

**The
Victorian
Frame(s)
of
Mind:
Canons and
Anti-Canons**

**Nineteenth
Annual
Meeting
of the
Midwest
Victorian
Studies
Association**

21-22 April 1995

**DePaul University
Roosevelt University
Chicago**

**Midwest Victorian Studies Association
c/o D. J. Trela, Executive Secretary
School of Liberal Studies, Box 288
Roosevelt University
430 S. Michigan Avenue
Chicago, IL 60605-1394**

First Class Mail

Participants

Virginia Bemis is Assistant Professor at Ashland University. She holds an M.Div. and received her Ph.D. from Michigan State in 1980, where her dissertation topic was Charlotte Yonge. Research interests include religious literature and Victorian periodicals.

Robert Bledsoe is Professor of English at the University of Texas at El Paso. He has written on Dickens and opera for the Dickens's Studies Annual, has entries in the New Grove Dictionary of Music and is at work on a book on Henry Chorley.

Editor of the Journal of Pre-Raphaelite Studies, **Julie Codell** is a prolific writer and speaker on Victorian art. Current projects include a book-length study of the artist in England (1870-1914) and a second work on Victorian artists' self-portraits.

Richard Davis heads the Center for the History of Freedom at Washington University in St. Louis where he is also a Professor of History. Books include Disraeli (1976), The English Rothschilds (1982), Religion and Irreligion in Victorian Society (1992) and Lords of Parliament: Studies, just published by Stanford (1995).

Currently Associate Professor at the University of Pittsburg, **Michael Helfand** co-edited Oscar Wilde's Oxford Notebooks, published by Oxford in 1989 and contributes the "Year's Work in Minor Victorian Poets" to Victorian Poetry.

Colleen Hobbs is ABD at Rutgers University. She spoke at last year's MVSA conference in St. Louis on "Labors of Christian Love: Anglican Sisterhoods and the Work of the Devout."

Visiting instructor at the University of Illinois, **Simon Joyce** wrote his Ph.D. (SUNY Buffalo) on "The Closed Text Mystery: Crime Fiction, the Police and Popular Culture." Forthcoming in Criticism is "Resisting Arrest/Arresting Resistance: Crime Fiction, Cultural Studies, and the Turn to History."

Joseph Kestner is McFarlin Professor of English at the University of Tulsa. Books include Protest and

Reform: The British Social Narrative by Women, 1828-1867 and the 1995 Masculinities in Victorian Painting published by Scolar Press.

Assistant Professor at the University of Georgia, **Tricia Lootens** is an Indiana Ph.D. Her book manuscript Lost Saints: Gender, Silence, and Victorian Literary Canonization was recently accepted by the University Press of Virginia. A recent article on Felicia Hemans appeared in PMLA (March 1994).

W. R. McKelvy is currently ABD at the University of Virginia. He completed his B.A. and M.A. at Stanford. His dissertation title is "Gladstone's Homer: Epic Theory, Nationalism and the Western Question."

Julie Melnyk is Assistant Professor of English at Central Methodist College. She spoke on "Female Factory Workers and Sunday School" at last year's MVSA conference. She completed her M.A. at Oxford and her doctorate at University of Virginia. Her research centers on women's religious literature in the 19th century.

John R. Reed is Professor of English at Wayne State University. He is the author of Victorian Conventions (1975) and more recently, Victorian Will, as well as numerous articles and reviews. He is also a President emeritus of MVSA.

Jane W. Stedman is Professor of English emerita at Roosevelt University and a founding member of MVSA. A prolific and eminent commentator on Victorian theatre, she edited Gilbert Before Sullivan (1967) and recently completed work on her biography of W. S. Gilbert, forthcoming from Oxford University Press.

Naomi J. Wood completed her Ph.D. at Duke University in 1991 on the topic of "Death as a Developmental Trope in Victorian Children's Fiction." Forthcoming in Children's Literature is an article on "Barbara Newhall Follett and Typing the Natural child."

Schedule

MVSA Executive Committee

Debra Mancoff, President
(Beloit College)

Frederick Kirchhoff, President-Elect
(Designate)
(Indiana University-Purdue
University-Fort Wayne)

Richard W. Davis, Vice-President-Elect
(Designate)
(Washington University)

D. J. Trela, Executive Secretary
(Roosevelt University)

Members-at-Large
Susan Thach Dean

(University of Colorado, Boulder)

Kristine Ottesen Garrigan (Designate)
(DePaul University)

Joseph Lamb
(Ohio University)

Jeffrey Cox
(Northern Illinois University)

Conference Sponsors and Local Arrangements

Kristine Ottesen Garrigan
DePaul University

D. J. Trela
Roosevelt University

Debra Mancoff
Beloit College

Membership in MVSA

Annual dues are \$20.00 for non-students and \$10.00 for students. To register for the conference or join MVSA, please write to D. J. Trela at the address noted elsewhere on this form.

Friday, 21 April

12:00 - 1:00 **Registration**
8th Floor, DePaul Center,
State and Jackson Streets

1:00 - 1:15 **Welcome**

1:15 - 2:45 **Session One:**
Defining Victorian Canons

Tricia Lootens, "Critics, Saints and Statues: The Forms and Authorities of Nineteenth-Century Literary Canonization"

Robert Bledsoe, "Music and the Canon: English Journalism in the 1850s and 1860s"

W. R. McKelvy, "Canonical Recovery: Macaulay's 'Lays of Ancient Rome,' Higher and Lower Classes"

Moderator: Frederick Kirchhoff

2:45 - 3:00 **Coffee**

3:00 - 4:30 **Session Two:**

How Canons Learn: Reconstruction and Revision to Victorian and Victorianist Canons

An invited panel presentation and discussion, moderated by Thomas J. Collins, Provost and Professor of English, University of Western Ontario. Professor Collins is engaged in revising the Houghton/Stange anthology of Victorian poetry and prose.

Julie Codell, **Art**

Jane W. Stedman, **Theatre**

Richard W. Davis, **History**

Joseph Kestner, **Literature**

5:00 - 6:00 **Gilbert & Sullivan Excerpts**
(coordinated by Peter Amster,
Chicago Musical College)
Ganz Hall, Roosevelt University, 7th floor

7:00 - 9:00 **Arnstein Dinner**
Roosevelt University Library, 10th floor

of Events

- Saturday, 22 April**
- 8:30 - 9:00 **Coffee**
DePaul Center, 8th floor
- 9:00 - 10:30 **Session Three:**
Canonical Authors
Writing Anti-Canonical Texts
- Simon Joyce, "Reading Run Riot: The Multiple Texts and Contexts of Oliver Twist"
- Naomi Wood, "Robert Louis Stevenson and Literary Value: Politics, Economics, Canon"
- Michael Helfand, "Imprisoned and Misprisoned: Wilde's Anti-Canonical Humanism"
- Moderator:** Kristine Ottesen Garrigan
- 10:45 - 12:15 **Session Four:**
Christian Canons
- Virginia Bemis, "Suitable for Sundays: Forming a Religious Canon"
- Colleen Hobbs, "Paradise, Simplified: The Literary Canon Meets Victorian Women's Religious Writing"
- Julie Melnyk, "Canonicity and Victorian Women's Hymns"
- Moderator:** Joan Perkin
- 12:30 - 2:30 **Lunch and Business Meeting**
DePaul Center
- Luncheon speaker:** John R. Reed, "Cannons and the Canon; or, Why Canonical Texts Don't Study War No More"

The business meeting will include Constitutional revisions and elections for 1) President, 2) Vice-President and 3) one open position as Member-at-Large. MVSA's nominations are Frederick Kirchhoff, Richard Davis and Kristine Ottesen Garrigan.

Midwest Victorian Studies Association 21-22 April 1995 Chicago

Registration Form

Please Print or Type

Name: _____

Address: _____

Institution: _____

Department: _____

Registration Fees: Conference includes Friday coffee break, Saturday morning coffee and lunch.

MVSA Member: \$30.00 Arnstein Dinner: \$20.00

Non-member: \$40.00

Student: \$20.00

Arnstein Dinner: To benefit the Arnstein Scholarship Fund. Friday evening in the former dining room of the Auditorium Hotel, now the Roosevelt University library.

Conference hotel: The Congress, 520 S. Michigan Avenue. Located across from Roosevelt University and 2 1/2 blocks from DePaul Center. Rates: \$69.00 single; \$79.00 double. Call 1-800-635-1666 by 21 March to reserve; thereafter by availability. Identify yourself as an MVSA participant.