

Fear and Loathing in Fitzrovia: The Bizarre Life of Writer, Actor, Soho Raconteur Julian Maclaren-Ross (Paperback)



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Reviews

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(Alfreda Bradtke)

FEAR AND LOATHING IN FITZROVIA: THE BIZARRE LIFE OF WRITER, ACTOR, SOHO RACONTEUR JULIAN MACLAREN-ROSS (PAPERBACK)

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Dewi Lewis Publishing, United Kingdom, 2014. Paperback. Condition: New. UK ed.. Language: English . Brand New Book. Diligent, painstaking and bleakly hilarious. The Guardian - Book of the Week Assiduously researched and enthusiastic. a fascinating trawl through Soho's bohemia. The Independent on Sunday For a full and really fascinating account [of the life of Julian Maclaren-Ross], it is to Willetts's biography Fear and Loathing in Fitzrovia that one must turn. That wonderful book is so informative and so psychologically perceptive. The Spectator Invariably clad in a sharp suit, augmented by dark glasses and a cigarette-holder, Julian Maclaren-Ross was a celebrated figure in mid-twentieth-century Soho's pub and club scene. He was also one of his generation's most brilliant writers, admired by the likes of Evelyn Waugh, Graham Greene and Lucian Freud. Since the publication of Fear and Loathing in Fitzrovia, there has been a resurgence of interest in his groundbreaking work and flamboyant personality. Synonymous though he is with Soho, his uniquely strange life included spells in the army and on the French Riviera. So chaotic was his existence that he makes Jack Kerouac and Charles Bukowski appear models of stability and restraint. During fifty-two hectic years, Maclaren-Ross endured alcoholism, drug-induced psychosis, poverty, homelessness, imprisonment, near insanity, and a Scotland Yard manhunt. At one stage he even stalked and planned to murder George Orwell's glamorous widow. Fear and Loathing in Fitzrovia provides a vibrant and justly acclaimed portrait of Maclaren-Ross and the louche world he inhabited. Richard Holmes, author of The Age of Wonder Very striking, very strange and altogether fascinating. Philip French, The Observer Books of the Year, 2003 I especially admired [Fear and Loathing in Fitzrovia which] breaks new ground and revives [a] remarkable writer in the context of [his] times. Paul Willetts provides...

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