

Eighteenth-century French novel - techniques of illusion

Manchester University Press - The eighteenth



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This book deals with the ways in which the French novel of the eighteenth century marks a transition from the long, implausible and often clumsy works of the seventeenth century to the masterpieces of Balzac, Stendhal and Laubert. Librairie Droz is a leading independent Swiss publisher, founded in Paris by Eugenie Droz in 1924 and currently under the direction of Max Engammare.

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For her study, Professor Mylne has chosen works by Lesage, Prevost, Marivaux, Crebillon fils, Rousseau, Diderot, Laclos, Restif de la Bretonne and Bernardin de Saint-Pierre, and through her consideration of these particular authors she traces the development of the novelists' technique in the representation of life. The third installment appeared in 1957, published under the auspices of Librairie Droz.

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Secondly, on the level of technique and structure, the author studies methods of characterisation and plot-construction, effects of style and emotional tone, and descriptive devices such as the use of factual details to increase verisimilitude.

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