The New Red Negro: The Literary Left And African American Poetry, 1930-1946

James Edward Smethurst

The New Red Negro: The Literary Left and African American Poetry, 1930-1946 surveys African American poetry from the onset of the Great Depression to the early 1950s. Professor Smethurst, the author of The New Red Negro: The Literary Left and African American Poetry, 1930-1946, offers a direct challenge to the paradigms that continue to dominate the study of African American literature. He scrutinizes a variety of texts: rediscovered poems, plays, essays, and stories; song lyrics; and African American cultural history. Smethurst offers a fresh understanding of the political and cultural contexts in which African American writers found themselves during this period. He also reveals the literary radicalism of African American writers, who sought to redefine African American culture and identity in the face of the Great Depression and the rise of Nazism. The New Red Negro: The Literary Left and African American Poetry, 1930-1946 provides a rich and detailed account of this important period in African American literature.