The 14th Annual Conference of
The Association of
Literary Scholars and Critics

October 24-26, 2008
Sheraton Society Hill Hotel
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
ADAPTATION
Adaptation provides an international forum to theorise and interrogate the phenomenon of literature on screen from both a literary and film studies perspective.

AMERICAN LITERARY HISTORY
Covering the study of US literature from its origins through to the present, American Literary History provides a much-needed forum for the various, often competing voices of contemporary literary inquiry.

THE CAMBRIDGE QUARTERLY
The Cambridge Quarterly was established on the principle that literature is an art, and that the purpose of art is to give pleasure and enlightenment. It devotes itself to literary criticism and its fundamental aim is to take a critical look at accepted views.

CONTEMPORARY WOMEN’S WRITING
CWW assesses writing by women authors from 1970 to the present. It reflects retrospectively on developments throughout the period, to survey the variety of contemporary work, and to anticipate the new and provocative women’s writing.

ESSAYS IN CRITICISM
Founded in 1951, Essays in Criticism soon achieved world-wide circulation, and is today regarded as one of Britain’s most distinguished journals of literary criticism. Essays in Criticism covers the whole field of English Literature from Chaucer to the present day.

FORUM FOR MODERN LANGUAGE STUDIES
FMLS publishes articles on all aspects of literary and linguistic studies, from the Middle Ages to the present day, reflecting on the essential pluralism of language and literature studies and providing a forum for worldwide scholarly discussion.

FRENCH STUDIES
French Studies publishes articles and reviews covering language and linguistics, all periods and aspects of literature in France and the French-speaking world, thought and the history of ideas, cultural studies, film, and critical theory.

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French Studies Bulletin supplements French Studies with a number of additional features including commentary on published articles, society news, and upcoming conference details.

THE LIBRARY
For more than a hundred years The Library has been the pre-eminent UK scholarly journal for the study of bibliography and of the role of the book in history.

LITERARY IMAGINATION
Literary Imagination is a forum for all those interested in the distinctive nature, uses, and pleasures of literature, from ancient to modern, in all languages.

LITERATURE AND THEOLOGY
Literature and Theology provides a forum for interdisciplinary dialogue, inviting both close textual analysis and broader theoretical speculation as ways of exploring how religion is embedded within culture.

NOTES & QUERIES
The primary intention of Notes & Queries is the asking and answering of readers’ questions. It is devoted principally to English language and literature, lexicography, history, and scholarly antiquarianism.

THE REVIEW OF ENGLISH STUDIES
RES is the leading scholarly journal in the field of English literature and language. Emphasis is on historical scholarship rather than interpretative criticism, though fresh evaluation of writers and their work are also offered.

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ALSC owes a great debt of gratitude to our conference committee chairman, John Talbot, and the members of his committee. It is their hard work, generosity, leadership, and vision that made this year’s conference possible.
# Schedule of Events

## Friday, October 24, 2008

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Ballroom Foyer</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Exhibits</td>
<td>Cook Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00 p.m.–3:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Sappho and Her Afterlife: Performance, Reception, and Translation</td>
<td>Ballroom CD</td>
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<td>Conveners: Ellen Greene (University of Oklahoma), Sarah Barnsley (University of London), Andre Lardinois (Radboud University), Holt Parker (University of Cincinnati), Diane Rayor (Grand Valley State University), Dimitrios Yatromanolakis (Johns Hopkins University)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:00 p.m.–5:15 p.m.</td>
<td>To Read or Not To Read: A Question of National Consequence</td>
<td>Ballroom CD</td>
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<td>Conveners: Mark Bauerlein (Emory University), Sunil Iyengar (National Endowment for the Arts), Warren Carson (University of South Carolina Upstate), Bruce M. Gans (Wright College), Joseph Levens (The Summerset Review), Susan Strehle (Binghamton University)</td>
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<td>Discussants: Sunil Iyengar (National Endowment for the Arts), Warren Carson (University of South Carolina Upstate), Bruce M. Gans (Wright College), Joseph Levens (The Summerset Review), Susan Strehle (Binghamton University)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:45 p.m.–6:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Reception and Presidential Address</td>
<td>Hamilton Room</td>
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<td>Christopher Ricks (Boston University)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 p.m.–11:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Readings, Q&amp;A, and Book Signings</td>
<td>Ballroom CD</td>
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<td>A conversation on literary biography (both fictional and factual)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>between Joyce Carol Oates and Edmund White, and readings by poet-translators Jane Hirshfield and J.D. McClatchy</td>
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## Saturday, October 25, 2008

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<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Exhibits</td>
<td>Cook Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 a.m.–10:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Interpreting the Shifting Texts of Dickinson and/or Whitman</td>
<td>Shippen Room</td>
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<td>Conveners: Don Share (Poetry magazine), Jessica Beard (University of California, Santa Cruz), Archie Burnett (Boston University), E. Thomas Finan (Boston University), Gillian Osborne (University of California, Berkeley), Richard A. Nanian (George Mason University), Tim Warren (University of Southern Mississippi)</td>
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<td>Discussants: Henry Louis Gates, Jr. (Harvard University), Richard Ford (University of Minnesota), William Morgan (Suffolk University), Robert H. Olds (University of Texas, Austin), Brian McDonald (University of Southern Mississippi), Molly McQuade (University of Southern Mississippi)</td>
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<td>3:00 p.m.–4:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Literary Magazines: Meeting Places</td>
<td>Reynolds Room</td>
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<td>Conveners: Morris Dickstein (CUNY Graduate Center), Yaser Amad (University of Texas, Austin), Travis Kurowski (University of Southern Mississippi)</td>
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<td>Discussants: John Baxter (Dalhousie University), Eric Bennett (Harvard University), Zachary Bos (Boston University), Peter Campon (Auburn University), Nora Delaney (Boston University), Brian McDonald (Washington, D.C.)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Travis Kurowski (University of Southern Mississippi), Molly McQuade (New York, NY), David L. Mikics (University of Houston)</td>
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Schedule of Events, continued

Lee Oser (College of the Holy Cross): “The Criterion”
Willard Spiegelman (Southern Methodist University): “Southwest Review”
Cliff Thompson (Current Biography): “Threepenny Review: The Individual in the Wide World”
Chris Walsh (Boston University): “The Literary Magazine as Ark”
Valeri Whitmer (CUNY Graduate Center): “Urban Cheek: Smart Verse in the Early Years of the New Yorker”

Uniform Spines: Book Series ........................................ Flower Room
Convener: David Yezzi (The New Criterion)
Peter Cortland (Quinnipiac University): “Modern Library and Everyman”
Jennifer Formichelli (Boston University): “Bad Good Books”
Ernest Hilbert (Bauman Rare Books): “Three Types of Uniformity”
Alexis Kirschbaum (Penguin Classics): “You Call That a Modern Classic?”
Patrick Redding (Yale University): “Using the Library of America Series to Study Modern Poetry”
Joseph Urban (Universities Michel De Montaigne - Bordeaux III): “How an American Author Becomes a French Classic: Herman Melville in the Bibliothèque de la Pléiade”
Frances Whistler (Boston University): “Telling an Oxford English Text by its Binding”

10:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m.
Poetry and Song .................................................. Ballroom DE
Convener: Stephen Burt (Harvard University)
Brian Breed (University of Massachusetts, Amherst): “Nothing Missing but the Songs”
Franklin Bruno (New York, NY): “Lower Limit Pop, Upper Limit Poetry”
Thomas Sayers Ellis (Lesley University): “Modern Music and Poetry”
Jennifer Levin (Boston University): “How are Poetry and Song Quoted in Plays and Novels?”
Robert von Hallberg (University of Chicago): “Money Honey”

1:30 p.m.–3:15 p.m.
Literary Biography ............................................. Ballroom DE
Convener: Edward Mendelson (Columbia University)
Alex Effgen (Boston University Editorial Institute): “Edward Dowden: Shelley’s scapegoat, as sacrificed by Matthew Arnold and Mark Twain”
Lucy McDiarmid (Montclair State University): “Seven Poets, Five Hours, One Peacock”
Emily Mitchell Wallace (Bryn Mawr College): “William Carlos Williams and Women”

3:30 p.m.–5:15 p.m.
Exploring Samuel Beckett’s Radio Plays ........... Ballroom DE
Convener: Marcia Karp (Boston University)
Session will begin with the playing of a recorded performance of Words and Music (25 minutes)
Joshua Pederson (Hofstra University): “Sniggering at God’s Poorest Joke: All that Fall and the Critique of Divine Omnibenevolence”
Christopher Ricks (Boston University): “Embers”

5:45 p.m.–7:00 p.m.
ALSC Members’ Meeting .................................. Ballroom DE

8:00 p.m.–11:00 p.m.
Banquet & Featured Reading ......................... Grand Ballroom
Banquet and featured reading by Jhumpa Lahiri with subsequent discussion between Lahiri and Lisa Rodensky (Wellesley College)

Sunday, October 26, 2008

8:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
Exhibits ..................................................Cook Room

8:30 a.m.–10:15 a.m.
Montaigne and the Shape of Opinion ................. Ballroom DE
Convener: George Hoffmann (University of Michigan)
Phillip Lopate (Hofstra University): “The Endlessness of Montaigne”
Christi A. Merrill (University of Michigan): “Reading Montaigne’s Cannibals through the Postcolonial: the Politics of Literary Mastery”
Richard Regosin (University of California): “Montaigne and His Essays: Why Writing Matters”
Samantha Tomasetto (Roehampton University): “Self and Identity in Montaigne’s Essays and in Addison and Steele’s Spectator”

10:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m.
Avant-Garde Poetics ............................... Ballroom DE
Convener: Adelaide Russo (Louisiana State University)
Mark Andrew Hall (Ithaca College): “Drinking Mirrors: Mara, Dada, and some Reflections on the Avant-Garde”
Adelaide Russo (Louisiana State University): “The Avant-Garde as Institution?: The Status of Poetry in France Today”
Steven Winspur (University of Wisconsin, Madison): “Space Times Color (Reverdy, Romain, Pesqués)”
Presenters

Yaser Amad is a graduate student in English at The University of Texas at Austin. He focuses on English letters from Jonson to Johnson and especially on the relationship between scholarship and literature during that period.

Dr. Sarah Barnsley teaches at Goldsmiths, University of London, and is currently writing a critical biography of Mary Barnard.

Mark Bauerlein teaches English at Emory University. His latest book is The Dumbest Generation: How the Digital Age Stupefies Young Americans and Jeopardizes Our Future; Or, Don’t Trust Anyone Under 30.

John Baxter is a Professor of English at Dalhousie University. His primary focus is Renaissance Literature (Shakespeare, Renaissance Poetry and Rhetoric) and Literary Criticism, but he also has an interest in modern poetry, and he is a former editor of The Compass, the small Edmonton-based periodical. His own publications include Shakespeare’s Poetic Styles (Routledge 1980; rpr. 2005), “J.V. Cunningham’s Shakespeare Gossips” (Essays in Criticism), and recent essays on the poetry of Helen Pinkerton (Renascence), Yvor Winters and Janet Lewis (Literary Imagination), and George Elliott Clarke (The Literary Atlas of Atlantic Canada).

Jessica Beard is a PhD student in the Department of Literature at The University of California, Santa Cruz. She is currently writing a dissertation on Emily Dickinson tentatively titled Bound—a Trouble: Emily Dickinson, the Canon, the Archive and the Classroom. Her research interests include 19th century American literature, experimental poetry and poetics, pedagogy, and continental theory.

Eric Bennett is completing a dissertation in the English department at Harvard on the rise of creative programs in the United States during the Cold War. Drawing on archival research conducted at the University of Iowa, Stanford University, and the Rockefeller Archive Center, the study argues that the first twenty years of institutionalized creative writing entailed a theoretically universal and practically imperial view of fiction and poetry very different from the emphasis on personal identity that emerged in the 1960s and after. Eric received an MFA from the Iowa Writers’ Workshop in 2000 and writes fiction as well as criticism.

Zachary Bos is a founding editor of The Pen & Anvil Press and coordinator of student publications at Boston University. He works currently with several literary publications, including Fulcrum: an annual of poetry and aesthetics; Hawk & Whippoorwill, a journal of nature poetry; Pusteblume, a journal
of translation at Boston University; SUD, a European review; The Charles River Journal, a broadsheet literary miscellany; and Sixty-Six The Journal of Sonnet Studies. His current projects include an English-language redacted Koran; an erasure poetry edition of the Bible; and a translation of Vicente Huidobro’s 1939 novel, Sátiro; o, El poder de las palabras.

Owen Boynton is a graduate student in English at Cornell University. He hopes to work on Victorian Poetry.

Brian W. Breed is Associate Professor in the Department of Classics at the University of Massachusetts Amherst and the author of Pastoral Inscriptions: Reading and Writing Virgil's Eclogues (London 2006).

Franklin Bruno's publications include the poetry chapbooks MF/MA (Seeing Eye) and Policy Instrument (Lame House), a monograph on Elvis Costello's Armed Forces (Continuum Books), and articles in the Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism and Listen Again: A Momentary History of Pop Music (Duke). As a songwriter and performer with the bands Nothing Painted Blue and The Human Hearts, as a solo artist, and in collaboration with singer Jenny Toomey and John Darnielle of The Mountain Goats, he has released over a dozen albums. He holds a PhD in Philosophy from UCLA, and has also taught at Northwestern University and Bard College.


Peter Campion is the editor of Literary Imagination: the Review of the Association of Literary Scholars and Critics. He’s the author of two books of poems, Other People (University of Chicago Press, 2005) and The Lions (University of Chicago Press, 2009). He teaches at Auburn University.

Dr. Warren J. Carson is Professor and Chair of the Department of English and Foreign Languages at the University of South Carolina Upstate in Spartanburg. He leads the scoring of the Poetry Essay Question at the Annual AP Literature Scoring Session and he is Chair of the AP English Literature Test Development Committee.

James Wm. Chichetto is an Associate Professor of Communications at Stonehill College and a priest. He has been published over three hundred times, including in The Manhattan Review, The Boston Globe, America, Commonweal, The Colorado Review, and The London Tablet, among others. Through his writings he has been a recipient of numerous benefits including two NEA grants and three NEH stipends. He is a Renaissance Weekend Scholar and is listed in the Directory of American Scholars, the Massachusetts Foundation of Humanities Scholars, the Contemporary Authors Series, and 15 Who’s Who. Currently he is editing a seven volume epic poem on the United States, authored by him in 1990.

Peter Cortland is an Associate Professor of English at Quinnipiac University in Hamden, Connecticut, where he promotes the canon, especially the Nineteenth century novel. Peter was seduced by the old Modern Library list and by the regularity of the appearance of the jacketed volumes. He also appreciated the low prices. The Uniform Spines provide both a physical and intellectual support for the reader’s education. They provide a commonality for discussion of the novel; we’ve read the same background.

Lewis M. Dabney, Editor, is the author of Edmund Wilson: A Life in Literature (2005) and the editor of Wilson's last journal, The Sixties, as well as Edmund Wilson: Centennial Reflections and, for The Library of America, Edmund Wilson: Literary Essays and Reviews of the 1920s & 30s and Edmund Wilson: Literary Essays and Reviews of the 1930s & 40s. He is a professor of English at the University of Wyoming.

Gabrielle Dean studies nineteenth- and twentieth-century U.S. literature and culture, especially the influence of nineteenth-century trans-Atlantic print culture on self-hood and the emergence of modernism. Her work-in-progress is an examination of this phenomenon with a focus on Emily Dickinson and Gertrude Stein. She is also writing about postcards and postcard collections. She has published articles on Dickinson’s fascicles, Stein’s notebooks, contemporary queer comic strips, and the relationship between photography and authorial identity. She has taught at the University of Washington and Cornish College of the Arts, and is currently CLIR Postdoctoral Library Fellow at Johns Hopkins University.

Nora Delaney teaches writing at Boston University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She is a founding member of The Pen & Anvil Press and editor of The Charles River Journal. Her scholarly essays, poetry, and translations are published or forthcoming in Fulcrum, Absinthe: New European Writing, Subtropics, and the Bellevue Literary Review.


Alex Effgen is not only a doctoral candidate in Editorial Studies at Boston University's Editorial Institute, but also its administrative assistant. His primary study involves the later essays of Mark Twain (Samuel Clemens), annotating their trans-Atlantic socio-literary criticism within the context of Clemens’s financial bankruptcy. Mr. Effgen’s interest in textual studies began with a course on Greek paleography at UCLA seven years ago, and he continues to explore classical problems when the opportunity allows.

Thomas Sayers Ellis was born and raised in Washington, D.C. His work has appeared in many magazines and anthologies, and in Take Three: 1. He currently teaches at Sarah Lawrence College and Lesley University.
E. Thomas Finan is a PhD student of literature and philosophy in the University Professors Program at Boston University. His dissertation examines the role of “reality” in the works of Ralph Waldo Emerson, Walt Whitman, and Emily Dickinson.

Jennifer Formichelli earned a BA from Boston University and a PhD from the University of Cambridge. She is currently Lecturer in the Core Curriculum at Boston University, and a co-editor of The Collected Prose of T.S. Eliot (Faber and Faber, forthcoming).

Edwin Frank is the editor of the New Review Books Classics series.

Bruce Gans is a professor of English at Wright College in Chicago and is the founder and director of its Great Books Curriculum as well as the director of the National Great Books Curriculum Academic Community.

Ellen Greene is the Joseph Paxton Presidential Professor of Classics at the University of Oklahoma. She received her PhD from UC Berkeley in 1992. Greene has published five books on Greek and Latin love poetry: The Erotics of Domination: Male Desire and the Mistress in Latin Poetry, Reading Sappho, Re-Reading Sappho, Women Poets In Ancient Greece and Rome, and Gendered Dynamics in Latin Love Poetry (with Ronnie Ancona). Two of her forthcoming books are: The New Sappho On Old Age and Oxford Readings In Propertius. Currently she is working on a study of Sappho for Blackwell.

Martin Greenup is a third-year graduate student in the English Department of Harvard University, working in the field of nineteenth-century American literature with a focus on poetry, particularly that of Dickinson and Whitman. He took his BA in English from Wolfson College, Cambridge. He comes from a sheep-farming background in Cumbria, in the northwest of England.

Mark Andrew Hall is Assistant Professor of French at Ithaca College.

Ernest Hilbert is the editor of the Contemporary Poetry Review. He received his doctorate in English Language and Literature at Oxford University, where he studied with Jon Stallworthy and James Fenton, and edited the Oxford Quarterly. He later became the poetry editor for Random House’s magazine Bold Type in New York and edited the magazine nowCulture for several years. He reviews books for the New York Sun and the Academy of American Poets, and his poetry has appeared in The New Republic, American Poetry Review, The Yale Review, and The American Scholar. He works as an antiquarian book dealer in Philadelphia.

Jane Hirshfield is the author of six collections of poetry, including After (which was shortlisted for England’s T.S. Eliot Prize, nominated for the Northern California Book Award in Poetry, and also chosen as one of the best books of 2006 by the Washington Post, the San Francisco Chronicle, and the London Financial Times) and Given Sugar, Given Salt (finalist for the 2001 National Book Critics Circle Award, and winner of the Bay Area Book Reviewers Award). Her work has appeared in The New Yorker, The Atlantic, The Times Literary Supplement (London), Poetry, and many other publications.

George Hoffmann has taught as Associate Professor in the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures at the University of Michigan since 2000, after ten years teaching at Boston University. His book, Montaigne’s Career (Oxford: Clarendon, 1998), won the Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Prize for French and Francophone Literary Studies, awarded by the Modern Language Association in 1999. He works on religious culture and is currently completing a book on the mutual formation of secular and fundamentalist attitudes in Europe during the Reformation, entitled To Make Believe: Literature, Religion, and the Reformation.

Sunil Iyengar directs the Office of Research and Analysis at the National Endowment for the Arts. In 2006, he oversaw production of the NEA research brochure, The Arts and Civic Engagement: Involved in Arts, Involved in Life, and he has since involved arts and civic groups in regional and national discussions of the study’s findings and implications. He also revised and updated the guide How the United States Funds the Arts for its most recent edition (2007).


Alexis Kirschbaum is Editor of Penguin Classics. She was raised in San Francisco but now lives in London.

Travis Kurowski is a visiting lecturer in English at the University of Southern Mississippi. He is also founding editor of Luna Park (www.lunaparkreview.com) and soliciting editor for Opium magazine. Along with Gary Percesepe, he recently served as guest editor for an issue of Mississippi Review, “The Lit Mag at 100,” which will come out fall 2008. His fiction and nonfiction has been published in Ninth Letter, Southern Quarterly, and Product.

Jhumpa Lahiri received the Pulitzer Prize in 2000 for Interpreter of Maladies, her debut story collection that explores issues of love and identity among immigrants and cultural transplants. Her novel The Namesake was published in the fall of 2003 to great acclaim, and her most recent book of short stories, entitled Unaccustomed Earth, received the 2008 Frank O’Connor International Short Story Award. Alongside the Pulitzer Prize, she has also won the PEN/Hemingway Award, an O. Henry Prize (for the short story “Interpreter of Maladies”), and the Addison Metcaif Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, among others.

André Lardinois is Professor of Greek Language and Culture at the Radboud University Nijmegen in the Netherlands.

Joseph Levens is editor of the literary magazine The Summerset Review. His own fiction has appeared in Florida Review, AGNI, Other Voices, New Orleans Review, Swink, Sou’wester, and other places. He has taught fiction writing at Hofstra University and through his school district in Smithtown, New York.

Jennifer Lewin is a visiting assistant professor at Boston University. Her specialty is Renaissance poetry and poetics; she also publishes on Shakespeare and contemporary poetry. Several of her poems are forthcoming in Raritan.

Phillip Lopate is the author of three personal essay collections (Bachelorhood, Against Joie de Vivre, Portrait of My Body), three books of fiction (Confessions of Summer, The Rug Merchant, Two Marriages), a collection of film criticism (Totally Tenderly Tragically), an educational memoir (Being With Children), and an urban meditation (Waterfront). He has edited the anthologies Art of the Personal Essay, Writing New York, and American Movie Critics. He is a professor in the graduate division of Columbia University.
Marc Mancinelli is a teacher of English at Sterling High School in Somerdale, NJ. He received his bachelor’s in English and psychology from St. Joseph’s University in 2000, and a master’s in English from West Chester University in 2005. Concentrations and research areas include 19th-century American literature, 20th-century American literature, and creative writing. Other presentations include conferences at Texas Tech and Harvard. He is currently a doctoral student in education at the University of Pennsylvania. Teaching experience includes work as an adjunct instructor of English at St. Joseph’s University. Mancinelli currently resides in Turnersville, New Jersey with his wife, Annmarie.

J. D. McClatchy, librettist, is the author of six books of poems. His new collection, *Mercury Dressing*, will be published next year by Knopf. He has also written three collections of essays, including *American Writers at Home* (2004). He teaches at Yale, is editor of *The Yale Review*, and is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters. His first opera libretto was for William Schuman’s *A Question of Taste*, which premiered in 1989. His singing translation of Mozart’s *The Magic Flute* premiered at the Metropolitan Opera in 2006, and will be revived during this coming Christmas season there.

Jim McCue is helping Christopher Ricks to edit the poems of T. S. Eliot, having previously worked for *The Times* (of London). He occasionally publishes under the imprint of the Foundling Press.

Lucy McDiarmid has just been appointed Marie Frazee-Baldassarre Professor of English at Montclair State University and is the author, most recently, of *The Irish Art of Controversy* (Cornell University Press).

Brian J. McDonald holds a PhD in English Literature from the University of Edinburgh. His research interests include post-WWII American and British fiction and the relationship between imaginative literature and liberal political thought. His essays have appeared in periodicals such as *Journal of Modern Literature* and *Gothic Studies*, and he has recently completed a stint with the Manuscripts Division of the Princeton University Library, organizing, archiving, and making available to researchers, the extensive archives of *The Hudson Review*. He currently lives in Washington, DC.

Articles by Molly McQuade have appeared recently in the journal of the *M/MLA* and in *Woof Studies Annual*, among others. Her books include *Stealing Glimpses*, *Barbarism*, and *By Herself*.

Edward Mendelson is Lionel Trilling Professor in the Humanities at Columbia University and the literary executor of the Estate of W. H. Auden. His books include *Early Auden*, *Later Auden*, and *The Things that Matter: What Seven Classic Novels Have to Say about the Stages of Life*. He has prepared editions of poems and prose by W. H. Auden and novels by Anthony Trollope, George Meredith, Thomas Hardy, H. G. Wells, and Arnold Bennett. He is a Contributing Editor of *PC Magazine*.

Emily Taylor Merriman is an assistant professor of English Literature at San Francisco State University, where she teaches modern British, American, and Caribbean Poetry. She holds an MA in Creative Writing and a PhD in Religion and Literature from Boston University. Her publications include work on Adrienne Rich, Geoffrey Hill, Gerard Manley Hopkins, and William Blake. She is currently working on a book entitled *Poetry’s God*, on the theology in verse of Geoffrey Hill, Derek Walcott, and Charles Wright.

Christi A. Merrill teaches South Asian literature and postcolonial theory at the University of Michigan. In 2002 she was awarded an NEA fellowship to translate the oral-based stories of Vijayan Detha, now forthcoming from Katha Press and Fordham University Press as *A Straw Epic*. In 2004 she was on fellowship at Cornell University’s Society for the Humanities to write a monograph on translation (*Riddles of Belonging*) which is forthcoming from Fordham University Press. Currently she is writing on genres of literary nonfiction (essay, *aamkatha*, *testimonia*, *baat*) as they are translated into English.

David Mikics is Professor of English at the University of Houston. He is the author, most recently, of *A New Handbook of Literary Terms* (Yale University Press), as well as books on Emerson and Nietzsche, and on Spenser and Milton. His current project is *The Art of the Sonnet*, a close reading of one hundred sonnets from the Renaissance to the present, co-written with Stephen Burt (Harvard University Press).

Paige Morgan is completing a PhD in literature and textual studies at the University of Washington, and is currently working on a dissertation focusing on romanticism, economics, and aesthetics. She is the Assistant Editor of *Modern Language Quarterly*, and of the UK Blake Society’s *Blake Journal*.

Richard Nanian received an MA in English with both Literature and Creative Writing concentrations from Salem State College, and a PhD in English with a Literary Studies concentration from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. He teaches both literature and writing courses at George Mason University. His interests include English and American Romanticism, poetics, and the effects of language on cognition. His most recent article—“Positive Ambiguity, or Why Keats’ ‘Lamia’ Did Not Become a Fragment”—was published in the 2008 issue of *Prism(s): The Journal of the International Conference on Romanticism*. He has been a member of ALSC since 1999.

Versatile woman of letters (novelist, poet, playwright, reviewer, essayist) *Joyce Carol Oates* is Roger S. Berlind ’52 Professor of the Humanities, and Professor of Creative Writing at Princeton University. From a working-class childhood in upstate New York, where she attended a one-room schoolhouse, she went on to write novels in high school, win a scholarship to Syracuse University, and emerge from there on the launch of a major career. From 1968 to 1978 she taught at the University of Windsor in Canada; at Princeton, where she has been since, she is a vital presence in the campus community, and adored teacher to generations of students, several of whom have gone on to sparking careers as writers themselves.

Born in Mexico City, *Antonio Ochoa* received his undergraduate degree in Latin American Literature from the Universidad Iberoamericana. He then obtained a grant to study a Master of Letters degree at the University of Edinburgh. While finishing his MLitt he got involved in the Avant-Garde Research Group headed by the late Professor Dietrich Scheunemann, under whose supervision he began a PhD in Avant-Garde poetry, completed earlier this year. His latest project was the translation of Robert Duncan’s book of poems *Bending the Bow*.

Gillian Osborne received her BA in Comparative Literature from Columbia University in 2006. These days, she is a graduate student in English at UC Berkeley, studying the poetry and poetics of 19th and 20th century America. At Berkeley, she is also pursuing a Creative Masters as part of her PhD, and her
poetry has appeared in the Three Penny Review.


Holt Parker is Professor of Classics at the University of Cincinnati. He has been awarded the Rome Prize, the Women’s Classical Caucus Prize for Scholarship, a Loeb Library Foundation Grant, and a Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities. He has published on Sappho, Sulpicia, sexuality, slavery, sadism, and spectacles. His book Olympia Morata: The Complete Writings of an Italian Heretic (Chicago 2003) was given the Josephine Roberts Award by the Society for the Study of Early Modern Women. His translation (the first complete in English) of Censorinus’ curious work, The Birthday Book, makes an attractive present.

Joshua Pederson received his PhD in Religion and Literature from Boston University in the spring of 2008 and currently teaches courses at Marymount Manhattan College and Hofstra University. His broader academic interests include 20th-century and contemporary American and British literature and theater, the Bible, and film studies.

Ethel Rackin is a graduate student in English at Princeton University, where she studies nineteenth and twentieth-century poetry and poetics, British and American modernism, and material culture. She is currently working on a dissertation on poetic ornamentation, focusing on questions of baroque and minimalist tendencies from the fin-de-siècle to WWII. She has also taught creative writing at Penn State University’s Delaware County Campus, and at Haverford College. Her own poems have appeared in The American Poetry Review, Poetry East, Colorado Review, and elsewhere.

Diane Rayor is Professor and co-founder of the Department of Classics at Grand Valley State University in Michigan, where she teaches ancient Greek, translation theory, mythology, and classical literature. She has published four books of translations, including The Homeric Hymns (California, 2004) and Sappho’s Lyre: Archaic Lyric and Women Poets of Ancient Greece (California, 1991). In summer 2008, she participated in the Paros Symposium of Conversation and Translation while working on her current project, translating Sophocles’ Antigone for performance.

Patrick Redding lives in New York City. He is a PhD candidate in the Department of English at Yale University, currently finishing a dissertation entitled “Modernism and the Fate of Democratic Poetics.” This project argues that, contrary to a longstanding theory of American literature that begins with Walt Whitman, there is no useful correlation between democratic commitment and poetic form. This formal expectation has led critics to overlook the democratic imagination at work in the modernist poetry of Hart Crane, Wallace Stevens, Marianne Moore, and William Carlos Williams.

Richard Regosin is Professor Emeritus of French at UC Irvine. He is the author of books on Montaigne and D’Aubigne and of numerous articles on Rabelais, Marguerite de Navarre, Ronsard, Du Bellay, De Fail, La Boetie, and others.

Christopher Ricks is Warren Professor of the Humanities, and Co-Director of the Editorial Institute, at Boston University, and he has one more year as Professor of Poetry at Oxford. His writings on Beckett run from 1955, through Beckett’s Dying Words (1993), to a commentary on the little-known masterpiece “Ceiling” in the annual Fulcrum (2008) which devotes nearly two hundred pages to Beckett’s greatness.

Lisa Rodensky is an Associate Professor of English at Wellesley College. She is the author of The Crime in Mind: Criminal Responsibility and the Victorian Novel (Oxford 2003), and is currently editing The Oxford Handbook of the Victorian Novel.

Adelaide Russo received her PhD from Columbia University. She teaches in the Department of French Studies and the Program in Comparative Literature at Louisiana State University. Her latest book, Le Peintre comme modèle: Du Surréalisme à l’extrême contemporain (Septentrion, Collection “Perspectives,” 2007) won the Prix Debrousses-Gas-Forestier from the French Académie des Beaux-Arts. Her current research focuses on poetry from 1850 to the present, the relationship between the arts, and on Belgian francophone literature and culture.

Don Share is Senior Editor of Poetry magazine in Chicago. He was previously Poetry Editor of Harvard Review and Partisan Review, Editor of Literary Imagination, and Curator of Poetry at Harvard University. His books include Squandermania (Salt Publishing), Union (Zoo Press), Seneca in English (Penguin Classics), and a critical edition of Basil Bunting’s poems (forthcoming, Faber and Faber). His translations of Miguel Hernández, collected in I Have Lots of Heart (Bloodaxe Books) were awarded the Times Literary Supplement Translation Prize, the Premio Valle Inclán Prize, and the PEN/New England Discovery Award. He received his PhD from the Editorial Institute at Boston University.

Willard Spiegelman is the Hughes Professor of English at Southern Methodist University, and the editor-in-chief of The Southwest Review. His forthcoming books are Imaginative Transcripts: Selected Literary Essays (Oxford), and Seven Pleasures: Essays on Ordinary Happiness (Farrar Straus Giroux).

Beth Staley attends West Virginia University, where she is pursuing a PhD in English with emphasis on late nineteenth- and twentieth-century American poetry, from Dickinson onward. She also writes poems; some of them have recently appeared in Kestrel, Hamilton Stone Review, and Crate, which named her this year’s Tomas Rivera selection for her work as a poet and teacher.

Susan Strehle is Professor of English at Binghamton University, part of the State University of New York. She is the author of Transnational Women’s Fiction: Unsettling Home and Homeland (2008) as well as two other books and several articles about contemporary fiction. She is Chief Reader for the Advanced Placement test in Literature and Composition and thus concerned with high school reading and its intersection with achievement in college.

For nearly a decade Clifford Thompson has contributed personal essays as well as pieces on books and jazz to The Threepenny Review. In addition, he has published essays and reviews in Commonweal, The Iowa Review, Cineaste, Film Quarterly, Black Issues Book Review, and The Best American Movie Writing 1999, among other places. A graduate of Oberlin College, he is
the editor of the reference journal *Current Biography*, published by the H. W. Wilson Company, Bronx, New York, and oversees Wilson's other print and electronic biographical articles. He lives in Brooklyn with his wife and two daughters.

**Samantha Tomasetto** is the author of *Joseph Addison: On Religion, God and at Atheism: the Article taken from The Spectator with an Introduction and Related comment* (CLEUP, 2004) and a doctoral researcher on “the mission of The Spectator in the European world” at Roehampton University, London.

**Joseph Urbas** teaches American literature at the University of Bordeaux and is Associate Editor of the French edition of the works of Herman Melville (Bibliothèque de la Pléiade/Editions Gallimard).

**Robert von Hallberg** is Helen A. Regenstein Professor of Comparative Literature at the University of Chicago. He is the author of the recent *Lyric Powers* (Chicago), a general study of lyric poetry, and of other books on recent U.S. poetry. He teaches courses in poetry in English and in German. He compiled a study of East German Literary Intellectuals, *Literary Intellectuals and the Dissolution of the State* (Chicago, 1996). He is writing a book on love-songs, poems as well as popular songs.

**Emily Mitchell Wallace** has a PhD in comparative literature from Bryn Mawr, and has taught literature at the University of Pennsylvania, Swarthmore, Curtis Institute of Music, and an interdisciplinary seminar at Yale on “Painting, Poetry, and Science in the 20th Century; William Carlos Williams, A Case Study.” She compiled *A Bibliography of William Carlos Williams* (Wesleyan UP, 1968) with the help of Dr. and Mrs. Williams in Rutherford and Donald Gallup at Yale. She traveled to Greece with Mrs. Williams and visited her frequently. She is now a research scholar at the Center for Visual Culture at Bryn Mawr College.

**Chris Walsh** earned his doctorate in American Studies at Boston University. After two years as a Fulbright lecturer at the University of Ouagadougou in Burkina Faso, Walsh returned to BU, where he is currently the Associate Director of the College of Arts & Sciences Writing Program. He has published in *AGNI*, *Essays in Criticism*, *Raritan*, and *The Yale Review*, and is now completing a book about cowardice, called *Cowardice*.

**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 is Associate Professor of English at William Paterson University.

**Frances Whistler** is Director of Publications, and Assistant Director, at the Editorial Institute, Boston University. Before that she worked at Oxford University Press, UK, for 23 years, mainly on the Academic Literature list (formerly distinguished as the Clarendon Press, but then amalgamated with the other departments as Oxford University Press).

**Edmund White**, Professor of Creative Writing at Princeton University, is famous for his biography of Jean Genet, for which he won the National Book Critics Circle Award. He is the author of a trilogy of autobiographical novels—*A Boy’s Own Story*, *The Beautiful Room is Empty*, and *The Farewell Symphony*—as well as a novel about love in the AIDS era, *The Married Man*, a brief life of Marcel Proust, and a book about unconventional Paris, *The Flaneur*. His most recent works of fiction are *Chaos* and *Hotel de Dream*. He is currently at work on a brief life of Arthur Rimbaud.

**Valeri Whitmer** is a doctoral candidate in English at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York working on her dissertation, *The Sounds of War: Aural Experience and National Consensus*, which explores cultural representations of World War II on radio. She is particularly interested in how the addition of sound, music and images influence reception of texts. Most of her research revolves around the communications technologies of the late nineteenth- through mid-twentieth centuries. Ms. Whitmer was a panelist in April 2008 at the interdisciplinary conference at Columbia University “Twentieth Century Literature and the Weight of History.”

**Joyce Wilson** teaches English at Suffolk University. She has published poems in *Poetry Ireland*, *Cyphers*, *Ibbetson Street Magazine*, and on the web site for formal women poets *Mezzo Cammin* (www.mezzocammin.com). One of her poems won the Daniel Varoujan Prize of the New England Poetry Club, and another won the Katherine Lee Bates award given by the Historical Society of Falmouth, Massachusetts Her first manuscript of poetry is circulating. She is creator and editor of the online magazine, *The Poetry Porch* (www.poetryporch.com), which publishes poetry, essays, sonnets, and links to other literary sites. Wilson also reviews books regularly for *Harvard Review*.

**Steven Winspur** is Professor of French at the University of Wisconsin and his most recent book is entitled *La Poesie du lieu* (Rodopi 2006).

**Dimitrios Yatromanolakis** is Associate Professor in the Department of Classics and The Humanities Center at the Johns Hopkins University, and is currently a Visiting Professor at Harvard University. He has co-founded and co-chairs the Research Program “Cultural Politics” at the Weatherhead Center, Harvard University. He is the co-author of *Towards a Ritual Poetics* (2003) and author of *Sappho in the Making: The Early Reception* (2007) and *Fragments of Sappho: A Commentary* (forthcoming). His current project is a monograph on the sociocultural history of *mousikoi agonè*. Trained as a papyrologist, he has worked extensively on literary papyri as well as vase-inscriptions.

**David Yezzi**’s books of poetry are *The Hidden Model* (TriQuarterly Books/Northwestern University Press) and *Azores* (Swallow Press/Ohio University Press). His libretto for a chamber opera by David Conte, *Firebird Motel*, received its world premiere in 2003 and was released on CD last year. From 1998 to 2000, he was a Stegner Fellow in poetry at Stanford University. A former director of the Unterberg Poetry Center of the 92nd Street Y, he is executive editor of *The New Criterion*. He lives in New York City.
The best source for information about concerts, plays, films, clubs, restaurants, and more is the Philadelphia City Paper, a free newspaper that comes out every Thursday. It is available in hotel lobbies, bookstores, many restaurants, and other places throughout the city. The paper’s Website (www.citypaper.net) features an excellent search tool that makes it easy to find whatever one might want in the way of arts, dining, and entertainment in Philadelphia.

The brief restaurant listing below is mostly limited to establishments in the vicinity of the conference hotel. The arts and entertainment listing ranges further afield.

**Philadelphia Dining**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inexpensive</td>
<td>Jim’s Steaks</td>
<td>400 South Street</td>
<td>215-928-1911</td>
<td>Authentic Philly cheesesteaks, excellent hoagies, distinctive Art Deco storefront: perfect for a quick lunch.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>South Street Souvlaki</td>
<td>509 South Street</td>
<td>215-925-3026</td>
<td>Classic Greek and Mediterranean cuisine, including vegetarian dishes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expensive</td>
<td>Sfizzio</td>
<td>237 St. James Place</td>
<td>215-925-1802</td>
<td>Italian fare with an accent on Naples and southern Italy. Mosaic décor with a postmodern flair.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mallorca</td>
<td>119 South Street</td>
<td>215-351-6652</td>
<td>Authentic Iberian cuisine with a dash of flamenco dancing. Specialties include garlic shrimp, mariscada, lobster, goat, paella. Tapas also served.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Le Bec-Fin</td>
<td>1523 Walnut Street</td>
<td>215-567-1000</td>
<td>Philadelphia’s best and one of the country’s top French restaurants. Extensive wine cellar. Formal attire required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Moshulu</td>
<td>401 South Columbus Blvd.</td>
<td>215-923-2500</td>
<td>Fine dining aboard a restored, century old sailing ship moored off Penn’s Landing. Excellent river and skyline views.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Philadelphia Arts and Entertainment**

- **Alma de Cuba**
  1623 Walnut Street
  215-988-1799
  Live Cuban music performances.
- **Arden Theatre Company**
  40 North 2nd Street
  215-922-1122
  “Dedicated to bringing to life the greatest stories by the greatest storytellers of all time.”
- **Forrest Theatre**
  1114 Walnut Street
  215-923-1515
  Broadway shows—the city's premier theatrical arts venue.
- **Joseph Fox Bookshop**
  1724 Sansom Street
  215-563-4184
  www.foxbookshop.com
  Independent bookstore in Rittenhouse Square, featuring literature, non-fiction, art, architecture, music, poetry, and children's books.
- **Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts**
  Broad & Spruce Streets
  215-790-5800
- **Philadelphia Museum of Fine Art**
  (Main Building)
  26th Street and Benjamin Franklin Parkway
  215-763-8100
  The PMFA is the third largest fine arts museum in the U.S., and home to over 225,000 objects, spanning the creative achievements of the Western world since the first century AD and those of Asia since the third millennium BC.
- **Pure**
  1221 St. James Street
  215-735-8485
  The city’s prominent gay nightspot for more than 30 years.
- **Rodin Museum**
  Benjamin Franklin Parkway at 22nd Street
  215-568-6026
  Home to nearly 130 plaster, bronze, and marble sculptures, including *The Burghers of Calais*, *The Gates of Hell*, and *The Apotheosis of Victor Hugo*, the Museum houses the largest collection of Rodin’s works outside Paris.
Rosenbach Museum and Library  
2008-2010 DeLancy Place at 20th Street  
215-732-1600  
Collection features 30,000 books and 300,000 manuscripts, including letters from George Washington, some of Lincoln’s speeches, and manuscript pages of Joyce’s Ulysses. Major exhibits of the work of Marianne Moore and Maurice Sendak are also housed here.

Tin Angel  
20 South 2nd Street  
215-928-0770  
Folk music.

Tribeca  
Richmond and Cumberland Streets  
215-423-7990  
After-hours club with a lounge, two DJ stands, pool tables, and fashionable décor.

Warmdaddy’s  
4 South Front Street  
215-627-8400  
A popular night spot, featuring live Zydeco, blues, R&B, and soul music.

Zanzibar Blue  
Broad & Walnut Streets  
215-732-4500  
Philadelphia’s most high-profile jazz club.

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