

Adam Mars-Jones

Writer - Fiction and Non-fiction

Adam Mars-Jones was born in 1954. He was educated at Westminster and Cambridge. His first collection of stories, [LANTERN LECTURE](#), won a Somerset Maugham Award in 1982 and was followed by his first novel, *PILCROW*, in 2008 (Faber & Faber).



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Publications

Fiction

Publication Details	Notes
Kid Gloves: A Voyage Round My Father 2015 Particular Books	<p>When his widowed father - once a high court judge and always a formidable figure - drifted into vagueness if not dementia, the writer Adam Mars-Jones took responsibility for his care. Intimately trapped in the London flat where the family had always lived, the two men entered an oblique new stage in their relationship.</p> <p>In the aftermath of an unlooked-for intimacy, Mars-Jones has written a book devoted to particular emotions and events. <i>Kid Gloves</i> is a highly entertaining book about (among other things) families, the legal profession, and the vexed question of Welsh identity. It is necessarily also a book about the writer himself - and the implausible, long-delayed moment, some years before, when he told his sexually conservative father about his own orientation, taking the homophobic bull by the horns. The supporting cast includes Ian Fleming, the Moors Murderers, Jacqueline Bisset and Gilbert O'Sullivan, the singer-songwriter whose trademark look kept long shorts from their rightful place on the fashion pages for so many years.</p>

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CEDILLA 2011 Faber & Faber	Cedilla takes up the narrative where PILCROW left off. John Cromer launches himself into the wider world of mainstream education, and comes upon deeper joys, subtler setbacks.
PILCROW 2008 Faber & Faber	Mars-Jones's first novel in fifteen years is a tender, dense and almost Proustian depiction of the difficult life of John Cromer, a precocious but brittle-boned and bedbound sufferer of a rare genetic disorder called Still's disease. Under the nom de plume 'Pilcrow', he evokes the experience of growing up disabled and gay in the 1950s - circumstances which force John from an early age to develop an intense and vivid internal world.
THE WATERS OF THIRST 1993 Faber & Faber	William thought trust was a good idea; Terry needed a lover who would keep his little secret. But how does accidental monogamy survive in a world ruled by illness and denial?
MONOPOLIES OF LOSS 1992 Faber & Faber	Nine short stories tackling the ethical implications of writing about AIDS, four of which previously appeared in THE DARKER PROOF.
THE DARKER PROOF: STORIES FROM A CRISIS 1988 Faber	The Darker Proof, an anthology of stories about suffering with the HIV virus, was first published in 1987 to critical acclaim. This updated version, which includes stories by Adam Mars-Jones and Edmund White, was published in 1988.
LANTERN LECTURE 1981 Faber & Faber	A collection of short stories for which the author was awarded the Somerset Maugham Award.

Non-Fiction

Publication Details Notes

Noriko Smiling 2011 Notting Hill Editions	This remarkable essay in narrative reconstruction elicits a world of meaning on a master of Japanese cinema - Ozu. Adam Mars-Jones gives a virtuoso comeback performance as that lost figure from the early days of cinema: the film explainer.
BLIND BITTER HAPPINESS 1997 Chatto & Windus	Adam Mars-Jones shares his views on subjects as diverse as Gore Vidal; Martin Amis; Ian McEwan; gay fiction; queer politics; fear of the bomb; Marc Almond; and his mothers.