

Revolutionary Lives

Short, sharp biographies of radical political figures, with an attractive new series design. These books open up the lives of the women and men who lived through extraordinary times, who struggled through revolution, reaction, violence, nationalism and colonialism, and who overturned understandings of race and gender.

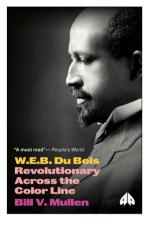


James Baldwin: Living in Fire Bill V. Mullen

Paperback: Feb 2024 | 336pp | £16.99 | 9780745338538 Hardback: Sep 2019 | 256pp | £25 | 9780745338545

'A scrupulous biography'—Publishers Weekly

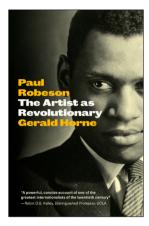
In the first major biography of Baldwin in more than a decade, Bill V. Mullen celebrates the life of the great African-American writer who created some of the most important literary work of his time, including the novels Go Tell It on the Mountain and If Beale Street Could Talk.



W.E.B. Du Bois: Revolutionary Across the Color Line Bill V. Mullen

Aug 2016 | 192pp | PB £16.99 | 9780745335056

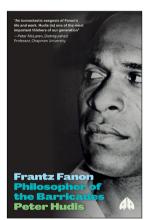
W. E. B. Du Bois was born in Massachusetts in 1868, just three years after formal emancipation of America's slaves. In his extraordinarily long and active political life, he would emerge as the first black man to earn a PhD from Harvard; surpass Booker T. Washington as the leading advocate for African American rights; co-found the NAACP, and involve himself in anti-imperialist and anti-colonial struggles across Asia and Africa.



Paul Robeson: The Artist as Revolutionary Gerald Horne

Jan 2016 | 256pp | PB £16.99 | 9780745335322

A world-famous singer and actor, a trained lawyer, an early star of American professional football and a polyglot who spoke over a dozen languages. These could be the crowning achievements of a life well-lived, yet for Paul Robeson the higher calling of social justice led him to abandon both the NFL and Hollywood and become one of the most important political activists of his generation - battling both Jim Crow and Joseph McCarthy.



Frantz Fanon:
Philosopher of the Barricades
Peter Hudis

Aug 2015 | 176pp | PB £16.99 | 9780745336251

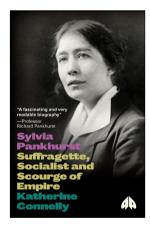
Frantz Fanon was a Caribbean and African psychiatrist, philosopher and revolutionary whose works, including Black Skin, White Masks and The Wretched of the Earth are hugely influential in the fields of post-colonial studies, critical theory, and post-Marxism. His legacy remains with us today, having inspired movements in Palestine, Sri Lanka, the US and South Africa.



Ellen Wilkinson: From Red Suffragist to Government Minister Paula Bartley

Feb 2014 | 168pp | PB £16.99 | 9780745332376

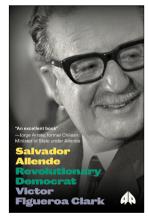
Ellen Wilkinson was a key radical figure in the 20th century British socialist and feminist movement, a woman of passionate energy who was involved in most of the major struggles of her time. Involved in the women's suffrage movement, Wilkinson went on to lead the Labour Party's anti-fascist campaign, headed the iconic Jarrow Crusade and was the first female Minister of Education.



Sylvia Pankhurst: Suffragette, Socialist and Scourge of Empire Katherine Connelly

Sep 2013 | 192pp | PB £16.99 | 9780745333229

In this vivid biography Katherine Connelly examines Sylvia Pankhurst's role at the forefront of significant developments in the history of radical politics. She guides us through Pankhurst's construction of a suffragette militancy which put working-class women at the heart of the struggle, her championing of the Bolshevik Revolution and her clandestine attempts to sabotage the actions of the British state, as well as her early identification of the dangers of Fascism.



Salvador Allende: Revolutionary Democrat Victor Figueroa Clark

Aug 2013 | 176pp | PB £16.99 | 9780745333076

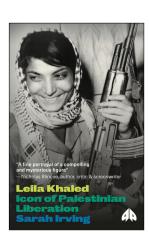
This is a political biography of one of the 20th century's most emblematic left-wing figures - Salvador Allende, who was president of Chile until he was ousted by General Pinochet in a US-supported coup in 1973. Victor Figueroa Clark guides us through Allende's life and political project, answering some of the most frequently asked questions. Was he a revolutionary or a reformist? A bureaucrat or inspirational democrat?



Jean Paul Marat: Tribune of the French Revolution Clifford D. Conner

May 2012 | 200pp | PB £16.99 | 9780745331935

Jean-Paul Marat's role in the French Revolution has long been a matter of controversy among historians. Often he is portrayed as a violent, sociopathic demagogue. This biography challenges that interpretation and argues that without Marat's contributions as an agitator, tactician, and strategist, the pivotal social transformation that the revolution accomplished would not have occurred.

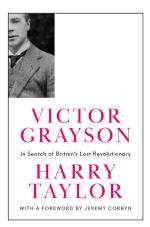


Leila Khaled: Icon of Palestinian LiberationSarah Irving

May 2012 | 168pp | PB £16.99 | 9780745329512

Dubbed 'the poster girl of Palestinian militancy', Leila Khaled's image flashed across the world after she hijacked a passenger jet in 1969. The picture of a young, determined looking woman with a checkered scarf, clutching an AK-47, was as eradefining as that of Che Guevara. In this intimate profile, based on interviews with Khaled and those who know her, Sarah Irving gives us the life-story behind the image.

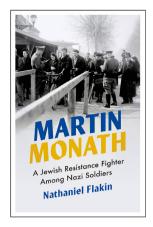
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Victor Grayson: In Search of Britain's Lost Revolutionary Harry Taylor

Aug 2021 | 288pp | HB £25 | 9780745343983

Steeped in conspiracy, scandal and socialism – the disappearance of radical icon Victor Grayson is a puzzle that's never been solved. A firebrand and Labour politician who rose to prominence in the early twentieth century, Grayson was idolised by hundreds of thousands of Britons but despised by the establishment. After a tumultuous life, he walked out of his London apartment in September 1920 and was never seen again...

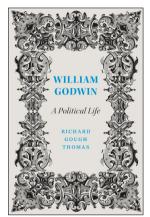


Martin Monath:

A Jewish Resistance Fighter Among Nazi Soldiers Nathaniel Flakin

Oct 2019 | 208pp | PB £16.99 | 9780745339955

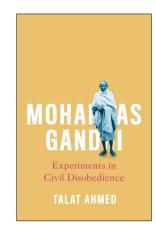
A dramatisation of Martin Monath's short life (1913-1944) would need little artistic embellishment; his identity shrouded in mystery, and executed by the Gestapo—twice—the historical record reads like a detective novel. This biography tells the story of the Jewish socialist and editor of Arbeiter und Soldat ('Worker and Soldier'), and his efforts to turn German rank-and-file soldiers against their Nazi officers in occupied France.



William Godwin: A Political Life Richard Gough Thomas

Feb 2019 | 176pp | PB £16.99 | 9780745338354

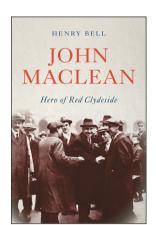
William Godwin was the first major anarchist thinker in the Anglophone world, who rocked the establishment at the beginning of the nineteenth century. Famously married to Mary Wollstonecraft, father to Mary Shelley and inspiration to Lord Byron, his life and works lie at the heart of British Radicalism and Romanticism. In this biography, Richard Gough Thomas reads Godwin afresh, drawing on newly discovered letters and journals.



Mohandas Gandhi: Experiments in Civil Disobedience Talat Ahmed

Jan 2019 | 208pp | PB £16.99 | 9780745334288

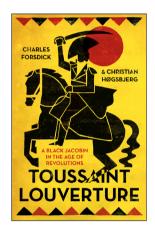
Mohandas Gandhi, icon of Indian liberation, remains an inspiration for anti-capitalists and peace activists globally. His campaigns for national liberation based on non-violence and mass civil disobedience were critical to defeating the power of the British Empire. This biography examines his campaigns from South Africa to India to evaluate the successes and failures of non-violent resistance.



John Maclean: Hero of Red Clydeside Henry Bell

Oct 2018 | 256pp | PB £16.99 | 9780745338385

Feared by the government, adored by workers, celebrated by Lenin and Trotsky; the head of British Military Intelligence called John Maclean 'the most dangerous man in Britain'. Henry Bell examines McLean's work as an organiser and educator, his imprisonment and hunger strike, and how he became the early hero of radical Scottish Independence.

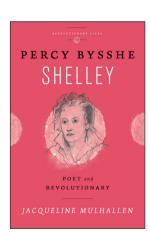


Toussaint Louverture:

A Black Jacobin in the Age of Revolutions
Charles Forsdick & Christian Hogsbjerg

May 2017 | 208pp | PB £16.99 | 9780745335148

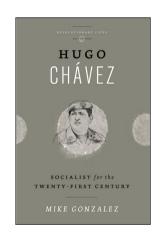
The leader of the only successful slave revolt in history, Toussaint Louverture is seen by many to be one of the greatest anti-imperialist fighters who ever lived. Born into slavery on a Caribbean plantation, he was able to break from his bondage to lead an army of freed African slaves to victory against the professional armies of France, Spain and Britain in the Haitian Revolution of 1791-1804.



Percy Bysshe Shelley: Poet and Revolutionary Jacqueline Mulhallen

Oct 2015 | 192pp | PB £16.99 | 9780745334615

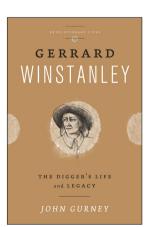
Percy Shelley (1792-1822) was one of the major English Romantic poets. Admired by Oscar Wilde, Thomas Hardy, W. B. Yeats and Karl Marx, Shelley's legacy remains with us today—his words have been used by popular movements from the Chartists and the Suffragettes to Tiananmen Square, the Poll Tax protesters and modern Greek solidarity movements. This biography emphasises the political, revolutionary side of his dramatic life.



Hugo Chavez: Socialist for the Twenty-first Century Mike Gonzalez

Feb 2014 | 176pp | PB £16.99 | 9780745334653

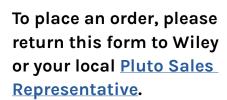
When Hugo Chavez, then President of Venezuela, died in 2013, millions across the globe mourned. In an age where most politicians inspire only apathy and cynicism, Chavez's popularity, radicalism and vibrant personality were truly unique. This is the first biography published after Chavez's death, tracing his life from a poor rural family to the Miraflores Presidential Palace in Caracas.



Gerrard Winstanley: The Digger's Life and Legacy John Gurney

Nov 2012 | 176pp | PB £18.99 | 9780745331836

Christian Communist, leader of the Diggers movement and bete noire of the landed aristocracy, Gerard Winstanley (1609-1676) was one of the founders of a movement which fought for the redistribution of land and the abolition of wages and property under Oliver Cromwell. John Gurney reveals the hidden history of Winstanley and his movement.



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