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# THE CELESTIAL TRADITION

A Study of Ezra Pound's The Cantos

### **Demetres Tryphonopoulos**

Despite the painstaking work of Pound scholars, the *mythos* of *The Cantos* has yet to be properly understood—primarily, the author proposes, because its occult sources have not been examined sufficiently.

Drawing upon archival as well as recently published material, this study traces Pound's intimate engagement with specific occultists (W. B. Yeats, Allen Upward, Alfred Orage, and G. R. S. Mead) and their ideas, and argues that speculative occultism was a major factor in the evolution of Pound's extraordinary aesthetic and religious sensibility, much noticed in Pound criticism.

In exploring and attempting to understand Pound's "occultism" and its implications to his [Pound's] *oetwre*, Tryphonopoulos sheds new light upon one of the great works of modern Western literature.

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Professor Jack Barbera English Department The University of Mississippi University, MS 38677 United States of America

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Volume 23, Number 1, January 1992

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The co-editor of this issue is Kenneth Ramchand, University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad.

Submissions should reach ARIEL by 15 September 1992.