religion:** None.

ADDRESSES: *Home*—38 Howland Ave., Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5R 3B3. *Office*—c/o Ryerson Polytechnic Institute, 350 Victoria St., Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

CAREER: Journalist in London, England, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Vancouver, British Columbia, and Toronto, Ontario, 1950-65; professor at Ryerson Polytechnic Institute, Toronto, 1969—.

MEMBER: Association of Canadian University Teachers of English, Centre for Investigative Journalism.

WRITINGS:

Children of the Volcano, Lawrence Hill, 1986.

Also author of *A History of Honduras*, in press. Contributor to periodicals.

SIDELIGHTS: Alison Acker's *Children of the Volcano* records the author's travels through Central America in 1984. Acker visited Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua. She wrote profiles of the people she met, both the old and young, soldiers as well as civilians, and the prosperous as well as the poor. Ronald Wright commented in the *Globe and Mail* that it was a "relief to read a book that brings us face to face with the people themselves. . . . Her own voice is calm, and her selections balanced. She avoids sentimentality and political moralizing." *Children of the Volcano* reveals the effects of politics and war upon all the people of Central America. The author emphasizes, however, the endurance of the people and their potential for survival. She sees reason for optimism, even in ravaged Nicaragua. Wright concluded: "This is a most commendable book; it is impressionistic yet accurate, provocative yet balanced, simple but not oversimplified, horrifying and uplifting."

Acker told *CA*: "I write mainly on Latin America because of an affinity to and respect for the Latin American people. I believe in committed writing as a force for change."

BIOGRAPHICAL/CRITICAL SOURCES:

PERIODICALS

Globe and Mail [Toronto], January 17, 1987.

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ADAMS, Christopher

See HOPKINS, (Hector) Kenneth

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ADAMS, Leonie (Fuller) 1899-1988

OBITUARY NOTICE—See index for *CA* sketch: Born December 9, 1899, in Brooklyn, N.Y.; died of heart disease, June 27, 1988, in New Milford, Conn. Educator, consultant, editor, and poet. Adams was best known for her lyric poetry reminiscent of both the romantic and metaphysical periods, which won her several awards, including the Harriet Monroe Poetry Award, the Shelley Memorial Award, and the Bollingen Prize. She served in editorial capacities for both Wilson Publishing and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City during the 1920s and later taught English or lectured at various colleges and universities, such as Sarah Lawrence College, Bennington College, and Columbia University. From 1948 to 1949 Adams worked as a poetry consultant for the U.S. Library of Congress. Her writings include *Those Not Elect*, *High Falcon* and *Other Poems*, *This Measure*, and *Poems: A Selection*.

OBITUARIES AND OTHER SOURCES:

BOOKS

American Women Writers: A Critical Reference Guide From Colonial Times to the Present, Volume I, Ungar, 1979.

Contemporary Poets, 3rd edition, St. Martin's, 1980.

Dictionary of Literary Biography, Volume 48: *American Poets, 1880-1945*, Second Series, Gale, 1986.

The International Who's Who, 51st edition, Europa, 1987.

PERIODICALS

New York Times, June 30, 1988.

ADAMS, Phoebe-Lou 1918-

PERSONAL: Born December 18, 1918, in Hartford, Conn.; daughter of Harold Irving and Alice Maria (Burlingame) Adams; married Edward Augustus Weeks (an editor), 1971. **Education:** Radcliffe College, A.B. (cum laude), 1939.

ADDRESSES: Office—*Atlantic Monthly*, 8 Arlington St., Boston, Mass. 12116.

CAREER: *Hartford Courant*, Hartford, Conn., reporter, 1942-45; *Atlantic Monthly*, Boston, Mass., member of editorial staff and staff writer, 1945—.

WRITINGS:

A Rough Map of Greece, Little, Brown, 1965.

Contributor of articles and reviews to magazines.

WORK IN PROGRESS: Book reviews.

BIOGRAPHICAL/CRITICAL SOURCES:

PERIODICALS

New York Times Book Review, May 9, 1965.

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AFTON, Effie

See HARPER, Frances Ellen Watkins

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AL-AMIN, Jamil Abdullah 1943-

(H. Rap Brown)

PERSONAL: Name originally Hubert Gerold Brown; became known as H. Rap Brown; assumed present name during 1970s; born October 4, 1943, in Baton Rouge, La.; son of a worker for an oil company; married Lynne Doswell (a schoolteacher), May 3, 1968. **Education:** Attended Southern University, 1960-64.

CAREER: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C., librarian, 1964-65; Nonviolent Action Group, Washington, D.C., chairman, beginning in 1964; neighborhood worker in government poverty program in Washington, D.C., beginning in 1965; Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC, renamed Student National Coordinating Committee, 1969), organizer in Greene County, Ala., beginning in 1966, Alabama state project director, beginning in 1966, chairman, beginning in 1967; imprisoned for robbery in state of New York, 1971-76; operator of a small grocery in Atlanta, Ga., c. 1976—.

WRITINGS:

(Under name H. Rap Brown) *Die Nigger Die!* (autobiography), Dial, 1969.

SIDELIGHTS: Jamil Abdullah Al-Amin was an outspoken young black leader who came to prominence in the late 1960s, when he was widely known as H. Rap Brown. In the aftermath of the struggle by Martin Luther King, Jr., to win black civil rights through nonviolent protest, some in Brown's generation believed that a more direct confrontation with white racism was necessary. Brown became known for his belief that black people should be prepared to use guns to assert their rights, and many charged that he was an advocate of violence. Brown countered that his views were necessitated by the virulence of racism. "I preach a response to violence," he wrote in his 1969 autobiography, *Die Nigger Die!*—"Meet violence with

violence." If someone deprives you of your human rights, Brown contended, he is being violent. "It's your responsibility to jump back" at your oppressor, because "if you don't, he knows that you're scared and that he can control you." The reactions to Brown varied widely. *Newsweek* magazine accused him of "hate-mongering," for instance, while Kiarri Cheatwood in *Black World* called him "a young man of deep sensibilities."

In his autobiography Brown recounted some of the experiences that led him to such controversial views. During the early 1960s he studied sociology at Southern University, a black college in his hometown of Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He concluded, however, that the school's administration was unwilling to stand up to racial injustice. He worked briefly in a government antipoverty program in Washington, D.C., but sensed that blacks were being co-opted there. "The poverty program," he wrote, "was designed to take those people whom the government considered threatening to the structure and buy them off. It didn't address itself to the causes of poverty but to the effects of poverty."

Brown increasingly looked outside of traditional American institutions to change society. While chairman of the Washington, D.C., Nonviolent Action Group in 1965, he joined several black leaders at a meeting with U.S. President Lyndon Johnson. He gained notoriety for berating the strong-willed president. "I'm not happy to be here," he remembered telling Johnson, "and I think it's unnecessary that we have to be here protesting against the brutality that Black people are subjected to." The next year Brown went to Greene County, Alabama, as an organizer for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), facing the hostility of white citizens and police as he encouraged local black people to exercise their rights to vote and to hold public office. He became the SNCC's Alabama project director a few months later and in 1967 was elected chairman of the entire organization.

Brown's post brought him national attention. He made repeated statements about the need for a violent confrontation with racism, becoming widely known for such remarks as "violence is as American as cherry pie." He suggested that the riots sweeping America's poor black neighborhoods heralded a political insurrection, and riots broke out in the cities of Dayton, Ohio, East St. Louis, Illinois, and Cambridge, Maryland, shortly after he spoke there. Authorities in Maryland indicted Brown for inciting the Cambridge riot and engaging in arson, and for the next few years he was mired in a succession of highly publicized legal battles involving such charges as illegally possessing a gun and violating the terms of his bail. Supporters of Brown argued that he was being harassed for his political beliefs.

At the height of his fame Brown wrote *Die Nigger Die!*, and the book garnered mixed reactions, as had its author. John Leonard of the *New York Times* found the work unsatisfactory both as autobiography and as political commentary, charging that Brown was "so busy proving his *machismo* that his material never comes into focus." But in the *New York Times Book Review*, Shane Stevens asserted that *Die Nigger Die!* expressed the author's "essential humanism . . . , cloaked though it may be in fear and hate." Citing Brown's ability to combine his outrage with an irreverent sense of humor, Stevens wrote that "the cutting edge of deep pain is there. But so is the raucous, sometimes slightly hysterical, laughter of life." Cheatwood stressed Brown's political analyses, lauding his "depth," "historically-shaped consciousness," and "mature

thought." As an example, Cheatwood observed that "perhaps better than anyone before him," the author outlined "the responsibilities of Black students to their people."

In 1970 Brown went into hiding, delaying the start of his riot trial in Maryland. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) promptly placed him on its list of most-wanted criminals. The next year New York City police took him into custody near the scene of a barroom robbery. He remained imprisoned while he was tried and convicted of taking part in the holdup and was sentenced to further time in jail. When he pleaded guilty to eluding his Maryland trial, authorities in that state dropped their riot and arson charges.

During his incarceration Brown converted to Islam and adopted his current name. Paroled in 1976, he moved to Atlanta, Georgia, where he operates a small grocery. Though no longer in the national headlines, he has given occasional interviews to journalists. In 1985 he met with *Washington Post* columnist George F. Will, who found him "enveloped in a strange serenity." Brown's life, Will suggested, was now centered on his Muslim faith, and the onetime political activist was working with neighbors on plans for a religious school. "Many people reckon time from the '60s," Brown observed, because "time stopped for them then." He added, "I don't miss the '60s."

BIOGRAPHICAL/CRITICAL SOURCES:

BOOKS

Brown, H. Rap, *Die Nigger Die!*, Dial, 1969.

PERIODICALS

Black World, October, 1975.

Chicago Tribune Book World, May 11, 1969.

New Republic, June 14, 1969.

Newsweek, August 7, 1967, June 3, 1968, February 12, 1973.

New York Times, August 13, 1967, April 30, 1969, November 7, 1973, September 25, 1976.

New York Times Book Review, June 15, 1969.

Saturday Review, May 3, 1969.

Village Voice, November 2, 1967.

Washington Post, June 15, 1978, September 19, 1985.*

—Sketch by Thomas Kozikowski

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ALBRIGHT, Daniel 1945-

PERSONAL: Born October 29, 1945, in Chicago, Ill.; son of Frank J. (a negotiator) and Leone (a teacher; maiden name, Hinze) Albright; married Karin Larson (a teacher), June 19, 1977; children: Christopher. **Education:** Rice University, B.A., 1967; Yale University, M.Phil., 1969, Ph.D., 1970.

ADDRESSES: Office—Department of English, University of Rochester, Rochester, N.Y. 14627.

CAREER: University of Virginia, Charlottesville, assistant professor, 1970-75, associate professor, 1975-81, professor of English, 1981-87; University of Rochester, Rochester, N.Y., professor of English, 1987—.

MEMBER: Modern Language Association of America.

WRITINGS:

The Myth Against Myth: Yeats's Imagination in Old Age, Oxford University Press, 1972.

Personality and Impersonality: Lawrence, Beckett, Maugham, University of Chicago Press, 1978.

Representation and the Imagination: Beckett, Kafka, Nabokov, and Schoenberg, University of Chicago Press, 1981.

Lyricality in English Literature, University of Nebraska Press, 1985.

Tennyson: The Muses' Tug-of-War, University Press of Virginia, 1986.

Amerikanische Lyrik: Texte und Deutungen (title means "American Poetry: Texts and Interpretations"), Wissenschaftliche Buchgesellschaft, in press.

Contributor to literature journals.

WORK IN PROGRESS: *A Companion to Comparative Literature*; Stravinsky.

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ALCOCK, John 1942-

PERSONAL: Born November 13, 1942, in Charlottesville, Va.; son of John Powell (a chemical engineer) and Mariana (a housewife; maiden name, Collins) Alcock; married Susanne Eleanor Coates (a housewife), October 26, 1968; children: John, Nicholas. **Education:** Amherst College, B.A., 1965; Harvard University, Ph.D., 1969. **Politics:** Democrat. **Religion:** Society of Friends (Quakers).

ADDRESSES: *Home*—705 East Loyola Dr., Tempe, Ariz. 85282. *Office*—Department of Zoology, Arizona State University, Tempe, Ariz. 85287-1501.

CAREER: Associated with University of Washington, Seattle, Wash., 1969-72; Arizona State University, Tempe, assistant professor, 1972-74, associate professor, 1974-80, professor of zoology, 1980—.

WRITINGS:

Animal Behavior: An Evolutionary Approach, Sinauer Associates, 1975.

The Evolution of Insect Mating Systems, Harvard University Press, 1983.

Sonoran Desert Spring, University of Chicago Press, 1985.

The Kookaburra's Song, University of Arizona Press, in press.

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ALDRIDGE, Alan 1943-

PERSONAL: Born in 1943 in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, England. **Education:** Attended Romford Technical College.

CAREER: Worked previous to 1963 in various positions, including insurance clerk and repertory actor; free-lance illustrator and graphic designer, 1963—. Designs and illustrations exhibited in museums and galleries, including Galerie Priebut, Amsterdam, Netherlands, 1967; Galerie Germain, Paris, France, 1969; Seibu Gallery, Tokyo, Japan, 1970; Galerie Bijenkorf, Amsterdam, 1971; Arthur Tooth & Sons, London, England, 1972; Institute of Contemporary Arts, London, 1973; and The Minories, Colchester, England, 1978.

AWARDS, HONORS: Whitbread Award from Booksellers Association of Great Britain and Ireland, 1973, for *The Butterfly Ball and the Grasshopper's Feast*; Children's Book of the Year Award, 1974; silver medals from Designers and Art Directors Association; Scotsman International Awards.

WRITINGS:

(Editor with George Perry) *The Penguin Book of Comics*, Penguin Books, 1967, revised edition, 1971.

(Editor and contributor of illustrations) *The Beatles Illustrated Lyrics*, illustrations by Julian Allen and others, Delacorte, 1969.

(Editor with Mike Dempsey) *Bernie Taupin: The One Who Writes the Words for Elton John; Complete Lyrics From 1968 Through to "Goodbye Yellow Brick Road,"* Knopf, 1976.

(Author with George E. Ryder; illustrator with Harry Willock) *The Peacock Party: A Sequel to the Butterfly Ball and the Grasshopper's Feast* (juvenile), Viking, 1979.

(And illustrator; with Ted Walker) *The Lion's Cavalcade* (juvenile), J. Cape, 1980.

(And illustrator; with Willock) *Phantasia of Dockland, Rockland, and Dodos* (juvenile), J. Cape, 1981, Ballantine, 1982.

ILLUSTRATOR

William Plomer and Richard Fitter, *The Butterfly Ball and the Grasshopper's Feast* (juvenile), J. Cape, 1973, Grossman, 1975.

(With Willock) Richard Adams, *The Adventures and Brave Deeds of the Ship's Cat on the Spanish Main: Together With the Most Lamentable Losse of the Alcestis and Triumphant Firing of the Port of Chagres* (juvenile), Random House, 1977.

Also designer of album covers for recording artists such as the Beatles, the Rolling Stones, and Elton John. Contributor of illustrations to periodicals, including *Esquire*, *Melody Maker*, and *Daily Telegraph Magazine*.

BIOGRAPHICAL/CRITICAL SOURCES:

PERIODICALS

Listener, December 21, 1967.

New Republic, November 8, 1969.

Times Literary Supplement, December 21, 1967.*

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ALLEN, Daniel 1947-

PERSONAL: Born December 13, 1947, in Brooklyn, N.Y. **Education:** Massachusetts Institute of Technology, B.S., 1969; University of Toronto, M.L.S., 1972.

ADDRESSES: Box 929, Adelaide Station, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5C 2K3.

CAREER: Business manager of Coda Publications, 1973—. Owner of Walter C. Allen of Canada, 1975—.

MEMBER: International Society for Jazz Research.

WRITINGS:

Bibliography of Discographies, Volume II: Jazz, Bowker, 1981.

Contributor to library journals.*

* * *

ALLEN, Martha Mitten 1937-

PERSONAL: Born June 12, 1937, in Youngstown, Ohio; daughter of Joe A. (a school principal) and Helen (a teacher; maiden name, Boyd) Mitten; children: Shannon, Matthew. *Ed-*

uation: Southern Methodist University, B.A. (summa cum laude), 1958, M.A., 1960; University of Texas at Austin, Ph.D., 1972.

ADDRESSES: Office—Department of History, Southwestern University, Box 6008, Georgetown, Tex. 78626.

CAREER: Southwestern University, Georgetown, Tex., assistant professor, 1960-74, associate professor, 1974-82, professor of history, 1982—, dean of women, 1960-67. Executive director of Handcrafts Unlimited, 1983-87; president of Georgetown Heritage Society, 1987-88.

MEMBER: American Studies Association, National Trust for Historic Preservation, Western History Association, Sierra Club, Phi Beta Kappa.

WRITINGS:

(Editor) *Georgetown's Yesteryears*, four volumes, Georgetown Heritage Society, 1985-87.

Traveling West: Nineteenth-Century Women on the Overland Routes, Texas Western Press, 1986.

SIDELIGHTS: Martha Mitten Allen told CA: "I began researching western women travelers in 1968, before the great outpouring of women's history really began. I read more than two hundred published travel accounts by women, most of which were out of print. I later supplemented these with manuscript diaries and journals. My focus was on what women thought of the West, not what it was like to travel. It took fifteen years to get the study published because the concept was not what publishers were ready to accept.

"*Georgetown's Yesteryears* is a four-volume series of local history, which grew out of an oral history project for the Texas Sesquicentennial. My other interests are quilting and helping the elderly to market their handmade items. I organize a quilt show every year in our town, and I serve as a volunteer executive director of Handcrafts Unlimited. This is an all-volunteer, nonprofit shop that markets the arts and crafts of our senior citizens."

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ALLEN, Robert Day 1927-1986

OBITUARY NOTICE—See index for CA sketch: Born August 28, 1927, in Providence, R.I.; died of pancreatic cancer, March 23, 1986. Biologist, educator, editor, and author. Allen is best remembered as a pioneering biologist in areas of research that include cell motility and video-enhanced contrast microscopy. He began his teaching career in 1954 as an instructor at the University of Michigan before moving, in 1956, to Princeton University, where he was an associate professor. He subsequently became a full professor at the State University of New York at Albany, and in 1972 began teaching at Dartmouth College. With Noburu Kamiya, Allen edited *Primitive Motile Systems in Cell Biology*, and he wrote the 1977 book *The Science of Life*. He also served as the editor of periodicals such as *Microscopica Acta* and *Journal of Mechanochemistry and Cell Motility*.

OBITUARIES AND OTHER SOURCES:

BOOKS

International Authors and Writers Who's Who, 10th edition, International Biographical Centre, 1986.
Who's Who in America, 43rd edition, Marquis, 1984.

PERIODICALS

Nature, June 12, 1986.

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ALLENDE, Isabel 1942-

BRIEF ENTRY: Surname is pronounced "Ah-yen-day"; born in 1942 in Lima, Peru; immigrated to Venezuela, c. 1973. Chilean journalist, playwright, and novelist. Best known for her widely reviewed and highly praised international best-seller, *The House of Spirits* (Knopf, 1985), Allende also had a career as a journalist in Chile, working on the staff of a radical feminist magazine, reporting in film newsreels, and conducting television interviews. In addition, she wrote plays for children. In 1973 a military coup resulted in the death of her uncle, Chilean president Salvador Allende, and brought an end to his coalition government, forcing Isabel Allende to take refuge in Caracas, Venezuela, where she wrote a weekly column for the newspaper *El Nacional*. In Venezuela, Allende began work on *House of Spirits*, which features the magical realism technique made popular by Latin American author Gabriel Garcia Marquez and tells the story of three generations in an unnamed Latin American country shaken by a coup d'état. Her second novel, *Of Love and Shadows* (Knopf, 1987), concerns two lovers who uncover scandals in a dictatorship. Allende's writings also include *Eva Luna* (Knopf, 1988).

BIOGRAPHICAL/CRITICAL SOURCES:

BOOKS

Contemporary Literary Criticism, Volume 39, Gale, 1986.
Current Biography, H. W. Wilson, 1988.

PERIODICALS

New York Review of Books, July 18, 1985.
New York Times Book Review, May 12, 1985, July 12, 1987.
People, June 10, 1985.
Publishers Weekly, May 17, 1985.
Times Literary Supplement, July 5, 1985, July 10, 1987.
Washington Post Book World, May 12, 1985, May 24, 1987.

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ANDERS, Donna Carolyn 1938- (Donna Carolyn Anders Crefeld)

PERSONAL: Born July 22, 1938, in Tacoma, Wash.; daughter of David Edward and Lorna (Ivarsen) Anderson; married Emil E. Crefeld, October 30, 1956 (divorced); children: Ruth Crefeld Aeschliman, Lisa, Tina. Education: Attended Fort Steilacoom Community College, 1970-72. Politics: Democrat. Religion: Protestant.

ADDRESSES: Home—Seattle, Wash. Office—10718 166th Court N.E., Redmond, Wash. 98052. Agent—Ruth Cohen Inc. Literary Agents, P.O. Box 7626, Menlo Park, Calif. 94025.

CAREER: General Contracting Co., Tacoma, Wash., co-owner, 1965-70; Writer's Digest School, Seattle, Wash., instructor, 1972—. Pacific Northwest Writer's Conference, vice-president, 1975, member of board of directors, 1975-80.

MEMBER: Romance Writers of America, Seattle Freelances.

WRITINGS:

(Under name Donna Carolyn Anders Crefeld) *From This Land* (historical novel), Pinnacle Books, 1980.