



Blast #1

Wyndham Lewis (Editor) , Bradford Morrow (Foreword by)

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A facsimile edition of the first issue of the 'Blast', which documents in its in original format the raw energy, violent humor, graphic inventiveness and intellectual hard edge of the most compelling and vital magazine project of the modernist movement.

Blast #1 Details

Date : Published November 1st 1981 by Black Sparrow Press (first published 1914)

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Author : Wyndham Lewis (Editor) , Bradford Morrow (Foreword by)

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Octavia Cade says

This has pretty much scraped a 3 star rating from me, rounding up from 2.5. It's obviously a publication designed to be in-your-face and confronting, although that's a hard character to live up to when it's taken out of its contemporary context. From the perspective of me, reading today... I can admire the conviction and still think the execution is ridiculously over-the-top. (It really is hard to take seriously something that starts with a manifesto. I'm sorry, but it is. "We set Humour at Humour's throat. Stir up Civil War among peaceful apes." Can you really blame me?)

Now in fairness, that over-the-topness is actually entertaining in most of the art and articles herein, in an I-can't-believe-I'm-reading-this-weird-shit way. In others, however, it goes so far into some sort of floral, faux-academic theorising (about vortices, no less) that my bullshit button is well and truly banged on. Basically, it's a quirky, deadly earnest little explosion of thought on Art (the capitalisation is deliberate) that manages to make sense as much as half the time. I imagine it might improve if you read it while high.

Manuel says

Esoteric, bizarre, inspired, and insane. A wonderful glimpse into the minds of modernism and Vorticism, specifically from Lewis.

Allison Zink-McCormack says

A truly unique and empowering collection of modernist expression.

Manny says

I've never been a big fan of the modernist movement or the vorticists, however, this short lived quarterly's debut issue is composed of beautiful typography and features a pre-Hitler-sympathizing Ezra Pound.

Susan Lester says

Necessary for the scholar of Vorticism.

Simon says

Wyndham Lewis was a wonderful artist, probably my favourite to come out of England. There's very little

distinction between his abstract paintings and the layout/dry humour of this publication, a real treat for the eyes. Mark E Smith most definitely grabbed one or two ideas from Lewis and the Vorticists, so Fall fans are guaranteed to enjoy this.

Tash says

An introduction to the short lived art movement of Vorticism, which is quite similar to Futurism, but is really defensive about the fact that it is definitely Not Futurism according to Lewis. They're not about the past OR the future, as those dirty Futurists are. So what are the Vorticists about? After reading their manifesto I still couldn't really tell you, contradiction maybe? Though maybe they'd bless and blast that as well

This volume is a compilation of drawings, plays, poetry and stories, which I am really rather glad about. I think that with something so ""avant garde"" and experimental it can be very hit or miss, or bless or blast I suppose for example: Enemy of the Stars, Blast (there is a difference between being minimalist and philosophical and being obtuse and opaque Lewis) and The Saddest Story, Bless, so having a number of different mediums and authors gives it a lot more room to either get it right or wrong

So I mean if you like being confused while being provided with a vague hint that there is something deeper going on check it out I guess

Although I really really would not recc spending prolonged periods of time with this volume, dipping in and out is the way to not get infuriated imo

The best part about this volume tho is thanks to both it and google I found out imberb means beardless, which is cool and goes on the list of words that will never come up irl

Kristin says

Read #1: An interesting read produced during the early modernist period. It has a very avant garde style, as it plays with typeface, spacing, and art. Parts read as manifestoes, while others are more straight-forward short stories, poetry, or plays.

Read #2: Much more from second read through...

Margaret says

Didn't find much to enjoy here other than the segment from "Good Soldier", but the publication's history is more interesting than its literary content.

Eric says

ready april

BLAST

edited by

WYNDHAM LEWIS

To be published quarterly...First Number will contain

MANIFESTO.

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END OF THE CHRISTIAN ERA.

mwpm says

Wyndham Lewis's artistic and literary movement, Vorticism, found its outlet in **Blast**, a periodical that included works by Ezra Pound and Ford Madox Ford (among others).

Read the full text here: <http://library.brown.edu/>

Mo Evans says

BLESS PASSION, BLAST OPINION!
