



Victoria's Madmen: Revolution and Alienation

By *C. Bloom*

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Victoria's Madmen is the story of those who were outcasts by temperament and choice; the non-conformists of the Victorian Age. Clive Bloom's readable account of the dark underbelly of Victoria's Britain captures the unrest bubbling under the surface of strait-laced Victorian society.

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Editorial Review

Review

'Victoria's Madmen seeks to argue that it is the perverse, radical and sometimes just downright insane minds of the nineteenth century that really prepared the way for modernity as we now know it. Bloom assembles a canon of 'Victoria's madmen' which freewheels through a bizarre miscellany of subjects including doubles, ghosts, anarchists and vegetarians'

- Times Literary Supplement

'In Victoria's Madmen, Clive Bloom marshals a crowd of men and women to help him dismantle the myth of Victorian conformity and uniformity. Bloom's 'madmen' include spiritualists and anarchists, atheists and visionaries, socialists, nudists and assassins they all contribute to creating a 19th century wilder and richer than the one we usually encounter'

- New Statesman

'As an account of the age and the people who made (or alternatively unmade) it thus, it is a very enlightening, engrossing read.'

- The Bookbag

'This richly diverse book contains a number of gems it conveys well the bubbling energy of those in the Victorian era who swam against the tide, and many of whose ideas would become the language of counter-cultural modernity'

- Times Higher Education

'...a fascinating read. It is all too easy to think of the 19th century as a century entirely filled with pious, conformist churchgoers, demure crinolines and over-stuffed drawing-rooms. Clive Bloom has worked at the margins, deftly interweaving the revolutionary, the rebellious and the downright odd to draw a more complex picture of a time of instability and change, a period filled with sedition as well as certitude. His 19th century is far stranger and more wild and far more exciting.'

- Judith Flanders, author of The Invention of Murder

'Clive Bloom has a fine reputation for writing accessible history. Here he turns his attention to a cluster of Victorians, some well-known, others long-forgotten, who espoused or inspired what seem some of the more bizarre and esoteric ideas of the nineteenth century. A good, thought-provoking read, often surprising and good fun.'

- Clive Emsley, Open University

'Against the deadening, nostalgic idea of 'Victorian values', - usually seen from the establishment point of view - Clive Bloom has mustered a bizarre alternative army of republicans, spiritualists, theosophists, Christian Socialists, anarchists, golden agers, nudists, occultists, foreign revolutionists, environmentalists and civil servants, most of whom were considered mad when they were active. His surprising conclusion is that this apparently barmy army laid the foundations of modernity's counter-culture and in some cases of

mainstream culture as well. We have met 'other Victorians' before, but none quite so colourful as these.'

- Professor Sir Christopher Frayling

About the Author

Clive Bloom is Emeritus Professor of English and American Studies at Middlesex University, UK. Widely published and Series Editor of Palgrave Macmillan's Crime Files series, he is the author of *Violent London* and *Riot City*, amongst many other titles.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Jackson Cabrera:

The book *Victoria's Madmen: Revolution and Alienation* has a lot details on it. So when you check out this book you can get a lot of help. The book was compiled by the very famous author. Tom makes some research previous to write this book. This specific book very easy to read you will get the point easily after reading this article book.

Heather Bencomo:

Your reading sixth sense will not betray an individual, why because this *Victoria's Madmen: Revolution and Alienation* publication written by well-known writer who really knows well how to make book that could be understand by anyone who all read the book. Written with good manner for you, dripping every ideas and publishing skill only for eliminate your personal hunger then you still hesitation *Victoria's Madmen: Revolution and Alienation* as good book not just by the cover but also through the content. This is one guide that can break don't judge book by its handle, so do you still needing yet another sixth sense to pick that!? Oh come on your looking at sixth sense already told you so why you have to listening to another sixth sense.

Mary Bunnell:

In this era globalization it is important to someone to obtain information. The information will make someone to understand the condition of the world. The health of the world makes the information quicker to share. You can find a lot of personal references to get information example: internet, paper, book, and soon. You can observe that now, a lot of publisher which print many kinds of book. The actual book that recommended for you is *Victoria's Madmen: Revolution and Alienation* this publication consist a lot of the information in the condition of this world now. This specific book was represented so why is the world has grown up. The words styles that writer make usage of to explain it is easy to understand. The particular writer made some analysis when he makes this book. This is why this book appropriate all of you.

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