

Modernist Discourse - Texts in Context

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Abstract

Readers have always had ambivalent attitudes to the modernist experiment. They admired and praised it while fearing and rejecting it. The article intends to effect some reconciliation between the reader of modernism and the modernist creator by demonstrating that the modernist work is discourse rather than text. The readers of modernism would thus find themselves in a more comfortable position to the intricate, though challenging, modernist works. They would see that the commonplace accusation of isolation against the modernists is not grounded and that the modernist work, just like any other work of art, makes sense only within a broader system, that of communication through art.