

Mondial Books Proudly Announces Reprinting of 'Lost' Carl Van Vechten Novel

Long-unprinted novel is considered authentic portrait of the 1920s and explores the eternal search for happiness

NEW YORK, N.Y. – June 14 (SEND2PRESS NEWSWIRE) – In conjunction with the Carl Van Vechten Trust, Mondial is set to republish the late author's long-unprinted novel, "Firecrackers: A Realistic Novel" (ISBN: 978-1-59569-068-5). In what must be considered a milestone, the book will be published after being out of print for over eighty years; thereby poised to become a lost find for readers and literary scholars alike.



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First published in 1925, the novel centers around a wide cast of characters whose lives are irrevocably changed by the mysterious Gunnar O'Grady in 1920s New York. Though, like most Van Vechten novels, there is more than actually meets the eye.

**(Photo Caption: Carl Van Vechten. Self-portrait. Photographer: Carl Van Vechten, 1934.)*

Bruce Kellner, "Successor Trustee" to the Estate of Carl Van Vechten, says the republication of "Firecrackers" is important, because the book "bolsters our understanding of [the twenties]" and "comes closest to depicting the Jazz Age in all its variety."

The book also uniquely explores the true meaning of happiness and the eternal search for self-identity, through humorous, thoughtful, and often poignant characters. Though, Kellner believes what makes "Firecrackers" truly unique is that the book "anticipates the frantic desperation...when the stock market crash brought the twenties to a thudding halt."



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"Firecrackers" (ISBN-13: 978-1-59569-068-5) is slated to be published August 15, 2007 and is expected to attract both new and old fans of Van Vechten, along with book enthusiasts around the world.

Carl Van Vechten, born in Cedar Rapids, Iowa in 1880, rose to become one of America's most prominent writers. Throughout his career, he had written seven novels, featuring the turbulent twenties, to go along with numerous collections of essays and short stories. Aside from being an acclaimed author, Van Vechten went on to become a widely regarded photographer, photographing such profound celebrities as F. Scott Fitzgerald, Gore Vidal, Billie Holiday, and Ella Fitzgerald. One of his many accomplishments was patronizing the work of the Harlem Renaissance. He died at the age of 84 in New York City.

More information: www.mondialbooks.com.

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