

Ralf Webb

Ralf Webb (b. 1991) is a poet, writer and editor based in London. His debut collection of poems, *Rotten Days in Late Summer* was published by Penguin in 2021, and was shortlisted for the Felix Dennis Prize for Best First Collection. Webb's poetry and critical writing has appeared in the likes of the *London Review of Books*, *Fantastic Man*, *The Poetry Review*, and the *Guardian*.



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Publications

Non-Fiction

Publication Details	Notes
STRANGE RELATIONS: MASCULINITY, SEXUALITY AND ART IN MID-CENTURY AMERICA 2024 Sceptre	In October 1960, James Baldwin and John Cheever spoke on a panel together at San Francisco State College. The troubled state of American society was under discussion, which Baldwin incisively diagnosed as a 'failure of the masculine sensibility'. Strange Relations explores this crisis in mid-century masculinity and the lives and works of four bisexual writers who fought to express and embody alternate possibilities. Building on Walt Whitman's philosophy of the love between men, Ralf Webb considers the ways in which Tennessee Williams and Carson McCullers, as well as Cheever and Baldwin, resisted in their art, as well as in their relationships, the damaging expectations of contemporary gender and sexuality. With a curious, intelligent and sensitive gaze, Ralf Webb sheds new light on each writer. Together, these artists offer a powerful and moving argument for a transformative new masculinity, grounded in fluidity, love and intimacy.