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William Morris Society Newsletter January 2005

THE William Morris Society in the United States

Newsletter January - June 2005s

Love is enough: though the World be a-waning
And the woods have no voice but the voice of complaining,
Though the sky be too dark for dim eyes to discover
The gold-cups and daisies fair blooming thereunder,
Though the hills be held shadows, and the sea a dark wonder,
And this day draw a veil over all deeds passed over,
Yet their hands shall not tremble, their feet shall not falter;
The void shall not weary, the fear shall not alter
The lips and these eyes of the loved and the lover.

—William Morris, *Love is Enough*

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

I would like to begin with warm thanks to the members of the Society who have written me since I provisionally assumed the office of its presidency six months ago. We will benefit greatly from their offers of help and participation in the months to come.

In particular, I have had a chance to confer during the fall with members of the Canadian and British Morris Societies at a North American Victorian Studies Association Conference in Toronto, and with the British Society's Governing Committee in London, where I offered a talk about "Morris and the Nineteenth-Century Peace Movement" in Morris' Coach House in Hammersmith.

This coming semester I will take part in a teaching exchange between the University of Iowa and the Université Paul Valéry in France, where Morris' News from Nowhere has been chosen as one of next year's set topics for the Agrégation, an intensely competitive national examination for prospective teachers (not exactly in Morris' spirit, perhaps), and will teach an entire course in Montpellier on News and the wider resonances of Morris' life and work.

More immediately, the Society has organized two sessions this month at the Modern Language Association in Philadelphia, where Mark has personally arranged for us to visit the Rosenbach Library and get together for dinner on the 28th. Before dinner the governing committee will also meet to welcome new members, consider future projects, and arrange for administration of the Joseph R. Dunlap Fellowship.

One of these potential projects is especially dear to my editor's heart—gradual, stage-by-stage preparation of a scholarly on-line edition of Morris's writings and virtual catalogue raisonné of his craftwork and designs. I would like to invite anyone interested in participating in such an undertaking to contact either me at florence-boos@uiowa.edu, or Rosie Miles of the British Society at rosie.miles@virgin.net. In addition, we hope to grace the Society's site with relevant links to texts in several of the world's major languages, a project we hope will encourage new forms of international collaboration between the Morris Society's many multilingual members dispersed throughout the world.

In the spirit of such aspirations, we also ask you to keep us informed about any plans and ideas you may have for the Society's activities and undertakings in the year to come.

In fellowship,

Florence Boos

IMPORTANT MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

It is once again time for renewal of annual dues. Please pay what you owe to avoid being dropped from our membership rolls. We are proud to count each of you among our members, so we don't want to lose any of you. Dues categories and amounts are as follows:

- **Individual: \$30.00**
- **Family/Household (two persons sharing the same address): \$35.00**
- **Corporate (libraries, museums, or other cultural or business entities): \$40.00**
- **Life (contributed on a one-time basis, either for the general use of the Society or for a particular use or uses): \$550.00 or more.**

Dues are to be sent to the Society's US address (not Kelmscott House):

**William Morris Society
P. O. Box 53263
Washington, DC 20009**

MORRIS IN THE 21ST CENTURY CONFERENCE

The 50th Anniversary Conference of the William Morris Society 7-10 July 2005, Digby Stuart College, London, England. Papers are invited on any aspect of William Morris's life, work, circle and influence in Britain and elsewhere. DEADLINE: 31 January 2005
Please send a 300-word abstract to:

**Morris in the 21st Century
The William Morris Society
Kelmscott House, 26 Upper Mall
Hammersmith, London, W6 9TA
wms50@morrissociety.org**

MORRIS SESSION AT THE MMLA

"Morris for Our Time," at the Midwest Modern Language Association, which will take place in Milwaukee, Wisconsin from November 10th to 13th of 2005. Please send proposals for prospective fifteen-minute presentations before February 20, 2005 to florence-boos@uiowa.edu.

SEEKING AMERICAN ARTS AND CRAFTS CORRESPONDENT

Mark Golding, editor of the Arts and Crafts Movement Newsletter has the following request: 'Ponderings From Across the Pond.' I am seeking an American correspondent to contribute thoughts, news, ideas to the newsletter, as I wish to have more American input from readers. If you wish to contribute in any way, please let me know: mark@achome.co.uk.

SPONSORED EVENTS FROM THE MORRIS SOCIETY OF CANADA

Wednesday, January 19, 2005, 4:00pm: A Tour of Carlu Hall.

7th Floor of the old College Park Eaton's at Yonge and College. Meet the tour guide at 4pm at the main floor elevators in the southern corner of the College Park Eaton's building for a tour of the historic Carlu concert hall, lovingly restored to preserve the original Art Deco details of this famous concert hall, among the best examples of Art Deco in the world.

Wednesday, February 16, 2005, 7:30pm: Carpet Design: A Talk by Carol Sebert.

Room 119, Emmanuel College, 75 Queen's Park, Toronto, Ontario. Carol Sebert is a partner in Creative Matters Incorporated, "the only company in Canada to concentrate on offering the design and supply of custom-made carpets," including hand-tufted, hand-woven, hand-knotted, custom-printed and machine-woven products for both residential and commercial installations. Carol will speak about her work in the spirit of Morris's Hammersmith carpets.

EXHIBITIONS

HELP NEEDED IN PLANNING EXHIBIT

The Delaware Art Museum is organizing an exhibition entitled Anatomy of a Painting: John Everett Millais' The White Cockade under the direction of Dr. Margaretta Frederick, curator of the Bancroft Pre-Raphaelite collection. Several versions of the subject (also known as The Fair Jacobite) are unlocated: a small oil on panel dated 1862, a Thomas Annan photograph of the painting dated 1862, a small watercolor dated 1863 and a George Zobel mezzotint published 1878. Can any readers offer information or the whereabouts of these works? mwinslow@delart.org.

BLOCK MUSEUM TO SHOWCASE MORRIS AND STICKLEY THIS WINTER

EVANSTON, Ill. — Exhibitions celebrating the Arts and Crafts movement in England and the United States will be on public display at Northwestern University's Mary and Leigh Block Museum of Art, 40 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston campus, during Winter 2005:

The Beauty of Life: William Morris and the Art of Design (Jan. 21 to March 13), in the museum's Main Gallery and Print, Drawing and Photography Study Center, explores the work of the British artist considered the father of the Arts and Crafts movement. Organized by The Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens in San Marino, Calif., the exhibition includes more than 125 designs by Morris & Co. for stained glass, wallpaper, textiles, embroidery and tapestry. It also will include a selection of rare books published by Morris' printing venture, the Kelmscott Press. "The influences of the British social activist, author, designer, book publisher and medievalist William Morris are profound and global," said David Robertson, director of the Block Museum. "He instilled his life and work with provocative notions of justice, responsibility, history and beauty. His legacy to the Chicago area is diverse and surprising. Louis Sullivan, for example, found influence in Morris' exuberant floral patterns for his concept of "organic architecture." Morris' socialist writings can be understood as a primary influence on Jane Addams' fervent desire to stimulate the lives of the poor by offering art classes at Hull House. And Arts and Crafts homes and churches throughout our region show Morris' direct and indirect influences." Equally compelling will be a concurrent exhibition How We Might Live: The Arts and Crafts Interior (Jan. 4 to March 6), in the Block Museum's Alsdorf Gallery. Featuring original furniture and decorative objects for the home such as chairs, bookcases, wallpaper and tapestries, How We Might Live compares the works of Morris and American Arts and Crafts designer and manufacturer Gustav Stickley (1858-1942) through a rare selection of original furniture and decorative objects for the home designed and manufactured by Morris & Co., and Stickley's United Crafts and Craftsman Workshops. Drawn from a private collection, the How We Might Live exhibition was organized by Northwestern University Art History Professor Stephen F. Eisenman, Block Museum associate curator Corinne Granof and several graduate students from Northwestern's art history department.

Like Morris and Stickley, contemporary American video artist Bill Viola has drawn inspiration from the past. His 1995 slow-motion 10-minute video The Greeting (Jan. 21 through March 13), on view in the museum's Katz Digital Gallery, prolongs a 45-second social exchange to reveal the complexity of emotions in human encounters. Based on Italian artist Jacopo Pontormo's painting "The Visitation" (1528-29), it rounds out the Block Museum's winter 2005 exhibitions. Related to the Block Museum winter 2005 exhibitions will be a daylong symposium Saturday, Feb. 12, focusing on Morris' place in Victorian art and culture. Also planned is a Block Cinema series on British films from the early 1900s through contemporary times from the archives of the British Film Institute that will spotlight British directors such as David Lean, Carol Reed and the movie-making team of Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger. (Details about these winter 2005 events will be announced later this year.) Gift items such as notebooks and gift wrap paper featuring William Morris designs will be on sale in the museum's first floor bookshop, Block in Print. The Mary and Leigh Block Museum of Art is closed on Monday. Admission is free. For more information call (847) 491-4000 or visit the Block Museum Web site at: <http://www.blockmuseum.northwestern.edu>.

INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT OF ARTS & CRAFTS MOVEMENT AT LACMA

The Arts and Crafts Movement in Europe and America: Design for the Modern World, 1880–1920 will be the first to assess the truly international influence of the Arts and Crafts movement in Britain, Europe, and the United States. At the turn of the last century, the Arts and Crafts movement transformed not only how objects looked, but how people looked at objects. It provided a framework for many essential issues still being debated today: the conflict between standardization and individuality, the question of whether a one-of-a-kind handcrafted object is superior to a mass-produced one, and the problem of defining what kind of design most benefits society. With 260 objects—furniture, ceramics, metalwork, textiles, and works on paper—from Britain, Ireland, the United States, France, Belgium, Germany, Austria, Hungary, Scandinavia, and Finland, as well as the recreation of a Peter Behrens room in the Wertheim department store. This will be a visually stunning exhibition of great popular appeal and scholarly interest. The show will display masterworks by the best-known designers of the period, such as William Morris, M.H. Baillie Scott, Henry Van de Velde, Peter Behrens, Josef Hoffman, Eliel Saarinen, Gustav Stickley, Greene and Greene, and Frank Lloyd Wright. Two-thirds of the objects will be borrowed from other institutions and collections, and the remainder selected from LACMA's superb and continually growing permanent collection. *The Arts and Crafts Movement in Europe and America: Design for the Modern World, 1880-1920*, was curated by leading Arts and Crafts authority Wendy Kaplan, curator of Decorative Arts at LACMA. The exhibition will be on view at LACMA December 19, 2004, through April 3, 2005. For details, please visit: <http://www.lacma.org>.

EVENTS OF INTEREST

April 12-20, 2005: ROYCROFT FOUNDATION 2005 TOUR OF ENGLAND

The tour will showcase the largest ever assembled Arts & Crafts Exhibition at London's Victoria & Albert Museum. The trip will begin in the beautiful Lakes District, visiting the home of John Ruskin and Blackwell. Then the tour turns south with stops in the Cotswolds, before the final destination of London. We will see the designs of Morris, Baillie-Scott, Pugin and Webb, as well as many others working in the period, with stops at pubs, gardens and shops all along the way. And all of these events guided by the foremost Roycroft scholar - Kitty Turgeon. For details, please visit: <http://www.ashton-drye.com>.

March 2005: ROYCROFT FOUNDATION U.S. WEST COAST TOUR

Plan on joining the Roycrofters on an early spring tour of Southern California attending the Los Angeles County Museum of Art's Arts & Crafts Exhibition "The Course of Invention: The Arts and Crafts Movement in Europe and America, 1890-1920". Also included will be visits to the Gamble House and other Greene & Greene masterworks, as well as works of Maybeck, Gill and Wright. For details, visit: <http://www.ashton-drye.com>.

NEW AND NOTEWORTHY

LOVE'S ENOUGH

Love's Enough is the latest album by Morris enthusiast and longtime Society member Kurt Henry and his band. The music, featuring one Morris penned song ("Fair Befall the Mountainside"), is a fusion of folk, light rock, and country, with some Celtic/Latin overtones in the instrumentation and percussion. It's simple and straightforward and Henry's vocals are pleasantly evocative. The CD is available from <http://www.kurthenry.com/albums.shtml>.

WILLIAM MORRIS BY SANCHA DE BURCA

William Morris, a new title released by Artwork Resources, is the latest in their series of "Interceptor Project Books." The goal of the series is to "use art and design as a tool to create a personal response." The activity books are designed for teenagers, but are appropriate for ages 9 to adult. The William Morris title includes a chapter on his beliefs, political and social, as well as a timeline of the major events of his life. The

background chapters are followed by some interesting activities, the first of which being a role playing scenario which seeks to have learners "Understand the context of the Victorian period; understand the need for design and other reforms; learn about design reformers prior to Morris; take part in role play and debate about design reform; consider whether reforms were successful or not and give reasons why; and relate 19th century design reforms to the 20th and 21st centuries." Readers, in subsequent chapters, are asked to, "by incorporating leaves and other plant matter in a hanging, create a 'real' version of a Morris pattern," "make a Morris-based design and print from it," or "design a tapestry that is in some way related to your work on William Morris." Although there are a few typos in the text, overall this is a remarkably inventive book for anyone who is creative and willing to go out on an artistic limb to learn more about the process of Morris's style of making designs. It seems to be a worthy classroom activity book for elementary or junior high school kids, or just for a parent who would like to teach a child more about history and historical designs. The activities in this book are perfect rainy day pastimes. Interceptor books are available direct from Artwork Resources:

P.O. Box 155
Wadhurst TN5 7WB, UK
<http://www.artworkresources.com>

BOOK NOTICE

Venomous Earth: How Arsenic Caused the World's Worst Mass Poisoning, by Andrew Meharg. Publication 17 January 2005; HB; 224pp; £16.99.

The worst chemical disaster ever could be happening right now. In India and Bangladesh between forty and eighty million people are at risk of consuming too much arsenic from well water that might have already caused one hundred thousand cancer cases and thousands of deaths. Many millions elsewhere in South-East Asia and South America may soon suffer a similar fate. *Venomous Earth* is the story of this tragedy and the broader history of arsenic: the geology, the biology, the politics and the history. It starts in Ancient Greece, touches down in today's North America and takes in alchemy, farming, medicine, manufacturing, mining and a cosmetic that killed two popes. The book features two chapters concerned in detail with William Morris and his milieu. One explores his family's involvement in arsenic mining, the other focuses on his (and others') use of arsenic-containing dyes.

The author worked closely with Peter Cormack at the William Morris Gallery, Walthamstow, Michael Parry of Sanderson Wallpaper Company and the staff at the Victoria & Albert Museum. ANDREW MEHARG is Professor of Biogeochemistry at the University of Aberdeen in Scotland where he studies and teaches on the impact of pollutants on the environment. His particular interest is how arsenic interacts with plants, animals and humans. In this capacity he has advised national and international government and aid bodies. Andrew has published numerous academic papers, book chapters and popular press articles on his research. Advance praise for the work: "The unfolding arsenic tragedy in Bangladesh and India compels far greater attention from the international community than it currently receives. *Venomous Earth* provides a fascinating account both of the historical role of arsenic in our lives, and the horrific impact of what has been called 'the largest mass poisoning of a population in history'."—Dr Jonathon Porritt, *The Forum for the Future*

CALLS FOR SUBMISSIONS

ARISE! JOURNAL CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Arise! is a journal dedicated to bringing theory and practice into dialogue. The editorial collective is particularly interested in discussions of post/anti-colonialism, feminism and queer thought, Marxism, anarchism, environmentalism, and contemporary activist struggles in the United States and elsewhere. *Arise!* is published quarterly, and each issue is thematically arranged, carrying a number of articles (ranging in length between 1000-3000 words) related to the central theme. Each issue also publishes a number of reviews of recently published book (generally between 300-

500 words). Future themes include: *Literature (Winter 2005)*, *Music (Spring 2005)* *Spirituality & Religion (Summer 2005)*, and *Sexuality, Sex and Gender Fall 2005*).

For the issue on *Literature*, we are especially interested in articles that discuss the work of individual authors (Kurt Vonnegut, George Orwell, Toni Morrison, Kathy Acker, Margaret Atwood, etc.), groups of authors (the Beats, the Situationists, the Surrealists, etc.), individual novels or series, whole genres (romance, science fiction, fantasy, magic realism, etc.), as well as discussions of literature and its relationship to Marxist/feminist/anarchist/GLBT/ anticolonial thought and action, personal reflections on the importance of literature, and literature and its relationship with race and ethnicity, sex, gender and sexuality, class, nationalism and patriotism, etc. We are not interested in works of fiction. DEADLINE: January 15, 2005.

For the issue on *Music*, we are especially interested in articles that discuss individual artists and musical groups (Bob Dylan, International Noise Conspiracy, Le Tigre, Frank Zappa, etc.), genres (punk, hardcore, folk, rap, hip hop, rock, etc.), individual albums, as well as discussions of music and its relationship to Marxist/feminist/anarchist/GLBT/anticolonial thought and action, personal reflections on the importance of music, and music and its relationship with race and ethnicity, sex, gender and sexuality, class, nationalism and patriotism, etc. DEADLINE: April 17, 2005.

If you are interested in contributing, or have questions about future themes, please contact us at: arisenewspaper@hotmail.com. *Arise!* is a free publication that is distributed throughout the Minneapolis-St. Paul area (as well as a subscription base outside of this area), and is supported through advertisements for both local businesses and national worker-friendly publishers, distributors and music labels.

JOURNAL OF STEVENSON STUDIES

The *Journal of Stevenson Studies* is an international refereed journal, devoted to all aspects of the life and works of Robert Louis Stevenson. The first issue of the *Journal* was published in July 2004. The second issue of the *Journal* is scheduled to appear in late summer/early autumn, 2005, and the editors for this issue would like to invite submissions for this, and future issues. Papers dealing with Stevenson in the context of other authors are also welcomed. All articles will be refereed by two members of the Editorial Board: Richard Ambrosini, Stephen Arata, Linda Dryden (co-editor), Richard Dury (consulting editor), Gordon Hirsch, Katherine Linehan, Douglas Mack, Barry Menikoff, Marshall Walker, and Rory Watson (co-editor). Authors should refer to the *MHRA* for house style, and include full references in Endnotes rather than using a Works Cited format. Please use Times New Roman 12 point type face, and double space your submission. Longer quotations should be offset from the main text and indented, in 10 point font. Further guidance on house style can be obtained from the editors. DEADLINE: 1 February 2005. Please submit articles for issue 2 via email as a Word attachment to one of the editors:

Professor Roderick Watson, English Studies
University of Stirling
Stirling FK9 4LA
Scotland
Tel: 01786 467500
r.b.watson@stir.ac.uk

or

Dr Linda Dryden, Faculty of Arts and Social Science
Napier University, Craighouse
Edinburgh EH10 5LG
Scotland
Tel: 0131 455 66128
l.dryden@napier.ac.uk

FOLKLORE IN THE WRITINGS OF AMERICAN AUTHORS

Recent texts focusing on folklore in literature have highlighted classic literature. Defining literature broadly, *Folklore in the Writings of American Authors* exists to offer

discussion of folklore in the 'popular' writing genres: science fiction, detective fiction, popular novels, short stories, children's literature, and horror. Submissions for the text Folklore in the Writings of American Authors should be 10-20 pages in length and follow current MLA style guidelines. Original research in any area of folklore in American literature is welcome. Research focusing on folklore in the genres of children's literature, science fiction, horror, and detective fiction is encouraged. Additionally, research highlighting themes, such as authenticity, in the work of women, ethnic, or regional authors is encouraged. Submissions closely adhering to previous requirements and focusing on folklore in theatre, and film may be considered. DEADLINE: May 15, 2005 (postmark). Proposal submissions should contain the following items:

- *Short Abstract of 150-250 words*
- *Outline of proposed paper*
- *2 page curricula vitae*
- *Contact information*

Paper submissions should be postmarked no later than August 30, 2005. Paper submissions should include a chapter length submission in MLA format, a 2-page curricula vitae, and contact information. Send proposals to:

*Dr. Rachel Gholson
Department of English
Southwest Missouri State University
901 South National
Springfield, Missouri 65804
mrg464f@smsu.edu*

NINETEENTH-CENTURY PROSE

Nineteenth-Century Prose invites submissions for a special issue on writing by T. B. Macaulay, scheduled for fall, 2006. We hope for a wide range of topics and approaches regarding particular essays by Macaulay, or the Critical and Historical Essays as a corpus, and/or his History of England. His parliamentary and bureaucratic texts, such as those concerning India, will also be considered suitable subject matter. The perspectives of literary study, history, historiography, and the philosophy of history are all welcome. So are submissions employing interdisciplinary approaches or discussing Macaulay texts in relation to interdisciplinary issues. Essays in cultural studies, including colonial and postcolonial studies, are also encouraged as promising for examination of this writer who was so widely read during his lifetime and on through the long nineteenth-century.

Inquiries, proposals, and submissions should be sent by e-mail to the guest editor: Thomas Gillcrist, Reed College, thomas.gillcrist@reed.edu. Proposals (1-3 pages) are recommended and should be received as soon as practical. DEADLINE: 1 September 2005 (for completed essays). Essays normally should not exceed 9500 words. Submissions must be sent as attachments in MS Word. Chicago or MLA format is recommended. In any event, all text, including notes and indented quotes, should be double spaced throughout. Notes should be created in a separate file with superscripts NOT created through automatic computer formatting. Submissions should be accompanied by a one-paragraph abstract and a two-or three- sentence vita.

CONFERENCES

March 12, 2005, California State University Fullerton

ACACIA GROUP'S 2005 CONFERENCE: CULTURE, CONTEXT AND CONNECTIONS

The conference theme is Artifice and Community in Medieval Literature. The constructs of community may be reflected in the creation and composition of, responses and attitudes toward, condition and endurance of forms of artifice such as dress, architecture, music, art, literature, dance, and craft. Papers may examine medieval literature for relationships among formations and changes in community as reflected in depictions of forms of artifice. DEADLINE: January 5, 2005.

Please note submissions are open to graduate and undergraduate students. Please send completed papers of 10-12 pages in Word format (please do not send abstracts) to susanmariejohnson@hotmail.com, or mail to:

Acacia Group
PO Box 5853
Fullerton CA 92838

For more information, please visit the website at <http://csufacacia.com/>.

March 25-27, 2005, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ
SEXING THE VICTORIAN BODY: GENDERED BODY POLITICS IN VICTORIAN LITERATURE

Papers for this panel will focus on works that reflect the highly gendered constructions of sex and sexual identity in the Victorian body politic. As public and private spheres became increasingly polarized by a burgeoning bourgeoisie, sexual deviance became increasingly threatening to the Victorian domestic ideal. For the oversexed yet sexually repressed Victorians, however, everything from masturbation and homosexuality to any expression of female desire could be classified as deviant, making the performance of both normal and abnormal femininities and masculinities all the more important. Papers might, for example, address the following questions:

- Are all Victorian children immaculately conceived?
- Is there such a thing as male hysteria?
- If there is an angel residing in every Victorian house, then where do all the devils live?
- Why is there only one choice: angel or devil?
- Are all decadents and aesthetes devil worshippers?
- What's up with all of the vampires?

Length of abstract: 250 words. DEADLINE: January 1, 2005. Please send abstracts and direct questions to:

Kimber Knutson
Arizona State University
English Department
Tempe, AZ 85287-0302
Kimber.Knutson@asu.edu

and/or

Dana Tait
Arizona State University
English Department
Tempe, AZ 85287-0302
Dana.Tait@asu.edu

Please also include a short biographical note, including your professional affiliation or university, mailing address, email, and phone. To mitigate potential technical difficulties, please send abstract in body of email or attach as a Word file. For details about the symposium, please visit: <http://www.asu.edu/clubs/gsea/sw/>.

April 2, 2005, University of Vermont, Burlington, Vermont.
TOLKIEN 2005

The keynote address will be delivered by Tom Shippey, Walter J. Ong Professor of English at St. Louis University and author of *The Road to Middle-Earth* and *J. R. R. Tolkien: Author of the Century*, as well as of many articles on fantasy, science fiction, and medieval literature. The conference organizers seek papers on any topic related to Tolkien or his work, but the following topics will be given priority consideration: Tolkien as medievalist, Tolkien as translator, Tolkien's faerie bodies, Tolkien and modernism, Tolkien on-screen, class and Englishness in Tolkien's writings, Tolkien and William Morris, and *The Lord of the Rings* and pop culture. DEADLINE: JANUARY 3,

2005. Please send a one-page abstract to any of the conference directors: Christopher Vaccaro (cvaccaro@uvm.edu), Michael Faletra (mfaletra@uvm.edu), Jamie Williamson (jwillia@uvm.edu), or by mail to:

400 Old Mill
University of Vermont
Burlington, VT 05405

For further information, contact the conference organizer:

Michael A. Faletra
Assistant Professor of English
Old Mill 400, University of Vermont
Burlington VT 05405
(802) 656-3056
FAX (802) 656-3055

14 May 2005, Keele University, UK
DARWIN, SEXUALITY, AND LITERARY REPRESENTATION

Keynote Speakers: Angelique Richardson (Exeter University) and Carolyn Burdett (London Metropolitan University). Papers (20m duration) should address the topic of Darwin's theory of Sexual Selection and its influence on Victorian writers. Do Darwin's theories of Sexual Selection and sexual reproduction simply reaffirm gender stereotypes, or do they open the way to other interpretations? DEADLINE: February 10, 2005. Proposals (around 200 to 250 words) and further enquiries should be sent to:

Sara G. da Silva
School of English
Keele University
Keele, Staffordshire, ST5 5BG UK
saragsilva@hotmail.com
end15@engl.keele.ac.uk

June 23-24, 2005, Royal Holloway, University of London
VICTORIAN EUROPEANS

A Joint Interdisciplinary Conference of the Centre for Victorian Studies, Royal Holloway, Centre for Nineteenth-Century Studies, Birkbeck College and The Victorian Studies Centre, University of Exeter. Keynote Speakers: Professor J.B. Bullen, The University of Reading; Professor Denis Cosgrove, UCLA; Professor Regenia Gagnier, University of Exeter. At this moment of intense political debate concerning the boundaries and location of the European subject, the conference organisers invite scholars from a variety of disciplinary backgrounds to reflect back upon the cultural significance of the European during the Victorian period.

The pairing of the two terms "Victorian" and "European" establishes a creative tension that has received relatively little exploration in the field of nineteenth-century studies to date. "Victorian Europeans" thus raises a set of questions that we hope to see addressed during the course of the conference. What were the boundaries of the European in the nineteenth-century? How does thinking of "the Victorian" through the lens of Europe, rather than British colonial expansion alter our conception of the metropolitan subject? Is it possible to conceive of non-elite "Victorian Europeans?" Is it intellectually valid to extend the category of "the Victorian" and the field of "Victorian Studies" to cover cultural histories of mainland Europe? The organisers invite proposals for papers which explore these and other questions in some of the following contexts:

- **Literary responses to the European encounter**
- **Trans-national intellectual exchanges and cultural networks**
- **Nineteenth-century nationalisms and the idea of Europe/Imperial**
- **Europeans' Travel, tourism and aesthetic consumption**
- **Cosmopolitanism and the modern city**
- **Revolutions, émigrés and exiles**

- *Geography and memory*

DEADLINE: January 15, 2005. Please submit abstracts of approximately 500 words to Ruth Livesey (Ruth.Livesey@rhul.ac.uk) and Ana Parejo Vadillo (a.parejovadillo@eng.bbk.ac.uk or a.i.p.Vadillo@exeter.ac.uk). You are welcome to approach the organisers to discuss your proposal in advance of the deadline for abstracts.

Dr Ana Parejo Vadillo
 School of English, University of Exeter
 University of London
 Queen's Building, The Queen's Drive
 Exeter EX4 4QH

Dr Ruth Livesey
 Department of English, Royal Holloway
 Egham, TW20 0EX
 Fax 01784 479059

11-13 July 2005, Leeds Centre for Victorian Studies
THE VICTORIANS IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

A major international conference at the Leeds Centre for Victorian Studies, 11th-13th July 2005. Did the modernist era overturn and discard all that the Victorians had thought and done? Or, with hindsight can we see it to be more indebted to the Victorians than contemporaries cared to admit? Why did debates about Victorian values continue to rage into the late twentieth century? Why does the Victorian era continue to have such a hold on our culture, in revivals of its literature, in its use as a setting? As the twentieth century itself becomes history perhaps the time has come to have one more go at rethinking its relationship with its Victorian past.

This international conference, to be hosted by the Leeds Centre for Victorian Studies aims to re-evaluate the relationship between the Victorians and their successors across all areas of culture and society, including literature and literary criticism, cultural studies, art history, gender relations, labour, transport, medicine, religion, philosophy, politics, etc. Plenary Speakers will include Stephen Kern and Cora Kaplan Papers are welcome on themes such as:

- *the legacy of the Victorians*
- *the changing reputation of particular Victorian figures*
- *the adoption and adaptation of Victorian practices, codes and fashions*
- *the boundaries between the "Victorian" and the "Modern"*
- *the influence of the Victorians on the twentieth century*
- *twentieth-century deployments of the Victorian by writers, artists, film-makers, politicians.*

DEADLINE: February 1, 2005 (second round). Please contact:

Professor Martin Hewitt, Director
 Leeds Centre for Victorian Studies
 Trinity and All Saints
 Brownberrie Lane,
 Horsforth, Leeds, LS18 5HD, UK
M_Hewitt@tasc.ac.uk

July 21-23, 2005, Lancaster University
VICTORIAN LIFE WRITING: SOURCES AND RESOURCES. THE RUSKIN RESEARCH PROGRAMME

Plenary Speakers: Phil Davis, Kate Flint, Robert Hewison, George Landow, and Jeffrey Richards. Discussions and presentations will cover the records of Victorian Writers' lives, written both by themselves and others. As well as various kinds of biography, we aim to consider more marginal forms of textuality, including journals, diaries, and letters. The presentation and editing of these materials is also of major

interest. Paper streams are to address the following topics: Constructing Victorian Life Histories; Ruskinian Theatre; Recording Venice; Victorian Writers' Afterlives; Electronic Heaven and Virtual Lives. DEADLINE: None Given. Proposals for 25-minute papers are invited on any aspect of the Conference topics. Please send an abstract of 300 words to the Conference Organising Committee at the address below:

*Lindsey Walker
Ruskin Programme Secretary
Bowland College
Lancaster University
Lancaster, LA1 4YT
Tel: 01524 592450
Fax: 01524 594247
Email: Lindsey.walker@lancaster.ac.uk*

*For more details, please visit the web site at
<http://www.lancs.ac.uk/depts/ruskin/conf.htm>.*

*September 2005, George Washington University, Washington, DC
THE RESEARCH SOCIETY FOR VICTORIAN PERIODICALS (RSVP) ANNUAL
CONFERENCE*

While papers addressing any aspect of Victorian periodicals will be considered, RSVP particularly welcomes proposals for papers on the topic of politics, broadly construed. RSVP hopes to attract work on such wide-ranging issues as the politics of periodical production and management; the association of particular periodicals with political parties and leanings; the representation of local, national, and international issues and/or legislation within periodicals; the role and relationship of editors (both real and nominal), sub-editors, editorial boards, publishers, and advertisers; periodicals and the ideal of social and/or political reform; periodicals and the concepts of influence, power, and prestige; the politics of writing for periodicals (allegiances, the role of celebrity authors, anonymity); censorship and the press. DEADLINE: February 1, 2005. Two-page (maximum) proposals (either for individual presentations or for panels of three), with a one-page c.v. (with relevant publications, teaching experience, and/or coursework) should be sent to:

*Professor Linda Peterson, Program Chair, English Department
P.O. Box 208302
Yale University
New Haven, CT 06520-8320
Email: Linda.Peterson@yale.edu*

Final papers should take 15 minutes (20 minutes maximum) to present. The program will also include a roundtable devoted to teaching periodicals. If you would like to participate in this roundtable discussion, please submit a one-page proposal to Linda Peterson at the addresses above. RSVP is pleased to be able to award three grants of \$100 each to graduate students presenting papers at the conference. If you would like to be considered for such an award, please indicate so on a cover letter attached to your proposal. Recipients will be notified in early spring of 2005. Please check the RSVP website for more information at: <http://www.rs4vp.org/>. Questions about local arrangements should be directed to Maria Frawley at MFrawley@gwu.edu.

*September 22-25, 2005, University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana
MIDWEST CONFERENCE ON BRITISH STUDIES 51ST ANNUAL MEETING*

This year's plenary speakers are: Christopher Harvie, Professor of British and Irish Studies at Tubingen University; and Terry Eagleton, Professor of Cultural Theory at the University of Manchester. The MWCBS seeks papers from scholars in all fields of British Studies, broadly defined to include those who study England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland, and Britain's empire. Proposals for complete sessions organized around a common theme are preferred, although proposals for individual papers will be considered if they can be combined with others. Especially welcome are cross-disciplinary panels and

proposals for thematic sessions or roundtable discussions on interdisciplinary issues and teaching British history, literature and culture. The MWCBS also encourages paper and panel submissions relating to online or technology-based teaching and research in British Studies. Possible areas of focus might include (but are not limited to): histories of reading, visual literacy, nationalism, colonialism, and gender. We encourage panels that include papers in both literary studies and history. The MWCBS welcomes papers presented by advanced graduate students and will award a prize for the best graduate student paper given at the conference. DEADLINE: April 15, 2005. Proposals should include a 200-word abstract for each paper and a brief c.v. for each participant, including chairs and commentators. Please submit proposals to:

*Craig Dionne, Program Chair, MWCBS
Department of English
Eastern Michigan University
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197
e-mail: craig.dionne@emich.edu*

As always, further information is available from the MWCBS website at <http://www.eiu.edu/~localite/britain/mwcbs/>.

October 7-9, 2005, Denver, Colorado

*THE NORTH AMERICAN CONFERENCE ON BRITISH STUDIES IN CONJUNCTION
WITH THE WESTERN CONFERENCE ON BRITISH STUDIES 2005 ANNUAL MEETING*

The NACBS, the main organization for British Studies in Canada and the United States, along with its Western affiliate, the WACBS, seek participation by scholars in all areas of British Studies. We solicit proposals for panels on England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, and the British Empire broadly defined. Our interests range from the medieval to the modern and we welcome participation by historians, literary critics, economists, sociologists, art historians, and scholars in other allied disciplines. We invite panel proposals treating selected themes, methodology, and pedagogy, as well as roundtable discussion of topical work. North American scholars, international scholars, and graduate students are all encouraged to submit proposals to the Program Chair of the NACBS.

Proposals for entire panels on a common theme will be given priority, although individual paper proposals will also be considered if several of them can be assembled to create a viable panel. No participant will be permitted to take part in more than one session, and no more than one proposal will be considered from each applicant. Committed to the principles of ensuring the broadest possible participation of scholars of all facets of British Studies, the program committee will give priority to proposals submitted by those who did not read papers at each of the last two consecutive meetings. North American participants in the meeting must be members of the NACBS. DEADLINE: January 28, 2005. Proposals should include FOUR COPIES of each of the following:

- (a) completed Cover Sheet*
- (b) a statement of the overall purpose and goals of the panel*
- (c) a 200-300 word abstract for each paper to be read*
- (d) a one or two page curriculum vitae for ALL participants.*

The Call for Papers, Cover Sheet, and Guidelines for Submission of Proposals are located at <http://www.nacbs.org>. We do not accept proposals via e-mail or fax. Please MAIL FOUR hardcopies of your proposals to:

*Seth Koven
NACBS Program Chair
Department of History
Villanova University
Villanova, PA 19085-1699
Phone: (610) 519-7792*

Fax: (610) 519-4450
E-Mail: NACBS@villanova.edu

October 13-16, 2005, Antlers Hotel, Colorado Springs, CO
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ROMANTICISM 2005: ROMANTIC
METAMORPHOSES AND TRANSFORMATIONS

Proposals should focus on concepts such as: mutations, metamorphoses, transformations, permutations, transubstantiation, seduction, translation, flow, creation, conception, birth, death, materiality, spirituality, melding, blending, distortion and transformation of poetics and genre; religion as conversion, perversion, fall, or repentance; adaptation, co-option, and plagiarism; repetition, historical change, gender, engendering, childhood, unity, division, and Romanticism into and out of other discourses. DEADLINE: June 1, 2005. For more information, see the conference website at <http://faculty1.coloradocollege.edu/~wdavis/icr/>. Send proposals (250 words, email preferred) to:

William Davis, Program in Comparative Literature
The Colorado College
14 E. Cache la Poudre
Colorado Springs, CO 80903
Tel. 719 389-6815
FAX 719 389-6179
Email: WDavis@ColoradoCollege.edu

MORRIS MARKETPLACE: A SHOPPER'S GUIDE

LINKS AND TIES: <http://www.linksandties.co.uk>.

Carries a range of Liberty of London silk ties, including several based on William Morris designs. Designs include Strawberry Thief, Daisy, and Trellis.

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- *"The Arming and Departure of the Knights" Tapestry*

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- *Rare Birds Tapestry.*

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Medium (51"Wx67"H) Item #TX6840 \$995.00

Small (36"Wx46"H) Item #TX6835 \$495.00

- *"The Forest" Tapestry*

Large (47"Wx29"H) Item #TX77940 \$298.00

Small (33"Wx20"H) Item #TX77945 \$179.00

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Item #BMO249 \$295.00

THE SMITHSONIAN: <http://www.smithsonianstore.com> (1-800-322-0344)

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- **Woodpecker Tapestry Plaque.** Polyresin wall plaque inspired by Morris's Woodpecker Tapestry. 11" x 7 ¾". Item #58979 £10.00.
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- **Royal Worcester Cat Plates.** Lesley Anne Ivory cat paintings are reproduced on these fine bone china plates. There's Chesterton, an alert black and white cat, Dandelion, who sits in front of William Morris wallpaper, and Rachel's cat, depicted in the window of Salisbury Museum. Each plate 8 ½". Set of 3 plates: Item #58937 £65.00. Dandelion Plate: Item #60666 £23.50.

CHICAGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM STORE: <http://www.chicagohs.org>
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- **William Morris Tie. Oak Design.** Silk yarn embroidered on silk damask. Natural: Item #13135 \$45.00, Clay: Item 13136 \$45.00

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- *William Morris Woodpecker Tapestry. Carved on stone. 8½"w x 19½" h x 1" thick. Item #2064 \$100.00*

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- *Compton Folding Umbrella. Adapted from Compton. Length 10" closed. Item #O2087 \$25.00/Met Member Price: \$22.50*
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- *Pink and Rose Folding Umbrella. Length 10" closed, 22" open. Item #O2106 \$25.00/Met Member Price: \$22.50*
- *William Morris Scarf. Imported silk. 64"x18". Adapted from Morris textile and wallpaper patterns. Available in peach/green, camel/grey or black/rose.*

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- *The Beauty of Life: William Morris and the Art of Design.* Edited by Diane Waggoner. Item #0500284342 \$24.95
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- *Leather Bookmarks.* Gold stamped leather. Made in England. "Leaves" on red leather Item #M84 \$2.50

COLOPHON

This newsletter was written and edited by Shannon L. Rogers. Items for inclusion, books for review, news from or about members, calls for papers, conference announcements, event notifications, and comments are welcomed.

Shannon Rogers
 Department of History
 Juniata College
 1700 Moore Street
 Huntingdon, PA 16652
us_news@morrissociety.org

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