

Musings

the english graduate newsletter

fall 2003

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from the chair

This fall presented me with the very pleasing opportunity to welcome three new assistant professors to our department, and two writers holding visiting appointments. Joining our esteemed colleague Barbara Newman are medievalists Katharine Breen, who received her PhD from UC Berkeley in 2003, and Susie Phillips, who received her PhD from Harvard in 1999 and was teaching at the University of Iowa before coming to Northwestern. Joining our distinguished colleagues in Early Modern literature and culture is Christopher Johnson, who received his PhD from NYU in 2000 and was teaching at Harvard before his arrival here. Anna Keesey is a fiction writer who is at work on her first book and has already won several honors for her writing. Averill Curdy is a poet who is also finishing a PhD at the University of Missouri and is co-editing a new anthology of British poetry in English to be published by Longman.

The year began with more good news in the form of our outstanding cohort of ten new PhD students and four Master's students, about whom you can read in this issue. And the inauguration of our entirely redesigned departmental web site (www.english.northwestern.edu), gives visitors quick and attractive access to our graduate program, our faculty and many other aspects of our department, including, for the first time, some history and archival photographs. We have included on page 8 of this newsletter an excerpt from this section of our website.

At our fourth annual English Department Collation on October 13, Larry Lipking and Susannah Gottlieb presented papers and the department toasted Larry Evans, who has retired, for his many years of outstanding service, especially to our undergraduates.

We all look forward to a very good year in our teaching, scholarship and writing.

Reg Gibbons

inside this issue

from the chair	1
recent graduates	1
fellowships & grants	2
other awards & prizes	2
papers presented	2
publications	3
alumni/ae news	4
new graduate students 2003-04	4
placement news 2002-03	4
faculty profiles	6
a thumbnail history	8

recent graduates



Marcy Dinius (PhD, December 2003)

“The Camera and the Pencil: Daguerreotypy and Literature in Antebellum America”

Christopher Hager (PhD, December 2003)

“Agression and Forebearance: American Politics and Narrative Form, 1848-1865”

Kristen Lie (MA, June 2003)

“‘He Gradde After Grace’: Looking for Salvation and God in *Piers Plowman* and Some Works of the *Gawain*-Poet”

Erin Redfern (PhD, June 2003)

“Prognosis Pathological: American Literature and Psychoanalytic Psychiatry during World War II”

graduate student fellowships & grants

Dana Bilsky has been awarded a Kaplan Humanities Center Graduate Fellowship and Travel Grant for Fall 2003. The award carries one quarter leave from teaching and a travel stipend, which will enable Dana to complete her work on "Part of the Furniture: Speaking Subjects and Household Things in 19th-Century American Literature."

Winner of a Dissertation Year Fellowship from The Graduate School, **Emily Bryan** will spend 2003-04 finishing, "In the Company of Boys: The Place of the Boy Actor in Early Modern English Culture."

The Huntington Library in San Marino, CA has named **Ashley Byock** a Mellon Foundation Fellow. In combination with a fall quarter Brady Fellowship, Ashley is spending her summer and fall in the Huntington's archives working on her dissertation project, "Cryptic Signs: Writing and Mourning in 19th-Century America."

Bryan Hampton, winner of a Weinberg Dean's Dissertation Fellowship, will spend 2003-04 writing, "The Poetry of Proclamation: Milton and Incarnational Poetics."

The American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia, has awarded **Hunt Howell** a John C. Slater Library Resident Fellowship. He is also the recipient of a two-quarter research fellowship from the Graduate School. The addition of one quarter's Heltzel fellowship to these awards will enable Hunt to spend 2003-04 researching his project, "Writing the Body Politic: Philology, Orthopedics, and the Possibilities of Citizenship in Early America."

Hyun-Jung Lee has won two quarters of research fellowship from the Graduate School. A third quarter's Heltzel fellowship will give her the entire year to devote to working on "Morality Incarnate: Evil and the Bodily Imagination in Victorian Literature."

Glenn Sucich has been awarded two quarters of Heltzel fellowship, which he will use to work on "Between Two Worlds: The Miltonic Sublime and the Poetics of Mediation."

This summer **Carrie Wasinger** researched the works of George MacDonald as a Mayers Fellow at the Huntington Library in San Marino CA. She is also the recipient of a Brady Fellowship in Spring 2004, when she will focus on "'Thus Grew the Tale of Wonderland': Victorian Gender and the Figure of the Child."

other awards & prizes

For her "Transnational Nationalisms: 'American' Studies, Racial Formation, and Martin Delaney's *Blake; or the Huts of America*," **Katy Chiles** was the 2003 winner of the Karin Strand Prize for best seminar paper by a graduate student.

Emily Bryan and **Ryan Friedman** were both accepted to the Kaplan Center for the Humanities Dissertation Forum held in early May. This new event, funded by the Mellon Foundation, gives advanced graduate students in the humanities a chance to share their dissertation work with an interdisciplinary audience. With two out of the six presenters, English was well represented.

Coleman Hutchison joins recent past winners Chris Hager, Eric LeMay, and Matt Frankel in garnering the 2003 Weinberg College Outstanding Graduate Teacher Award.

The Searle Center for Teaching Excellence has selected **Sarah Mesle** as a Teaching Fellow. In this capacity, she will lead workshops in training the English Department's new Teaching Assistantships and offer mentoring throughout 2003-04.

Randy Woods has won the T. S. Eliot Society Fathman Award for Young (or as he says, in his case, "New") Scholars for the paper he gave at the T. S. Eliot Society meeting in St. Louis this September.

papers presented

In March **Brian Artese** gave his, "Shotgun Monologues: Kafka on the American Screen," at the 2003 Narrative conference at UC Berkeley.

Ashley Byock will present a paper entitled "Embalming and the Dualities of Mourning During the American Civil War" at a conference on "Making Sense of Death and Dying" in Paris in November.

Katy Chiles delivered a paper on Benjamin Franklin's *Autobiography* at the Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association national conference. In late December, she will present "Transnational Nationalisms: 'American' Studies, Racial Formation, and Martin Delaney's *Blake*; or the Huts of America" at the MLA annual meeting in San Diego. She also published a book review in *Tulsa Studies in Women's Literature*, Fall 2002.

In October, **Joanne Diaz** presented two papers: "Finding Richard in Silence: Melodrama and Performance in a Silent Film Version of *Richard III*" at the Midwest Popular Culture Conference in Minneapolis and "How a Silent *Tempest* Releases the Performance from the Page" at the GEMCS Conference in Newport Beach. Her poem "Reenactment, Gettysburg" has just appeared in the Fall issue of *Grand Street*.

In May **Marcy Dinius** presented a paper entitled "Poe's Moon Shot: The Art and Science of Antebellum Print Culture" at the American Literature Association annual conference in Cambridge, MA. She will also be part of a roundtable discussion at December's MLA conference in San Diego on "New Views on [Melville's] *Pierre*," giving a paper entitled "Of Letters, Handkerchiefs, Pamphlets, Manuscripts, and Other Printed 'Ephemera.'"

papers presented continued...

In mid-October at the American Studies Association convention, **Ryan Friedman** delivered, "This Debacle of Human Emotion': *Hallelujah* as Myth and History," for the panel on "Violence Seen and Unseen: The Production of African American Bodies in Hollywood and the Race Film, 1920-1929."

In late March, at the University of Miami, Coral Gables, FL, **Deana Greenfield** presented a paper entitled "Fantasy, Breasts and Acceptance: Ralph Singh's Use of Women in Naipaul's *The Mimic Men*" at Caribbean Currents: Navigating the Web and the Word, the XXII Annual West Indian Literature Conference. In late April, Deana also presented a paper entitled "'Jehovah's name—no other arms I bear': The Revolutionary Rhetoric of Phillis Wheatley's 'Goliath of Gath'" at The University of Chicago's 10th annual Eyes on the Mosaic Conference.

This fall **Bryan Hampton** presented an essay at the 2003 Conference on John Milton entitled, "Infernal Preaching: God's Name and the 'Great Prophesying Movement' in *Paradise Lost*, Book 2."

Hunt Howell gave his "Splicing Moby-Dick: Copying, Copyright, and the Democratic Imaginary" at the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, and Publishing (SHARP) annual meeting in July. He will deliver a significantly revised version of the same paper at the Society for Critical Exchange's "New Histories of Writing" panel at the M/MLA annual meeting in November.

In early spring, **Coleman Hutchison** travelled to the Narrative Conference in Berkeley CA, where he gave a paper entitled "'This country's great narrative': Promises and Problems of Narrative in Ken Burns' *Civil War*." In turn, late May took Cole to Boston, where he delivered "Eastern Exiles: Dickinson, Whiggery, and War," to the ALA.

Ben Pauley will present a paper entitled "Observations and Memorials: The Narrator as Eye Witness in Defoe's *A Journal of the Plague Year* at the American Society for 18th-Century Studies meeting in Boston in March. There he will also moderate a panel entitled "Plots of Instruction."

In November, **Melvin Peña** will give a paper entitled, "Eros is Lawless: Love, Crime, and Genres of Public Discourse in Addison and Steele's *Spectator* and Eliza Haywood's *Love in Excess*" at the 2003 Chicago MWASECS conference.

Glenn Sucich will deliver two papers before the end of this year: "Not Without Dust and Heat: Alchemical Structure in *Areopagitica*" at the Annual Conference on John Milton in Murfreesboro TN in October, and "From Mineral Fury to Potable Gold: Alchemical Ontology and the Miltonic Sublime" at MLA in San Diego in December.

In March **Carrie Wasinger** gave a paper entitled "On the Psychic Margins of Kensington Gardens: the Infant Figure in *Peter Pan* and Freud" at a conference at Emory University called "Encountering Infancy: the Infant Figure in Literature, Psychoanalysis, and Philosophy."

In March, **Randy Woods** delivered two papers: "Walcott's *Haitian Trilogy*: Beyond Mimicry and Manicheism" at the Annual West Indian Literature Conference at the University of Miami and "*The Waste Land* and Richard Rorty's Theory of Metaphor" at the Midwestern Conference on Literature, Language and Media" at Northern Illinois University. In June, he travelled to the University of Tulsa to present, "The Sins of the Fathers in Joyce's Work: Opening a New Cultural Space Between the Colonial Powers" at the 2003 North American James Joyce Conference. He also gave a paper entitled "Kant and the Aesthetics of T. S. Eliot" at the T. S. Eliot Society held in St. Louis in late September.

publications

Marcy Dinius' article, "Slavery in Black and White: Daguerreotypy and Uncle Tom's Cabin," will be published in *ESQ* in Fall 2004:

Bryan Hampton anticipates the publication of an essay in *Milton Studies* in December, as well as an entry on John Lilburn for Alan Hager's book *The Age of Milton: An Encyclopedia of Major 17th Century British and American Authors*, forthcoming in March 2004.

Randy Wood's article, "Emerson and Pragmatism: The Expansion of Language Through Metaphor" was just published in *Kinesis* volume 29, number 2.

alumni/ae news

James Lang (PhD 1997) has written a book that will be published by Capital [sic] Books, a new trade publisher in DC, in February of 2004. Jim's book is creative nonfiction: *Learning Sickness: A Year with Crohn's Disease*.

Eric LeMay's (PhD 2001) first collection of poetry and prose, *The One in the Many*, has now been published by Zoo Press.



new PhD students 2003-04

Janaka Bowman graduated from Duke in May with a senior thesis on “Poetics of Liberation: Women’s Writing in the Black Arts Movement.” At NU, Janaka has now embarked on the next stage of her academic career, with plans to research African-American women’s writing in the 20th century. She looks forward to working with the English faculty and reuniting with members of her new cohort whom she met at NU’s Visiting Weekend in late February.

When not skiing, cycling, camping or sleeping, **Chris Clary** attended classes at the University of Colorado, somehow managing a double major in English and history. His current interests revolve around perceptions of the foreign and the foreigner, images of the occult, and blurrings of class/power divisions in Early Modern Drama.

Anna Fenton-Hathaway earned her B.A. in English from Davidson College in 1999. Since then she has worked in a variety of writing and editing jobs, ranging from business writing to national park outreach. She intends to focus on 19th-Century Literature in her studies, especially gender politics and narrative framing devices, as well as the effects of the cultural context on literature.

Christie Harner hails from Rescue, VA. Growing up there meant that at age two she could pick up steamed crabs and water ski behind her father’s boat. After a four-year stint at the University of Virginia, Christie is has come to NU to pursue her love for Victorian literature.

Tasha Hawthorne earned her BA in African-American Studies at Bates College in 1997 and completed her master’s degree in Africana Studies at Cornell in 2003. She has taught African-American history, world literature, English literature, and social studies at the Hopkins School in New Haven CT, The Pembroke Hill School in Kansas City MO, and Summerbridge. Her literary interests include feminist and African-American literature, particularly the trope of Black Wifery in the writings of Coretta Scott King and Winnie Mandela. At NU, she would like to expand her examination of this trope to the writings of Amy Jacques Garvey, Mary Washington, and Amy DuBois.

Heidi Kim graduated from Harvard in 2001 with a degree in biochemistry and a certificate in French, and then worked nine months at a consulting firm. After that, she took classes to better prepare herself for the world of English and worked on processing the Gore Vidal manuscripts at the Harvard archives. She loves to read everything, but some particular favorites are Elizabethan drama and the twentieth-century American novel.

Jeff Knight earned a BA in English, Journalism, Sociology, and Anthropology from Miami University in 2002. He is looking forward to balancing an interest in early modern print culture and the history of the book with an emerging interest in media and digital culture studies at NU. Jeff spends most of his free time roaming around foreign countries and memorizing facts about public transportation and urban geography.

continued on page 5...

placement news 2002-03

Charlotte Artese (PhD 2002) garnered two tenure-track job offers this year. Charlotte declined an offer from the University of Maine, Farmington in order to take a position at Agnes Scott College, a small women’s liberal arts college in Decatur, Georgia.

Michael Bryson (PhD 2001) has accepted a Visiting Assistant Professorship, renewable for up to three years, at DePaul University.

This year, **Marcy Dinius** (PhD 2003) will serve as a Visiting Assistant Professor in the English Department at Northwestern.

In Fall, **Liz Fekete Trubey** (PhD 2001) accepted a position as a WCAS academic adviser at NU. She advises current sophomores through their senior years, and teaches as a lecturer in the English Department. She continues to work on her research on black and white southern women’s use of sentimental rhetoric in the years surrounding the Civil War.

Christopher Hager (PhD 2003) declined a tenure-track appointment at SUNY Geneseo, where he taught part-time for a year, to return to Northwestern as Assistant Director of the Office of Fellowships.

Karen Leick (PhD 2002) accepted an offer from Ohio State-Lima. This is a tenure-track position with The Ohio State University English Department faculty, including Lima, Columbus and all satellite campuses.

Eric LeMay (PhD 2002) has accepted a renewable position in the Harvard University Writing Program.

This summer **John Martin** moved to Raleigh-Durham, North Carolina, to take a position as Visiting Professor of English at Wake Forest University.

Oberlin College has renewed **Ben Pauley’s** Visiting Assistant Professorship for 2003-04.

In late August, **Derik Smith** began his tenure-track appointment at Arcadia University outside Philadelphia.

new PhD students continued...

Liz McCabe earned her BA in English from the University of Delaware in 2002. There, Liz worked as a University Writing Fellow, devoted more time than she had to a student-run theatre group, and developed a keen interest in travel. Her scholarly focus currently includes 19th Century Literature and Culture, especially the relationship between industrialization and the novel, with a particular interest in costumes and fashions of the 19th and 20th centuries.

Brent Mix completed a BA in English at Boston University in three years. He earned an MA in Education (Secondary English) at Boston College, which he put to use by teaching freshman and senior English at Boston Latin Academy (one of Boston's elite examination schools) for two years. Enthused by his course in Contemporary Experimental African-American and Asian-American Poetry with Professor Dorothy Wang, Brent looks forward to exploring the intrinsic and extrinsic forces that have given shape and beauty to the multivalent continuum of American poetry.

Most recently the Managing Editor of *Back Stage West* in Los Angeles, **Scott Proudfit** covered the bicoastal theatre scenes with features, profiles, and reviews for eight years. As a performer and director, Scott was a member of Irondale Ensemble Project in NY, Tracy Young's BOTHarts theatre company, Tim Robbins' The Actors' Gang, and a board member of the Factory Theater West. He was the student advisor for the creation of the Theater major at Columbia; a member of its first graduating class, he also earned a B.A. in English. His interests involve applying works from a range of linguistic theorists to the diverse texts within modern and contemporary plays. He is also intrigued by post-modernism within the post-punk music scene, performance studies (particularly communal-writing and -directing challenges to the traditional theatre-making hierarchy), and popular Gothic genre fiction in the US.

new MA students

Michael Mehen was raised and educated in the northern and central regions of the Commonwealth of Virginia, respectively. After earning a mysterious interdisciplinary B.A. in Cognitive Science in 1991, he spent nine months working for a DC litigator. He is interested in 18th century English satire.

After graduating in 1999 from Oberlin College with a BA in English and art history, **Cindy Meyers** fled for the mountains, snowboarding and strong coffee of Seattle. After three dotcom jobs, she has swapped her cubicle for a carrel in her return home to Chicagoland. Perennial favorites include Pico Iyer, Evelyn Waugh, wimpy pop music and evading bites attempted by her occasionally cranky pet parrot. She plans to focus her studies on works of the 19th century, with special emphasis on the 1890s and the Decadent movement.

Mike Spiegel graduated with a BA in English from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1999. Born and raised in Phoenix, Arizona, Mike spent the past four years working as an editor for Arcadia Publishing in Chicago. He is specializing his scholarship in Modernism, focusing on the relationship between Modernism and Anti-Semitism as a reflection, reaction, and as an agent of propaganda within Europe during the first half of the twentieth century. His play, "off Stage," produced by the Reasonable Facsimile Theatre Company, will run from November 7 to December 19, Wednesday, Thursday, and Fridays at 8 pm at the Cornservatory Theatre, 4210 Lincoln Avenue.

Since earning a BA in English from Brown in 2002, **Marya Van der Eb** has worked as a formatter and freelance editor of dissertations. While at NU, she plans to concentrate on poetry, paying attention to both historical contexts and the interaction between structure and content. She is especially interested in T. S. Eliot.

faculty profiles

In January, **Paul Breslin** became the first non-Caribbean person to give the annual Derek Walcott lecture in the poet's home island of St. Lucia—with a St. Lucian TV camera at point-blank range and Mr. Walcott seated in the front row. Fortunately for the sweating lecturer, the response was favorable. In March, he chaired a panel at the Caribbean Literary Studies conference in Coral Gables, Florida, at which graduate students Deana Greenfield, Randy Woods, Bishopal Limbu, and Wen Jin presented papers on a range of Caribbean authors. And he is co-editing, with Robert Hamner of Hardin-Simmons University, a special Walcott issue of *Callaloo*, to appear next fall, just before the poet's 75th birthday (January 2004).

Tracy Davis has recently presented papers at the Center for the Study of War & Society (University of Tennessee), Society for Military History, North American Victorian Studies Association, Virginia Commonwealth University, Mid-American Theatre Conference, and Northwestern's Center for Global Culture & Communication. Aspects of her current research—on nuclear civil defence in the UK, USA, and Canada—were published in *TDR: The Drama Review* last year and will also appear shortly in *Modern Drama*. She has co-edited a collection entitled *Theatricality* which will be published by Cambridge later in 2003. In November 2004, she looks forward to serving as Conference Chair at the American Society for Theatre Research annual meeting in Las Vegas.

While on sabbatical this past year, **Brian Edwards** was mainly occupied with his book *Morocco Bound: Disorienting America's Maghreb*. He's now in the home stretch of the writing and plans to be done by mid-winter. During the past year he also wrote an essay entitled "Preposterous Encounters: Interrupting American Studies with the (Post)colonial, or *Casablanca* in the American Century," which appears in *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East*. He has just written an introduction for the first Moroccan publication of *Love with a Few Hairs*, a 1967 novel told by Mohammed Mrabet to Paul Bowles. This past year, Brian presented papers at the Narrative Conference in Berkeley and the MLA Annual Meeting in New York. He is now organizing a conference entitled "Globalizing American Studies," to be held at NU April 30-May 1, 2004. At home, his son Oliver has turned 4 and is into ancient Egypt; daughter Pia (15 months) is toddling into all the mischief she can find; and his wife Kate Baldwin published her book *Beyond the Color Line and the Iron Curtain* and got tenure at Notre Dame.

For **Betsy Erkkila**, this year has been an intellectual challenge as she has been trying to work on several projects simultaneously. *Mixed Bloods and Other American Crosses: Rethinking American Literature from the Revolution to the Culture Wars* is forthcoming from Pennsylvania in 2004. She has completed essays on "Dickinson and the Art of Politics" for *Oxford Historical Guide to Emily Dickinson* and an essay on "Whitman, Melville, and the Tribulations of Democracy" for *A Companion to American Literature and Culture* (Blackwell). With the editorial assistance of **Coleman Hutchison** and **Marcy Dinius**, she has completed the Table of Contents for the new Riverside Edition of *Edgar Allan Poe: Selected Writings*, which the team hopes to send to the publisher by the

end of the year. Betsy was invited to participate in a Round Table at the MLA on "Rethinking the American Renaissance" and a conference on the "Afterlife of Gay Studies" in Cancun, Mexico. After five years as chair, she is happy to be a literary civilian again and looks forward to teaching in the undergraduate classroom.

Elzbieta Foeller-Pituch gave a paper on "The Classical Hero's Midlife Crisis: John Barth's Postmodernist Treatment of Perseus in *Chimerai*" at the SW/TX Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association Conference, Albuquerque NM in February 2003. For the 19th-Century Studies Association (NCSA) 24th Annual Conference in New Orleans in March 2003, she organized a panel on the symbolic importance of food and drink in mid-19th-century American literature, at which she delivered the paper "'Adam's Supper-table': The Cultural Politics of Food and Drink in Hawthorne's *Blithedale Romance*."

Christine Froula returns from a year as a Kaplan Humanities Center Fellow and a Visiting Fellow of Clare Hall, Cambridge. She gave several presentations from her now-completed book manuscript, "Virginia Woolf and the Adventure of Modernity: Toward New Lands, New Civilizations"; a Humanities Center workshop, "Women, Genius, Freedom: Virginia Woolf's Self-Portraiture, 1927-1931"; two invited lectures, "Freedom of Body, Freedom of Mind in *A Room of One's Own*" at Cambridge, and "*Orlando* and 'The Oak Tree': A Fantasia of Freedom" at the University of London; and a talk, "The Play in the Sky of the Mind: Dialogue, 'the Tchekov method,' and *Between the Acts*," at the Société des Etudes Woolfienne in Montpellier, France, and at the "Woolf across Cultures" symposium in Moscow and Yasnaya Polyana, Tolstoy's country estate. Recent publications include "The Beauties of Mis-translation: On Pound's English after Cathay" in *Ezra Pound and China*, ed. Z. Qian (Michigan, 2003), and a review of *Analyzing Freud: Letters of H. D., Bryher, and Their Circle*, ed. Susan Stanford Friedman. She is at work on an essay titled "Sovereign Subjects," on Joyce's figures of money and coins.

Alfred Appel's book *Jazz, Modernism: from Ellington and Armstrong to Matisse and Joyce* (Knopf, 2002) has won the ASCAP-Deems Taylor award for 2003 in the category Best Book About Popular Music

Reg Gibbons published a new translation of *Antigone* (Oxford, 2003), a collaborative project with the late classicist Charles Segal; Reg has also published poems and essays in a number of literary journals and new anthologies. He is writing the introduction to a volume of autobiographical essays and interviews by William Goyen that will be published by the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center and University of Texas Press. Reg was both a participant in and the moderator of the panel "Turning Trauma and Recovery Into Art: Creative Languages of Injury and Resilience," sponsored by the UIC International Center on Responses to Catastrophes and the Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma. Reg has also given several readings of his poetry over the last months. Translations of *Odes of Sophokles* by Reg Gibbons and Charles Segal have won the 2003 John Frederick Nims Memorial Prize of *Poetry Magazine*. He also has received the 2002 Best Book of Poetry Award from the Texas Institute of Letters for his collection *It's Time* (LSU Press).

Christopher Lane's new book, *Hatred and Civility: The Antisocial Life*

faculty profiles continued...

in *Victorian England*, was published by Columbia in November this year. A spin-off article on pre-Holocaust fantasies in Edwardian fiction will soon appear in the journal *Modernism/Modernity*. Chris also reviewed a book on early modernism for *Victorian Studies* and is contributing an essay to *The Cambridge Companion to E. M. Forster*, forthcoming next year. He gave, or will give, invited lectures this year at Dartmouth, SUNY-Buffalo and the Universities of Massachusetts, Chicago, Michigan, and Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, on subjects ranging from "James Purdy's Family Poetics" and "Meredithian Narcissism" to "Principles of Extinction: Psychoanalysis and the Art of Destruction."

In July **Joanna and Larry Lipking** both gave papers at a Paris conference on Aphra Behn. Jo's paper was on Behn's poem "On a Juniper-Tree," Larry's on "The Art of Memory in *Oroonoko*." Both will be published in a collection of articles on Behn. Larry's publications this year include a review-article on Pepys in the March 24 issue of *The New Republic*; an essay, "The View from Almada Hill: Myths of Nationhood in Camões and William Julius Mickle," in *Portuguese Literary & Cultural Studies* 9; and

a piece about relations between chess playing and literary criticism, "Chess Minds and Critical Moves," in the Winter issue of NLH. At the English Department Collation in October, Larry read a section from the life-sciences chapter of his work-in-progress on imagination and science: "'Look there, look there!' Imagining Life in *King Lear*."

Susan Manning's book *Modern Dance, Negro Dance: Race in Motion* is forthcoming from the University of Minnesota Press. Recent and upcoming talks include appearances at the Skirball Museum in Los Angeles, Cannes Dance Festival in Nice, University of Chicago, Society of Dance History Scholars, American Society of Theatre Research, and Association of Theatre in Higher Education. This year she finishes a six-year stint organizing a Caucus on Performance of the Americas for the American Studies Association and has taken up the organization of a metropolitan network called the Chicago Seminar on Dance and Performance.

In Spring, **Jeffrey Masten** received the E. LeRoy Hall Award for Excellence in Teaching from WCAS. He has essays forthcoming in special issues of *GLQ: A Journal of Gay and Lesbian Studies* (an issue celebrating the work of the late gay historian Alan Bray) and *Modern Language Quarterly* (an issue on "Feminism in Time"). Jeff was recently named to the Advisory Committee of the journal *PMLA*.

Last spring **Barbara Newman** was appointed as a Charles Deering McCormick Professor of Teaching Excellence. She currently serves as

acting chair of the Department of Religion and also has been named the John Evans Professor of Latin Language and Literature. At Barbara's initiative, Northwestern will host the annual meeting of the Illinois Medieval Association in early February. The theme this year is "The Central Ages: Periods and Boundaries." **Katharine Breen** and **Susie Phillips** are on the program committee and also will be among the speakers. Their conference assistant is PhD student **Joanne Diaz**.

Christina Pugh's volume of poems entitled *Rotary* received the Word Press First Book Prize in September and will be published by Word Press in the summer of 2004. She has new work forthcoming in *Ploughshares* and also published an omnibus review in the August issue of *Poetry* magazine. Her article "Unknown Women: Secular Solitude in the Works of Alice Koller and May Sarton" appeared in *Herspace: Women, Writing, Solitude* (Haworth Press, 2003). She recently completed a catalogue essay for painter Catherine McCarthy's show at the Howard Yezerski gallery in Boston. In June, she was a William Meredith Scholar at the Wesleyan Writers Conference.

Carl Smith's significant doings include teaching a new interdisciplinary course in history and computing with Brian Dennis of Computer Science and Jonathan Smith of Academic Technologies. This is part of a large web project on "The Plan of Chicago" of 1909 that involves a collaboration between Academic Technologies, the Chicago Historical Society, the Newberry Library, and the Art Institute of Chicago, as well as NU. He is also continuing his work on cities and water in America in the 19th century and his teaching and administrative duties in the Program in American Studies. In April he gave a paper on his humanities computing work at a conference in Nottingham, England.

Wendy Wall's new book project, *Reading Food from Shakespeare to Martha Stewart*, is now under contract with Routledge Press; she plans to give talks this spring on textual issues and *Romeo and Juliet*. When not thinking about food or editorial theory issues, she is co-editing *Renaissance Drama*. In celebration of her newly adopted daughter

Leah, and successful treatment for breast cancer this fall, she has planted a lovely hearty maple tree in her backyard, and looks forward to watching it grow for many years to come.

Volume 32 of *Renaissance Drama* appeared in August, with essays ranging from history plays, to *The Roaring Girl*, to "what's sexy about stage directions." The annual journal is edited by Professors **Jeffrey Masten** and **Wendy Wall** and published by Northwestern University Press. Ph.D. candidates **Emily Bryan**, **Leah Guenther**, and **Jenny Mann** served as editorial assistants for this issue. Volume 33 of the journal is currently in press. The next volume, co-edited by **Wendy Wall and Jeffrey Masten** with Bill Worthen at Berkeley, will focus on the topic of "Media, Technology, and Performance"

Wendy Wall's recent book *Staging Domesticity: Household Work and English Identity in Early Modern Drama* (Cambridge 2001) has won the 2003 Honorable Mention for the James Russell Lowell Prize of the Modern Language Association.

a thumbnail history from our new website

Northwestern's English department is located in University Hall, a striking limestone building styled after the Gothic Revival. The cornerstone was laid in 1868 and the building itself completed at a cost of \$125,000 the following year. University Hall was originally Northwestern's main administration building, though it also housed classrooms, a library, a chemistry lab, a chapel, two rooms for campus societies, and a fourth-floor museum of natural history. Professor Daniel Bonbright, who assisted in the design of the building and taught language and literature, lived on the second floor. Eventually the building's several functions were dispersed elsewhere on the Evanston campus, leaving University Hall entirely for offices and classrooms. After a complete restoration and updating, which preserved its exterior, University Hall was rededicated in 1993.



Natural History Museum, 1881

Having served as the home of the English department for many decades, University Hall's amenable spaces have also helped foster the careers of many eminent scholars and writers, including Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award winners and a future Poet Laureate. Among our distinguished emeriti is Richard Ellmann, scholar of modern Irish literature, who joined the faculty in 1951, published on Yeats, Wilde, and many others, and spent seven years at work on his definitive biography of Joyce, which won the National Book Award in 1960.

Several other major scholars spent much or nearly all of their careers at Northwestern. Samuel Schoenbaum published *William Shakespeare: A Documentary Life* in 1975 while also editing the scholarly journal *Renaissance Drama*. Jean Hagstrum published many works on eighteenth-century and Romantic literature, focusing in particular on relations between poetry and painting; his approach was not only historical but also psychological. Harrison Hayford's complete edition of the works of Herman Melville, undertaken with co-editor Herschel Parker and other scholars, also went forward for many years at the slow steady pace of monumental scholarly enterprises. Ernest Samuels, who spent his entire career at Northwestern, published a definitive biography of Henry Adams in three volumes, which he wrote over a period of more than twenty years. His volume *The Middle Years* (1958) won the Francis Parkman Prize and the Bancroft Prize, and the final volume, *Henry Adams: The Major Phase* (1964), won the Pulitzer Prize; other volumes were highly honored, too. His later biography of Bernard Berenson was nominated for the National Book Award.

www.english.northwestern.edu

The fame on campus and among alumni of Bergen Evans for his "Introduction to Literature" lectures, to which as many as seven hundred students flocked to the Tech Auditorium, spread nationally when he became host of a televised quiz show in 1951. Something of an iconoclast, Evans published *The Natural History of Nonsense* (1946) and *The Spoor of Spooks and Other Nonsense* (1954), in addition to scholarly publications.

Eminent faculty teaching African American literature at Northwestern included novelists Leon Forrest and Cyrus Colter, authors of celebrated and important literary works of the 1970s through the 1990s. Margaret Walker Alexander, poet and novelist, author of *For My People* (poetry) and *Jubilee* (a novel), fundamental works of African American writing, returned to Northwestern—from which she had graduated with a BA in 1935—to teach as a visitor in 1969.

While at Northwestern, Richard Ellman brought Frank O'Connor, one of Ireland's greatest short story writers, to teach as a visitor at Northwestern in the early 1950s. Today, the department continues this tradition by hiring distinguished visiting scholars each year in Irish Studies. Among these is Maud Ellmann, Richard's daughter, who teaches at King's College, Cambridge University, and is herself the author of many highly acclaimed books on Irish and European modernism.



Richard Ellmann's biography of Joyce won the National Book Award in 1960.



In the 1950s Bergen Evans hosted frequent gatherings with undergraduates.



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