Featuring…

Photo by Star Black

KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY JAMES WOOD…

Photo by Miriam Berkley

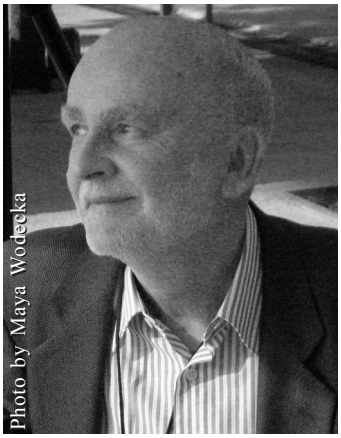


Photo by Maya Wodecka

Photo by Cornelia Spelman

…READINGS BY Reginald Gibbons, Mary Kinzie, and Adam Zagajewski…

…and dozens of other scholars, critics, and writers

The 13th Annual Conference of

The Association *of* Literary Scholars *and* Critics

The Hotel Allegro • Chicago • October 12-14, 2007

2007 Conference Program

Friday, October 12, 2007

10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Registration ..... Music Room/Allegro Lobby

11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Exhibits ..... Goodman Theatre Room B

The Great Books Foundation, Make *magazine, The National Great Books Community,* Other Voices *magazine, Oxford Journals/Oxford University Press, Paul Dry Books, and The Scholar's Choice*

2:00 p.m.-3:45 p.m.

Shakespeare after Shakespeare ..... Walnut Room

Convener: ***Stephen Orgel*** *(Stanford University)*

Anston Bosman (Amherst College): "Retouching the Lord Hamlet"

Bradin Cormack (University of Chicago): "Remaking Shakespeare's Sonnets"

Jeffrey Knight (Northwestern University): "Of Shreds and Patches: Shakespeare's Afterlife in Books"

Michael Wyatt (Stanford University): "*Measure For Measure*'s Strange Bedfellows"

4:00 p.m.-5:15 p.m.

Terrific Threshold: Relations Between Creative Writing Programs and English Departments ..... Walnut Room

A roundtable discussion with ***John Barr*** *(Poetry Foundation),* ***David Fenza*** *(AWP),* ***Linda Gregerson*** *(University of Michigan), and* ***Rosanna Warren*** *(Boston University), moderated by* ***David J. Rothman*** *(University of Colorado at Boulder)*

5:45 p.m.-6:45 p.m.

Reception, with Presidential Address ..... Walnut Room

Morris Dickstein *(CUNY Graduate Center)*

8:15 p.m.-10:15 p.m.

Readings and Q&A ..... Walnut Room

Readings by poets ***Reginald Gibbons*** *(Northwestern University),* ***Mary Kinzie*** *(Northwestern University), and* ***Adam Zagajewski*** *(University of Chicago), with introductions and Q&A moderation by* ***Clare Cavanagh*** *(Northwestern University) and* ***Rosanna Warren*** *(Boston University)*

10:30 p.m.-Midnight.

Second Annual ALSC Open Mike ..... Walnut Room

Host: ***William Mullen*** *(Bard College)*

Adeste, lectores to the Second Annual ALSC Open-Mike, an informal gathering for readers of favorite poems, passages, and original works; and also for listeners.

Saturday, October 13, 2007

7:30 a.m.-8:30 a.m.

Continental Breakfast ..... Music Room/Allegro Lobby

8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Exhibits ..... Goodman Theatre Room B

The Great Books Foundation, Make *magazine, The National Great Books Community,* Other Voices *magazine, Oxford Journals/Oxford University Press, Paul Dry Books, and The Scholar's Choice*

8:30 a.m.-10:15 a.m.
CONCURRENT SEMINARS

"Teaching The Great Books" ..... STEPPENWOLF THEATRE ROOM A
Convener: ***Bruce Gans*** *(Wright College, Chicago)*

Celeste Barber (Santa Barbara City College): "The California Model: The Great Books Curriculum, Santa Barbara City College"
Miriam M. Chirico (Eastern Connecticut State University): "Leadership, Romance, Time-Management: First-Year Quandaries and the Great Books"
Peter Cortland (Quinnipiac University): "Great Books = Great Evil"
Del Doughty (Huntington University): "Who Needs Scientists When There's a Poet Around?: What *Moby-Dick* Tells Us that the Pharmaceutical Companies Don't Want Us to Know"
Paul Dry (Paul Dry Books, Inc.): "Herodotus on Custom"
Farnoosh Fathi (University of Houston): "Dickinson's Fascicles in the 'Great Books' Context"
Jamie Ferguson (University of Houston): "Bridging Athens and Jerusalem"
Joel Garza (Greenhill School): "Combating Our Darker Purpose: The Heroic Task of Interpreting *King Lear*'s Subplot"
David Gorman (Northern Illinois University): "The Protean Classic: Teaching Ovid's *Metamorphoses*"
Mark Andrew Hall (University of West Georgia): "Damn, Damn, Damn, Damn: Teaching Proust"
Bruce A. Heiden (The Ohio State University): "Literature, Agency, and the Study of Crisis"
Adam Kissel (Foundation for Individual Rights in Education)
Tim Lacy (Chicago, Illinois)
Chris Love (Ann Arbor, Michigan): "Which Marco Reads Great Books?"
H. Collin Messer (Grove City College): "Remembering What We've Read: St. Augustine's Confessions and the Dangers of Reading the Great Books"
Catherine Milton (Norwalk Community College): "Firing Up the Canons: Great Books Across the Curriculum at an Urban Community College"

"The Internet, Publishing, and the Future of Literature" ..... STEPPENWOLF THEATRE ROOM B
Convener: John Holbo (National University of Singapore)

Jeremy P. Bushnell (University of Illinois, Chicago): "'A Lot of Things to A Lot of People': The Internet and Contemporary Poetic Production"
Scott Kaufman (University of California, Irvine)
Shana Kimball (University of Michigan)
Adam Kotsko (University of Chicago): "The Skeptic's Guide to Academic Blogging"
Cynthia Malone (College of St. Benedict/St. John's University): "The Codex and Beyond: Rethinking Literary Scholarship"
Scott McLemee *(Inside Higher Ed)*
Bob Stein (Institute For The Future of the Book)
Jason Stuart (Case Western Reserve University): "Limiting Access at the First Keystroke: The Focus on Content in Electronic Resources"

"Literature and the Visual Arts" ..... GOODMAN THEATRE ROOM A
Convener: Willard Spiegelman (Southern Methodist University)

Sarah Blackwood (Northwestern University): "Fugitive Obscura: Antebellum African Americans Write Photography"
Ed Block (Marquette University): "Denise Levertov: Poems and Pictures"
Jennifer Clarvoe (Kenyon College): "Translating Ekphrasis: Approaching Pasolini's 'Frescoes of Piero della Francesca in Arezzo'"
Jessica Crabill (University of Rochester): "*Of Silly Toasters Proud*: Women Writing Graffiti in the Eighteenth Century"
Janice Hewlett Koelb (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill): "'Discreetly Disavowing Emulation': Coburn's Landscape Frontispieces To James's *Portrait of a Lady*"
Rika Lesser (Brooklyn, New York): "On an Etruscan *Focolare*"
Jennifer Lewin (University of Kentucky)
Mark Noonan (New York, New York): "Reading The War Of *The Century* In Text And Image"
Joshua Pederson (Boston University): "Listening to the Light: A Study of the Visual and the Visualizable in Beckett's *Embers*"
William Revere (Yale University): "The Art of Vision: Ecphrasis in Chaucer's Dream Poetry"
Natania Rosenfeld (Knox College): "Reading Faces: Intersubjectivity and the Act of Looking in Three Female Nonfiction Writers"
Emily Setina (Yale University): "'Mountains Being a Language with Me': Marsden Hartley's Katahdin and Marianne Moore's Poetics of Revision"
Mark Silverberg (Cape Breton University): "James Schuyler's 'Intimist' Still Lives"
Rachel Wetzsteon (William Paterson University): "'Observe Yourself as You Discern Yourself': Edwin Arlington Robinson's Portrait of the Artist in 'Rembrandt to Rembrandt'"

10:15 a.m.

Reception and Poster Session ..... Music Room/Allegro Lobby

Hosted by The College Board's Advanced Placement Test Development Committee for English Literature and Composition

10:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Poetry, Philosophy, Translation: Lucretius and After ..... Walnut Room

Convener: ***Alysa Ward (Independent Scholar, Tampa, FL)***

Robert Hollander (Princeton University): "Dante's *Paradiso* as Philosophical Poetry"

W.R. Johnson (University of Chicago): "Style is the Man, Attack the Style: Kenney on Lucretius"

John Koethe (University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee): "Wittgenstein and Lyric Subjectivity"

A.E. Stallings (Athens, Greece): "Honey for the Physic: Englishing Lucretius in Verse"

1:30 p.m.-3:15 p.m.

Joseph Conrad ..... Walnut Room

Convener: ***Michael Gorra (Smith College)***

William B. Deresiewicz (Yale University): "Conrad and History"

Janet Gezari (Connecticut College): "Kurtz's Night Table"

Michael Wood (Princeton University): "A Train of Thought Is Never False: Fictions of Nation and History in Conrad"

3:30 p.m.-5:15 p.m.

The Culture of Cities: Revising the Chicago Story ..... Walnut Room

Convener: ***Carlo Rotella (Boston College)***

Stuart Dybek (Northwestern University); **Ronne Hartfield** (Harvard University); **Carl Smith** (Northwestern University); **Arvid Sponberg** (Valparaiso University); **Elizabeth Taylor** (*Chicago Tribune*)

5:45 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

ALSC Members' Meeting ..... Walnut Room

8:00 p.m.

Banquet, and Keynote Lecture by James Wood: "In Defence of Character" ..... Walnut Room

Sunday, October 14, 2007

7:30-8:30 a.m.

Continental Breakfast ..... Music Room/Allegro Lobby

8:00 a.m.-Noon

Exhibits ..... Goodman Theatre Room B

The Great Books Foundation, Make *magazine, The National Great Books Community,* Other Voices *magazine, Oxford Journals/Oxford University Press, Paul Dry Books, and The Scholar's Choice*

8:30 a.m.-10:15 a.m.

Thinking about Close Reading ..... Walnut Room

Convener: ***William Flesch (Brandeis University)***

Stephen Burt (Harvard University): "Poetry, Landscape, Cityscape, Point of View"

Eleanor Cook (University of Toronto): "God and the Devil and the Details"

Debra Fried (Cornell University)

Joshua King (Harvard University): "Uncomfortably Sustained: Rethinking Close Reading"

Samuel Titan, Jr. (Sao Paulo, Brazil): "Erich Auerbach: The Rise and Fall of Reading"

10:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Poetry and Politics in the 1930s ..... Walnut Room

Convener: ***David Mikics (University of Houston)****; Respondent:* ***Adam Zagajewski (University of Chicago)***

Clare Cavanagh (Northwestern University): "Between Commitment and Catastrophe: Milosz in the Thirties"

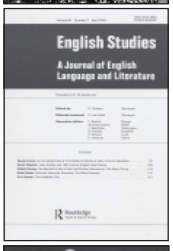
David Mikics (University of Houston): "Auden on Love and Politics"

Milton L. Welch (North Carolina State University): "Sterling Brown's *Southern Road*: Strategies of Modernist Protest in the Thirties"

Literature Journals from Routledge

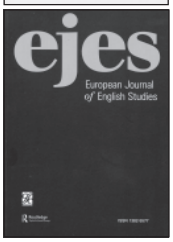
New for 2007!
English Academy Review
Co-published with UNISA Press
Journal of the English Academy of Southern Africa

Managing Editor: Rosemary Gray, *University of Pretoria*
Editor-in-Chief: Dirk Klopper, *University of Stellenbosch*
Volume 24, 2007, 2 issues per year



English Studies

Editor-in-Chief: Odin Dekkers,
Radboud University Nijmegen,
The Netherlands
Volume 88, 2007, 6 issues per year



European Journal of English Studies

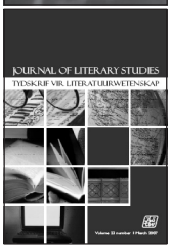
The official journal of the European Society for the Study of English (ESSE)

Editors: Martin A. Kayman, *Cardiff University, UK*
Angela Locatelli,
Università Degli Studi di Bergamo, Italy
Ansgar Nünning,
Justus Liebig Universität, Germany
Volume 11, 2007, 3 issues per year

European Romantic Review

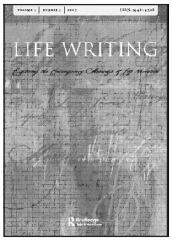
Journal of the North American Society for the Study of Romanticism (NASSR)

Editors: Grant F. Scott, *Muhlenberg College, USA*
Regina Hewitt, *University of South Florida, USA*
Volume 18, 2007, 5 issues per year



New for 2007!
Journal of Literary Studies
Co-published with UNISA Press

Editor: Professor Andries W. Oliphant,
University of South Africa
Volume 23, 4 issues per year



New for 2007!
Life Writing

Editors: Mary Besemeres and Maureen Perkins,
Curtin University of Technology, Australia
Volume 4, 2007, 2 issues per year

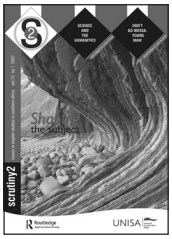
Nineteenth-Century Contexts

An Interdisciplinary Journal

Editors: Greg Kucich,
University of Notre Dame, USA
Keith Hanley, *Lancaster University, UK*
Volume 28, 2007, 4 issues per year

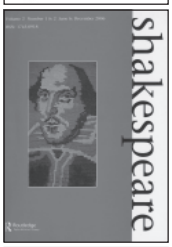
Prose Studies
History, Theory, Criticism

Editors: Ronald Corthell,
Kent State University
Clare A Simmons,
Ohio State University
Volume 28, 2007, 3 issues per year



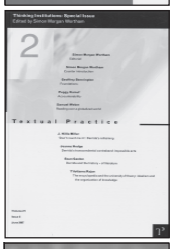
New for 2007!
Scrutiny2
Issues in English Studies in Southern Africa

Editor: Professor Leon de Kock,
University of South Africa
Volume 12, 2007, 2 issues per year



Shakespeare
Journal of the British Shakespeare Association

Editors: Deborah Cartmell,
De Montfort University, UK
Gabriel Egan,
Loughborough University, UK
Lisa Hopkins,
Sheffield Hallam University, UK
John Joughin,
University of Central Lancashire, UK
Volume 2, 2007, 2 issues per year



Textual Practice

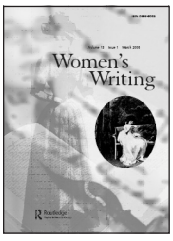
Editor: Peter Nicholls,
University of Sussex, UK
Volume 21, 2007, 4 issues per year

New in 2008!
Translation Studies

Kate Sturge, *Aston University, UK*
Michaela Wolf, *University of Graz, Austria*
Volume 1, 2008, 2 issues per year

Wasafiri
The Magazine of International Contemporary Writing

Editor: Susheila Nasta,
Open University, UK
Volume 22, 2007, 3 issues per year



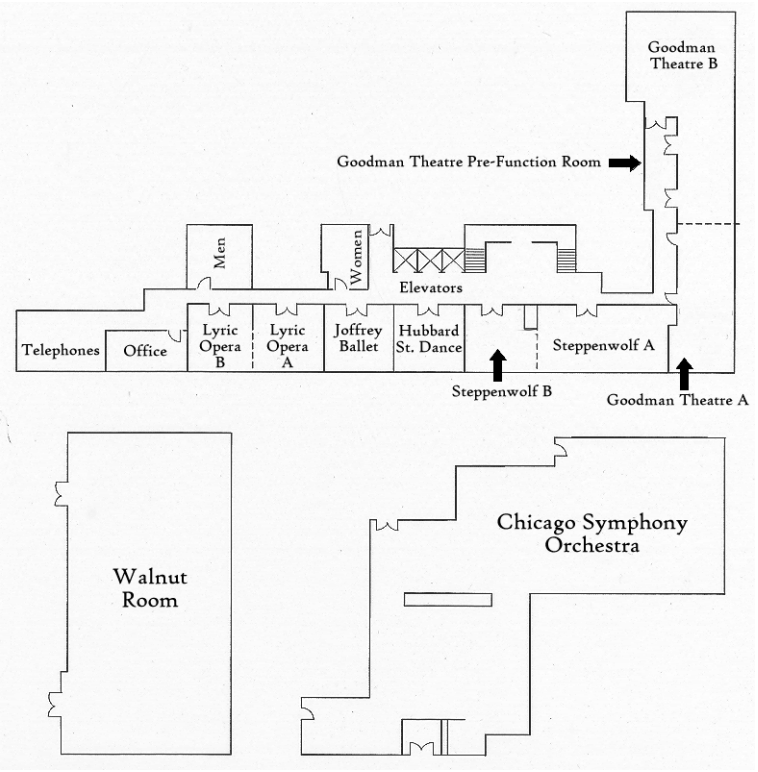
Women's Writing

Consultant Editor:
Janet Todd, *University of Aberdeen, UK*
Editor: Marie Mulvey-Roberts,
University of the West of England, Bristol, UK
Volume 14, 2007, 3 issues per year

Routledge
Taylor & Francis Group

To find out more about these journals, please visit:
www.informaworld.com/literaturelanguageandlinguistics

Hotel Map



Music Room/Allegro Lobby (2nd Floor)
Registration
Reception and Poster Session

Goodman Theatre Pre-Function Room (3rd Floor)
Saturday and Sunday Continental Breakfasts

Goodman Theatre Room B (3rd Floor)
Exhibits

Walnut Room (2nd Floor)
All Plenary Sessions
Banquet and Keynote Address
Members' Meeting
Reception and Presidential Address

Steppenwolf Theatre Room A (3rd Floor)
Steppenwolf Theatre Room B (3rd Floor)
Goodman Theatre Room A (3rd Floor)
Saturday Seminars

Presenters

Anston Bosman is Associate Professor of English at Amherst College.

Celeste Barber teaches Composition at Santa Barbara City College and digs *Beowulf*.

John Barr is the President of the Poetry Foundation in Chicago. His poems have been published in six collections including *The Hundred Fathom Curve* (1997) and *Grace: An Epic Poem* (1999). He has served on the Boards of Yaddo, The Poetry Society of America, and Bennington College. For the latter two he served, respectively, as President for five years and Chairman for twelve years. He has taught poetry in the Graduate Writing Program at Sarah Lawrence College, and recently retired from a 35-year career in business.

Sarah E. Blackwood is a PhD candidate in English Literature at Northwestern University, currently completing a dissertation titled "The Portrait's Subject: Picturing Psychology in American Literary-Visual Culture, 1839-1900."

Ed Block is Professor of English and editor of *Renascence: Essays on Values in Literature* at Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Jeremy P. Bushnell is a poet, fiction writer, and experimental musician, as well as a Lecturer at the University of Illinois at Chicago. He writes about art, film, poetics, music, and narrative at his blog, Raccoon (www.imaginaryyear.com/raccoon).

Stephen Burt's new books are *The Forms of Youth: 20th-century Poetry and Adolescence* (criticism) and *Parallel Play* (poems). He has just moved from Minnesota to Massachusetts, and now teaches at Harvard. You might find his essays and reviews in the *TLS*, the *New York Times Book Review*, the *Yale Review*, or *PN Review*; he also blogs at www.accommodatingly.com and at the Poetry Foundation's www.poetryfoundation.org/harriet.

Clare Cavanagh is the Herman and Beulah Pearce Miller Research Professor in Literature at Northwestern University. She is the author of *Osip Mandelstam and the Modernist Creation of Tradition* (Princeton UP), and has translated 10 books of Polish poetry and prose, including the work of Adam Zagajewski and Nobel Laureate Wislawa Szymborska. Her translation of Zagajewski's latest volume, *Eternal Enemies*, is forthcoming from Farrar, Straus and Giroux. She is currently working on two book projects, *Acknowledged Legislators: Poetry and Politics in Modern Russia and Poland* (Yale UP), and *Czeslaw Milosz and His Age: A Critical Life* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux). She is also associate editor for the revised *Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics* (in progress).

Miriam Chirico is an Associate Professor of English at Eastern Connecticut State University, where she teaches dramatic literature. She is currently working on a book-length project on comedy.

Jennifer Clarvoe teaches English and creative writing at Kenyon College. Her book of poems, *Invisible Tender*, won the Poets Out Loud Prize and the Kate Tufts Discovery Award. She was a 2002-2003 recipient of the Rome Prize in Literature.

Eleanor Cook's two most recent books are *Enigmas and Riddles in Literature* (Cambridge UP, 2006) and *A Reader's Guide to Wallace Stevens* (Princeton UP, 2007).

Bradin Cormack is an Associate Professor in the Department of English at the University of Chicago. He is also Director of the Nicholson Center for British Studies.

Peter Cortland is an Associate Professor of English at Quinnipiac University and has been teaching a world literature survey for forty years.

Jessica Crabill is a PhD candidate specializing in eighteenth-century British literature in the Department of English at the University of Rochester where she is writing her dissertation under the co-supervision of Kenneth Gross and Katherine Mannheimer.

William Deresiewicz teaches English at Yale and reviews books for *The Nation* and other publications. He is the author of *Jane Austen and the Romantic Poets* and of articles on Conrad, George Eliot, and Hardy.

Morris Dickstein is a literary and cultural critic and Distinguished Professor of English at the CUNY Graduate Center. He is senior fellow of the Center for the Humanities, which he directed from 1993 to 2000, and is perhaps best known for his book *Gates of Eden: American Culture in the Sixties* (Basic Books 1977; Harvard 1997), which was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle award in criticism. His other books include *Keats and His Poetry* (Chicago 1971), *Double Agent: The Critic and Society* (Oxford 1992), *Leopards in the Temple: The Transformation of American Fiction, 1945-1970* (Harvard 2002), and *A Mirror in the Roadway: Literature and the Real World* (Princeton 2005; paper 2007). He also edited *The Revival of Pragmatism: New Essays on Social Thought, Law, and Culture* (Duke 1998). His essays and reviews have appeared in the *New York Times Book Review*, *Partisan Review*, *The American Scholar*, *Raritan*, *The Nation*, *Literary Imagination*, *Slate*, *Dissent*, the *Washington Post*, the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, *Bookforum*, and the *Times Literary Supplement* (London). He was a board member (1983-89) of the National Book Critics Circle and served as vice-chair of the New York Council for the Humanities from 1997 to 2001.

Del Doughty has published two books of poems and teaches English at Huntington University.

Paul Dry is the publisher at Paul Dry Books, which brought out its first titles in 2000.

Stuart Dybek is the author of three books of fiction: *I Sailed With Magellan, The Coast of Chicago,* and *Childhood and Other Neighborhoods.* Both *I Sailed With Magellan* and *The Coast of Chicago* were *New York Times* Notable Books. *The Coast of Chicago* was a One Book One Chicago selection and was produced as a stage play at Chicago's Lookingglass Theater in 2006. *I Sailed with Magellan* won the Society of Midland Authors Adult Fiction Award and was one of the American Library Association's 26 Notable Books for 2005; it was produced as a stage play at Chicago's Victory Gardens Biograph Theater in 2007. Dybek has also published two collections of poetry: *Streets in Their Own Ink* and *Brass Knuckles.* His fiction, poetry, and nonfiction have appeared in *The New Yorker, Harper's, The Atlantic, Poetry, Tin House,* and many other magazines, and have been widely anthologized, including work in both *Best American Fiction* and *Best American Poetry*. Among Dybek's numerous awards are a PEN/Malamud Prize "for distinguished achievement in the short story," a Lannan Award, a Whiting Writers Award, an Award from the Academy of Arts and Letters, several O.Henry Prizes, and fellowships from the NEA and the Guggenheim Foundation. In 2006 he became Northwestern University's first-ever "Distinguished Writer in Residence."

Farnoosh Fathi is a doctoral student of literature and creative writing at the University of Houston.

David Fenza became Executive Director of the Association of Writers & Writing Programs (AWP) in 1995. He rebuilt the organization, taking it from a $330,000 net deficit to $2 million in net assets today. AWP now serves 28,000 writers, teachers, and students, 426 colleges and universities, and 80 writers' conferences and centers. He received an MA degree from Writing Seminars of Johns Hopkins University and an MFA degree from Writers' Workshop of the University of Iowa. He has taught creative writing, literature, and composition at Johns Hopkins University, Old Dominion University, Essex Community College, and Goucher College, and he has served as editor for numerous literary magazines. He has served on the boards of Share Our Strength and the Fall for the Book Literary Festival. He is the author of a book-length poem, *The Interlude*. He was awarded a Fellowship in Poetry from the National Endowment for the Arts for his work on a novel in verse.

Jamie Ferguson is Assistant Professor of Honors and English at the University of Houston. He holds a PhD in Comparative Literature and English from Indiana University Bloomington; he is currently revising his dissertation, "Faith in the Language: Reformation Biblical Translation and Vernacular Poetics," for publication as a book. He has articles forthcoming on sixteenth-century Psalm translation and Milton's *Paradise Lost* and is writing on Shakespeare's *Sonnets* for the *Broadview Anthology of British Literature* Instructor's Guide. He is completing an annotated translation of Joachim du Bellay's *Deffence et illustration de la langue françoyse* (1549) and has published, over the last several years, many translations of contemporary Polish poetry. Since 2005, he has received research grants from the Huntington and Newberry Libraries and a fellowship to participate in the Banff International Literary Translation Center Residency Program.

William Flesch is Professor of English and American Literature at Brandeis University.

Debra Fried is Associate Professor of English at Cornell University.

Bruce Gans is a Professor of English at Wright College in Chicago where he is also the founder and coordinator of its Great Books Curriculum and Project Coordinator of a new FIPSE and NEH funded National Great Books Academic Community. He is also a widely published author whose fiction has earned a National Endowment for the Arts fellowship.

Joel Garza is a PhD candidate at the University of Dallas. While finishing his dissertation on Derek Walcott and the epic tradition, he is teaching literature and rhetoric at Greenhill School in Addison, Texas.

Janet Gezari is the Lucy Marsh Haskell '19 Professor of English at Connecticut College and is the author of *Last Things: Emily Brontë's Poems* (Oxford University Press, 2007).

Reginald Gibbons is the author of eight books of poems, including *Sparrow: New and Selected Poems*, *Homage to Longshot O'Leary*, *It's Time*, and the forthcoming *Creatures of a Day* (LSU Press). He has published a novel, *Sweetbitter*, which won the Anisfield-Wolf Book Award and other honors, and translations of Euripides' *Bakkhai* and Sophokles' *Antigone* (both translated with the late Charles Segal). His translations of *Selected Poems of Sophokles* is forthcoming (Princeton). Gibbons was the editor of *TriQuarterly* magazine from 1981 till 1997. He teaches at Northwestern University and in the MFA Program for Writers at Warren Wilson College. He has won a Guggenheim Fellowship in poetry, the Folger Shakespeare Library's O. B. Hardison Jr. Prize for poetry, and other awards.

Michael Gorra is the Jordan Professor of English at Smith College and editor of *The Portable Conrad* (Penguin, forthcoming).

David Gorman is Associate Professor of English at Northern Illinois University.

Linda Gregerson is the author of four collections of poetry (*Fire in the Conservatory*, *The Woman Who Died in Her Sleep*, *Waterborne*, and *Magnetic North*) and two volumes of criticism (*The Reformation of the Subject: Spenser, Milton, and the English Protestant Epic* and *Negative Capability: Contemporary American Poetry*). Her essays on lyric poetry and Renaissance literature appear in many journals and anthologies, including *The Blackwell Companion to Shakespeare's Works*, *The Cambridge Companion to Spenser*, *Criticism*, *ELH* (*English Literary History*), *The Kenyon Review*, *Virginia Quarterly Review*, *Georgia Review*, and *Triquarterly*.

Gregerson has received awards from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the Poetry Society of America, the Modern Poetry Association, and the Kingsley Tufts Endowment, and fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the Institute for Advanced Study, the National Humanities Center, and the National Endowment for the Arts. She has served on the faculties of the Bread Loaf Writers Conference, The Kenyon Review Writers Conference, and the Warren Wilson MFA Program for Writers. Gregerson is the Frederick G. L. Huetwell Professor of English Language and Literature at the University of Michigan, where she teaches creative writing and Renaissance literature.

Mark Andrew Hall is a Professor in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures at the University of West Georgia. He received his BA in French Literature from Wake Forest University in 1995. After spending a year teaching English in Dijon, France, Dr. Hall undertook his graduate studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison (MA 1998, PhD 2004). His research examines the role of metaphor in the development of visual poetics in early twentieth-century avant-garde poetry. Other research and teaching interests include 20th-century literature, French Modernism, literature and the visual arts, contemporary poetry, and Renaissance Studies.

Ronne Hartfield. Author of a biographical memoir, *Another Way Home* (University of Chicago Press 2004), with critical essays in a range of international publications, Ronne Hartfield was the first Woman's Board Endowed Executive Director of Museum Education at The Art Institute of Chicago (1991-99), organizing and administering lectures, film, publications, video, and interactive media. For the preceding decade, she was Executive Director of Urban Gateways: The Center for Arts in Education, winner of the Presidential Medal for the Arts, the nation's highest honor in the field. Ms. Hartfield has been a Dean and Professor at The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and taught at Northwestern University and at the University of Illinois.

With undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Chicago, and an Honorary Doctorate from DePaul University, she was appointed as a Senior Research Fellow at Harvard University's Center for the Study of World Religions.

Ms. Hartfield has served as a trustee and/or advisor to a number of national and international organizations, and her work has been honored by, among others, the Aspen Institute, the Rockefeller Foundation, the University of Chicago, the Goethe Institut, and the Chicago History Museum. She consults widely in arts and museum education.

Bruce Heiden is Associate Professor of Greek and Latin at the Ohio State University.

John Holbo is Assistant Professor of Philosophy at the National University of Singapore. He works on philosophy of literature and literary theory, Wittgenstein and Nietzsche, as well as science fiction, fantasy, film, and comics.

Robert Hollander has published twelve books and eighty articles on Dante and/or Boccaccio, most recently a new translation (with Jean Hollander) of *Paradiso* (Doubleday 2007); he has been honored with the Gold Medal of the City of Florence and with the gold florin of the Dante Society of America.

W. R. Johnson is a John Matthews Manly Distinguished Service Professor of Classics and Comparative Studies, Emeritus, University of Chicago.

Scott Eric Kaufman is a PhD candidate in the program in English and Comparative Literature at the University of California, Irvine.

Shana Kimball is Publications Manager at the Scholarly Publishing Office of the University of Michigan Library.

Joshua King (PhD Candidate, English Literature, Harvard University) is completing his dissertation on the efforts of nineteenth-century British poets to solicit processes of reading to which they attach religious, moral and metaphysical significance, and on the questions they thereby raise for past and present readers; one chapter, on Gerard Manley Hopkins, is forthcoming in *Victorian Poetry*.

Adam Kissel is the Director of the Individual Rights Defense Program at the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education.

Mary Kinzie is the literary executor of American lyric poet Louise Bogan, and the founder of the Creative Writing Program at Northwestern University, where she has taught for three decades.

She is the author of *A Poet's Guide to Poetry*, and of seven volumes of poetry, most recently *California Sorrow* (Knopf, September 2007).

Jeffrey Knight is a doctoral candidate in English at Northwestern University and a graduate of King's College, Cambridge. His dissertation, entitled "Compiling and Collecting: The Renaissance Book in Parts," examines habits of book use, textual manipulation, and non-reading in early print culture.

Janice Hewlett Koelb currently teaches at the University of Carolina, Chapel Hill. Her book, *The Poetics of Description: Imagined Places in European Literature*, came out last year.

John Koethe is a Distinguished Professor of Philosophy at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the author of *The Continuity of Wittgenstein's Thought* and *Skepticism, Knowledge, and Forms of Reasoning* (both from Cornell Univ. Press) and seven books of Poetry, most recently *Sally's Hair* (HarperCollins).

Adam Kotsko is a doctoral student at the Chicago Theological Seminary and a blogger for The Weblog and An und für sich.

Tim Lacy holds a PhD in U.S. History from Loyola University Chicago. His areas of expertise include cultural and intellectual history and the history of education. He teaches courses at Loyola University Chicago, area community colleges, and at the Newberry Library.

Rika Lesser is a poet and translator of Swedish and German, who lives in Brooklyn Heights, New York; she also teaches poetry and literary translation.

Jennifer Lewin is assistant professor of English at the University of Kentucky. Her areas of specialty are Renaissance and Seventeenth-Century Literature, and epic and lyric poetry of all periods.

Chris Love lives in Ann Arbor, Michigan. A PhD Candidate in Comparative Literature, he teaches Great Books and is working on a modern adaptation of Dante's *Inferno*.

Cynthia Malone is Professor of English at the College of St. Benedict and St. John's University in Minnesota.

Scott McLemee, Essayist at Large, writes the Intellectual Affairs column for *Inside Higher Ed*. In 2004, the National Book Critics Circle honored Scott with its annual Nona Balakian Citation for Excellence in Reviewing, for his work appearing in *Bookforum, The Common Review, Newsday,* and *The Washington Post*. He writes frequently for *The American Prospect* and *The New York Times Book Review*. From 2001-5, Scott wrote for the *The Chronicle of Higher Education,* covering developments in the humanities. His work included long features on scholarly trends and profiles of important figures. Previously he was a contributing editor for *Lingua Franca.* In 2000, the editors named "Invisible, Inc." (his article on Thomas Pynchon scholarship) one of the top 10 articles it had published over the previous 10 years. A broad selection of his work is available at his personal Website, www.mclemee.com. He lives in Washington with his wife, Rita Tehan, and their two cats.

H. Collin Messer is Associate Professor of English at Grove City College in Pennsylvania, where he teaches American literature and humanities. A native of South Carolina, Messer earned his PhD at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He has published articles on William Faulkner and Thomas Wolfe. His research interests include St. Augustine, William Faulkner, and Walker Percy. He and his wife, Elizabeth, have three children: Cammie, 8, Grace, 6, and Mac, 2.

David Mikics, Professor of English at the University of Houston, is the author, most recently, of *A New Handbook of Literary Terms* (Yale University Press) and *The Romance of Individualism in Emerson and Nietzsche* (Ohio University Press). With Stephen Burt, he is currently writing *The Art of the Sonnet* (to be published by Harvard University Press).

Catherine Milton is Associate Professor of English and coordinator of the Honors Program at Norwalk Community College.

William Mullen lives in the mid-Hudson and has been Professor of Classics at Bard College since 1985, where he also teaches public speaking and comparative courses on Western and Asian classics. He has published scholarly books and articles on Homer, the pre-Socratic philosophers, Pindar, Jefferson and Nietzsche, along with verse translations of Aeschylus, Sophocles, Pindar and Bacchylides and of Egyptian and Chinese poetry. His own poem "Enchanted Rock" was chosen by John Hollander for inclusion in the *Best American Poetry 1998*.

Mark Noonan holds an MA in American Studies from Columbia University and a PhD in American Literature from the CUNY Graduate Center. He is an Assistant Professor at New York City College of Technology (CUNY) and lectures at New York University. He is Executive Editor of *The Columbia Journal of American Studies* and Editor of *The Place Where We Dwell: Reading and Writing About New York City* (Kendall/Hunt 2007). He is also author of *Reading The Century Illustrated Monthly Magazine: American Literature and Culture, 1870-1893* forthcoming from the University Press of Mississippi.

Stephen Orgel is the J. E. Reynolds Professor in the Humanities at Stanford. His most recent books are *Imagining Shakespeare* (Palgrave, 2003), and *The Authentic Shakespeare* (Routledge, 2002). He is the general editor, with A. R. Braunmuller, of the new Pelican Shakespeare.

Joshua Pederson is a PhD Candidate in the Religion and Literature Program at Boston University. He is in the process of completing a dissertation on twentieth-century American writers' interest in Gnosticism. His other interests include the contemporary novel, film theory, and Biblical literature. Joshua currently teaches in the Writing Department at Ithaca College.

William Revere recently finished a master's program at Yale University in religion and literature, with a particular focus in the medieval period. He hopes to begin doctoral work in English in the fall of 2008. He lives in New Haven, Connecticut with his wife, Donica.

Natania Rosenfeld is Associate Professor of English at Knox College and the author of *Outsiders Together: Virginia and Leonard Woolf*, published by Princeton University Press in 2000. Her article "Less Light: The End(s) of Aesthetics in Pater, Ondaatje and

Sebald," appeared in *Modernism/Modernity* in April 2006. "Turning Back: Retracing Twentieth-Century Trauma in *To the Lighthouse*, *Time's Arrow*, and *The Emigrants*" appeard in *Partial Answers* in 2004. Her fiction and poetry have appeared in numerous journals, including *The American Poetry Review*, RHINO, *Seneca Review*, *Exquisite Corpse*, *Cimarron Review*, and *The Antioch Review*. In 2007 she received an Illinois Arts Council literary award for her poem "Bodies," published in *Another Chicago Magazine*. Her personal essays have been published in *Hotel Amerika*, *Ninth Letter*, *Michigan Quarterly Review*, *Lake Effect*, and *Post Road*. She has received three fellowships from the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts for work on essays and fiction.

Carlo Rotella is director of the American Studies program at Boston College.

David J. Rothman holds degrees from Harvard, the University of Utah and New York University. Over the last fifteen years he co-founded and served as the first Executive Director of the Crested Butte Music Festival and then became the third Headmaster of Crested Butte Academy, an independent boarding and day school in the Colorado Mountains. He has also served as Executive Director of the Robinson Jeffers Association and is the founding Publisher and Editor of Conundrum Press, a small press devoted to writers of the west, especially poets. Rothman is the author of three books of poetry, *Dominion of Shadow*, *The Elephant's Chiropractor* (which was a finalist for the Colorado Book Award), and *Beauty at Night*. He is also the editor of *The Geography of Hope: Poets of Colorado's Western Slope*. His poems and essays on many subjects have appeared in *Agni, Appalachia, The Atlantic, The Gettysburg Review, The Kenyon Review, Poetry*, and scores of other journals. He lives in Lafayette, Colorado and is an Instructor at the University of Colorado.

Emily Setina is a graduate student in English at Yale University writing a dissertation on photography and 20th century poetry.

Mark Silverberg, author of a forthcoming monograph on the New York School Poets and the Neo-Avant-Garde (Ashgate), is Assistant Professor of American literature at Cape Breton University.

Carl Smith, Franklyn Bliss Snyder Professor of English and American Studies and Professor of History at Northwestern University, is author of *Chicago and the American Literary Imagination 1880-1920*, *Urban Disorder and the Shape of Belief: the Great Chicago Fire, the Haymarket Bomb, and the Model Town of Pullman,* and *The Plan of Chicago: Daniel Burnham and the Remaking of the American City*.

Willard Spiegelman is the Hughes Professor of English at Southern Methodist University and the editor-in-chief of *Southwest Review*. His latest books, *How Poets See the World* (Oxford), and *Love, Amy: The Selected Letters of Amy Clampitt* (Columbia) are now available in paperback. *Partial Accounts: Selected Literary Essays* (Oxford) is forthcoming.

Arvid Sponberg, Professor of English at Valparaiso University and author of *Broadway Talks* and *A. R. Gurney: A Casebook*, edits www.chicagotheatrehistoryproject.org.

A.E. Stallings studied classics at the University of Georgia and Oxford University. Her new verse translation of Lucretius, *The Nature of Things*, is being published by Penguin Classics. She has published two collections of poetry, *Archaic Smile*, which won the Richard Wilbur award, and *Hapax*, from Northwestern/TriQuarterly. Her poetry has appeared widely in such journals as *The Atlantic*, *Court Green*, *Five Points*, *The Hudson Review*, *New Criterion* and *Poetry*, and her criticism in *The American Scholar*, *The Classical Outlook*, and the *TLS*. She lives in Athens, Greece with her husband, the journalist John Psaropoulos, and their young argonaut, Jason.

Bob Stein is founder and Co-Director of the Institute for the Future of the Book and founder of The Voyager Company. For 13 years he led the development of over 300 titles in 'The Criterion Collection', a series of definitive films on videodisc, and more than 75 CD-ROM titles including the CD Companion to Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, 'Who Built America', and the Voyager edition of *Macbeth*. Previous to Voyager, Stein worked with Alan Kay in the Research Group at Atari on a variety of electronic publishing projects. 11 years ago, Stein started 'Night Kitchen' to develop authoring tools for the next generation of electronic publishing. That work is now being continued at the Institute for the Future of the Book.

Jason Stuart is a graduate student in the Writing History and Theory program at Case Western Reserve University.

Elizabeth Taylor is Editor and Literary Editor for the Chicago Tribune Magazine.

Samuel Titan, Jr. teaches Comparative Literature at the University of São Paulo, Brazil, where he is also active as a literary translator. His latest book is a translated collection of Erich Auerbach's writings, *Essays on European Literature* (São Paulo, Editora 34, 2007).

Alysa J. Ward received her PhD in Classical Languages and Literatures from Yale University in 1990. Her dissertation, *Epicurs Transformed: Lucretius' Appeal to the Roman Audience*, was the starting point for further work on Lucretius' philosophical poetics. Ms. Ward received her JD from the University of Georgia in 1998 and joined the firm of Glenn Rasmussen Fogarty & Hooker, P.A., where she was made a Shareholder in 2004. Ms. Ward practices law in the areas of labor and employment defense, commercial litigation, and constitutional law.

Rosanna Warren is the author of one chapbook of poems (*Snow Day*, Palaemon Press, 1981), and three collections of poems: *Each Leaf Shines Separate* (Norton, 1984), *Stained Glass* (Norton, 1993), and *Departure* (Norton, 2003). She edited and contributed to *The Art of Translation: Voices from the Field* (Northeastern, 1989), and has edited three chapbooks of poetry by prisoners.

Stained Glass won the Lamont Poetry Award from the Academy of American Poets. She has won the Witter Bynner Prize from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the Lavan Younger Poets' Prize from the Academy of American Poets, and the Award of Merit in Poetry from The American Academy of Arts and Letters in 2004. She was a Chancellor of the Academy of American Poets from 1999 - 2005. She is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

Milton L. Welch teaches English and Africana Studies at North Carolina State University. He attended Vassar, St. John's (Annapolis), and UVA, where he recently completed graduate studies. While in graduate school he was a Junior Fellow in UVA's Society of Fellows, a Five College Fellow at Hampshire College, and a contributing editor for the Core Knowledge Foundation's *Grace Abounding* textbook, the first grade-school level resource for African American literature and culture. He is currently preparing a study of the representation of lynching in U.S. modernist poetry. His reviews of poetry have appeared in several publications.

Rachel Wetzsteon is the author of three collections of poems—most recently *Sakura Park* (Persea 2006)—as well as a critical study of W.H. Auden, and teaches at William Paterson University and the Unterberg Poetry Center of the Ninety-Second Street Y.

James Wood, often described as the best critic of his generation, will be the youngest keynote speaker we've ever had. He made his mark in English letters in his 20s and on the American scene while still in his 30s. Wood seems to have found his vocation as an undergraduate at Cambridge, where he also met his future wife, the American novelist Claire Messud. He was born in 1965 and raised in an evangelical family in the north of England, where he sang in the cathedral choir and developed a feeling for music that trained his ear and infused his later work. Soon after Cambridge, on the strength of his undergraduate work, he became a book critic for the *Guardian* by simply writing to the editor to ask for a job. Wood soon developed a reputation for being tough and demanding, judging each book by extremely high standards and finding many wanting, including some by established writers very much his senior.

Wood's writing is utterly devoted to literature, paying especially close attention to how the language works, even in very long books. Literature matters intensely to him, but he also frequently touches on religious issues. In the partly autobiographical title essay of his first book, *The Broken Estate: Essays on Literature and Belief* (1999), he writes: "The child of evangelicalism, if he does not believe, inherits nevertheless a suspicion of indifference. He is always evangelical. He rejects the religion he grew up with, but he rejects it religiously." Above all he detests "nominal belief" as "insufficiently serious; nominal belief seems almost a blasphemy against earnest atheism." He dramatized these issues in his novel *The Book Against God* (2003). Wood's severity and high seriousness as a critic seem to arise naturally from his religious temperament, displaced into the secular arena of art. He is severe on writers who touch on religion but seem unable to imagine either consuming belief or profoundly held unbelief.

Wood has also been critical of writers who bring what he considers extra-literary agendas to fiction, including those who aim to revive the social novel, such as Jonathan Franzen, or multiculturalists like Toni Morrison, Salman Rushdie, or Zadie Smith, whom he has labeled "hysterical realists," finding their work overcharged and overblown but not sufficiently grounded in actual experience. Since fiction itself is magical, a conjuring act, he says, magical realism leads inevitably to excess. Wood has written harshly on most contemporary English novelists for creating few memorable characters. A recent profile in the *Boston Globe* described him as "the elegant assassin." His aesthetic rigor is legendary. He has been drawn to literary realists who deal with the recognizable problems of ordinary people, but also to writers as idiosyncratic as Melville, Virginia Woolf, and Saul Bellow, whose style is grounded in a fresh, poetic gift for metaphor. As if in response to the charge of undue solemnity, he devoted his second collection, *The Irresponsible Self: On Laughter and the Novel* (2004), largely to comic writers.

In 1995 Wood became a senior editor and principal book critic of *The New Republic* but also wrote for a variety of English and American publications including the *London Review of Books*, the *Guardian*, the *New York Times Book Review*, the *New Yorker*, and the *Times Literary Supplement*. Since 2003 he has been teaching the practice of literary criticism on a part-time basis at Harvard, and this summer he became a staff writer for the *New Yorker*, which offered him a larger audience after 12 years at *The New Republic*, an appointment that gained unusual attention in media that rarely keep tabs on the progress of literary critics. Wood's love of literature, his articulate insight and seriousness, his aesthetic conscience, his cosmopolitan scope and fine literary judgment, and the quality of his own writing make him someone we are eager to hear and delighted to have as our distinguished guest.

Michael Wood is the Charles Barnwell Straut Professor of English and Professor of Comparative Literature at Princeton University. He is a former Chair of the English Department at Princeton and, from 1995-2001, he was the Director of the Gauss Seminars in Criticism at Princeton. He is the recipient of many fellowships and honors, including a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship and is an ongoing Fellow of the New York Institute for the Humanities. He is an editorial board member of *Kenyon Review*. His works include books on Stendhal, Garcia Marquez, Nabokov, Kafka, and films. Additionally, he is a widely published essayist with articles on film and literature in *Harpers*, *London Review of Books*, *New York Review of Books*, *New York Times Book Review*, *New Republic* and others. His most recent books are *The Road to Delphi*, a short history of oracles, and *Literature and the Taste of Knowledge*. He is married and has three children.

Michael Wyatt teaches at Stanford, and has been a fellow at I Tatti, the Harvard Study Center in Florence. His book *The Italian Encounter with Tudor England: A Cultural Politics of Translation* was published by Cambridge in 2005.

Adam Zagajewski was born in 1945 in Lvov, Poland (now Ukraine). He graduated from the Iagelonian University in Krakow in 1970. He lived in Paris, France from 1982 to 2002, when he returned to Krakow. In the spring of 1988 he began to teach one semester a year at the University of Houston Creative Writing Program, and in the fall of 2007 he started teaching at the Committee on Social Thought at the University of Chicago. Four volumes of his poems have appeared in English (*Tremor*, *Canvas*, *Mysticism for Beginners*, and *Without End*), as well as four collections of essays (*Solidarity*, *Solitude*, *Two Cities*, *Another Beauty*, and *A Defense of Ardor*).

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