



Readers who feel that Lawrence Durrell's poetry is too often overshadowed by his fiction have reason to be grateful this year. In addition to the reading hosted by the Poetry Foundation and cosponsored by the ILDS on July 5, we have the Colenso / Delos Press collection of late poems—*The Fruitful Discontent of the Word*—that Peter Baldwin discussed in number 39 of the *Herald*. What's more, the new Colenso / Durrell Library of Corfu volume *The Placebo* includes an appendix containing drafts of several of the poems that Durrell would eventually publish in *The Ikons* (1966), as well as a short, previously unpublished fragment of four lines.

*Durrell à Sommières*, edited by Frédéric Gaussen (Marseille: Éditions Gaussen), collects pieces by Durrell and his friends celebrating Provence. The preface is by Françoise Kestman, Durrell's companion during his final years.

Henri Michaux's collection *A Certain Plume*, with English translations by Richard Sieburth, was published in a bilingual edition by New York Review Books in May. The volume opens with a preface by Durrell that was originally published by Delos in 1990 as *Henri Michaux: The Poet of Supreme Solipsism*.

Rony Alfandary's *Galut veHitgalut: Iun Psichoanaliti Bereviat Alexandria shel Lawrence Durrell* has been published in English translation by Routledge as *A Psychoanalytic Study of Lawrence Durrell's The Alexandria Quartet: Exile and Return*. Ian MacNiven praises the manner in which the book "insinuates itself into the very fiber of the work" and calls it a "brilliant interpretation."

In "The Substance and the Shadows: Reflections on British-Greek Relations over Two Centuries," Michael Llewellyn-Smith notes that "the apogee of the literary relationship was the period after the Second World War, between 1945 and the early 1950s, when by a kind of miracle of timing and temperaments there were collected in Athens stars of the literary firmament including Steven Runciman, Lawrence Durrell, Patrick Leigh Fermor, Rex Warner, Louis Macneice [sic], George Seferis, George Katsimbalis, Captain Antoniou—and in the realm of the arts Niko Ghika and John Craxton." The piece appears in *Cyprus from Colonialism to the Present: Visions and Realities: Essays in Honour of Robert Holland*, published by Routledge in 2017.

Edward Lear, whose love of Corfu was unbounded, is the subject of a new biography by Jenny Uglow, *Mr. Lear: A Life of Art and Nonsense*. Writing in the *Sunday Times*, Christopher Hart describes the book as "sumptuously produced, with a handsome cloth spine and printed on thick glossy paper with numerous illustrations," adding that he finds it "astutely empathetic." *Mr. Lear* is published in the UK by Faber and in the United States by Farrar, Straus. Yet another biography of the artist and nonsense poet, Sara Lodge's *Inventing Edward Lear*, is scheduled for publication next year by Harvard University Press.

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