Foreign Places, Intimate Spaces Flânerie and Dandyism's Modern Progeny

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Abstract

While the 19th century saw the rise of the flâneur and the dandy – characters whose observations of city life, both passionate and indifferent, expanded social knowledge of urbanity and modernism – the 20th century supposedly saw the demise of both categories. This paper will revisit the ideas of flânerie and dandyism in the context of women characters in the 20th century surrounded by leisure, social, and urban settings. Sydney Warren in Elizabeth Bowen's The Hotel and Lorelei Lee and Dorothy Shaw in Anita Loos' Gentlemen Prefer Blondes are diverse examples of young British and American women travelling in Europe in the 1920s.

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