

Studies in Revolution and Literature

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This global-focused series seeks to present a set of timely interventions at the crossover between radical politics—insurrectionary, anarchist, communist, Marxist—and the writing of literature: poetry, theater, or the novel, but also blogs, pamphlets, manifestos, and other texts. Starting from the idea that literature is one area among others in which people become conscious of and explore surrounding antagonisms, the editors invite contributions (full-length books, edited collections, and the shorter form, Pivot) that will address specific structures for understanding, intensifying, and prolonging revolutionary engagement.

Víctor Vich

César Vallejo

A Poet of the Event

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Cover illustration: Cesar Vallejo. Probably in Berlin, 1928. Detail.

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They've mistaken me for my cry.
César Vallejo

Your name will be immortal.

—Abraham Valderomar

The fact that we understand and value Vallejo is not a product of chance. Nor is it a consequence of his genius alone. It is rather a proof that, along these cosmopolitan and ecumenical paths, which we are so much criticized for, we are getting closer and closer to ourselves.

—José Carlos Mariátegui

Vallejo was the beginning and the end.

—José María Arguedas

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Praise for *César Vallejo*

“This book reveals that the political reading of Vallejo’s poetry demands that we radically rethink politics itself. The singular ethical force of this poetry resides there. We have to think reality from the excess, that is, from what does not fit in ideological schematisms, nor in the concepts themselves. With a great pedagogical spirit, through lucid theoretical expositions and precise commentaries on the texts, this book shows us that Vallejo wrote a poetry that is absolutely alive for our times: a poetry that demands that we live in a different way.”

—William Rowe, *Birkbeck College, University of London*

“From this careful study, César Vallejo emerges as a poet-witness of the event, ready to assume the constitutive flaw of the human being but capable of affirming the radical possibility of a communist politics of equality. By following the philosophy of Alain Badiou, as well as the clues of other thinkers (from Marx to Mariátegui, from Butler to Žižek), Víctor Vich has succeeded in producing an original, new, and other Vallejo.”

—Bruno Bosteels, *Columbia University*

CONTENTS

1	Introduction	1
2	A Poet of the Ethics of the Real	7
3	A Poet of the Language Crisis	37
4	A Poet of the “Part With No Part”	59
5	A Poet Who Announces the Event	83
6	A Poet of the Communist Event	105
7	A Poet of Lost Causes	145
8	Vallejo and Political Art Beyond Death (Conclusions)	173
	List of Analyzed Poems Per Chapter	181
	Spanish Versions of the Analyzed Poems	183

Bibliography	223
Index of Authors	225
Index of Categories	227