Publisher's Profile/ Columbia University Press

Mike Markwith
The Faxon Company

Follow this and additional works at: http://docs.lib.purdue.edu/atg
Part of the Library and Information Science Commons

Recommended Citation
Markwith, Mike (1993) "Publisher's Profile/ Columbia University Press," Against the Grain: Vol. 5: Iss. 1, Article 14.
DOI: https://doi.org/10.7771/2380-176X.1315

This document has been made available through Purdue e-Pubs, a service of the Purdue University Libraries. Please contact epubs@purdue.edu for additional information.
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY PRESS

Contacts:

John D. Moore, Director of the Press
Dimity Berkner, Director of Marketing and Sales
Jeanette Zwart, National Sales Director

Editorial & Marketing Offices: Order from
562 W. 113th Street Order Department
New York, NY 10025 136 South Broadway
TEL: (212)316-7100 Irvington, NY 10533
FAX: (212)316-7169 TEL: 1-800-944-8648 or 914-591-9111
or (212)316-9422 FAX: 1-800-944-1844 or 914-591-9201

Columbia University Press is a leading international scholarly publisher, singular among American university presses in the strength of its general reference works as well as the publication of landmark books in the humanities, social sciences and science. Columbia publishes about 150 books each year, adding to a backlist of more than 2500. Of the approximately ninety university presses operating in the U.S., Columbia ranks among the highest in terms of sales as well as editorial quality.

This year, 1993, marks the centennial celebration of the founding of Columbia University Press; it was established by a committee of Columbia faculty on June 13th, 1893. While most university presses are owned and supported by the parent university, Columbia University Press has remained an independent, non-profit corporation since its founding. However, the Press has a long-standing association with the University’s distinguished intellectual community and works with many of Columbia’s best scholars in their various roles as authors, translators, and advisors. To ensure that its books exhibit the highest standards of quality, the Press has all manuscripts evaluated by experts in the appropriate fields, and the proposals are reviewed by a Publications Committee of Columbia faculty members.

While the press publishes books from a wide range of disciplines, particularly significant for the library community are Columbia’s celebrated reference titles such as The Columbia Encyclopedia (the first edition published in 1935, and the fifth edition to appear in 1993); The Columbia Granger’s Index to Poetry (now in its ninth edition); and The Columbia Lippincott Gazetteer of the World (1952), still the most comprehensive work of geographical information ever printed. Additional titles include: The Concise Columbia Encyclopedia; A Short History of Opera; The Top 500 Poems, The Columbia Granger’s Index to Poetry Quotations; The Columbia Guide to Standard American English; and in electronic form the widely praised Columbia Granger’s World of Poetry on CD-ROM, as well as The Concise Columbia Encyclopedia on magnetic tape.

Columbia’s list is particularly extensive and distinguished in certain areas:

In Asian Studies, the Press has published definitive translations of classic texts. The Press has long had an award-winning list in Jewish Studies including the recently completed, twenty-volume study, The Social and Religious History of the Jews by Salo Baron. Columbia University Press has also been at the forefront of Gay and Lesbian Studies with books like Lillian Faderman’s highly acclaimed history of lesbian life in the United States, Odd Girls and Twilight Lovers. In Literary Criticism, the Press has distinguished itself as the exclusive North American publisher of works by the eminent French critic Julia Kristeva. The Press has also translated Theodore Adorno’s two-volume work Notes to Literature, is publishing the definitive edition of the Letters of Ralph Waldo Emerson, and has produced such useful reference works as The Columbia Literary History of the United States and The Columbia History of the American Novel, the first such history ever published.

Columbia University Press has won many awards for the design and the production of its books. In response to the particular needs and desires of librarians, the Press uses sewn bindings, acid-free paper, and ecologically-sound packing materials.

Columbia University Press also manages the marketing, sales and distribution for the American University in Cairo Press, Edinburgh University Press, East European Monographs, Free Association Books, and the University of Tokyo Press.