

**Sixth Annual Meeting  
of the  
MIDWEST VICTORIAN  
STUDIES ASSOCIATION  
30 April - 1 May 1982  
VICTORIAN HUMOR**

in conjunction with the  
1982 THEATRE HISTORY CONFERENCE  
30 April - 2 May

VICTORIAN POPULAR ENTERTAINMENT

The Ohio State University  
Theatre Research Institute  
Columbus, Ohio

**MVSA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

John R Reed, President (English), Wayne State University (1982); Nicholas Temperley, Vice-President and President Elect (Music), University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (1982); Frederick Kirchhoff, Executive Secretary (English), Indiana University-Purdue University at Fort Wayne; Joan Bassin, Member at Large (Art History), Kansas City Art Institute (1984); Florence S Boos, Member at Large (English), University of Iowa (1982); Patrick Brantlinger, Member at Large (English), Indiana University (1984); James E Cronin, Member at Large (History), University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (1982)

**1982 ARRANGEMENTS**

Alan Woods, Director, The Ohio State University Theatre Research Institute

William F Smith, Administrator, The Ohio State University Theatre Research Institute, Conference Coordinator

All sessions of the Theatre History Conference are open to MVSA registrants. For further information, contact William F Smith, Theatre Research Institute, 1089 Drake Union, 1849 Cannon Drive, Columbus, Ohio 43210.

**Schedule of Events**

(Meetings will take place at the Drake Union, 1849 Cannon Drive, Columbus, Ohio)

**Friday, 30 April**

11:00 am - Registration

1:00 pm

1:00 pm

Welcoming Address, Alan Woods, Director, Theatre Research Institute

Introductory Remarks, John R Reed, President, MVSA

Session One

**Rustic Humor in Literature**

Donald J Gray, Moderator

"Laughter as Liberation: Tennyson's Lincolnshire Monologues"

Linda K Hughes

"The Rustic Sense of Humor in Shaw and Hardy, Barnes and Brown"

Max Keith Sutton

2:30 pm

Session Two

**Humor in Victorian Periodicals**

Stephen Elwell, Moderator

"Vanity Fair: High Victorian Humor and Satire"

Roy T Matthews

"A Victorian View: Mr Punch on Outsiders at Home and Abroad"

Julian R McQuiston

4:00 pm

Session Three

(Joint Session with the Theatre History Conference)

**Humor and the Theatre: Crosscurrents**

Alan Woods, Moderator

"'All the World's a Stage': Cruikshank's Theatrical Humor"

Robert L Patten

"Aristophanes on the Victorian Stage: J R Planche's Adaptation of *The Birds*"

Kathy Fletcher

5:00 pm

Beer and Wine Cash Bar

8:00 pm

A Victorian Music Hall Evening

**Saturday, 1 May**

8:30 am Coffee, etc

9:00 am Session Four  
**Humor in Victorian Science**  
 Roland N Stromberg, Moderator

"The Darwinian Revolution and the Comedy of Darwin's **Autobiography**"  
 Eugene R August

"Herbert Spencer and the Study of Laughter"  
 Michael S Kearns

"Humor and Victorian Mathematics: The Cases of William Frend and Augustus De Morgan"  
 Helena Pycior

10:30 am Session Five  
**Humor in the Novel**  
 Jane W Stedman, Moderator

"The Comic Victim or Non-Hero: Sources in the Lower Classes"  
 Roger B Henkle

"Mr Dick's Kite and the Function of Comedy in Victorian Fiction"  
 Robert M Polhemus

"George Eliot and the Uses of Humor: The Comedy of Contrivance in **Felix Holt**"  
 John McRae

12:30 pm Luncheon and Business Meeting  
 John R Reed, Presiding

"Masonic Bawdy in Carroll and Tenniel"  
 William Burgan

2:30 pm Joint Session on W S Gilbert  
 (Arranged by the Theatre Research Institute)

Midwest Victorian Studies Association, 30 April - 1 May 1982

The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio

(Please print or type) **REGISTRATION CARD**

Registration fees are: \$15 for dues-paying members of the Association; \$18 for non-members; and \$10 for graduate students. Checks should be made out to Midwest Victorian Studies Association and mailed with this form to:

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
(last) \_\_\_\_\_ (first) \_\_\_\_\_

Frederick Kirchoff  
 Department of English and Linguistics  
 Indiana University-Purdue University  
 at Fort Wayne  
 Fort Wayne, Indiana 46805

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Accommodations are available at the Holiday Inn on the Lane, adjacent to the OSU campus, at a special convention rate of \$34 single, \$42 double. To qualify for this rate, registration must be made, no later than 5 April, through William Smith, Theatre Research Institute, 1089 Drake Union, 1849 Cannon Drive, Columbus, OH 43210. If you plan to arrive after 6:00 pm, include a check for one night's deposit or a credit card number with your registration request.

(city) \_\_\_\_\_ (state) \_\_\_\_\_ (zip) \_\_\_\_\_

INSTITUTION \_\_\_\_\_

DEPARTMENT \_\_\_\_\_

Registration category:  MVSA member  non-member  graduate student  
 (If you would like to take this opportunity to join the MVSA, the annual dues are \$5.)

# MWSA

Sixth Annual Meeting  
of the  
Midwest Victorian Studies Association  
The Ohio State University  
Theatre Research Institute  
Columbus, Ohio  
30 April - 1 May 1982

## THE PARTICIPANTS

**Eugene R August**, Professor of English at the University of Dayton, is author of *John Stuart Mill: A Mind at Large*. His articles include studies of Tennyson, Arnold, Clough, Hopkins and Joyce, as well as "Divine Comedies in Western Literature."

**William Burgan** is Associate Professor of English at Indiana University and Review Editor of *Victorian Studies*. He has published articles on the setting of *Edwin Drood* and other Dickens novels and is writing a book on that topic.

**Stephen Elwell** wrote his Indiana University dissertation on Victorian middle-class culture and the English popular magazine. A former Managing Editor of *Victorian Studies*, he now directs publications for Community Chest and Council of the Cincinnati Area, and is at work on a critical study of the literary partnership of Walter Besant and James Rice.

**Kathy Fletcher** is a doctoral student in the Department of Theatre and Drama at Indiana University. Her dissertation area is nineteenth-century British minor theatrical forms.

**Donald J Gray**, Professor of English at Indiana University, is Editor of *College English* and co-editor of widely used anthologies of Victorian poetry and prose.

**Roger B Henkle** is Professor and Chairman of the Department of English at Brown University. The author of *Comedy and Culture: England 1820-1900* and articles on comedy, he is presently working on a book on the relationship between social situations and literary formulas and modes.

**Linda K Hughes**, Assistant Professor of English at the University of Missouri-Rolla, has published articles on Tennyson, Browning, and William Hale White. She is currently completing a book on Tennyson's dramatic monologues.

**Michael S Kearns** is Assistant Professor of English at Ohio Wesleyan University. Author of a recent dissertation on nineteenth-century literature and psychology, he is collecting material for a book on nineteenth-century metaphors of mind.

**Roy T Matthews** is Professor in the Department of Humanities at Michigan State University, co-author of *In Vanity Fair*, contributor/consultant to *Masters of Caricature*, and author of articles on Victorian culture and social history. He is currently working on a history of British caricatures, 1840-1914.

**Julian R McQuiston** is Professor of History at SUNY Fredonia. His field of interest is nineteenth-century social and economic history, and he has published articles on Victorian farming and technology. He is at work on a study of Pictorial Journalism in Victorian England.

**John McRae**, who began his academic career at Nottingham University, has lived and worked in Italy since 1974, and he is now *lettore* in the University of Naples. He has published articles on Shakespeare, D H Lawrence, and language and, most recently, "*Romola*": *George Eliot and the Victorian Change of Mind*.

**Robert L Patten** is Professor of English at Rice University and Editor of *SEL: Studies in English Literature*. He has edited *Pickwick Papers* and a collection of essays on George Cruikshank. His book *Charles Dickens and His Publishers* appeared in 1978; he is now writing a biography of Cruikshank.

**Robert M Polhemus** is Professor of English and Chairman of the English Department at Stanford University. He is author of *The Changing World of Anthony Trollope and Comic Faith: The Great Tradition from Austen to Joyce*.

**Jane W Stedman**, Professor of English at Roosevelt University, was for many years Correspondent for *Opera News*. She has written extensively on Victorian fiction and theatre and is editor of *Gilbert before Sullivan*, a collection of the plays of W S Gilbert.

**Roland N Stromberg**, Professor of History at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, is a European intellectual historian whose most recent publications include the third edition of *European Intellectual History since 1789* and *Redemption by War: European Intellectuals at 1914*.

**Max Keith Sutton**, Professor of English at the University of Kansas, is author of books on W S Gilbert and R D Blackmore and essays on Victorian humor and satire. His current research treats images of rural community in nineteenth-century British and American literature.

**Helena Pycior** is Assistant Professor in the Department of History, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, with research interest in early nineteenth-century British symbolical algebra. Her most recent article reexamines George Peacock's role in the formulation of the symbolical approach to algebra.

**Alan Woods** is Associate Professor of Theatre and Director of The Ohio State University Theatre Research Institute. He has published articles on nineteenth-century performance styles and is currently engaged in a study of the relationship between the popular stage and the legitimate theatre in early nineteenth-century England.

Midwest Victorian Studies Association  
Department of English and Linguistics  
Indiana University-Purdue University  
at Fort Wayne  
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46805

FIRST CLASS MAIL