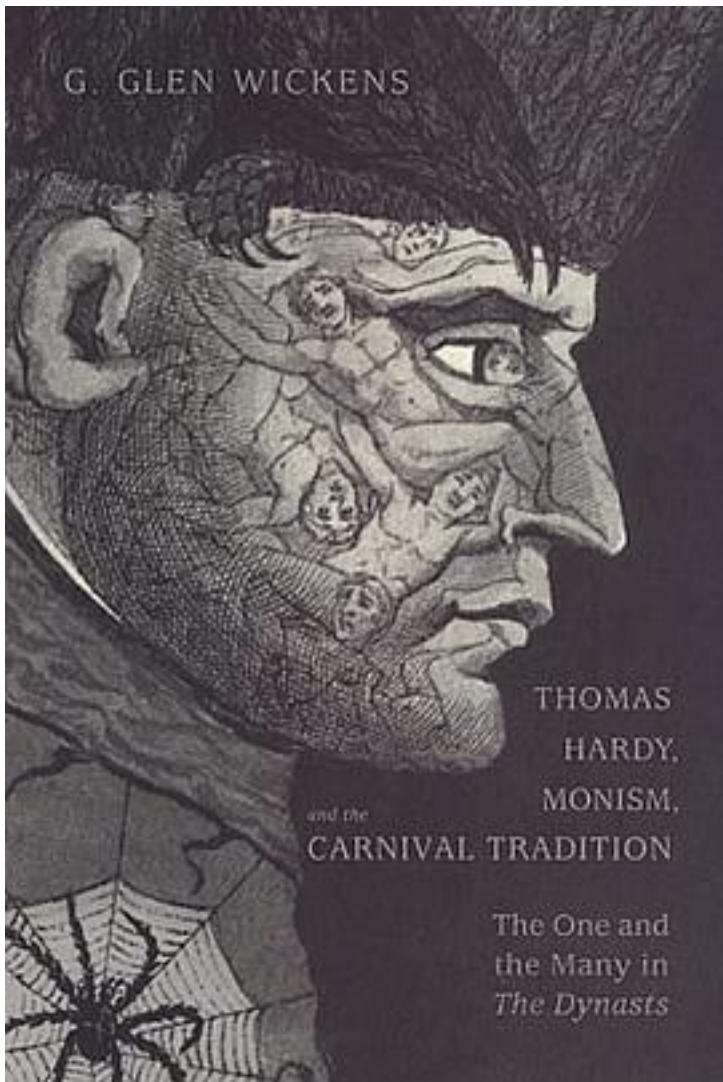


# Thomas Hardy, Monism, and the Carnival Tradition



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出版者:University of Toronto Press, Scholarly Publishing Division

出版时间:2002-7-27

装帧:Hardcover

isbn:9780802048646

In this original and scrupulously researched book, G. Glen Wickens offers a new reading of a work which is often ignored by critics and students of Victorian literature, Thomas Hardy's *The Dynasts*. Wickens explores the monistic viewpoint of *The Dynasts* through reference to 19th and early 20th philosophical writings which have never before been applied to Hardy's philosophy. Using insights derived from the critical theory of Mikhail Bakhtin - in particular his concept of carnival - Wickens also counters the usual view of *The Dynasts* as failed epic or tragedy, and instead situates the work as a novel within the serio-comical genres. In doing so, he brings out new, violent implications to Bakhtin's theory of laughter and carnival. *Thomas Hardy, Monism, and the Carnival Tradition* is the first book-length study of Thomas Hardy's *The Dynasts* since 1977. It will be of interest to Hardy scholars, critics of Bakhtin, and to readers interested in monist philosophy or nineteenth century history.

作者介绍:

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