

By Nigel Hamilton and Hans Renders

The ABC of Modern Biography

In this book - an ABC of the genre, with 26 entries - two renowned biographers and teachers take us on a tour, from A for Authorization to Z for Zigzagging to the End. In trenchant, witty entries they explore the good, the bad and the plain ugly in modern 'life writing' and the portrayal of real lives today - and how, across history and continents, we got here.

This book will fascinate general readers interested in how real lives are approached by biographers today in a multitude of media. It will make a much-needed contribution in academia, as well as providing an important text for students of history, language and literature, the arts, science and media. And, not least, for biographers trying to avoid the pitfalls of ignorance or ineptitude.

"Over the last thirty years the forms and ambitions of modern biography have been expanding almost beyond recognition, and this sprightly ABC volume promises to take a fresh and exuberant overview of current developments. [...] I welcome this feisty contribution to the ongoing biographical debate!"

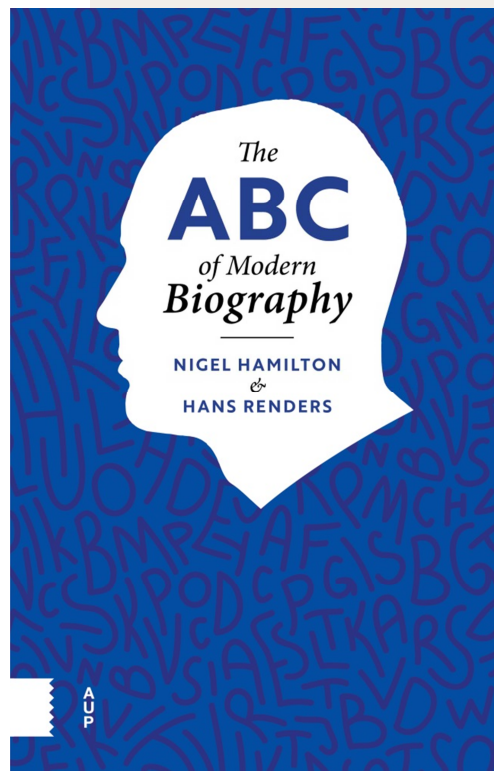
Richard Holmes

"Nigel Hamilton and Hans Renders' compact and companionable The ABC of Modern Biography is an essential guide, certain to be cherished by both readers and writers. I learned and laughed, and lingered over many an entry. Take it along on your own journey through life!"

Megan Marshall, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Margaret Fuller, The Peabody Sisters*, and *Elizabeth Bishop: A Miracle for Breakfast*

"For students of biography, for experts, and for anybody who's just interested in how lives of individuals tell the story of our time, this exquisite volume serves as road map - and provocative spur."

John A. Farrell, journalist and author of *Richard Nixon: the Life*, as well as *Clarence Darrow: Attorney for the Damned*, winner of the Los Angeles Times Award for Best Biography of the Year



Nigel Hamilton, former Professor of Biography at de Montfort University and currently Senior Fellow in the McCormack Graduate School, University of Massachusetts Boston, is the author of 27 works of biography and memoir.

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