

The Metaphysical Poets

Including works by **John Donne • Andrew Marvell
and George Herbert**

Read by **Nicholas Boulton • Jonathan Keeble and others**

John Donne, Andrew Marvell, George Herbert, Thomas Carew and Henry Vaughan: these were some of the seventeenth-century writers who devised a new form of poetry full of wit, intellect and grace, which we now call Metaphysical poetry. They wrote about their deepest religious feelings and their carnal pleasures in a way that was radically new and challenging to their readers. Their work was largely misunderstood or ignored for two centuries, until twentieth-century critics rediscovered it, finding in it a deep originality and a willingness to experiment that made much conventional poetry look merely decorative. This collection provides the perfect introduction to this diverse group of fascinating poets.

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