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The Provincialism of Dominant Literature The British and the French in the 19th Century

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Britain and France dominated the production of nineteenth-century European novels. They published half the total European output but they were modest importers of other people's work. British and French intellectual élites studied other countries and other cultures and helped provide their empires with the necessary knowledge but, when it came to fiction they remained confined in their own national concerns. They produced enough culture to feed themselves and to feed others – a position similar, in the twentieth century, of that taken by the USA.

Donald Sassoon is Professor of Comparative European History and author of the widely acclaimed "The Culture of the Europeans", published in 2006.



The lecture is followed by a wine reception, kindly sponsored by the

