

# CREATIVE WRITING POSTGRADUATE DISCUSSION GROUP

**Spring Session 2004**

**Fridays 2.30pm**

**Room 25/G05**

**All staff and students are welcome to attend!**

## **WEEK 2. July 30<sup>th</sup> Gareth Jenkins**

‘Relative Objectives: The Constructed Worlds of Francis Webb and Antonin Artaud.’

Discussion of Deleuze & Guattari’s State Space/Nomad space distinctions and the place of Webb and Artaud within this construct.

How does each poet relate to schizophrenia and psychiatry?

What is a ‘Body Without Organs’ and how does it relate to shamanism?

## **WEEK 3. Aug. 6<sup>th</sup> Christine Howe**

‘Hope in Literature: Simone Weil’s Concepts of “Impersonality” and “rootedness” in Alice Walker’s Novel, *The Colour Purple*.’

Readings: ‘Human Personality’, by Simone Weil

*The Colour Purple*, by Alice Walker

*Simone Weil: An Anthology*, by Siam Miles

(In particular: ‘Introduction’, ‘The Self’, and ‘Attention and Will’)

## **WEEK 4. Aug. 13<sup>th</sup> Timothy Cahill**

‘Louis Zukofsky: Against a Postmodern Reading.’

Readings: “A”, by Louis Zukofsky

*An Objective*, by Louis Zukofsky

*A Retrospect*, by Ezra Pound

*As For Imagism*, by Ezra Pound

*Ethics* (selections), by Benedictus de Spinoza

## **WEEK 5. Aug. 20<sup>th</sup> Bonny Cassidy**

“Selbstbeschränkung”: The Foolproof Romantic?

A look at the struggle between Friedrich von Schlegel’s notions of Romantic Irony and Romantic Fallacy. Romantic Irony proposes an idealistic program for simultaneously keeping head in the clouds and feet on the ground; Romantic Fallacy cheats this guide to transcendence. Is Schlegel’s “synthesis” possible, or simply as much of a dangerous ideal as those it set out to avoid? Is it possible to approach creation without a system?

Readings: ‘German Romanticism: A progressive definition’, by Christopher

Brennan (from *The Prose of Christopher Brennan*)

*Philosophical Fragments*, by Friedrich von Schlegel

*Dialogue on Poetry*, by Friedrich von Schlegel

‘Frederich Schlegel’s Irony’, by Gary j. Handwerk. (from *Irony and Ethics in Narrative*)

*The Concept of Irony*, by Soren Kierkegaard

‘The 1790’s after Fichte’, by Terry Pinkard (from *German Philosophy 1760-1860*)

**WEEK 6. Aug. 27<sup>th</sup> Elle Demuro**

‘Against the Mimetic Fallacy. Critical fiction; Parameters in Theory and Practice.’

Readings: Writing Degree Zero, by Roland Barthes (Chapter 1)  
Selected Essays on the New Novel by A. Robbe-Grillet

**WEEK 7. Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup> Tim Grey**

‘The Semiotics of Yves Bonnefoy’

Readings: Bonnefoy, “On the Motion and Immobility of Douve”  
Riffeterre, The Semiotics of Poetry  
E.A.Poe, “Composition as Explanation”  
Blanchot, “The Gaze of Orpheus”

**WEEK 8. Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> John Hawke**

“Natural Supernaturalism: A Genealogy of the Symbolist Novel”

Readings: Hoffmann, Devil’s Elixirs, Holderlin, Hyperion, Nerval, Aurelia,  
Huysmans, La-Bas, Breton, Communicating Vessels

**WEEK 9. Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> Colin Dray**

‘Towards a Poetics of Indeterminacy: The Influence of Wittgenstein’s Philosophy  
Upon Contemporary Verse.’

Readings: *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus*, by Ludwig Wittgenstein  
(#1 – 3, #5.63 – 5.641, #6.372 – 7)  
*Philosophical Investigations*, by Ludwig Wittgenstein  
(#1, #11 – 18, #33, #46 – 47, #66 – 71, #97 – 116, #244 – 247, and p.193-196 of Book  
II. xi.)

**WEEK 10. Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> Jyoti Roy**

‘Nomadic Poetics: Helene Cixous, Deleuze and Guattari, and the work of Kathy  
Acker’

**RECESS**

**WEEK 11. Oct. 8<sup>th</sup> James Taylor**

**WEEK 12. Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> T.B.A.**

**WEEK 13. Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup> T.B.A.**