

# T. S. ELIOT SOCIETY

## NEWS & NOTES

Number 20

Summer 1993

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### ANNUAL MEETING IN ST. LOUIS

The fourteenth annual meeting of the T. S. Eliot Society begins on Friday September 24 and continues through Sunday September 26. This year's meeting features several papers and presentations by members of the Society, the Memorial Lecture by Christopher Ricks, a Saturday evening reception and dinner, and an opportunity to tour some unflooded sites in the St. Louis area.

#### REGISTRATION AND ACCOMMODATION

Once again most of the activities will take place at the Drury Inn at Union Station, a converted railroad YMCA valued for its architectural significance and its memorabilia of old St. Louis. For reservations call Drury Inn at 314-231-3900, or address your written request to 201 S. 20 Street, St. Louis, MO 63103. Reservations must be made by September 11 to obtain the Society member rates of \$74 per night for a single room, or \$84 for a double. The rates include a breakfast buffet.

To register for the conference, please complete the form on page 3 of this issue of *News & Notes* and send it to Linda Wyman, Treasurer, 613-5 Woodlander, Jefferson City, MO 65101. Prior to September 15, the registration fee is \$10 per person, \$15 for two members of a single household, \$5 for students and retirees. The registration fees are doubled after September 15.

#### ELIOT MEMORIAL LECTURE

The T. S. Eliot Memorial Lecturer for 1993 is Christopher Ricks, Professor of English at Boston University and author of many distinguished editions and critical studies of English poetry. His publications include *Milton's Grand Style* (1963); *The Poems of Tennyson* (1969); *English Poetry and Prose: 1540-1674* (1970); *English Drama to 1710* (1971); *Tennyson* (1972); *Keats and Embarrassment* (1974); *The State of Language* (1980); *The Force of Poetry* (1984); *The Tennyson Archive* (1987); *The Poems of Tennyson* (1987); and most recently, *Beckett's Dying Words*, scheduled for publication this month by Oxford University Press. In Eliot circles Mr. Ricks is best known for his book, *T. S. Eliot and Prejudice* (1988), published by the University of California Press in the year of Eliot's centennial.

#### OTHER ATTRACTIONS

Again this year Larry Melton has volunteered to organize a

book display at the annual meeting. Members with publications on Eliot are invited to bring copies of their work to the meeting, or to send them in advance to Larry Melton at East Central College, P.O. Box 529, Union MO 63084.

The Board of Directors is hoping to arrange an encore performance by the St. Louis Ragtimers, including "That Shakespearean Rag" (1912) and last year's smash hit, Trebor Jay Tichenor's "The T. S. Eliot Rag," a work commissioned by the Society.

An excursion along the east bank of the Mississippi originally planned for Saturday afternoon has been washed out by the summer floods and postponed until next year. The Board is currently exploring some alternatives, including a tour of the St. Louis Art Museum and a visit to the Scott Joplin House, one of the few remaining local structures associated with the life of the composer, and a landmark now open to visitors.

#### PROGRAM OF EVENTS

##### Friday, September 24

7:15-7:45 p.m. REGISTRATION AND VOUCHER PICK-UP  
Drury Inn

Mildred Boaz, Secretary  
Linda Wyman, Treasurer

7:45 p.m. WELCOME  
Vinni Marie D'Ambrosio, President

PANEL  
Chaired by Ann Brady

Sumana Sen-Bagchee, "The Poet and the Sleuth: T. S. Eliot and Raymond Chandler"

Vimala C. Rao, "Murder and Mayhem in Eliot's Plays"

8:45 p.m. OPEN FORUM OF SOCIETY MEMBERS  
Discussion of the Society's current activities and future direction

Refreshments

Saturday, September 25

9:00 a.m. GREETINGS *Drury Inn*  
Vinni Marie D'Ambrosio

PANEL  
Chaired by Sanford Schwartz

Joon-Soo Bong, "Reading Eliot's Notes on  
*The Waste Land*

Virginia Phelan, "Sweet Surrender to  
Julia's Silks: Costume and Conceit in  
*The Cocktail Party*"

10:00 a.m. ELIOT RAGS  
Reprise of Trebor Jay Tichenor's the "T. S.  
Eliot Rag" (1992) and early 20th-century  
St. Louis ragtime (tentative)

Refreshments

11:00 a.m. FOURTEENTH ANNUAL T.S. ELIOT  
MEMORIAL LECTURE

Christopher Ricks, "Early Eliot"

12:00-1:30 p.m. BREAK

1:30 p.m. LOCAL EXPEDITIONS

6:30 p.m. RECEPTION AND DINNER  
*4967 Pershing Place*

Sunday September 26

9:30 a.m. ADDRESS *First Unitarian Church*  
Rev. Earl K. Holt III

11:00 a.m. FORUM *First Unitarian Church*  
Mildred Meyer Boaz and Guy Hargrove,  
"Wagner, Shakespeare, and Mrs. Porter:  
An Interart Study of Music and T. S. Eliot's  
*The Waste Land*

12:30 p.m. ELIOT SOCIETY DIRECTORS' MEETING  
*First Unitarian Church*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:  
ELECTION RESULTS

In May, members of the Society elected Shyamal Bagchee and William Charron to three year terms on the Board of Directors. Mr. Bagchee, of the University of Alberta, was the Society's Memorial Lecturer in 1990. He has edited two collections, *T. S. Eliot Annual* (No. 1) and *T. S. Eliot: A Voice Descanting*. He participated in the Eliot Centenary conferences at Little Rock and Orono, and in the Society's 1991 ALA session in Washington. Mr. Charron, of St. Louis University, presented a paper on Eliot and F. H. Bradley at the Society's 1991 annual meeting. He is editor of *The Modern Schoolman*, for which he is currently planning a special issue on Eliot.

The other members of the Board are Mildred Boaz (Secretary), Ann Brady, Lois Cuddy, Vinni Marie D'Ambrosio (President), Melanie Fathman, Earl K. Holt III, Virginia Phelan, Sanford Schwartz (Vice President), Grover Smith (Supervisor of Elections), and Linda Wyman (Treasurer).

ALA: SAN DIEGO 1994  
CALL FOR SESSION TOPICS

The 1993 annual conference of the American Literature Association took place in Baltimore on May 28-30. The ALA is a coalition of approximately thirty-five American author societies and has been sponsoring a yearly conference since 1990. The Eliot session, chaired by Vinni Marie D'Ambrosio, included presentations by John Zubizarreta (Columbia College, SC), "T. S. Eliot and Gabriela Mistral: The Language of Desire and Death in *The Waste Land* and *Desolación*"; Benjamin G. Lockerd, Jr. (Grand Valley State University), "Fractured Atoms: Eliot's Critique of Atomism in *Gerontion*"; and Grover Smith (Duke University), "Trivia and Transformation: Three Notes on Eliot's Poetic Art."

In 1994 the ALA conference will return to San Diego. Several members of the Board have suggested that in the future we devote our sessions to specific topics, such as major publishing events, 50th or 75th anniversaries of significant works, or current debates and developments in Eliot studies. The proposal for topically organized sessions will be discussed during the open forum at the annual meeting, and a call for papers issued in October or November.

In the meantime, any suggestions for session topics or papers may be sent to Vinni Marie D'Ambrosio, 11 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10003. More complete information about the 1994 ALA conference will appear in the Fall issue of *News & Notes*.

MONOGRAPHS ON ELIOT

The following is a list of monographs devoted partially or entirely to Eliot for the year 1990. The list was produced by a computerized search; any omissions are unintentional. Lists of monographs published in other recent years, plus a list of essay collections since the mid-1980s, will appear in subsequent issues of *News & Notes*.

Sue Asbee, *T. S. Eliot*. Hove: Wayland.

Jewel Spears Brooker, *Reading the Wasteland: Modernism and the Limits of Interpretation*. Amherst: U of Massachusetts Press.

Dennis Brown, *Intertextual Dynamics within the Literary Group—Joyce, Lewis, Pound and Eliot: The Men of 1914*. Houndmills: Macmillan.  
Sati Chatterjee, *T. S. Eliot: Encounters with Reality*. Calcutta: Papyrus.

Kinichiro Honda, *T. S. Eriotto Kenkyu Josetsu*. Tokyo: Shinzaki Shorin.

Daven Michael Kari, *T. S. Eliot's Dramatic Pilgrimage: A Progress in Craft as an Expression of Christian Perspective*. Lewiston, NY: E. Mellen.

Virginia Phelan, *Two Ways of Life and Death: Alcestis and the Cocktail Parrrty*. New York: Garland.

Manuela Reiter, *T. S. Eliot und Hugo von Hofmannsthal*. Essen: Verlag Die Blaue Eule.

William Chapman Sharpe, *Unreal Cities: Urban Figuration in Wordsworth, Baudelaire, Whitman, Eliot, and Williams*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins UP.

Amar Kumar Singh, *T. S. Eliot and Indian Philosophy*. New Delhi: Sterling.

**T. S. ELIOT AT THE TURN  
OF THE CENTURY**

On September 17-18 several members of the Society will participate in an international Colloquium, "T.S. Eliot at the Turn of the Century," at the Lund University in Sweden. The principal organizer of the Colloquium is Marianne Thormählen, a Society member on the faculty at Lund. According to Dr. Thormählen, "the brief flurry of scholarly activity that appeared in connection with Eliot's centenary left no palpable sense of direction." The aim of the Colloquium, therefore, is to bring together a number of leading Eliot scholars "to inquire into the current state and future prospects of research on Eliot." Among the Society members presenting papers are Lois A. Cuddy (University of Rhode Island), "Making His Own Space: T. S. Eliot, Evolution, and the *Four Quartets*"; Nancy Hargrove (Mississippi State University), "Un Présent Parfait: Eliot and la Vie Parisienne, 1910-1911"; A. D. Moody (University of York),

"The Mind of Europe' in T. S. Eliot"; Marianne Thormählen (Lund University), "My Life for this Life': T. S. Eliot and the Extinction of the Individual Personality"; and a panel debate chaired by Armin Paul Frank. Grover Smith, who was scheduled to deliver a paper entitled "Eliot and the Shamans," is recuperating from a leg injury and will be unable to attend. Other participants include Bernard Bergonzi (University of Warwick); Claudia Deniers (University of Cologne); Barbara Everett (Somerville College, Oxford); Rudolf Germer (University of Cologne); M. Teresa Gibert (Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia, Madrid); and Kristian Smidt (University of Oslo).

**AFTER SUCH LABOR, WHAT?  
by Virginia Phelan**

Many Society members have written informative and provocative papers on Eliot only to have these studies languish on disks and in drawers for want of suitable publication outlets. Still more

**REGISTRATION FORM**

**THE 14TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE T. S. ELIOT SOCIETY  
DRURY INN AT UNION STATION, ST. LOUIS  
SEPTEMBER 24-26, 1993**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

REGISTRATION FEE SCHEDULE		
	Before Sept. 15	After Sept. 15
Individual	\$10	\$20
Household	15	30
Students/Retirees	5	10
SOCIETY DUES SCHEDULE		
Regular	\$15-24	
Supporting	\$25-49	
Sustaining	\$50-99	
Patron	\$100 and above	

	#Persons	Amount
Registration	_____	_____
Saturday Dinner (x \$15.00 each)	_____	_____
Dues for 1993 (if not yet paid)		_____
Dues for 1994 (optional—pay by Nov. 1)		_____
Total Enclosed		_____

**MAIL THIS FORM AND CHECK TO:**

Linda Wyman, Treasurer  
613-5 Woodlander  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

**FOR RESERVATIONS AT DRURY INN:**

Call 314-231-3900

members are discouraged from ever testing their ideas in writing because they believe that journals are no longer interested in Eliot criticism.

The difficulty is real. The *Yeats Eliot Review* has been consistently hospitable to members' work, but its space cannot accommodate all who would like to appear in print. Many other journals focus on what they view as academically correct. However, there are some publications that still accept Eliot papers.

Here, then, is a decidedly incomplete catalogue of periodicals that have published such papers in the last five years. It was compiled from the on-line MLA listing and represents a variety of style and audiences. Members who plan to submit their work to particular journals should read back issues to determine each publication's typical content and to insure an appropriate match.

*American Poetry; Arizona Quarterly; Cambridge Quarterly; Christianity and Literature; Classical and Modern Literature: A Quarterly; College Language Association Journal; Connecticut Review; Contemporary Literature; Critical Studies: A Journal of Critical*

*Theory, Literature and Culture; English: The Journal of the English Association; Essays in Literature; Explicator; Gettysburg Review; Journal of English Language and Literature; Journal of Modern Literature; Literature and Theology: An Interdisciplinary Journal; Mid-Hudson Language Studies; Modern Drama; Modern Language Quarterly; Mosaic: A Journal for the Interdisciplinary Study of Literature; New Comparison: A Journal of Comparative and General Literary Studies; Notes on Contemporary Literature; Poetics Today; Sewanee Review; Soundings: An Interdisciplinary Journal; South Atlantic Review; South Central Review; Southern Review; Southwest Review; Virginia Quarterly Review; West Virginia University Philological Papers*

#### DUES

The date for payment of 1994 dues is November 1, 1993. Members may save the Society the cost of mailing them a reminder by renewing their membership in advance, either directly at the annual meeting or by sending a check to Linda Wyman, Treasurer, 613-5 Woodlander, Jefferson City, MO 65101. The scale of membership is as follows: Regular, \$15-24; Supporting, \$25-49; Sustaining, \$50-99; Patron, \$100 and above.

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