

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 30th 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. 6th 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. 13th 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. 20th 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. 27th 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. 3rd 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. 10th 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. 17th 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. 24th Jyoti Roy

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

RECESS

WEEK 11. Oct. 8th James Taylor

WEEK 12. Oct. 15th T.B.A.

WEEK 13. Oct. 2nd T.B.A.