

Introduction

The present volume includes three bibliographies documenting the reception of the English writer Edward Morgan Forster (1879–1970): a bibliography of scholarly publications in the period 1975–2025 (almost 1,900 entries), a bibliography of translations of his works from the first Swedish translation published in 1925 to the Ukrainian translation published in December 2025 (over 400 entries), and a list of adaptations of Forster's works into a variety of media, from literary fiction and graphic novels through stage and radio plays to film and TV adaptations. The aim is to cover the reception of Forster's works and biography in three aspects – academic, through scholarly publications; artistic, through a variety of adaptations; and international, through the translations of his works.

The book is mainly addressed to scholars interested in English literature of the 20th century. However, as Forster's work has been the subject of research in such varied fields as postcolonial studies, queer studies, translation, or adaptation studies, to mention but a few, the target audience expands far beyond literary scholars. The very number and variety of publications included in the bibliography of critical studies prove how many possible readers are out there, for whom this volume, as I hope, will be of great value in their research.

The volume is published exclusively as an e-book, as its practical value is greatly enhanced by the introduction of links to a vast array of materials available online. Thanks to the digital references, the bibliography turns from a mere list of titles into a massive anthology of thousands of pages of academic publications dealing with Forster, his oeuvre, and his life. As access to some of them may be limited for some users, wherever possible the reader will find multiple links for a single publication. Links to audio and audiovisual materials such as radio plays or movies have also been included in the bibliography of adaptations.

E. M. Forster studies are a remarkably vibrant field of literary studies with dozens of books, papers, chapters, and articles published every year. In the recent years, their number has settled at approximately 50 publications yearly (2021

was exceptional with 72, while in 2024 there were exactly 50), or one almost every week. The present bibliography includes 1,880 entries but, regardless of all efforts, it is still incomplete as new publications continue to appear.

The tradition of book-size bibliographies of materials dealing with the works of Forster started in 1973 with Alfred Borrello's *E. M. Forster: An Annotated Bibliography of Secondary Materials* (Metuchen NJ: The Scarecrow Press, Inc). It was soon followed by the most comprehensive bibliography so far, *E. M. Forster: An Annotated Bibliography of Writings About Him* (De Kalb: Northern Illinois University Press 1976), compiled and edited by Frederick P. W. McDowell. It was only partly complemented in 1982 by McDowell himself in the article "Fresh Woods and Pastures New: Forster Criticism and Scholarship since 1975", and further, in 1986, by Evelyne Hanquart in her "Complement de bibliographie critique 1975–1985" (in *Un humaniste dans la Cité moderne: E. M. Forster*). Since then, there have been no further attempts to take stock of Forsterian studies.

The actual starting point of the present *Bibliography of Critical Studies* is McDowell's *Annotated Bibliography*, as the later bibliographies mentioned above are not generally available. Consequently, some missing entries for the period from 1973 to 1975 have also been included while the present work aims to list all known publications from 1976 to those scheduled to appear in 2026. It differs from the previous attempts in two ways: it is not an annotated bibliography, and it includes only published academic works.

The bibliography includes chapters published in collected volumes or in books by a single author. In the latter cases, the title of the specific Forster-related chapter is provided, and the name of the author is not repeated in the entry as the editor/author of the book. The names of authors and the titles are quoted as they appear in respective publications, with no attempt to set them to a single format. In case of republished articles, bibliographical data is provided for both publications. All University Presses are mentioned as UP only. The bibliographical material has been collected from online databases, library catalogues, and bibliographies included in related publications. Although all reasonable efforts to make sure all the data is correct have been made, I must apologise in advance for any unintended faults.

The international reception of Forster's works through translations started with the 1925 publication of the Swedish translation of *A Passage to India*. Translations of this novel dominated the first two of the subsequent decades; *A Room with a View* and *The Machine Stops* were first translated in 1947, *Where Angels Fear to Tread* in 1948. These days one can find almost all of Forster's works in translation, including collections of essays, radio talks, or even the unfinished early novels. The most complete catalogue is available in Italian and French, while Japanese has the largest number of translations with 35 books, followed closely by Spanish with 34 books. The most often translated novel is *A Passage to India* – 82 times into 37 languages. Many of these translations have been in

print for many years, and some have been published in several countries, such as the second German translation of *A Passage to India* published in four different states. Within a century, over 400 translations were published in 43 languages. Ukrainian is the most recent addition to this list, as *A Room with a View* was published in Kyiv in December 2025.

The first list of translations of the works of Forster was included in *A Bibliography of E. M. Forster* by Brownlee J. Kirkpatrick (the first edition: London: Rupert Hart-Davis 1965 and the second: Oxford: Clarendon Press 1985). For obvious reasons, it includes approximately a fourth of those listed in the present volume. A list of Italian translations was included in Annamaria Lamarra's *Invito alla lettura di Forster* published in 2003. The present bibliography concentrates on book editions of translations – it includes translations of novels and collections of short stories and essays. However, it does not list translations of individual short stories or essays published in literary magazines or in miscellaneous collections by various authors with one significant exception.

The novella *The Machine Stops*, first published in 1909, proved a difficult case. From the moment it first appeared in press, it has been published in three different ways – in literary journals or magazines, in various collections – either of Forster's short stories or science-fiction stories by various authors – and as an independent book. In order to limit the number of duplicate entries (and due to lack of access to the lists of contents of most short story collections) the section dedicated to the novella includes only the first two instances. Consequently, there are 29 translations listed under the heading *The Machine Stops*. However, the novella was also published in each of the five translated editions of the collection *The Eternal Moment and Other Stories* (1928) as well as in the eight editions of *Collected Short Stories* (1947). It is probably included in most of the twenty other collections of Forster's stories as well (some of which are actually titled *The Machine Stops and Other Stories* in various languages), but it is impossible to tell whether in each of these instances it is a new translation. Still, we may quite safely assume that there are at least fifty translations of the novella into twenty languages, and the number keeps growing.

Unlike in Kirkpatrick's *Bibliography*, here the translations have been divided by the 23 originally published works rather than by the target languages. This has, however, proved somewhat problematic in the case of over forty collections of short stories. Forster published in his lifetime two such volumes, each comprising six short stories (*The Celestial Omnibus and Other Stories* in 1911 and *The Eternal Moment and Other Stories* in 1928), which were combined in 1947 as *Collected Short Stories* including twelve stories. The fourth volume, *The Life to Come and Other Stories*, appeared posthumously in 1972, bringing the total number to 25.

As it turns out, publishers and translators exhibit somewhat excessive creativity, first in the selection of short stories for their publications and then when

choosing the titles of their volumes. The collections included in the bibliography consist of any number between two and twenty-five short stories (sometimes supplemented by a selection of essays) and often use random titles chosen from among the included stories. Sometimes, the title is that of one of the three original selections (1911, 1928, and 1972), but the contents differ. Russian publishers made my task even more complex by combining in single volumes novels, short stories, and essays. The proposed solution was to relegate all the collections which do not replicate exactly the contents of one of the four original ones to the final section “Various Collections of Short Stories and Essays”.

The bibliography of translations started modestly as an appendix to a paper about the Polish reception of Forster’s works I published in 2010. I expanded it thanks to the Index Translationum, a website sadly discontinued by the UNESCO over a decade ago, and then using Kirkpatrick’s *Bibliography*. This became the basis for the online bibliography published on the website of the International E. M. Forster Society in 2017 with an invitation to submit any missing translations. The present version has now been expanded and updated thanks to access to the catalogues of forty National Libraries, various online bookshops, and other sources such as social media, as well as thanks to personal communication with translators, of whom I have been one since the publication of my translation of the short story “The Classical Annex” in the year 2000. I am extremely grateful for their help in locating little known or the most recent publications.

The final part of the present volume, “Adaptations of E. M. Forster’s Oeuvre and Original Works Inspired by His Oeuvre and Life”, has no precedent. The purpose was to chart a largely unknown territory. Although the material collected here is the result of years of meticulous research as well as random discoveries in various sources,¹ these lists must still be treated as work in progress due to the elusive character of the majority of the artistic endeavours they include. Stage adaptations leave little trace once they go off stage, very few plays adapted from novels are ever published, radio-plays and TV adaptations tend to disappear without a trace after they are broadcast (few are available commercially although now more and more remain on the Internet), shorts are most often available during film festivals, and only a fraction of their number ends up in widely accessible services, such as YouTube or Vimeo, or is released commercially. Consequently, the present lists are intended as an introduction and invitation to further research rather than a complete and final product.

The aim of this bibliography is to present the picture as broadly as possible, including all the instances – over one hundred and twenty of them – where

¹ Such as the Internet Movie Database (movies, TV programmes, and recorded opera performances), The Playwrights Database Doollee (plays and theatrical adaptations), BBC Genome Project (British radio broadcasts and adaptations), YouTube, Academia.edu, ResearchGate, the online bookstore Amazon, various social media, and many other sources.

Forster's influence can be traced in a variety of works of art in a period of over a century. I have already presented the general assumptions behind the selection in my paper "Inspiration, Influence, Dialogue. E. M. Forster and His Oeuvre in Contemporary Culture", where an interested reader will find more arguments and sources.

Edward Morgan Forster continues to gain popularity all over the world, of which the present book is an ample proof. It is probably enough to mention the nine new translations which appeared in 2025 alone and a new TV series based on *A Passage to India*, currently in production by the BBC. I hope that this book will help to increase the popularity even further and will be a valuable assistance for all those who want to make Forster the subject of their academic work. Finally, I have to thank all those who assisted me in this work over the years and without whom none of this would be possible.

Krzysztof Fordoński