

“Gordana Crnković has written an absolutely delightful and inspiring book on an oddly neglected topic: the literature and film of the so-called ‘Second World’—Eastern Europe, during its post-World War II years behind the Iron Curtain. Far from being a dark and despairing response to the various forms of repression then current, this is a literature of pleasure, warmth, energy, humor, and the overcoming of obstacles, political and otherwise. Crnković has chosen key novels and films to show us what we have been missing. Her enthusiasm and keen analytic powers endow the fiction and film in question with the special aura of a mini-Renaissance—one unmatched in the ‘First World’ of the Cold War.”

Marjorie Perloff, Sadie Dernham Patek Professor of Humanities, Emerita, Stanford University, USA, and author of *The Edge of Irony: Modernism in the Shadow of the Habsburg Empire*

“Gordana Crnković writes with such gentle delight, such a captivating capacity to explore and explain, such a vigorous understanding of the way film unfolds in front of the viewer and inside their head that you want to grab the camera and start filming then and there.”

Milcho Manchevski, Academy Award-nominated writer, director, and photographer

“*Literature and Film from East Europe’s Forgotten “Second World”* delivers much more than its title promises. In addition to providing luminous and mostly jargon-free readings of major prose and cinematic texts, Crnković’s book tells us how and why to tackle big and sometimes difficult works of art, demonstrating that, even in our sound-bite-addicted age, engaging with such works can change our lives.”

Andrew Wachtel, Fellow, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, USA

“Gordana Crnković’s passion for literature and film shines through all these essays. In each of the 15 shorter ones she has penned a charming love letter to the film or book in question, and in each of the five longer ones she provides the deeper sort of scholarly (but still highly readable) analysis for which she is well known. Overall, she has done a great service to these outstanding artists of what used to be ‘Eastern Europe’ in bringing them to our attention.”

Ronelle Alexander, Professor Emerita, University of California, Berkeley, USA

Gordana P. Crnković is Professor of Slavic and of Comparative Literature, Cinema and Media at the University of Washington, Seattle, USA. Her writings include *Imagined Dialogues: Eastern European Literature in Conversation with American and English Literature* (2000), *Post-Yugoslav Literature and Film: Fires, Foundations, Flourishes* (2012), over 30 articles, as well as texts of the experimental video *Žagreb Everywhere*.

GORDANA P. CRNKOVIĆ

Literature and Film from East Europe’s Forgotten “Second World”

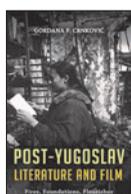
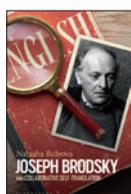
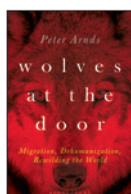
Essays of Invitation

GORDANA P. CRNKOVIĆ

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