

NOTES AND NOTICES

This issue of *Literature and Aesthetics* begins an exciting new era for the SSLA. Thanks to the generous support of the Chancellor's Committee of the University of Sydney, we are now able to publish two issues every year. It hasn't been easy to get to this stage. Even though we have always received far more articles and 'hands on' work than we could print in a year, the SSLA and its journal have been dependent on revenue from subscriptions, conference registrations, and occasional yearly grants just to produce a single issue. The Chancellor's Committee grant of A\$30,000 over three years will help to ensure that we can continue to bring high quality work in literature studies and aesthetics to Australia, Oceania and the world. I should like to extend my personal thanks to the Chancellor's Committee, in particular to Jeremy Steele, John Hodge and Pamela Bell, who supported our appeal so strongly. Without their support, we may not have been able to continue at all in 2003; now we are in a better position than ever.

At the same time as we have upgraded our production of *Literature and Aesthetics*, we have also produced a new website (www.ssla.soc.usyd.edu.au). The development of this site was made possible by a University of Sydney Sesquicentennial Development and Enhancement grant. My thanks to Jennifer Doubell for her support in attaining this grant, and to Ken Davis and the people at Socialchange for designing the site and making it a breeze to manage. It has been gratifying to receive congratulations on this site from all over the world. Visit the site for news of aesthetics events in Australia and New Zealand, links to aesthetics societies and art sites around the world, programmes of SSLA conferences, membership and subscription forms, and much more. Soon we plan to incorporate short notices of books received, and online articles from back issues of *Literature and Aesthetics*. Check the site regularly for news and updates.

The year 2002 was another exciting one for SSLA. In addition to holding two regular conferences and numerous evening seminars (see below), SSLA participated in a wonderful international conference in Beijing, PRC (papers by Yasuko Claremont and Eugenio Benitez). The conference, "Aesthetics and Culture: East and West", was a hugely successful international symposium, which brought scholars

and artists from Europe, Asia, North America and Oceania together in learning and friendship. "Aesthetics and Culture" was organised and sponsored by the Chinese Society for Aesthetics, the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, and the Beijing Second Foreign Languages Institute, under the auspices of the International Association for Aesthetics. In addition to all the stimulating papers, participants were treated to art demonstrations, sumptuous banquets, trips to the Forbidden City and the Great Wall, and a memorable night of singing. Congratulations to Gao Jianping and Wang KePing for hosting such a marvellous conference. We look forward to meeting our new friends again, in Brazil 2004, and hopefully in Sydney in the future.

As the SSLA continues to expand, its partner organisation ANZALA, the Australian and New Zealand Association for Literature and Aesthetics grows with it. This year Dr Deborah Walker (Auckland) joins us as the New Zealand executive of ANZALA. Dr Walker has participated in numerous SSLA conferences in the past several years, where she has presented illuminating papers on French film and film noir. We look forward to greater cooperation with our trans-Tasman neighbours. ANZALA is the member organisation of the International Aesthetics Association (IAA). For more information on the IAA, including information on membership, visit the SSLA website.

Here on the ground in Sydney, 2003 is turning out to be as active a year as ever. Our calls for papers for both the June and October conferences brought a flood of offers from both national and international scholars. And despite a few technical hiccups, we were able to host an evening with Dr. Julian Murphet ("Eisenstein after the fall: are aesthetics political?"), who presented a fine paper and able discussion. The SSLA is complemented in Sydney by ongoing presentations in the Philosophy Nights programme, and by the Anagnostoi poetry and play reading group. For announcements of Philosophy Nights and Anagnostoi events, see the SSLA website. For their unceasing and usually unrecognised support in all the various aesthetics activities at the University of Sydney, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Catherine Runcie, John Bacon, Heather Johnson, David Brooks, Will Christie, Jean Barrett, Patricia Rovik and John Nijjem.

Eugenio Benitez
President SSLA
President ANZALA

SSLA ACTIVITIES 2002

June 2002 SSLA Conference
Venue: The Woolley Common Room,
The Woolley Bldg, Science Road

Thursday June 20th, 2002

- 9:30am Dr Michael Hill and Dr Peter Kohane (University of NSW):
"The Order of Doors and Windows in Architectural Theory
from the Renaissance to Modernism"
Chair: Dr Heather Johnson
- 10:45am Dr Peter Anstey (University of Sydney):
"Literary Responses to Robert Boyle's Natural Philosophy"
Chair: Dr John Bacon
- 11:40am New Departures: Kali Yuan and Angela Tong
(Scolani Education College):
"The Aesthetic Actuation of the Subject:
a Reader Response Inquiry into the Fine Arts"
Chair: John Nijjem
- 2:00pm Edward Spence (Charles Sturt University, CAPPE):
"The Passion for Reason: the Liberation of the Slave"
Chair: Dr Rex Eakins
- 2:40pm Dr Jacques Delaruelle (National Art School):
"Attention As Prayer: Simone Weil"
Chair: Dr Michael Hill
- 4:00pm Dr Rex Eakins (University of New England):
"Versions of Versions in the Transmission of the
Missa or Sus by Johannes Martini"
Chair: Dr Catherine Runcie
- 4:30pm New Departures: Marshall Ma (Scolani Education College):
"Poetic Intuitions: Keats's Negative Capability with
Respect to Phenomenology and Hermeneutics"
Chair: John Nijjem

Friday June 21st, 2003

- 9:30am Dr Julian Pefanis (University of Sydney):
"The Super in Superman"
Chair: Dr Jennifer Milam
- 10:15am Patrick Hutchings (Melbourne):

- “Barnet Newman: the ‘zip’ and Specious Presents or (Specious?) Presence. What am I doing here?”
Chair: Dr Catherine De Lorenzo
- 11:30am John Nijjem (University of Sydney):
“The Hypericonic Gaze: from Transcendence to Immanence in Plato and Foucault”
Chair: David Brooks
- 2:00pm Dr Catherine De Lorenzo:
“A Composite Nadar (Felix Tournachon)” (University of NSW)
Chair: Patrick Hutchings
- 2:45pm Andrew Johnson (Monash University):
“‘An Otherness Inside Us We Never Touch’—Experience and the Work of Mourning in the Poetry of Charles Wright”
Chair: Dr Peter Anstey
- 4:00pm Dr Jennifer Milam (University of Sydney):
“Rococco Games and the Origins of Visual Modernism”
Chair: Dr Catherine Runcie

*October 2002 SSLA Conference
Venue: The Woolley Common Room,
The Woolley Bldg, Science Road*

Wednesday, October 2, 2002

- 2:00pm Dr Eugenio Benitez (University of Sydney):
“The Aesthetics of Piety in Plato and Confucius”
Chair: Dr Will Christie
- 3:00pm Dr Michael Hill (University of NSW/University of Sydney):
“Bernini’s Love for Costanza”
Chair: Patricia Rovik
- 3:45pm Dr ‘Okusitino Mahina (University of Auckland):
“Psychoanalysis and Tongan Poetry”
Chair: Prof Garry Trompf
- 4:45pm Dr Vrasidis Karalis (University of Sydney):
“Goodness Beyond Morality:
the Ethical Imagination of Iris Murdoch”
Chair: David Brooks

- 5:15pm Mairead Costigan (University of Sydney):
"Censoring Poetry from the Republic"
Chair: Dr Eugenio Benitez

Thursday, October 3, 2002

- 9:30am Anthony Bond (Art Gallery of NSW):
"Imagining the Void"
Chair: Dr Michael Hill
- 10:45am Omid Tofighian (University of Sydney):
"Rethinking Plato's Theory of Art After the Timaeus"
Chair: Mairead Costigan
- 11:30am Dr Rex Eakins (University of New England):
"Rhetorical Gesture and Illusion in the
Missa Or Sus Or Sus by Johannes Martini" Part 2
Chair: Dr Eugenio Benitez
- 12:00 Dr Alistair Rolls (University of Newcastle):
"Does Existence Precede Essence: Dreaming of Anny
in Sartre's *Nausea*"
Chair: Prof Paul Crittenden
- 2:15pm Em Professor Paul Crittenden (University of Sydney)
"Philosophy and Metaphor: The Philosopher's Ambivalence"
Chair: David Brooks
- Deborah Walker (University of Auckland):
"The femme fatale in French film noir"
Chair: Dr Alistair Rolls

Friday, October 4, 2002

- 9:30am Pamela Bell (University of Sydney):
"Artists Can Paint Writers: Can Writers Portray Artists?"
Chair: Dr Catherine Runcie
- 10:00am Dr Jennifer McFarlane (Australian National University):
"Visionaries, Australian Artists and the Theosophical Society"
Chair: Pamela Bell
- 10:45am Dr James Acheson (University of Canterbury):
"Kinds of History in Graham Swift's *Waterland*"
Chair: David Brooks

- 11:30am Dr Jean-Philippe Deranty (Macquarie University):
"Hegelian Perspectives on Cinema"
Chair: Dr Deborah Walker
- 2:00pm Dr Franca Tamisari (University of Queensland):
"Dancing into Presence: Northeast Arnhem Land Performance"
Chair: Dr John Bacon
- 3:00pm Patricia Rovik (University of Sydney):
"A Nobler Revenge: The Nicholson Niobe Vase"
Chair: Dr Catherine Runcie
- 4:15pm Professor Garry Trompf (University of Sydney):
"D.W. Prall and Primal Aesthetics"
Chair: Dr Eugenio Benitez

Evening Seminars

Dr John Armstrong (University of Melbourne):
"The Subjective Dimension of Taste", March 13th, 2002;

Dr Lowell Lewis (University of Sydney):
"Aesthetic and Cultural Theory
in the case of Brazilian Capoeira", May 15th, 2002;

Emeritus Professor Giovanni Carsaniga (University of
Sydney): "The Humanities as Science", August 7th, 2002

Jean Barrett and Dr Eugenio Benitez (University of Sydney):
"Interpreting Emotions", Sept 18th, 2002



