



Isaac Babel and the Self-Invention of Odessan Modernism (Paperback)

By Rebecca Jane Stanton

Northwestern University Press, United States, 2013. Paperback. Condition: New. Reprint. Language: English . This book usually ship within 10-15 business days and we will endeavor to dispatch orders quicker than this where possible. Brand New Book. In what marks an exciting new critical direction, Rebecca Stanton contends that the city of Odessa--as a canonical literary image and as a kaleidoscopic cultural milieu--shaped the narrative strategies developed by Isaac Babel and his contemporaries of the Revolutionary generation. Modeling themselves on the tricksters and rogues of Odessa lore, Babel and his fellow Odessans Val-entin Kataev and Yury Olesha manipulated their literary personae through complex, playful, and often subversive negotiations of the boundary between autobiography and fiction. In so doing, they cannily took up a place prepared for them in the Russian canon and fostered modes of storytelling that both reflected and resisted the aesthetics of Socialist Realism. Stanton concludes with a rereading of Babel s autobiographical stories and examines their leg-acy in post-Thaw works by Kataev, Olesha, and Konstantin Paustovsky.



Reviews

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