

September 1998

Bestselling Bibliographies of 1997 - YBP

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YBP

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Recommended Citation

Crowell, Francois (1998) "Bestselling Bibliographies of 1997 - YBP," *Against the Grain*: Vol. 10: Iss. 4, Article 8.
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.7771/2380-176X.2947>

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Bestselling Bibliographies of 1997 – YBP's Top 25

by **Françoise Crowell** (Bibliographer, YBP)

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Reference books are always forecast to be the first to go when the death of the book occurs, and burial rites for one type of reference book above all, the bibliography, the first occasion for mourning.

If anyone mourns. All bibliographies are a labor of love, in the compiling. But who loves them once published? Most are released and out-of-date at once. An omission or two is enough to prove a bibliography incomplete, and a single false detail, inaccurate. By their nature they are only way stations on the road to other books, books more useful, more substantive, more interesting, and more durable. Bibliographies might as well come pre-stamped, "for specialists only." They are the least democratic, the most despised, the most easily-replaced-by-the-Web kind of reference work.

And yet, somehow bibliographies are still very much with us. YBP treats some 350 of this hardy species each year for approval plan customers. This list of 25 represents the best sellers among bibliographies handled during calendar year 1997.

Titles are arranged in descending order of total library purchases, from our top seller, *Music Reference and Research Materials* (Schirmer), which we have shipped to 120 libraries to date, to *Lynching and Vigilantism in the United States* (Greenwood), which has appealed to 67 libraries so far. List prices top off at \$100, for Garland's *Art Books: A Basic Bibliography*, while the best bargains are at \$39.95, a sum which will pay either for *The Civil War in Books* (University of Illinois Press) or for Oxford's *Edwardian Fiction*. Most publishers avoid bibliographies, but over the years some have learned how to make a living off of them, a fact witnessed by the eleven titles placed on our list by Greenwood. Literature, a subject area with a long tradition in bibliography, is the strongest on YBP's list, at twelve titles. Women's Studies, a field at work documenting its own remarkable surge over the past twenty years, checks in with five and earns second place. We have modest hope that readers of *Against the Grain* will find our bibliography useful and interesting.

Duckles, Vincent H. (Vincent Harris), 1913- *Music Reference and Research Materials: An Annotated Bibliography*. Schirmer 1997 0028708210 \$45.00 Cloth

Peterson, Jane T. *Women Playwrights of Diversity: A Bio-Bibliographical Sourcebook*. Greenwood 1997 0313291799 \$79.50 Cloth

Eicher, David J., 1961- *Civil War In Books: An Analytical Bibliography* Univ of Illinois Press 1997 0252022734 \$39.95 Cloth

Women in the Biological Sciences: A Biobibliographic Sourcebook; Ed. by Louise S. Grinstein. Greenwood 1997 0313291802 \$99.50 Cloth

Nineteenth-Century American Women Writers: A Bio-Bibliographical Critical Sourcebook; Ed. by Denise D. Knight. Greenwood 1997 0313297134 \$99.50 Cloth

Kemp, Sandra. *Edwardian Fiction: An*

Greenwood 1997 \$75.00 0313300488 Cloth
Ridinger, Robert B. Marks, 1951- *Gay and Lesbian Movement: References and Resources*. G.K. Hall 1996 \$45.00 0816173737 Cloth

Wick, Robert L., 1938- *Electronic and Computer Music: An Annotated Bibliography*. Greenwood 1997 \$79.50 0313300763 Cloth

Carpenter, Charles A. *Modern Drama Scholarship and Criticism, 1981-1990: An International Bibliography*. Univ of Toronto Press 1997 \$90.00 080200914x Cloth

Mirkovich, Thomas R., 1954- *Casino Gaming in the United States: A Research Guide*. Scarecrow 1997 \$48.00 0810832305 Cloth

Wheeler, Helen Rippier. *Women & Aging: A Guide to the Literature*. Lynne Rienner 1997 \$65.00 1555876617 Cloth

Basic Music Library: Essential Scores and Sound Recordings; Ed. by Elizabeth Davis. Amer Library Assn 1997 \$85.00 0838934617 Cloth

Modern Irish Writers: A Bio-Critical Sourcebook; Ed. by Alexander G.

Gonzalez. Greenwood 1997 \$95.00 0313295573 Cloth

Barstow, Jane Missner. *One Hundred Years of American Women Writing, 1848-1948: An Annotated Bio-Bibliography*. Scarecrow 1997 \$42.00 081083314x Cloth

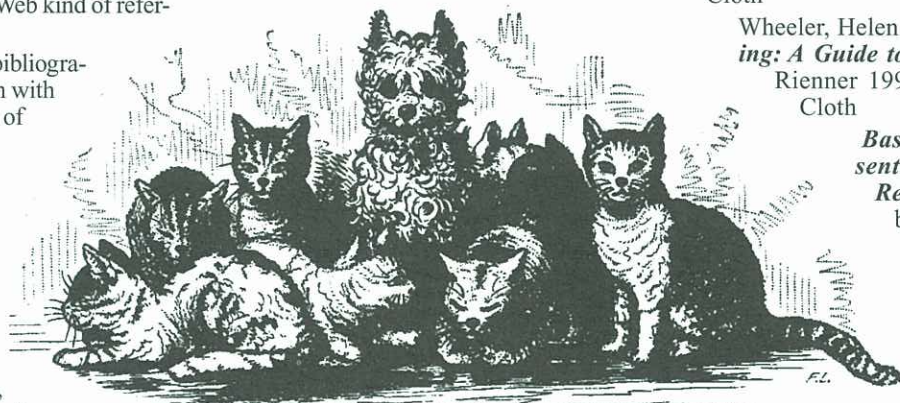
Johnson, Donald Leslie. *Makers of 20th Century Modern Architecture: A Bio-Critical Sourcebook*. Greenwood 1997 \$89.50 0313293538 Cloth

Keeling, Richard. *North American Indian Music: A Guide to Published Sources and Selected Recordings*. Garland 1997 \$75.00 0815302320 Cloth

Irish Playwrights, 1880-1995: A Research and Production Sourcebook; Ed. by Bernice Schrank. Greenwood 1997 \$95.00 0313288054 Cloth

Durkan, Michael J. *Seamus Heaney: A Reference Guide*. G.K. Hall 1996 \$45.00 0816173893 Cloth

Lynching and Vigilantism in the United States: An Annotated Bibliography; Ed. by Norton H. Moses. Greenwood. 1997 \$85.00 0313301778 Cloth



Oxford Companion. Oxford Univ Press 1997 \$39.95 0198117604 Cloth

Art Books: A Basic Bibliography of Monographs on Artists; Ed. by Wolfgang M. Freitag. Garland 1997 \$100.00 0824033264 Cloth

British Playwrights, 1880-1956: A Research and Production Sourcebook; Ed. by William W. Demastes. Greenwood 1996 \$95.00 0313287589 Cloth

Contemporary Jewish-American Novelists: A Bio-Critical Sourcebook; Ed. by Joel Shatzky. Greenwood 1997 \$85.00 0313294623 Cloth

Aby, Stephen H., 1949- *Sociology: A Guide to Reference and Information Sources*. Libraries Unlimited 1997 \$42.00 1563084228 Cloth

Beene, Lynndianne. *Guide to British Prose Fiction Explication: Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries*. G.K. Hall 1997 \$70.00 0816119872 Cloth

Nelson, Bonnie R. *Criminal Justice Research in Libraries and on the Internet*.