

MAURICE ROWDON is a British writer and has published twelve books. His novels include HELLEBORE THE CLOWN, OF SINS AND WINTER, PERIMETER WEST (about West Berlin) and AFTERWARDS. His biographies include LEONARDO DA VINCI and LORENZO THE MAGNIFICENT. His history works include THE SILVER AGE OF VENICE (which he made into a 55 minute BBC film) and THE SPANISH TERROR, a study of sixteenth-century religious persecution. His travel books include ITALIAN SKETCHES, A ROMAN STREET and THE COLLINS COMPANION GUIDE TO UMBRIA. His latest book, ELKE AND BELAM, was on animal intelligence.

His publishers include, in the US, Putnam, Regnery, Praeger, St Martin's Press. In Britain they include Chatto and Windus, Heinemann, Gollancz, Weidenfeld, Collins, Constable and Macmillan. His agents have included Georges Borchardt, Elaine Markson and Harold Ober Associates. He is at present represented in the US by John Pickering and in Britain by David Bolt Associates.

Rowdon has an MA from Keble College Oxford in Philosophy, Politics and Economics, and after leaving Oxford he became Lecturer in English Literature at Baghdad University. He later began living in Italy, where he still has a home. For the past two years or more he has been resident in the San Francisco area.

His work in the theater includes ESKIMO TRANCE at the Victoria Theater in Stoke on Trent, England, directed by Peter Cheeseman, with Anton Vogel and Robert Powell. He later directed this play with the same cast at the Mercury Theater, London. His play MAHLER, with Vladek Sheybal in the lead, was produced at the Arts Theater, London, directed by Peter Watson, and Rowdon later directed it at the Studio Theater in Munich, Germany, where he was director of English-speaking productions.

He is at present working on a new comedy GURU GURU, and preparing a new book in the same genre as HOW TO STOP DYING IN CALIFORNIA, to be called THE TWISTED WORLD OF SURROGATE SEX.