

Forthcoming in *PMLA*

IN THE MAY ISSUE

“Editor’s Column: Prisons, Activism, and the Academy—a Roundtable with William Alexander, Bell Gale Chevigny, Stephen John Hartnett, Janie Paul, and Judith Tannenbaum”

MICHAEL HOLQUIST. “Presidential Address 2007: The Scandal of Literacy”

MICHAEL COLLINS. “The Antipanopticon of Etheridge Knight”

STOBHAN PHILLIPS. “The Daily Living of Robert Frost”

HANA PICOVA. “The Lineup for Meat: The Stalin Statue in Prague”

Theories and Methodologies

Essays on incarceration and social justice by Jonathan Shailor, H. Bruce Franklin, Avery F. Gordon, Tanya Erzen, Megan Sweeney, Jean Trounstein, Robert P. Waxler, Ruby C. Tapia, Jody Lewen, and Ronald B. Herzman

The Changing Profession

CATHY N. DAVIDSON. “Humanities 2.0: Promise, Perils, Predictions”

KATHLEEN FITZPATRICK. “Obsolescence”

FRANÇOISE LIONNET. “The Indies: Baudelaire’s Colonial World”

DOUGLAS MAO AND REBECCA L. WALKOWITZ. “The New Modernist Studies”

MARJORIE PERLOFF AND CRAIG DWORKIN. “The Sound of Poetry / The Poetry of Sound: The 2006 MLA Presidential Forum”

Letters from Librarians

LARRY E. SULLIVAN. “‘Prison Is Dull Today’: Prison Libraries and the Irony of Pious Reading”

(continued)

Features in *PMLA*

Manuscripts and correspondence related to the features described below should be sent to the Managing Editor, *PMLA*, Modern Language Association, 26 Broadway, 3rd floor, New York, NY 10004-1789.

Special Topics

Articles on the general topics are invited; the subtopics listed are provided by way of example and suggestion only. Submissions to *PMLA* must meet the requirements given in the statement of editorial policy.

Literary Criticism for the Twenty-First Century

Deadline for submissions: 3 November 2008

COORDINATORS: Cathy Caruth (Emory Univ.) and Jonathan Culler (Cornell Univ.)

What kinds of literary criticism can we imagine for the twenty-first century? The twentieth century saw a variety of exciting literary-critical approaches, including New Critical analyses of works as ironic, elegantly constructed organic wholes; structuralist analyses of how works relate to the generic or discursive systems that produce them; deconstructive readings of how works undo the ideological frameworks that support them; historicist readings of works as symptoms of or interventions in a sociopolitical context; ethnic, feminist, Marxist, psychoanalytic, race-critical, and queer readings of works in relation to philosophical, political, and socioeconomic conditions. What is next?

PMLA asks for essays that seek to remobilize the field of literary criticism. Over the last few decades, theory has taught us a great deal about effective critique, but we may have entered a moment of reconstruction or regeneration in which we seek other forms of literary-theoretical knowledge. Does the twenty-first century call for changed paradigms and fresh imaginings of how we study and write about literature? Are there current approaches that have not yet been fully developed, that would richly repay attention? Do new media demand the creation of innovative literary-critical forms? How have local, national, and global changes transformed the way we see literature? What challenging approaches does literary criticism for the twenty-first century require? While imagining new forms of criticism will doubtless require a critique of the old, *PMLA* discourages contributions that describe what is wrong with current critical approaches without setting out new alternatives and urges contributors to illustrate how the approaches they propose might work in practice.

Celebrity, Fame, Notoriety

Deadline for submissions: 1 April 2009

COORDINATORS: Joseph A. Boone (Univ. of Southern California) and Nancy J. Vickers (Bryn Mawr Coll.)

Napoleon said that “glory is fleeting, but obscurity is forever.” *PMLA* invites analyses of lives, objects, and events that escaped obscurity—however temporarily—and achieved the incandescence of fame. How have definitions of celebrity, fame, infamy, and notoriety changed from ancient to postmodern times? Are there differences across cultures? Are there constants? Are there transformative moments? What are the roles of patronage, marketing, spectacle, and various media in the invention of celebrity? Is the price of acclaim most often ignominy? Who or what are celebrity’s others? The Editorial Board invites essays on a wide range of topics throughout history, from criminal broadsides to the lives of martyrs and saints, from the self-promotion of charlatans to the disclaimers of reluctant superstars, from the gossip of the literary salon to that of the online chat room.

Criticism in Translation

MLA members are invited to submit to the *PMLA* Editorial Board proposals for translations. Articles, as well as chapters or sections of books that can function as independent units, will be considered. The originals may be in any language. Two types of proposals are welcome: (1) significant scholarship from earlier periods that has not lost its forcefulness and whose retrieval in English in *PMLA* would be a noteworthy event for a broad body of readers and (2) contemporary work of sufficient weight and potential influence to merit the attention of the field as a whole.

A member who wishes to make a proposal should first ascertain that no previous English translation exists. The proposer should then provide the managing editor with the following materials: (1) a photocopy of the original essay, (2) an extended summary of the entire essay in English, (3) an introductory statement of approximately 1,000 words, prepared in accordance with MLA style, that will be published with the essay if the essay is accepted, (4) information on the copyright status of the original (if the translation is accepted for publication, the proposer will be responsible for obtaining permission to print it). In addition, if the proposer wishes to serve as translator of the essay or to designate a translator (who must also be an MLA member), a 1,000-word sample of the translation should be submitted; otherwise the Editorial Board will select a translator.

The translated essays should normally not exceed *PMLA*’s 9,000-word limit. The Editorial Board will approve or decline the proposals, evaluate the quality of the translations, and cooperate with the proposers and translators.

Little-Known Documents

MLA members are invited to submit to the *PMLA* Editorial Board proposals regarding little-known documentary material that merits

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IN THE MAY ISSUE (*continued*)

Criticism in Translation

JUAN CARLOS RODRÍGUEZ. Excerpts from *Althusser: Blow-up (Las líneas maestras de un pensamiento distinto)* (2003). Introduction and translation by Malcolm K. Read

Nobel Lecture 2007

DORIS LESSING. “On Not Winning the Nobel Prize”

IN OTHER ISSUES

KATY L. CHILES. “Becoming Colored in Occom and Wheatley’s Early America”

ARIF DIRLIK. “Race-Talk, Race, and Contemporary Racism”

SARAH GATES. “Intertextual Estella: *Great Expectations*, Gender, and Literary Tradition”

JENNIFER GLASER. “The Jew in the Canon: Reading Race and Literary History in Philip Roth’s *The Human Stain*”

PETER HOWARTH. “Housman’s Dirty Postcards: Poetry, Modernism, and Masochism”

FREDRIC JAMESON. “On German Wars”

JOSHUA LUND. “The Mestizo State: Colonization and Indianization in Liberal Mexico”

SONNET H. RETMAN. “*Black No More*: George Schuyler and Racial Capitalism”

AYON ROY. “Hegel contra Schlegel; Kierkegaard contra de Man”

Papers from the Convention Session for the Special Topic Comparative Racialization

DAVID L. ENG. “The End(s) of Race”

SHARON P. HOLLAND. “When Characters Lack Character: A Biomythography”

FRANÇOISE LIONNET. “Archipelagoes: From *E Pluribus Unum* to Creolized Solidarities”

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IN OTHER ISSUES (*continued*)

Theories and Methodologies

Reflections by Farah Jasmine Griffin, Eric Lott, and Valerie Smith on the volume "*Race, Writing, and Difference*," twenty years later

Reflections by Susan Koshy, James Kyung-Jin Lee, and Viet Thanh Nguyen on the volume *Racial Formation in the United States*

"Writing While Arab": essays by Salah D. Hassan, Khaled Mattawa, Iman Mersal, Philip Metres, and Frank D. Rashid

The Changing Profession

ÉTIENNE BALIBAR. "Racism Revisited: Sources, Relevance, and Aporias of a Modern Concept"

JULIE A. BUCKLER. "What Comes after 'Post-Soviet' in Russian Studies?"

ARLENE R. KEIZER. "Filling Up the White Spaces: Kara Walker, Black Women Writers, and African American Postmemory"

LISA NAKAMURA. "Cyberace"

ROBERT WARRIOR. "Organizing Native American and Indigenous Studies"

Little-Known Documents

DAVID BEN-MERRE AND ROBERT SCHOLES. "War Poems from 1914"

STEPHEN E. SEVERN. "The Library of Congress's Manuscript of W. H. Auden's 'The Shield of Achilles'"

Correspondents at Large

Letters on comparative racialization by Oscar V. Campomanes, Yen Le Espiritu, Edward Fowler, Deniz Göktürk, David Theo Goldberg, Richard Graham, Sneja Gunew, Colleen Lye, Walter D. Mignolo, Fred Moten, Obioma Nnaemeka, Louisa Schein and Va-Megn Thoj, Shuang Shen, and Sau-ling C. Wong

the attention of a broad range of readers. Consideration will be given to archival data from any period and in any language that do not exceed *PMLA*'s 9,000-word limit.

A member who wishes to make a proposal should provide the managing editor with the following materials: (1) a photocopy of the document, (2) an extended summary of the document in English, (3) an introductory statement of approximately 1,000 words, prepared in accordance with MLA style, that will be published with the document if it is accepted, (4) information on the copyright status of the original (if the document is accepted for publication, the proposer will be responsible for obtaining permission to print it). In addition, if the document is not in English and if the proposer wishes to serve as translator or to designate a translator (who must also be an MLA member), the proposal should include a 1,000-word sample of the translation; otherwise the Editorial Board will select a translator of accepted non-English material. The Editorial Board will approve or decline the proposals.

Solicited Contributions

The editor and the Editorial Board periodically invite studies and commentaries by specific authors on topics of wide interest. These contributions appear in the following series: *Theories and Methodologies*, *The Changing Profession*, *The Book Market*, *The Journal World*, *Letters from Librarians*, and *Correspondents at Large*. MLA members are welcome to suggest topics that might be addressed under these rubrics.