



24 Pieces of Coverage



53,233,162 Total Reach



## Millennials need a dose of DH Lawrence

The author's seriousness about sex should appeal to fans of Sally Rooney's *Normal People*, says **James Marriot**

Does anyone read DH Lawrence any more? For modern readers, and especially younger readers, the passionate reverence with which the novelist was once regarded is probably impossible to grasp. Yet in his last great heyday, the 1960s, Lawrence's works achieved a dual status almost never encountered in literature. They were ubiquitous and they were adored.

Lawrence owed his ubiquity to the *Lady Chatterley* trial in 1960, at which Penguin Books won the right to publish his novel *Lady Chatterley's Lover* against the charge that its explicit account of the sexual relationship between a gamekeeper and a lady violated the Obscene Publications Act. No more effective publicity campaign for a novel has yet been devised. The entire print run of *Lady Chatterley's Lover* sold out instantly and in the year after the trial two million copies of the book were sold — more than the Bible.

As the 1960s progressed and the spirit of free love washed across the country, Lawrence came more and more to seem not just a scandalous author but a cultural icon and prophet of the sexual revolution that was transforming British society.

Yet Lawrence was also adored for the charisma of his prose and what his fans took to be his quasi-mystical understanding of the human heart and its traumas. For Philip Larkin, Lawrence was "the greatest writer of this century, and in many things the greatest writer of all times". He is, Larkin wrote, "so flexible, vivid, tender, and sharp that there is no one to touch him... he had more genius — more of God, if you like — than any man could be expected to handle".

However, such enthusiasm is now rare. Lawrence's sales languish. Simon Winder, a former publishing director at Penguin, is all too familiar with the challenges of shifting copies of Lawrence's books. The problem, he says, is not a recent one. "I remember working at a bookshop in the 1980s, when I was in my teens, when we used to laugh at the yellowing copy of Lawrence's novel *Aura*, not that nobody ever bought. 'Penguin has tried 'several rejects', but to little avail."

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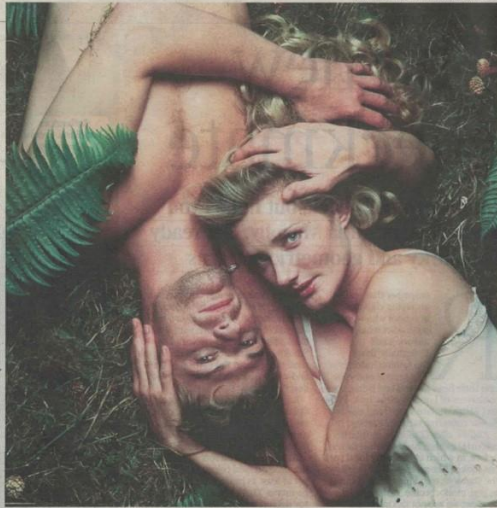
A new documentary on Sky Arts, *Lawrence: Sex, Exile and Greatness*, directed by Adrian Munsey, aims to reintroduce Lawrence to readers. The task is a formidable one, but in Munsey Lawrence has a champion with Lawrentian energy. Munsey "visibly" remembers reading Lawrence at university, and going back to the books in later life has been an "extraordinary experience and a challenge".

What Lawrence has going for him, from a film-maker's perspective, is a life that followed a trajectory utterly unlike that of any other leading

**Lawrence was the high priest of a 'phallic cult'**

20th-century author. This was firstly because of the poverty of his beginnings. Lawrence was born the fourth child of a wife-beating, barely literate Nottinghamshire colliar. His literary break came when a girlfriend, Jessie Chambers, sent him some of his poems to the prestigious journal *The English Review*. The editor of *The English Review* (no less a figure than the novelist Ford Madox Ford) published the poems, which were spotted by the publishing house of Heinemann, which got in touch asking for more work.

Lawrence's first novel, *Sons and Lovers*, was published to acclaim in 1913, by which time he had eloped to Europe with Frieda von Richthofen, the daughter of a German aristocrat. This was the beginning of a peripatetic lifestyle that was eventually turned into a quasi-exile driven by the hostility of English bourgeois morality to Lawrence's work. His next books, *The Rainbow* and *Women in Love*, were



Sean Bean and Joely Richardson in the 1993 BBC adaptation of *Lady Chatterley's Lover*. Below: Frieda and DH Lawrence at their house in Chagall, Mexico, in 1923

banned for obscenity upon publication in England. Before finally settling in Mexico (sort of), Lawrence journeyed restlessly through Sri Lanka, Australia, the United States, Sicily, the south of France, Austria and Germany.

Munsey says that making the film led him to a new recognition of Lawrence's "courage above all else". He says that when he visited Nottinghamshire he "could still feel the difference between privilege and not privilege and you could just imagine where he came from and what he was up against". Lawrence fought class snobbery and social ostracism all his life. "Lawrence knew what being cancelled really was," Munsey tells me.

Munsey's task may be made easier because Lawrence's "cancellation" in the 1970s is receding into history. This gives young readers a chance to come to him fresh. Frances Wilson, who is writing a biography of Lawrence, says the 1970s is receding into history. This gives young readers a chance to come to him fresh. Frances Wilson, who is writing a biography of Lawrence, says the 1970s is receding into history. This gives young readers a chance to come to him fresh.

"When I started working on Lawrence, everyone I told pulled a face as if there was something funny about writing on him. 'That sounds bad, but she thinks it's significant.' 'They didn't pull a face as though he was a complete c\*\*\*' like they used to when I was a student."

The vice-president of the DH Lawrence Society, Catherine Brown, who is interviewed in Munsey's documentary, agrees. "My students have often not read any Lawrence, so it's quite nice being able to start with a blank slate."

Much of the criticism of Lawrence, Brown thinks, was directed not at Lawrence himself so much as his armies of overenthusiastic male fans. The popular idea of Lawrence the man as a hyper-manly phallicist is wide of the mark too. As an adult Lawrence was sexually impotent and he was

self-conscious about his physical weakness since childhood. The sex in his books is far from straightforwardly heterosexual. Brown points to the quietly unexplained scene in *Sons and Lovers* in which Paul Morel has sex with his lover Clara while wearing a pair of her silk stockings.

Munsey says that "if you go through the sequence of *Rainbow*, *Women in Love*, *Lady Chatterley*, Lawrence was getting very interested in anality". After the *Chatterley* trial John Sparrow, the warden of All Souls College, Oxford, wrote that the jury would have certainly convicted had they noticed the book's anal sex scene.

Munsey says that Lawrence's comfort with sexual transgression and his sympathy with female sexual experience means that he has found that the novelist is nowadays more popular with women than men. Wilson agrees. "He had nothing to tell us about men and sex, but quite a lot to tell us about women and sex. The accusations of misogyny have always been baffling to me because he wrote so beautifully about female sexual pleasure."

I suggest that Lawrence might also benefit from a new seriousness in our attitudes towards sex. His super-earnestness (all electricity and flames) alienated sophisticated, ironic readers of the late 20th century, but there's a new mood of seriousness about sex and love.

I mention the BBC's recent adaptation of Sally Rooney's novel *Normal People* to Wilson, who agrees. "The reverence they had towards one another's bodies in *Normal People* was purely Lawrentian, it's true. Especially the seriousness with which they took sex... and the fact that sex was saying something deep about the soul." Perhaps this is his path back to redemption. DH Lawrence: the next Sally Rooney?



DH Lawrence: *Sex, Exile and Greatness* is on Sky Arts tomorrow at 7pm

SAVE £100  
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+ 5% off all books

### Why millennials should read DH Lawrence

As new documentaries on Sky Arts show, to understand the writer for a new generation, literary books editor James Marriot writes that Lawrence's seriousness about sex should appeal to fans of Sally Rooney's *Normal People*



Sean Bean and Joely Richardson in the 1993 BBC adaptation of *Lady Chatterley's Lover*

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The writer David Oja, whose memoir of trying to write a book about Lawrence, *The Secret of David Oja*, is published by the publisher who published *Normal People*, says that Lawrence was "so flexible, vivid, tender, and sharp that there is no one to touch him... he had more genius — more of God, if you like — than any man could be expected to handle".

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**MEDIA:** The Times  
(Interview feature)  
**REACH:** 365,880

**MEDIA:** Times Online  
(Interview feature)  
**REACH:** 8,300,000



Thursday 4 | Viewing guide

Critic's choice  
Classic Literature & Cinema

Sky Arts/Now TV, 9pm

The centrepiece of a big night for book lovers on Sky Arts is a new three-part series that explores how some of the greatest works of literature were adapted for the big screen. The subject of the first episode is romance, one of the most popular genres of literature, from the Greek classics to modern chick-lit, although the programme ignores Bridget Jones in favour of more refined offerings such as Tolstoy's *Anna Karenina* and Truman Capote's *Breakfast at Tiffany's*. We begin with *Romeo and Juliet*, Shakespeare's tale of star-crossed lovers, which has inspired three highly regarded cinematic adaptations — the 1936 film by George Cukor, Franco Zeffirelli's 1968 exuberant love story and then in 1996 Baz Luhrmann's inventive version starring Leonardo DiCaprio and Claire Danes, *right*. It then moves on

to Jane Austen, "the undoubted queen of romantic literature", and the various adaptations of *Pride and Prejudice* and *Emma*, including Amy Heckerling's 1995 film *Clueless*, which transposes the bones of *Emma* to an ultra-privileged Beverly Hills high school in the 1990s. The episode covers a lot of ground, maybe too much — no one novel is dwelt on for long enough, making it rather piecemeal in construction. Also tonight, at 7pm *DH Lawrence: Sex, Exile and Greatness* is a revealing profile of the author and there are two visits to last year's Cheltenham Literature Festival. At 11.50pm our very own Caitlin Moran discusses her book *More Than a Woman*, while at 12.50am there's an interview with Ian Hislop on the occasion of his 60th birthday.

Joe Clay

Viewing guide, by Joe Clay

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Dominic Maxwell  
TV review



**Sex, Exile and Greatness**

Sky Arts  
★★★★

**Stand Up & Deliver**

Channel 4  
★★★★

Is DH Lawrence the writer for these troubled times? I didn't imagine he was, for all that his blend of social realism and romantic intensity has gone from exalted to underrated, but then *DH Lawrence: Sex, Exile and Greatness* opened its account by putting his early 20th-century words into a startlingly present-day context. To grimly beautiful opening images of near-empty cities in the age of Covid-19 we heard the opening lines from *Lady Chatterley's Lover*: "Ours is essentially a tragic age, so we refuse to

take it tragically. The cataclysm has happened, we are among the ruins, we start to build up new little habitats, to have new little hopes." Remarkably pertinent. The only trouble was that, by starting so strongly, this film misled us into expecting more contemporary relevance than was really in its brief. What we got instead, as Adrian Munsey and Vance Goodwin's film zipped with tremendous pace and clarity through Lawrence's life, loves, travels and health problems, was a solid overview with an accent on the

sex. If I ever knew that he wrote the sexually charged *Lady Chatterley's Lover* while impotent from TB and knowing that his wife was having an affair with a younger man, I had forgotten it until reminded last night.

The extracts and commendations from the talking-head academics here made me want to read this son of a Nottingham miner's other successes: *Sons and Lovers*, *The Rainbow*, *Women in Love*. So perhaps it was the primetime slot and the topical opening that made me expect too much.

"It's very difficult to get a court to see the distinction between people behaving badly in a book and an author putting forth bad or wicked ideas," a long-ago John Mortimer told us. It was an idea that connects with continuing issues of censorship and offensiveness that, fair enough, there wasn't time to go deeper into here.

Over on Channel 4, five famous people (it can't be right to call Baroness Warsi a "celebrity") and their five comedian mentors were helping to raise money for charity in the second and last part of the excellent *Stand Up & Deliver*. I had wondered if the manufactured-reality format would be tacky. In fact, seeing them try to translate their lives and personalities into five-minute sets in front of a live audience provided a tremendous insight into the craft of comedy.

Yes, David Baddiel appeared oddly fixated on trying to persuade the Rev Richard Coles to swear. Yet the eventual difference between Coles and the fouler-mouthed Warsi was in part down to her extra levels of stridency and self-possession. Stand-up is about the words and the ease, but also the energy, the attitude.

Coles is a priest and broadcaster. Warsi is a politician. They are already professional public speakers. That gave them each a head start, yet they still had to travel a fair way to become anything like comedians. There was plenty to learn too from the different

MEDIA: The Times  
(Critics choice)

REACH: 365,880

MEDIA: Times Online  
(Critics choice)

REACH: 8,300,000

MEDIA: The Times  
(Review)

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# THE SUNDAY TIMES

## CRITICS' CHOICE

**DH Lawrence — Sex, Exile And Greatness (Sky Arts, 7pm)**

With monochrome pictures of the writer's peripatetic life in the 1920s, footage of Ludovic Kennedy and John Mortimer discussing the 1960 *Lady Chatterley's Lover* obscenity trial and modern academics discussing both, this is a documentary that exists comfortably across three periods. Perhaps this is unsurprising: Lawrence was a man out of time, with an appreciation of bodies and sex that he knew would not find an immediate audience: "I'm writing a tender book about love but it'll bring me nothing but hatred and abuse because no one will understand it."

*Helen Stewart*



Woman and man in love: Frieda and David Herbert Lawrence (Sky Arts, 7pm)

# The Sunday Telegraph

**DH Lawrence: Sex, Exile and Greatness**

SKY ARTS, 7PM

DH Lawrence was described by EM Forster as "the greatest imaginative novelist of our generation". This film uses readings from his work to explore a man who, dogged by ill health and poverty, was often persecuted for his explicit subject matter. *SH*

**MEDIA:** Sunday Times (Critics Choice)

**REACH:** 647,622

**MEDIA:** Sunday Telegraph (Viewing guide)

**REACH:** 248,288

**MEDIA:** Telegraph Online (Viewing guide)

**REACH:** 8,200,000

**Telegraph.co.uk**

**DH Lawrence: Sex Exile and Greatness**

*Sky Arts, 7pm*

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# The Daily Telegraph

network and the plot plays to the heightened drama of the genre.

## DH LAWRENCE: SEX EXILE AND GREATNESS

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## BANGERS AND CASH

*Yesterday, 8pm*

There are car shows for people who like to see things being blown-up and there are car shows



▲ The life of novelist DH Lawrence is explored

The Telegraph

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REVIEW

### Why I wish they had sexed up DH Lawrence

★★★★☆

The Sky Arts documentary was a passionate plod through the tumultuous life of the great author

By Chris Beckett  
March 2021 - 400 words

Lawrence's relationships but also his creative work. (Image: BBC)

There are straightforward arts documentaries and then there's DH Lawrence: Sex, Exile and Greatness (Sky Arts), a resolutely fibrous plod through the life and works of the author, which made me feel like I was at school again, desperately taking notes.

Born in 1885. Right. Dad was a drunk collier. Got it. Became a teacher. Ok. Stopped being a teacher. Ok. Every now and then a Methodist-looking professor in a shirt would pop up to quietly talk about sexual anguish or Freudian psychological despair, but, as if afraid of its own racy subject matter, the film took on the air of a Victorian schoolmaster during his class to snigger at the rude bits in The Bible. Never has passion been rendered so passionless. As Lawrence wrote: "We've denied the life of our bodies, so they, our bodies, deny life to us."

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It focused mainly on Lawrence's relationships and how they fed into his work - a failed early romance became Miriam and Paul in Sons and Lovers, the sexual liberation Lawrence found with his wife, Frieda, was channelled into *Lady Chatterley's Lover*.



DH Lawrence and Frieda Lawrence in Chaplin, Mexico, 1927. (Image: BBC)

He had stolen Frieda from his old modern languages professor, when he chanced upon her at home alone one day and she smothered him in Freud. He wrote *Chatterley* while Frieda was having an affair with their dashing Italian landlord. The academics popped up to remind us not to get hot under the collar, this was a serious literary exercise.

There were nuggets of interest - how could their not be, given Lawrence's tumultuous life? - but it was all presented with no gravity or butter. I was mainly tickled by two things: one, Lawrence describing how he "hated humanity" and wanted to shoot people with "invisible arrows of death", like a moody teenager. And, two, the woman caught by a reporter in 1967, coming out a bookshop with a copy of *Chatterley* in her hand. "I'm buying it for someone else," she said, hurriedly. She would have appreciated the strenuous tact of this documentary.

Related Topics

Frieda Lawrence, Sky

The Telegraph takes your comments but kindly requests you are on topic, constructive and respectful. Please ensure you are commenting in good faith.

Post a comment

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THE DAILY TELEGRAPH | Wednesday, March 24, 12:00-1:00PM (GMT)

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TELEVISION

### DH Lawrence: Sex, Exile and Greatness review — Lawrence is still potent, but this peaked too soon

Domini Marshall | Friday March 05 2021, 12:01pm, The Times

Share

DH Lawrence: Sex, Exile and Greatness  
Sky Arts  
★★★★☆

Stand Up & Deliver  
Channel 4  
★★★★★

Is DH Lawrence the writer for these troubled times? I didn't imagine that he was, for all that his blend of social realism and romantic intensity has gone from exalted to underrated, but then DH Lawrence: Sex, Exile and Greatness opened its account by putting his early 20th-century words into a startlingly present-day context.

The life of DH Lawrence received a solid overview with lots of sex. GETTY IMAGES

To grimly beautiful opening images of near-empty cities in the age of Covid-19 we heard the opening lines from *Lady Chatterley's Lover*: "Ours is essentially a tragic age, so we refuse to take it tragically. The cataclysm has happened, we are among the ruins, we start to build up new little habitats, to have new little hopes." Remarkably pertinent stuff. The only trouble was that, by starting so strongly, this documentary misled us into expecting more contemporary relevance than was really in its brief.

What we got instead, as Adrian Munsey and Vance Goodwin's 50-minute film zipped with tremendous pace and clarity through Lawrence's life, loves, travels and health problems, was a solid overview with an accent on the sex. If I ever knew that he wrote the sexually charged *Lady Chatterley's Lover* while impotent from tuberculosis and knowing that his free-loving wife, Frieda, was having an affair with a younger man, I had certainly forgotten it until reminded last night.

MEDIA: Daily Telegraph (Viewing guide)

REACH: 317,817

MEDIA: Telegraph Online (Viewing guide)

REACH: 8,300,000

MEDIA: Daily Telegraph (Review)

REACH: 317,817

MEDIA: Telegraph Online (Review)

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### DH Lawrence: Sex Exile and Greatness

*Sky Arts, 7pm*

DH Lawrence was described by EM Forster as "the greatest imaginative novelist of our generation". This film uses readings from his work to explore a man who, dogged by ill health and poverty, was often persecuted for his explicit subject matter.





# Thursday television & radio

## DH Lawrence: Sex, Exile and Greatness 7pm, Sky Arts

A straightforward gallop through the life of the author of *Lady Chatterley's Lover* begins with that novel's epochal obscenity trial in 1960. A succession of academics help to tell the story of a writer described by EM Forster as "the greatest imaginative novelist of our generation", with readings from his letters, poems and novels.

## 10 DH LAWRENCE: SEX, EXILE AND GREATNESS THURS 7PM, SKY ARTS

The author of *Lady Chatterley's Lover* and *Women in Love* was pilloried for his explicit rule-breaking and eventually exiled from England – but was he judged too harshly by his peers? This documentary argues that Lawrence was a victim of his own poverty and sadness.

## D H Lawrence: Sex, Exile and Greatness

Thursday 4 March, 7pm, Sky Arts



D H Lawrence – Sex, Exile and Greatness (Photo: Abacus Media/University of Nottingham)

The author of *Lady Chatterley's Lover* and *Women in Love* was pilloried for his explicit rule-breaking and eventually exiled from England – but was he judged too harshly by his peers? This documentary argues that Lawrence was a victim of his own poverty and sadness – apparently making his work all the more incredible. [i](#)

7pm, Sky Arts

### i's TV newsletter: what you should watch next

Sign up

A straightforward gallop through the life of the author of *Lady Chatterley's Lover* begins with that novel's epochal obscenity trial in 1960. The argument over whether DH Lawrence was a pornographer or a pioneering literary genius raged throughout the author's own lifetime. A succession of academics helps to tell the story of a writer described by EM Forster as "the greatest imaginative novelist of our generation". There are readings from Lawrence's letters, poems and novels, such as his disillusioned comment in 1919: "I hate humanity so much I can only think kindly of the dead".



### Read More

BBC Three's return is long overdue. Why did it take until *Normal People* to prove 'youth' TV is for everyone?

MEDIA: i newspaper  
(Viewing guide)

REACH: 215,640

MEDIA: i newspaper  
(Viewing guide)

REACH: 215,640

MEDIA: i News Online  
(Viewing guide x 2)

REACH: 6,931,000





# RadioTimes

**THURSDAY** MARCH 4

**ARTS**

**DH Lawrence: Sex, Exile And Greatness**

Sky Arts, 7pm

The author of *Sons And Lovers* and *Women In Love* considered himself to be an outsider; perhaps because he was unafraid of challenging

conventions – as the reaction to his most famous and controversial work, *Lady Chatterley's Lover*, proved.

This documentary explores how Lawrence followed his own path in life and literature. ★★★★★

**DH Lawrence: Sex, Exile and Greatness**

7.00pm Sky Arts

**DOCUMENTARY** A sensitive, no-frills documentary rattles through the life and work of DH Lawrence, highlighting his poetry as well as his novels. With sharp contributions from academics, it feels like a televised *In Our Time* – no bad thing.

In archive footage, John Mortimer talks us through the legal issues involved in the 1960 obscenity trial over *Lady Chatterley's Lover*, and the programme takes in Lawrence's wider battles with the censors, his romantic affairs and his work ethic.

Best of all, the readings from letters, poems and novels give a sense of his distinctive voice and his restless efforts to escape the bounds of English society. **DB**

**MEDIA:** Mail on Sunday  
(viewing guide)

**REACH:** 1,054,190

**MEDIA:** Radio Times  
(Thursday choices)

**REACH:** 468,608



# BBC RADIO Nottingham



## The Breach House

D.H. Lawrence's Childhood Home  
28 Garden Road, Eastwood

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DH Lawrence: Sex, Exile and Greatness

Mar 4, 2021 - Mar 4, 2021

A revealing new documentary, DH Lawrence: Sex, Exile and Greatness, produced by Odyssey Television for Sky Arts airs at 7pm on Thursday 4th March. With readings from and explorations of his work, the programme shines a light on the miner's son from Eastwood who became one of the greatest writers ...

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Posted on Feb 22, 2021

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A revealing new documentary, DH Lawrence: Sex, Exile and Greatness, produced by Odyssey Television for Sky Arts airs at 7pm on Thursday 4th March. With readings from and explorations of his work, the programme shines a light on the miner's son from Eastwood who became one of the greatest writers of the twentieth century. Sky Arts is available free to view on Channel 11.

**MEDIA:** BBC Radio Nottingham (Interview with Adrian)

**REACH:** 162,000

**MEDIA:** The Breach House (News item)

**REACH:** 25,000

**MEDIA:** The Haggs Farm (News item)

**REACH:** 16,000

Thursday 4th March 7pm



dhlawrencehaggsfarm • Follow



dhlawrencehaggsfarm A revealing new documentary, DH Lawrence: Sex, Exile and Greatness, produced by Odyssey Television for Sky Arts airs at 7pm on Thursday 4th March. With readings from and explorations of his work, the programme shines a light on the miner's son from Eastwood who became one of the greatest writers of the twentieth century. Part of the programme focuses on Lawrence's portrayal of women influenced by those in his life, including Jessie Chambers. Sky Arts is available free to view on Channel 11. @skyarts



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## NEWS

Sky Arts Documentary 4th March 2021



**D H LAWRENCE: SEX, EXILE AND GREATNESS**

Odyssey Television's new documentary about the life of D H Lawrence premieres on Sky Arts Thursday 4th March

Novelist, poet, social critic and above all in his own words an "outsider" D H Lawrence's life is now explored in a revealing new documentary **D H LAWRENCE: SEX, EXILE AND GREATNESS** made by Odyssey Television and premiering on Sky Arts

Author of classics such *Sons and Lovers*, *The Rainbow*, *Women in Love* and *Lady Chatterley's Lover*, Lawrence was initially helped by members of the Bloomsbury group but his sense of being an outsider led him to follow his own path, not least because he was not afraid in his writing and in his life of challenging established and conventional values.

Partly because of his early death, partly because of the harassment he suffered, and partly because of the poverty he endured, there is a deep sense of sadness underlying his life - despite his brilliance and enormous talent.

**D H LAWRENCE: SEX, EXILE AND GREATNESS** explores Lawrence's work which has produced both divergent and demanding reactions. *Lady Chatterley's Lover*, the novel which was the subject of a landmark obscenity trial, has influenced popular culture probably greater than any other new written. Deeply sensitive yet at times aggressive, sometimes accused of misogyny and worse, Lawrence was a writer of incredible ability, consistently challenging literary norms and boundaries brave in his personal, intellectual, and creative life.

**D H LAWRENCE: SEX, EXILE AND GREATNESS** is an exploration of a man who, dogged by ill-health and poverty, was often persecuted for his explicit subject matter and his uncompromising sense of personal truth. He eventually left England and became an exile, travelling extensively throughout the world with his wife Frieda and settling in New Mexico before returning to Europe and dying in France at the age of just 44.

**D H LAWRENCE: SEX, EXILE AND GREATNESS** was produced and directed by Adrian Murray and Anne Kennedy. © Odyssey Television Media.



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### Odyssey Television Announce New Documentary D H LAWRENCE: SEX, EXILE AND GREATNESS Will Premiere On Sky Arts This March

11 February 2021

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**Sky Arts explores the life of D. H. Lawrence**

Shawn Linden March 4, 2021 @H.Lawrence

Best on the Box highlight for March 4.

**One to Watch**

Sky Arts looks at the life of novelist, poet, social critic D H Lawrence in a new documentary. His early death, the harassment he suffered, and the poverty he endured means that there is a deep sense of sadness underlying his life – despite his enormous talent.

Author of classics such as *Sons and Lovers*, *The Rainbow*, *Women in Love* and *Lady Chatterley's Lover*, Lawrence was initially helped by members of the Bloomsbury group but his sense of being an outsider led him to follow his own path, not least because he was not afraid in his writing and in his life of challenging established and conventional values.

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D H Lawrence: *Sex, Exile and Greatness* is an exploration of a man who, dogged by ill-health and poverty, was often persecuted for his explicit subject matter and his uncompromising sense of personal truth. He eventually left England and became an exile, travelling extensively throughout the world with his wife Frieda and settling in New Mexico before returning to Europe and dying in France at the age of just 44.

The documentary was produced by Odyssey Television and has a runtime of 50 minutes.

**D H Lawrence: Sex, Exile and Greatness, Sky Arts, 7pm**

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**D H LAWRENCE: SEX, EXILE AND GREATNESS** (Odyssey Television). Battling with the censors, Lawrence has difficulty getting published. Free love. Four letter words. It was all too explicit and far too improper. "Is it a book you ever wish your wife or your servants to read?" The question put by the QC for Prosecution during the 1960 obscenity trial was laughed out of court. Forget *Lady Chatterley* and her gamekeeper. *Sons and Lovers*, *The Rainbow* and *Women in Love* are far better written and far more erotic.

Royal Society of Literature @RSLiterature

D.H. Lawrence's life is now explored in a revealing new documentary D H LAWRENCE: SEX, EXILE AND GREATNESS. This fascinating programme is premiered this Thursday on @SkyArts!

10:00 AM · Mar 4, 2021 · Buffer

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MEDIA: Fan Carpet (News item)

REACH: 25,000

MEDIA: ATV Today (News item)

REACH: 30,000

MEDIA: Royal Society of Literature (Twitter news item)

REACH: 41,000

MEDIA: Mature Times (News item)

REACH: 20,000