San Francisco, CA
November 7-9, 1997
Friday, November 7

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Registration

2:00 - 4:30 p.m.

Literary Biography Chair: Brian Boyd (University of Auckland)


Hershell Parker (University of Delaware): “Finding Narrative in Melville’s Marginalia.”

Andrew Wachtel (Northwestern University): “Life into Art or Art into Life? Disentangling Lev Tolstoy’s Autobiographical Practice.”


4:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Discussion groups:

“The Zeitgeist as Parameter,” led by Peter Brier

“Art and Politics in Literary Biography,” led by Andrew Patner

“Between Autobiography and Fiction,” led by Brooke Hopkins

“Recovering Melville,” led by David Rothman

5:30 - 7:00 p.m. Reception, with address by President Robert Alter.
7:00 - 7:45 p.m. Graduate Student Members’ Meeting.

8:00 - 9:30 p.m. Poster Session

Saturday, November 8

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon.

Jane Austen Chair: Lorraine Clark (Trent University)

Jill Heydt-Stevenson (University of Colorado, Boulder): “The Epistemology of the Picturesque: Mansfield Park and Sense and Sensibility.”

Inger Brodey (University of Puget Sound): “Adventures of a Female Werther: Austen’s Revision of Sensibility.”

Paul Cantor (University of Virginia): “Persuasion and the Lingering Death of the Aristocracy.”

David Gallop (Trent University): “Jane Austen and the Aristotelian Ethic.”

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon.

Poets and Teachers Chair: John Hollander (Yale University)

Four poets discuss their work and its relation to the academy:

Rachel Hadas (Rutgers University) has published seven books of poetry, including most recently The Empty Bed.

Debora Greger (University of Florida) has written five volumes of poetry; the latest is Desert Fathers, Uranium Daughters.

Robert Mezey (Pomona College) has published five collections of poems, including the recent Evening Wind.

J. D. McClatchy (editor, The Yale Review) has taught at Yale, Princeton, and Columbia; his fourth volume of poetry will appear this year.
12:30 p.m. Lunch

2:00 – 5:30 p.m.

The State of Literary Studies Chair: Eleanor Cook (University of Toronto)


Robert Scholes (Brown University): “Literature and Composition: Reconsidering a Relationship.”

Seymour Chatman (UC Berkeley): “What happened to Literary Theory?”

Denis Donoghue (NYU): “Three Ways of Reading.”

6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Members’ Meeting

7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Poetry Reading: Robert Mezey and Richard Barnes will read from their translation of the Collected Poems by Borges.

8:00 p.m. Dinner, followed by an address by A. S. Byatt: “Ice, Snow, Glass.”

Sunday, November 9

9:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Translation Chair: Rosanna Warren (Boston University)

Jonathan Brent (Editor, Yale University): “The Place of the Translator in Literary Publishing.”

Clare Cavanagh (University of Wisconsin): “At the Corner of maple and Pine: Szymborska in America.”

Robert Fagles (Princeton University): “War’s Miracle Begetting That of Peace: Translating Homer’s Odyssey.”
Jascha Kessler (UCLA): “The Translator as Poet.”

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Discussion groups:

“Faithful Ugliness or Faithless Beauty,” led by Daniel Cullen

“Translation, Imitation, or What?” led by Jay Halio

“The Translator as Mediator: Working with Authors, Editors, and Publishers,” led by Alfred MacAdam

“Translation as Interpretation,” led by Jeffrey Todd