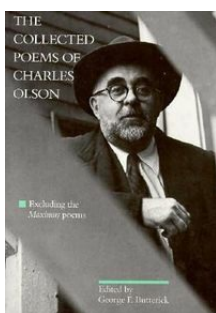


# THE COLLECTED POEMS

A seminal figure in post-World War II literature, Charles Olson (1910-1970) has helped define the postmodern sensibility. His poetry is marked by an almost limitless range of interest and extraordinary depth of feeling. Olson's themes are among the largest conceivable: empowering love, political responsibility, historical discovery and cultural reckoning, the wisdom of dreams and the transformation of consciousness—all carried in a voice both intimate and grand, American and timeless, impassioned and coolly demanding. Until recently, Olson's reputation as a major figure...



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## Reader's Opinions

The poems Olson published in his lifetime were a fraction of what he wrote. In this volume, editor George Butterick interleaves nearly all the surviving typescripts with the poems from Olson's previously published collections, creating a giant single edition that runs to over 600 pages. On the plus...

The collection of poems is good, but given Olson's insistence on the importance of layout to the meaning of the poem, it's unfortunate that it is impossible to tell how the original poems would have appeared.