

EZRA POUND: AN OVERVIEW

Coordinators: Mark Fischweicher and Carol Schoen

One of the most important literary figures of the 20th century, Ezra Pound decisively influenced modern poetry, determining what language was acceptable and what verse forms could be used. He transformed our view of translation from reliance on verbal accuracy to concern for emotional integrity. At the same time, he introduced new areas of interest such as Chinese, Japanese, and Provencal literature. Through his intervention, the works of Robert Frost and James Joyce found publishers. Yet today he is mostly remembered for his traitorous broadcasts for Mussolini during World War II. The study group attempts to reconcile these disparate aspects of Pound's personality.

Readings: Coursepack, estimated \$15.00.

Mark Fischweicher is a retired high school teacher, published poet and poetry editor of IRP "Voices. **Carol Schoen** taught at Lehman College CUNY until she retired; she has coordinated many study groups at the IRP.

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Session 1 Biography, [A Lume Spento](#)

(relevant biographical information will be presented throughout the semester)

Session 2 "Essay on How to Write;" Poetry Mag, 1914

Session 3 Letters and Work with Eliot; Frost, Joyce, Yeats

Session 4 Early Cantos, i-iii

Session 5 "Cathay" - Translations Chinese, Japanese

Session 6 Guest Lecturer Sarah White. "Pound and the Discovery of Provence Literature"

Session 7 Hugh Selwyn Mauberley

Session 8 Cantos iv-vii

Session 9 Essay — "ABC of Reading"

Session 10 Radio Speech, Italy, 1938

Session 11 Pisan Cantos

Session 12 Summary