



AMERICAN STUDIES IN EUROPE

Newsletter

Issue No. 49 October 2002

ISSN 1359-4923

Published for EAAS by
Department of English and American
Studies
University of Maribor, Slovenia and
Institute for English and American Studies
University of Marburg, Germany
Website: <http://www.let.uu.nl/eaas/>

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Print: Austrian Postal Service; Graz, Austria

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"Between Bordeaux and Prague" Some Remarks by President Josef Jarab

The EAAS Biennial Conference that took place in Bordeaux in the end of March 2002 has become history. The overwhelming majority of participants communicated their satisfaction with the gathering, the program and the continuous debate which proved stimulating, thought-provoking, reflective and, therefore, successful. Thanks to the special care and generous effort of the French hosts and organizers the conference also remains an event of pleasant memories.

The theme of the conference was meant as an invitation to discuss the American historical experience in the perspective of the current process of constructing a new Europe. The initial plenary lecture, "A Pluribus Unum - A Motto for Europe?", delivered by the French political scientist Denis Lacorne, was to confirm this intent. During the conference, a lot of space and thought was devoted to the evaluation of the New World culture and reality in the view of the Old World, frequently taking into consideration the phenomenon of globalization with its potential consequences - both promises and threats.

What could not have been originally planned was the animated discourse concerning the terrorist attack on New York and Washington and the tragedy of September 11, 2001. The conference welcomed George Sanchez, the current President of the American Studies Association, and expressed to our colleagues in the United States our feelings of solidarity and support. We also repeated the call for closer cooperation in the effort to understand what is happening in the world today - and so to be intellectually and practically better prepared to cope with the emerging situation. The immediate former President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, Lord Russell-Johnston, reminded us that

"if, in facing terror, we weaken our commitment to freedom and humanity, the terrorists have won," while Professor Denis Donoghue, in his plenary address called "Art at Hard Times," made us remember the enduring complexity of the human condition in his reflective rereading of Melville's *Moby Dick*. A traditional volume of the conference proceedings, which is already in the making, should prove witness to the valuable scholarly debate in Bordeaux.

The EAAS Board, which met before and after the sessions, had to elect two of its officers and decide upon the venue and theme of the next biennial conference. On behalf of the whole membership we had the opportunity to express our gratitude for their dedicated work to Cristina Giorcelli, as Vice President, and Walter Hoelbling, as Secretary and chief organizer of the memorable Graz conference in the year 2000. They are being replaced by Gulriz Buken (American Studies Association of Turkey) and Ole O. Moen (Nordic Association for American Studies), respectively, and we wish both of them all the possible success in their new roles.

The theme for the EAAS Biennial Conference reads "America in the Course of Human Events: Presentations and Interpretations" and it should take place in Prague, Czech Republic, April 2-5, 2004. The Jeffersonian wording of the topic should make us look both into the early history and the further development of the principles of life in democracy, and the subtitle should offer a rich plurality of considerations and evaluations of the culture and social as well as political developments of America - as it has seen itself and as it has been seen and understood by others, notably by us

from the various parts of the European continent. The Czech and Slovak Association for American Studies, Charles University in Prague and the City Magistrate, along with the U.S. Embassy in the country will do everything to prepare the conference conscientiously and Prague will be happy to welcome a numerous international crowd of Americanists and those ready to enrich the debates with their erudition, expertise and wisdom. The EAAS Board during its meeting in Athens, March 21-24, 2003, will select from the received proposals for parallel lectures and workshop themes. But it is understandable that the relevance of the EAAS conference, as always before, will be given by the relevance and quality of the members' contributions. So let us all, dear colleagues and friends, start our preparations for the meeting in Prague in the spring of 2004 right away.

At the Graz conference, my predecessor, Heinz Ickstadt, suggested that the EAAS try to seek further opportunities

that could increase our collaboration and our awareness of work done by Europeans in the field of American Studies. The managing editor of *Amerikastudien/American Studies*, Alfred Hornung, picked up the challenge and produced the first "European issue" of a scholarly journal, which is presently being distributed within our community in more than four thousand copies. Thanks are due to the editors, the authors, to those members and associations who ordered the special issue of the quarterly, and to the CIES in Washington for their support. It is a good start. But let us remember that only serious and lasting interest of a large number of EAAS members can guarantee for the good idea to be a self-sustaining project.

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Conference Announcement and Call for Workshop Proposals: “America in the Course of Human Events: Presentations and Interpretations” April 2-5, 2004 Prague, Czech Republic

The theme of this conference should be an invitation for scholars in American Studies, ranging from historians and social scientists to experts in literature, the arts and culture to discuss and assess the American experience in a multidisciplinary discourse with emphasis on European approaches and perspectives. It should not be narrowed down to “images of America” but provide ample opportunity for a reflective exchange of views and ideas.

Guidelines for EAAS Workshops

1. A workshop may be chaired either by one person, or, preferably, by two persons from different countries. No one may (co)chair a workshop at two consecutive EAAS conferences.
2. Workshop sessions are approximately two hours.
3. Speakers are selected by the workshop chairs from those colleagues responding to the Call for Papers published in the ASE Newsletter of May 2003. The required number of speakers per session is four, the maximum number is eight (two sessions).

Please note:

- * Of the speakers in any workshop, not more than two may come from the same country.
 - * Speakers must be members of their National Association for American Studies if there exists one in their home country. Speakers from Canada, Israel, Japan, and the USA must be members of their respective American Studies Associations.
 - * No speaker can present more than one paper at the conference.
4. Papers should be presented rather than read; chairs are encouraged to suggest this to their contributors.
 5. The maximum presentation time for papers is 20 minutes; chairs must keep their speakers within that time frame. The overall structure of the workshop is the responsibility of chairs; chairs **MUST** comply with these rules in order to: 1) allot each paper the same amount of time; 2) allow sufficient time for discussion. The overall structure of the workshop is the responsibility of chairs;
 6. Proposals for workshop papers, together with abstracts (150-200 words) must reach the workshop chair/s **BY SEPTEMBER 15, 2003**. Chairs are expected to send out acknowledgments of receipt for proposals and to inform proponents as early as possible whether their papers have been accepted.
 7. Chairs are encouraged to send out photocopies or electronic versions of abstracts/papers to all speakers in their workshop prior to the conference.
 8. Workshop chairs should shortly introduce the topic and the speakers at the beginning of the first session. At the end of the last session, chairs might want to sum up the conclusions of the presentations and discussions.
 9. Speakers must present their papers in person; they are also expected to be present at all sessions of their workshop.

10. Chairs are responsible for selecting and editing ONE of their workshop presentations and recommending it for publication in the EAAS conference volume. Chairs are also encouraged to produce individual volumes based on their workshop papers. Please note, though, that in compliance with an unanimous decision of the EAAS Board at the 1998 Lisbon conference, EAAS subsidies for such volumes are NO longer available.

11. Chairs will be asked to present a post-conference report to be published in American Studies in Europe (ASE); it may therefore be useful to take notes during the sessions. The report of about 200-250 words should give readers of the ASE an idea of the major arguments of papers and of conclusions reached in the workshop.

12. If special technical equipment (projectors, screens, audio-visual devices, computers) is needed in a workshop, please inform the EAAS Secretary at your earliest convenience.

13. Please address all correspondence concerning workshop matters to the EAAS Secretary (address below), who will consult with other Board members and/or the local organizers if necessary.

14. Workshop chairs should make copies of these Guidelines available to their speakers.

15. A meeting of workshop chairs with the EAAS Secretary will be scheduled on the first afternoon of the conference to discuss last-minute arrangements.

16. IMPORTANT DEADLINES:

March 1, 2003: Deadline for submission of proposals and one-page abstracts for parallel lectures and workshop sessions. Please send proposals via e-mail to the EAAS Secretary, Ole O. Moen, e-mail: o.o.moen@iba.uio.no. **Please do NOT submit proposals for individual workshop papers at this time.** These will have to be sent to selected workshop chairs who will be announced in the Spring 2003 EAAS Newsletter.

September 15., 2003: Please send a tentative list of speakers & titles to the EAAS Secretary as early as possible for inclusion in the October ASE.

December 1, 2003: Send FINAL titles of papers and names and addresses of speakers to the EAAS Secretary.

January 10, 2004: Deadline for information to be included in the Prague conference program.

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? **Remember to inform your national association's secretary and treasurer of changes in your mailing address, so that ASE will reach you promptly at your new home. ?**

EAAS TRAVEL GRANTS 2003-2004 for the Study of the United States

The EAAS is pleased to announce the continuation of EAAS Travel Grants for postgraduate students in the Humanities and Social Sciences who are registered for a higher research degree at any European University. Two kinds of grants are available, the **Transatlantic Grant** and the **Intra-European Grant**. It is expected that between four and ten scholarships will be available each year. The scholarships will be aimed predominantly at young scholars in Eastern and Central Europe. The maximum single award granted will be \$6000.

1.) The Transatlantic Grant will permit the holder to conduct research which illuminates some aspect of the relationship between the United States and Europe, or between the United States and a country or countries within Europe in a designated university in the United States. The term of the grant will be between three weeks (minimum) and eight weeks (maximum). Successful applicants will receive a grant intended to cover return travel, living expenses, and a limited amount of travel within the United States where appropriate. Health insurance will also be provided. *Only students registered for a Ph. D. are eligible to apply for the Transatlantic Grants.*

2.) The Intra-European Grant will allow the recipient to conduct research for a period of up to four weeks in an American Studies Center or University Library in Europe. *Graduate students who are registered either for a Ph. D. or a Master's degree by research are eligible to apply for the Intra-European Grants.*

The Intra-European Grants are also available **for institutional research projects** involving up to three scholars (M. A. or Ph. D.) based on the cooperation between two American Studies institutes in Eastern and Western Europe. In this case, applications may be made collectively; each (sub)-project, however, will also be evaluated individually.

Although the EAAS grant program is especially meant to encourage American Studies research in Eastern Europe, applications from Western European scholars will be welcome *if they are part of an institutional project as outlined above.*

Applications must be made on the official form and should include written confirmation from the host institution that the researcher will have access to the necessary resource materials, and a letter from the student's academic supervisor. Applicants will be required to supply a detailed estimate of the cost of their visit, including the cost of travel, subsistence, and incidentals. They should also state the minimum amount of money needed to make the trip possible. Applicants are encouraged to seek supporting or matching funding wherever possible.

Grantee recipients will be responsible for making their own arrangements for travel and accommodation. Travel must be completed within twelve months of the grantee being notified of the award. Grantees will be required to make a report to the grant committee, normally within thirty days of returning from their research visit.

The strict closing date for applications is March 2, 2003. Successful applicants will be informed in April 2002. Application forms are available from the EAAS Board representatives of constituent associations (see relevant addresses in this issue of *American Studies in Europe*). Forms may also be downloaded from the EAAS home page at <http://www.let.uu.nl/-eaas/grant.htm>.

BORDEAUX CONFERENCE 2002

WORKSHOP REPORTS

Due to very limited space, we can only reprint significantly shortened versions of the reports we have received. Please accept our apologies. The Editors

WS 1: Negotiations with ‘the majestic Shade’

Chairs: Isabelle Alfandary, Université Paris X and Philip Coleman, University College Dublin

This workshop sought to explore the aesthetic and ideological developments of American and European poetry viewed in the light of their interconnections and reciprocal influences. The proposal invited papers that would contribute to the creation of a more comprehensive map of transatlantic poetic exchange in the twentieth century. Interesting, informative, and provocative accounts of transatlantic poetic exchange, from “Polish Envy” in recent American Poetry to the “transpoetics” of Harry Mathews, Marianne Moore’s engagement with the Blaue Reiter and the poetics and politics of translating and publishing American Poetry in Eastern Europe during the Soviet era, were offered by Charles Altieri, Antoine Cazé, Jiri Flajsar, Cristanne Miller and Justin Quinn.

WS 2: Resurgence of Right-Wing Extremism

Chair: Mokhtar Ben Barka ; Université de Valenciennes, France

In her presentation Yonka Krasteva (University of Veliko Turnovo, Bulgaria) explained why Julia Kristeva, has recently joined the vanguard of the hegemonic Western discourse that constructs an abstract Balkan Slav Orthodox identity. Berndt Ostendorf (Amerika Institute, University of München) traced the resurgence of anti-Americanism to the end of the Cold War, the collapse of socialism as a viable alternative to the capitalist order, and the advent of globalization, viewed as a function of Americanization. Axel R. Schaefer (Keel University) argued that while European right-wing movements tend to be unified, the respective attitudes of their American counterparts are marked by a deep divide. Matthew Guillen (Université de Nantes) explored the development of the New Right from its origins in nineteenth-century socio-economic theories to the present. Mokhtar Ben Barka (Université de Valenciennes) ended the session and focused on the growing tendency for political forces on both sides of the Atlantic to have more exchanges with one another.

WS 3: Engendering Sport and the Nation

Chairs: Linda J. Borish, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, USA and Claude Chastagner, Université Paul Valéry, Montpellier, France

The papers presented explored the following issues: Whether sport reinforces racist stereotypes of African-American males in basketball; whether youth clubs promoting sports and recreation facilitated the acculturating process for young Jewish girls; the study of juvenile sports literature which have been constructed as a moral and educational tool for middle class males entering adult society; the substantial body of literature on baseball by female novelists; the meaning of boxing for a young Chinese American in Gus Lee’s *China Boy*; the class and gender issues of golf in the

American south in Josephine Humphrey’s “The Fireman’s Fair”.

WS 5: Transatlantic Transfer of Domestic Policy

Chair: Philip John Davies, De Montfort University, Leeds, UK

Alex Waddan (Sunderland, UK), Philip John Davies (The British Library & De Montfort University, UK), and Philip Eidelberg (University of South Africa), focused the morning session on trans-Atlantic aspects of Third Way politics. Kostadin Grozev (Sofia, Bulgaria) examined the potential Americanization of Bulgarian politics through a case study of the introduction of primary elections to Bulgaria in the late 1990s. Tomasz Pludowski (Lodz, Poland) also looked at elections - but this time at the adoption of American-style campaigning techniques in post-communist Poland. Robert Busby (Liverpool Hope, UK) used cases from the recently-devolved Scottish parliament to draw trans-Atlantic parallels in political damage control. Jaap Kooijman (Amsterdam, Netherlands) addressed cultural policy, especially focusing on the attempt to bridge the alleged distinction between high quality art and popular culture.

WS 6: Locating Ethnicity

Chairs: Rocio G. Davis, University of Navarre, Spain, and Dorothea Fischer-Hornung, University of Heidelberg, Germany

This workshop was organized by two members of the Executive Board of MESEA (Society for Multi-Ethnic Studies : Europe and the Americas) in order to bring to EAAS part of the debate this complementary association is engaged in: interdisciplinary and interethnic analyses of the question of and possible sites for ethnicity. The papers brought about lively debate: the question of accents and dialect as signs of ethnic belonging; travel narratives as manifestations of either progressive or cyclical journeys towards identity and self-representation; views of the land as ethnic site and marker: questions of citizenship and nationalism; and the importance of definitions in transatlantic criticism. The stress on the comparative aspect of Europe and the Americas led to insightful observations as to differences in the manner of foregrounding diverse critical paradigms, particularly regarding the intersections of race and class in the American and European contexts, as well as citizenship or cultural affinity and their effects on creative engagements with ethnicity. The participants in the workshop sessions—Sami Ludwig, William Handley, Gönül Pultar, Alison Goeller, Ludmila Martanovschi, Maggie Bowers, Amrit Singh, and Laurence Cossu-Beaumont—creatively negotiated these issues through literary texts and historical documents and essays.

WS 7: Cinematic Crossings

Chairs: Celestine Deleyto, University of Zaragoza, Spain; Dominique Sipiére, Littoral University, France

The various contributions to this workshop demonstrated the variety, complexity and richness of what we have called “cinematic crossings” between the Old and the New Continent. Participants explored specific aspects of the representation of Europeanness in Hollywood films, the reception of U.S. films in Europe, the use of Hollywood genres in national European cinemas, the adaptation of European cinematic traditions to classical Hollywood cinema, the place of Europe in the deployment of Hollywood’s imperialistic ideology, and the differences and coincidences in the representation of the same issue in both European and U.S. cinemas. One general conclusion is the necessity to analyze each case of cinematic crossing, in its specific historical, industrial and textual circumstances, and stay away from easy generalizations based on the domination/ subordination model.

WS 8: Models of Multiculturalism?

Chairs: Patrick B. Miller, Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago, USA and Elisabeth Schäfer-Wünsche, University of Bonn, Germany

At the outset of the 21st century, many Europeans seek to engage the issues of ethnic, religious, and linguistic diversity within their own nations with an eye toward the history of the United States. The papers in this session addressed some of the ways that competing ideologies shaped an “American” identity during the last century, just as they endeavored to reveal the diverse experiences of immigrant groups—and the distinct positions of African Americans and Native Americans within the larger polity. Each of the presentations also focused on the comparative dimension to such inquiries: how Spanish textbooks might come to terms with a long history of diversity within Iberia, for instance, or how the paradoxes bound to present-day German law and culture resemble, in some respects, long-standing debates over “Anglo-conformity” in the American setting and the increasing hybridization of popular culture worldwide. From assessments of generational change among Czech immigrants in the U.S. and depictions of seafaring life on the black Atlantic, to discussions of recent patterns of immigration by Dominicans to the U.S., and the ways politically-engaged playwrights have dramatized racial and ethnic conflict on both continents, the papers mapped multiculturalism, past and present.

WS 9: Discourses of Slavery and Abolition

Chairs: R. J. Ellis, Nottingham Trent University, UK; M. Giulia Fabi, University of Ferrara, Italy.

Papers addressed, among others, the following issues: The dynamics of Circum-Atlantic literary culture; Fanny Trollope’s *Jonathon Jefferson Whirlaw* (1836); Frederick Douglass’ many speeches on the Creole slave ship revolt and its chief protagonist; the historical and cultural context that foregrounds how the ideals of the French revolution influenced the ways in which European female intellectuals like Mme De Stael linked the fight for women’s rights to the struggle against slavery; Frances E.W. Harper’s 1859 “The Two Offers;” Wells Brown’s *The Negro in the American Rebellion*; the ways in which the significance and historical

impact of slavery on contemporary American culture continues to be a fact that many prefer to ignore.

WS 11: Representing ‘the People’

Chairs: Otto Heim (University of Hong Kong) and Inger H. Dalsgaard (University of Aarhus)

The first session of the workshop focused on conservative and revolutionary appeals to “the people” and on the relationship between political leadership and popular agency. Stewart Winger questioned the assumption that populist rhetoric naturally belongs to the left. Dudley Marchi compared the ambivalent responses of Charles Baudelaire and Ralph Waldo Emerson to the revolutionary events of 1848 in France. Elke van Cassel examined the crucial but sometimes tenuous distinction between intellectual leadership and demagoguery on the example of Max Ascoli’s *Reporter* magazine. Considering the transatlantic exchange of ideas among social scientists at the turn of the 20th century, Daria Frezza analyzed the racial assumptions that underpinned distinctions made between different manifestations of the people, such as the public, the crowd and the mob. Looking back to an earlier formative moment in European intellectual history, Lindon Barrett argued a connection between Descartes’s formulation of viable self-consciousness and early modern capitalism, Saul Cornell questioned the historical foundations of contemporary debates about gun control and the right of the people to bear arms. Finally, Erik ?sard examined the cultural self-consciousness that regularly responds to disastrous events with conspiracy theories.

WS 15: Transatlantic Urbanism

Chair: Liam Kennedy, University of Birmingham, UK

Mick Gidley (Leeds) launched proceedings with a paper on the photographer Emil Otto Hoppe who photographed European and American cities in the early twentieth century. The paper illustrated key motifs of Hoppe’s work and also introduced themes of urban representation and transcultural interpretation that were to be echoed in following papers. Inger Dalsgaard (Aarhus) brought us abruptly up to the present with her illustrated commentary on the destruction of the World Trade Center, referring us to various image banks of association such as photographic representation of the destruction of European cities in World War Two. Christophe Den Tandt (Brussels) presented a detailed historical perspective on Brussels’ ‘Manhattan Project’, drawing attention to ways in which the built environment of a European city was subject to ‘Americanization’. Liam Kennedy (Birmingham) introduced and analyzed the work of European and American landscape photographers who visually interpret the meanings of urban mutation in ‘edge cities’ and ‘terrain vague’. In Session Two, Bart Eeckhout (Ghent) kicked off with a stimulating paper on Samuel Delany’s writings on Times Square, well supported by theoretical meditations on sexuality and public space. Jaroslav Kusnir (Presov) provided close commentary on representations of European and American cities in Robert Coover’s fiction. Finally, Stipe Grgas (Zadar) drew on Joseph McElroy’s writings to compare the representations of New York in terms of modernity and postmodernity.

WS 18: Geographies of the Self

Chairs: Françoise Lionnet, UCLA; Ada Savin, University of Versailles.

The workshop discussed the following topics: "The Greek-American Autobiography;" the question of grief and loss linked to displacement, war, trauma, and (linguistic) colonialism; the correlation of geographical space and time of Europeans immigrating into the US and Americans "immigrating" to Europe; issues of geographical and linguistic displacement in autobiographical narratives by European and Hispanic writers; the intersecting themes of spatial and linguistic displacement, of exile as a form of personal/cultural capital; Assia Djebar's work; the negative and positive effects of globalization on mass migration, and on various autobiographical trajectories

WS 21: Transatlantic Hybridities

Chair: Kurt Albert Mayer, University of Vienna, Austria

Kurt Mayer opened the workshop and postulated that at least up until the early 80s the reception of rock music in Austria was dilatory. Klaus Heissenberger (Vienna University) dealt with the invented persona of the Austrian artist Ostbahn Kurti. Jude Davies (King Alfred's College) pointed at musical cross-fertilizations between Britain and the U.S. in the days of punk and post-punk. Tomas Pospisil (Masaryk University) drew attention to Plastic People of the Universe. That Czech band, which played a crucial role in channeling resistance against the Communist regime in Prague for more than twenty years. Workshop contributions can be accessed on the internet: <http://angam.ang.univie.ac.at/EAASworkshop>.

WS 22 Creating/Preserving Identity

Chair: Jon Roper, University of Wales, Swansea, UK

Jean-Marie Ruiz (Lille) asked whether the European Union was on its way to Philadelphia, arguing that there are comparisons that may be made between the contemporary European situation and that of the United States. Federation appears to Europeans as it seemed to Americans: a solution to the international dilemmas of their time. Jon Roper (Swansea) suggested that the United States had found a political glue to hold it together after the Philadelphia Convention – the 'idea of America' as a federal democratic republic. The economic glue of industrial capitalism came after the Civil War had tested that idea. European Union was, however, primarily an economic construct. Whether it had a political adhesive to bind it together was open to question. Phil Melling (Swansea) looked at the idea of Europe in terms of the movement towards globalization and the resistance to it. In a provocative analysis, he argued that those opposed to further political, economic and cultural integration were sometimes closer to a fundamentalist perspective than they might realise. Travel problems prevented Bill Lazenbatt (Ulster) from attending, but his paper was read at the workshop.

WS 24 Rhetorical Construction of Subjectivity

Chair: Agata Preis-Smith, University of Warsaw,

The workshop was meant to explore discursive strategies behind the constitution of the subject in texts produced to fulfil diverse cultural functions. Practically every paper addressed the ways in which the texts under discussion deconstructed traditional binary oppositions through which

subjectivity is usually problematized (public/private, inner/outer, social/individual, self/other, nature/artifice, etc.). One of the papers, while discussing the private/public binary in nineteenth-century American literary culture, offered a paradigm for literature in general through the metaphor of a private letter as a box with a false bottom. In another paper, subjectivity as construction in the ethnic narrative of passing was discussed. Yet another presentation concerned the crisis of subjectivity in American and Russian postmodern fiction. Finally, a paper on a story by Cynthia Ozick discussed the disintegration of selfhood in the reality of the Holocaust.

WS 26: A Backward Glance?

Chair: Theresa Saxon, Manchester Metropolitan University, UK

Our panel set out to examine the impact of European structures on American writers whose works form a dialogue between transatlantic locations. Individual papers focused on: Henry's James's transatlantic journeys between American and European settings specifically articulate rhetorical versions of place; Paul West's transatlantic quest for origins, assessing European enlightenment and American pioneer values; Mark Twain's writing in the context of American mass tourism, renegotiating conventions of travel writing from passive reception, to 'educational' agenda; Aldous Huxley's transatlantic voyage of discovery and reflection of the American Dream/American Nightmare dichotomy; Philip Roth's relocation of the pre-War events of Europe from 'history' to 'myth' through a surrogate form of collective consciousness in the Americanisation of Jewishness; Mark Twain's, Margaret Fuller's and Elizabeth's Stoddard's comparative accounts of old and new world attitudes towards female artistry. What emerged from our panel was a recognition of a significant problematisation and subversion of European and American motifs in the rhetoric of our chosen transatlantic writers.

Historians' Shoptalk

Chairs: Kees van Minnen, Roosevelt Study Center, The Netherlands, and Ole Moen, University of Oslo, Norway.

The Bordeaux Historians' Shoptalk was attended by some 35 persons from several European countries and the United States. The following items were discussed: the Middelburg series of biennial conferences for European historians of the U.S. (a call for papers for the 23-25 April 2003 conference on "Frontiers and Boundaries in U.S. History" was distributed); the Roosevelt Study Center research collections and available research grants (see www.roosevelt.nl); the EAAS 2004 conference theme with plenty of possibilities for historians of the U.S.; the difficulties for European historians to publish articles and books in the U.S.; the need for a European Journal of American History; teaching U.S. history at European universities (including the instability of chairs in U.S. history all over Europe, and the lack of historical sources and financial support at several universities); the need for an EAAS website with relevant information for European historians of the U.S.: what sources are where in Europe, what research grants are available, an update of new publications by European colleagues, information on upcoming conferences. It is hoped that the possibilities for a European Journal of American History and an EAAS website with information specially relevant for historians of the U.S. can be explored in the next two years.

THE AMERICAN STUDIES NETWORK

The American Studies Network (ASN) is a group of European centers involved in American Studies. The idea of a network of centers arose during the *European Association for American Studies* (EAAS) meeting in London in April, 1990. The ASN was founded in November, 1990 in Berlin at a meeting of interested directors of American Studies centers. The initial group of eight members has expanded to include 20 members in West, East and Central Europe.

All members take an interdisciplinary approach to American Studies; are independent organizations with some of their own sources of funding, not exclusively linked to a university; have some research facilities; and are committed to a role of public service to the community at large. ASN works in close association with the EAAS. Its goals are those of promoting the study of the United States by close cooperation of the different institutions interested in this area of study. The ASN exists to provide mutual support for all the centers involved, help channel the flow of information on resources among the members and the community, establish joint projects that will increase cooperation and productivity and thus integrate the European studies of America. The ASN is willing to act as an advisory group to encourage the development of American Studies, particularly in Eastern and Central Europe.

One of the key activities of the ASN is the networking of resources and information such as the availability of visiting scholars for lecturing at the different institutions. Through different means of communication, the ASN hopes to make available to members the library resources of each center and establish an interlibrary loan. Another goal is that of promoting the exchange of scholars and students of the different centers. One of the specific projects that the ASN has already begun is the establishment of the American Studies Network Book Prize, a prize of €1,000 for a

remarkable book published in English by a European scholar on any aspect of American Studies. The jury for that biennial prize, presented at the EAAS conferences, is comprised of representatives from the EAAS and the ASN. The deadline for submitting books for this prize is announced in the EAAS newsletter in the year preceding the EAAS conference. Another specific project of the ASN is the establishment of a database and directory of all those European scholars working on American Studies.

The Directors of the ASN member centers meet every year to discuss the joint projects and accept new members. The presidency of the ASN rotates among the current directors. In order to become a member, an institution should write and apply to the current president. The prospective institution should include a dossier with information on itself. Any institution that wishes to become a member should comply with the following four criteria:

1. Be an independent organization with some kind of external funding, although it may be linked to another institution such as a university or library.
2. Be of an interdisciplinary nature.
3. Have research facilities and carry out research.
4. Be of public service to the community by, for example, providing a public library or research archive.

Current President Marty Gecek (2002-2004) American Studies Center, Salzburg Seminar, Austria.

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Vice President: Saturnino Aguado (2002-2004) Institute for North American Studies, University of Alcala, Spain. E-mail: saturnino.aguado@uah.es

Honorary President: Chris Bigsby, Arthur Miller Center for American Studies, UK. E-mail: C.Bigsby@uea.ac.uk

THE ASN BOOK PRIZE RECIPIENT 2002

COMMITTEE: Prof. Valeria Gennaro Lerda, University of Genoa; Prof. Saturnino Aguado, University of Alcala; Prof. Clara Juncker, University of Southern Denmark

The committee unanimously decided to award the American Studies Network Prize to **MARK NEWMAN**, University of Derby, UK, for his monograph *Getting Right with God: Southern Baptists and Desegregation, 1945-1995* (Tuscaloosa: U of Alabama P, 2001). Mark Newman's *Getting Right with God: Southern Baptists and Desegregation, 1945-1995* is well crafted, insightful and creative. Newman contributes importantly to an already rich production of scholarship on southern religion and covers the controversial issue involving the relationship between southern religion, more specifically The Southern Baptist Convention, and African Americans. He competently dissects the ambiguities and the paradoxes of this relationship in the South over five decades that were crucial to the changing of southern society. Based on extensive research, *Getting Right with God* analyzes significant historical moments and processes of segregation and desegregation. The monograph thus deserves the award because it constitutes a convincing, thorough and informative study of the dialectical process that characterizes the relationship between religion and culture, and because it offers a wide spectrum of basic components of social life, from civil rights to the educational system, and illuminates the diversities in the development of inter-racial relations in the former eleven Confederate States. Newman's extensive research, also resulting in informative and insightful footnotes and a comprehensive bibliography, demonstrates his impressive command of his chosen subject, which he nonetheless manages to communicate to his audience in an accessible, clear prose style. Mark Newman is also recipient of the 2002 Lillian Smith Book Award from the Southern Regional Council.

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THE AMERICAN STUDIES NETWORK BOOK PRIZE

At the EAAS Conference in Prague in 2003, the ASN will again award its **biennial prize (one thousand Euro!)** for a remarkable book (monograph) published in English in the field of American Studies.

The criteria are as follows: The monograph (not an edited volume) should have been published in 2002 or 2003; the author must be a European scholar who through membership of her/his national American Studies organization is a member of EAAS; **three** review copies of the book should be submitted **before 15 December 2003** to Prof. Saturnino Aguado, Institute for North American Studies, Universidad de Alcala, Colegio de Trinitarios, C/. Trinidad, 1, 28801 Alcala de Henares (Madrid), Spain.

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Austrian Association of American Studies - AAAS

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French Association for American Studies – AFEA

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Activities

Revue Française d'Etudes Américaines – RFEA
Editors: Françoise Sammarcelli (literature). E-mail: frsamm@club-internet.fr
 Divina Frau-Meigs ("civilization" - history, sociology, political science, other fields and cross-disciplines related to Northern America). E-mail: meigs@wanadoo.fr

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Activities

Amerikastudien/ American Studies

(Journal edited for the German Association for American Studies):
 Editorial Office: Udo Hebel, Institut für Anglistik und Amerikanistik, Universität Regensburg, 93040 Regensburg. Phone +49 941 943 3478/77; Fax 0049 0941 943 3590; e-mail: udo.hebel@sprachlit.uni-regensburg.de
Annual Convention : "American Studies in Germany -- The First 50 Years". Munich, June 10-13, 2003.
Special Conventions in 2002 (upcoming):
 "Kulturelle, religiöse, wirtschaftliche und soziale Beziehungen zwischen Halle und Britisch-Nordamerika im 18. Jahrhundert," University of Halle/Wittenberg, 4. - 6. Oct. 2002 (Grabbe);
 "Hybrid Americas," University of Bielefeld, 23. Oct. 2002 (Raab);
 Annual Conference of the Postgraduate Forum (PGF), University of Leipzig, 9.-11. Nov. 2002 (Kanzler, Kusmierz, Paul);
 Tagung der AG Politikwissenschaft in der DGfA: "Der 11. September 2001 und seine Folgen," Pfalz Akademie, Lambrecht, 14.-16. Nov. 2002 (Kemp);
 "Intercultural America. 50 Jahre Amerikastudien in Mainz," University of Mainz, 12.-15. Dec. 2002 (Hornung, Herget);
 "Science, Technology, and the Humanities in Recent American Fiction," University of Paderborn, 12.-15. May 2003 (Freese).

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Activities:

A one-day symposium will be held on Saturday 30 November 2002 at University College Dublin. The main theme of the Symposium will be "American Studies in Ireland". Further details will be announced in due course but anyone who wishes to submit a proposal for the symposium is invited to contact the IAAS Chair, Ron Callan as soon as possible.

Details of the 2003 Annual Conference are not available at present, but they will be posted on the IAAS website in the near future.

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Activities

RSA/Journal

Publishes yearly. Editorial office: Rosella Mamoli Zorzi, Dipartimento di Studi Anglo-Americani e Ibero-Americani, San Marco 3417, Università Ca' Foscari, 30124 Venezia, Italy. Available online at www.aisna.org.

RSA

Collects proceedings of Biennial AISNA Conferences. For titles and contents see www.aisna.org. For copies of previous issues write to AISNA secretary.

AISNA Newsletter

Published online twice a year and available at www.aisna.org, includes announcements, calls for papers, discussions, and bibliographies of members.

THE NETHERLANDS

Netherlands American Studies Association - NASA

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ROMANIA

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Activities

On January 31 – February 1, 2002 the Romanian Association for American Studies in collaboration with the Romanian-U.S. Fulbright Commission organized at the Faculty of Foreign Languages and Literatures of the University of Bucharest, the second edition of the RAAS International Conference. Under the title *America in/from Romania*, the event brought together almost two hundred participants from Romania and abroad, among them an impressive number of U.S. Fulbright fellows who teach or do research work in various parts of Romania. The focus of the Conference was on the cultural, historical and literary discourses that bring the humanities and social sciences together. The transatlantic perspectives emphasized the representations through which post-9/11 America expresses and imposes itself, disseminates or obscures itself in the European/Romanian space of otherness. The participants have been invited to submit their papers to be considered for publication in a volume to appear in 2003 (deadline for submission: September 15, 2002).

The annual RAAS newsletter, *American Studies in Romania*, came out in June 2002. The issue is mainly dedicated to the RAAS Conference, but it also contains such items as “The EAAS Conference in Bordeaux”, “Members’ Activity”, “Work in Progress”, “Book Reviews”, information on American Studies resources, conferences and events, calls for papers, the list of EAAS officers and board members as well as an updated RAAS membership list.

SCANDINAVIA

Nordic Association for America Studies -NAAS

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Activities

Conference Report "Globalization and Business Cultures," First ASPS Seminar; February 15-16, 2002 Skellefteå, Sweden

The seminar brought together an international forum of scholars from diverse disciplinary, national and cultural contexts who share an interest in studying the influences, reproduction and transformations of American-derived corporate cultures as major players in globalisation. Its immediate motivation was the initiation of the American Studies Project at Skeria. Although still in infancy, ASPS hopes to encourage and facilitate the critical study and discussion of American Culture both in northern Sweden and Europe generally. And apart from offering course work, hopes to support research and its dissemination, especially in the area of American Business Culture and its globalising influences. The seminar was a first step in that direction.

The theme: Globalisation and Business Cultures might have been seen as too broad a terrain to locate any meaningful critical engagement. At the same time several issues seemed

to stand out: *Business culture has global influence. Corporate values, ethics and practices affect virtually every aspect of society. Much of the influence comes from America. What is the nature of these influences? Where are they being most felt? What are their benefits? Their costs? What practical issues do they raise? What political issues? What moral issues?* And it was around these that many of the papers as well as informal discussions adhered.

Following my own opening remarks as the seminar organizer, speeches and presentations followed by, among others, Chris Warhurst (Department of Human Resource Management, University of Strathclyde in Glasgow, Scotland), Gregorie Balaro and Joachim Boko (National University of Benin, Cotonou), Albena Bakratheva (American and British Studies Program, New Bulgarian University of Sofia), Janet Rose (Department of American Studies, University of Kansas and Rose Consultancy Group), Graeme Salaman, (Business Studies Program, The Open University, UK), Davis Weir (CEREM, France) Tim Wilson (Business Administration, Umeå University), Fawzy Salaman (Faculty of Business, University of Technology, Sydney), and Krista Vogelberg (English Language and Literature, University of Tartu, Estonia).

The ASPS Seminar program (soon to include abstracts of the presentations) is now available through a link within the new ASPS web-pages (<http://skeria.skelleftea.se/asps/>). Beyond this, plans are under way to publish the full papers both as an edited volume as well as through the ASPS web-pages.

Gary Webster

SPAIN

Spanish Association for English and American Studies – AEDEAN

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Activities

Biennial Convention: "Realities in Literature and the Arts", University of Lausanne, 22-23 November 2002. Conference organizer: Peter Halter, University of Lausanne, Department of English. E-mail: phalter@angl.unil.ch

TURKEY

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Activities

“Myths and Legends in America: America in Myths and Legends”; **27th Annual American Studies Seminar; November 6 - 9, 2002; Cesme, Izmir, Turkey**

The seminar, coorganized by The American Studies Association of Turkey and the US Embassy will take place in the Sheraton Hotel in Cesme, Izmir, Turkey. For further information, please contact Bahar Günel (312-468-6187); or Meldan Tanrisal (312-297 8520; meldant@hacettepe.edu.tr).

EAAS ON THE INTERNET

EAAS makes use of two electronic web services to inform you about EAAS matters:

1.) **Our EAAS homepage:** <http://www.let.uu.nl/eaas>. Here you find links to other pages with topical EAAS conference information, the homepages of constituent EAAS member associations and European American Studies Centers, and to an online-version of *American Studies in Europe* which is maintained by the Center for American Studies at the Salzburg Seminar.

2.) The other service is **our free EAAS-L distribution list** that distributes topical information to its subscribers. Members are encouraged to use this list to provide and access other information that might be useful to Americanists in Europe, such as research news, teaching projects, announcements of conferences, grants, fellowships, inquiries, etc. EAAS-L also functions as a discussion list. To *subscribe* to EAAS-L, send the message “subscribe eaas-l” to <majordomo@let.uu.nl>. To *contribute* to the list, send your messages to <eaas-l@let.uu.nl> or to the list moderator, Jaap Verheul at <Jaap.Verheul@let.uu.nl>. You can also submit information on disk to Jaap Verheul, History Department, Utrecht University, Kromme Nieuwegracht 66, NL3512 HL Utrecht, The Netherlands.

CALLS FOR PAPERS

OP. CIT.

Op. Cit.: A Journal of Anglo-American Studies welcomes papers for its next annual volume. As the publication of a growing and heterogeneous association, a free choice of topic is proposed for issue #6 (2003). The journal is receptive to a variety of themes, scholarly methods and theoretical perspectives within Anglo-American Studies (literature, culture, linguistics, ELT). Proposals for contributions (7,000-8,000 words) **by 15 October 2002** to Carlos Azevedo, Faculdade de Letras, Universidade do Porto, Via Panorâmica s/n, 4150-564 Porto, Portugal; E-mail: <cazevedo@letras.up.pt.>. The Editorial Board evaluates all articles submitted anonymously, therefore the author's name and address should appear only on the cover sheet of the manuscript. Please send your texts on a diskette (in Word or WordPerfect) or as an e-mail attachment and in hard copy. Bibliographic references should be given in the text, in parentheses, as follows: (LEVINE 1996: 120). Make all notes endnotes. The list of WORKS CITED at the end of the paper and after the NOTES should be arranged alphabetically, following the same pattern as referred to above. In general terms, manuscripts should conform to the MLA Handbook.

“Landscapes of Memory Envisaging the Past/ Remembering the Future”

April 10 – 12, 2003

XXIV APEAA Conference

Lisbon, Portugal

At the threshold of the twenty-first century, the search for newness has prompted a change of direction that questions conventional notions of subjectivity, humanity, the arts and language itself. The aporetic dimension of this post-cultural/post-human landscape has led to a reappraisal of the past, to renewed interest in the arts of memory as a means of reassessing our own present location. As Pierre Norra puts it, "[...] one speaks so much of memory because it no longer exists." This conference aims to bring together scholars from different fields of English and American Studies in order to discuss the contemporary celebration of memory. Papers are welcome for the following panels focusing on these major themes

PANELS:

1. Urban Memory (Chair: Laura Pires -laurapir@esoterica.pt); 2. Engendering Modernity (Chair: Isabel Capeloa Gil - isabel.gil@fch.ucp.pt); 3. Remembering Modernity: Modernism/ Postmodernism/ Hypermodernism (Chair: Jorge Fazenda Lourenço); 4. The Arts of Memory and the Memory of the Arts (Chair: Richard Trewinnard - rdc3390@mail.telepac.pt)

Send 200 word abstracts in Word format by 31 December 2002 to apeaa2003@fch.ucp.pt. Papers shall be subject to peer review prior to acceptance.

Registration: APEAA Member: €60 if received by 15 January 2003; €65 after 15 January 2003; Non-Member: €70; €75 after 15 January 2003; Student: €35

British Association for American Studies

Annual Conference 2003

April 11-14, 2003

University of Wales, Aberystwyth

We are now calling for papers for the 2003 BAAS Conference. Papers can be presented on any subject relating to the study of the United States of America. Proposals for 20 minute papers should be a maximum of 250 words with a provisional title. These will be arranged into panel groups. Panel proposals by two or more people, sharing a common theme, are also invited. Postgraduates, as well as senior researchers, are encouraged to apply.

Aberystwyth, Wales, ("Aber Ystwyth" in Welsh means 'mouth of the river Ystwyth') is an ancient medieval town established over seven hundred years ago. Located at the heart of West Wales, Aberystwyth is surrounded on three sides by areas of outstanding natural beauty that includes some of the most glorious countryside in Great Britain - the Plynlimon mountains, the south Snowdonia mountain range, and the Rheidol Valley - not to mention Ceredigion's beautiful, rugged Heritage Coast. Aberystwyth is also the site of the oldest institution of the University of Wales, founded in 1872. Other places of interest include the Vale of Rheidol Narrow Gauge Steam Railway and the Electric Cliff Railway, which leads to the Great Aberystwyth Camera Obscura.

Proposals should be submitted by e-mail, fax, or regular mail, by 31st October 2002 to: Dr Tim Woods BAAS Conference Secretary Dept of English Hugh Owen Building Penglais University of Wales, Aberystwyth Ceredigion, SY23 3DY, Wales, UK. Any other comments or suggestions are also welcome. Conference Secretary: Dr Tim Woods (tww@aber.ac.uk) Tel: +44 1970 622534 Fax: +44 1970 622530

“Frontiers and Boundaries in U.S. History”

Sixth Middelburg Conference of European Historians of the United States

April 23-25, 2003

Middleburg, The Netherlands

The conference aims to address issues connected with all kinds of historically and geographically discernible and significant boundaries or zones of separation, differentiation, contact and conflict, from colonial times to the present. These would include ways in which the land and its physical, cartographical or metaphoric demarcation have influenced the course of American

history; interpretations of territorial expansion; exploration; land policies; influence of the ‘frontier’ life on American politics and institutions; ‘frontier’ mythology and American identity or values; international and domestic boundary disputes and commissions; issues of sovereignty and jurisdiction; land surveys and property titles; geographical factors in the development of the USA; changing ecosystems and ecological boundaries; growth and definitions of townships, modern suburbs and metropolitan areas; economic regionalism; the sense of place and cultural regionalism; racial and ethnic factors in spatial demarcations; twentieth-century frontiers: exploration of airspace; national security and the defense of national borders, jurisdictional waters and airspace; border control and illegal immigration, drug traffic, international terrorism. The foregoing suggestions are given only as possible approaches to our general theme, and are not meant to exclude other related topics. Among the central ideas we are aiming to discuss, as well as the theoretical and practical aspects of definition and demarcation of frontiers and boundaries, are their transgression, and their relationship with the assumption and exercise of power.

Historians interested in presenting a paper at this conference are invited to send a one-page proposal **before 15 October 2002** to the organizers Cornelis A. van Minnen and Sylvia L. Hilton, Roosevelt Study Center, P.O. Box 6001, 4330 LA Middelburg, The Netherlands, e-mail: rsc@zeeland.nl.

The organizers will make every effort to maintain the plenary character of all sessions and to schedule sufficient time in the program for discussion. To this end, individual oral presentations should not exceed 20 minutes.

Selections of papers originally presented at preceding “Middelburg conferences” have been published in conference volumes and, although a guarantee cannot be given, the organizers again envision a publication. To be acceptable for publication revised conference papers should be between twenty and thirty pages double-spaced, written according to the guidelines of *The Chicago Manual of Style* and submitted as a Word for Windows document.

Scholars interested in participating in the conference without presenting a paper are requested to contact the Roosevelt Study Center for a registration form by 1 February 2003. Hotel expenses of the speakers at the conference will be covered, though they are expected to cover their travel expenses.

**“Inside Outside In: Emotions, Body, and Society”
8th Annual International Cultural Studies Symposium
May 21-23, 2003
Ege University, Izmir, Turkey**

Both body and emotions have been continually allocated secondary status in the Western rationalist tradition – an approach founded on the fundamental dichotomy between the rational mind and the irrational, emotional body. Emotions and bodily presence have tended to subsist “between the lines” of rationalist discourse. However the very notions within our culture of either “controlling” or “harnessing” the powers represented by embodied emotions indicates that rationality’s vaunted security and independence of these elements is questionable. One might

ask the question in classical terms: is there indeed a “seat of reason” or do emotions and reason proceed from the same seat, and, if so, where is it located? One should also pause here to consider that, whilst the rationalist exposition of these questions tends to be static and binary – based on such oppositions as mind/ body, reason/ unreason, individual/ social – an emotionalist evocation of these same questions would be more dynamic and modal. One can, after all, cry tears of sadness, joy, or rage. One might then replace a model of contiguous, discrete, categories with an interpenetrative continuum. From this view, self and other; individual, community and society; mind, body and spirit are interdependent – inside-outside-in.

Suggested topic areas:

Area 1: Differing views of self and society: are they reciprocally distinct (“bordered”) or interpenetrating? Behaviourism: social and psychological determinism: autonomy.

Area 2: The evolution of emotions – emotions in history and in place

Area 3: Embodiment/ disembodiment in art.

Area 4: “Altered states” and their potential for new emotional scenarios.

Area 5: The contemporary emotional landscape.

The deadline for paper proposals is 20 December 2002. Full details of subject areas, datelines, registration, and formats for submitting paper proposals may be obtained by visiting our website at <http://css2003.ege.edu.tr>

“America in the World: Exploring Transnational Dimensions of Life and Culture in the United States”

**NAAS Biennial Conference
August 6-9, 2003
Trondheim, Norway**

The Nordic Association for American Studies will hold its next biennial conference in Trondheim, Norway, on August 6 through August 9, 2003. The American Studies Association in Norway and the English Department of the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) will host the conference.

We encourage you to join us in exploring two themes: America’s many roles in the world and the multitude of transnational aspects of life and culture in the United States. International practitioners of American Studies, such as the members of the NAAS and other European Americanists, should find these themes inviting, and we urge our colleagues in North America and other parts of the world to join in as well. “Exploring transnational dimensions” could include papers or workshops that examine the effects of international artistic, cinematic, literary, historical, religious, political, demographic and social movements and processes on the United States. “America in the world” could equally as well encompass studies of the ramifications for other cultures of movements and ideas originating in American society, culture and arts.

Let the list below serve as **stimulation to brainstorming and a call for workshop organizers and topics.** The conference

organizers would be pleased to have workshops on these or other aspects of the conference's general themes:

- transnational literary and literary-historical influences
- the migration and reception of literary theory
- literary and historiographical theories, models, and traditions of class, gender, and race across national boundaries
- relationships between the indigenous cultures of North America and cultures that arrived on the continent later
- the reception of American art, literature, music, and other cultural forms abroad
- American literatures and cultures in languages other than English
- the influences of Native American cultures in other parts of the world
- international migration, diaspora, and ethnic studies in literature, history, and the arts
- the permeability of literary, political, religious, and other cultural boundaries
- international currents in labor and working class studies involving the United States
- transnational perspectives on American rural and urban history
- currents in the history of ideas, ideologies, and literary theory between the United States and the world

The conference organizers plan to include workshops/programs of workshops for graduate students and secondary school teachers. We ask for your help in developing such workshops and the rest of the conference program.

To communicate your suggestions for workshops and to obtain further information about the conference, contact David Mauk, c/o Department of English, Dragvoll Campus, Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU), N-7491. E-mail: david.mauk@hf.ntnu.no, Fax: +47 7359 6770

Workshop proposals should include a half-page description of the topic, the field(s) and level(s) to which it appeals, and the names and academic backgrounds of the organizers. **Deadline: Workshop proposals received by January 15, 2003, stand the best chance of inclusion in the program.**

**“Violence and Belonging”
Annual Meeting, American Studies Association
October 16-19, 2003
Hartford, CO, USA**

The 2003 ASA Program Committee invites colleagues in American Studies and all related disciplines to submit proposals for individual papers, entire sessions, presentations, performances, films, roundtables, workshops, conversations, or alternative formats described below on any topic dealing with American cultures, including topics in disciplines that have been under-represented in American Studies research and teaching. The ASA Annual Meeting is open to anyone having an interdisciplinary interest in the study of American cultures.

Meeting Theme : We have paired violence with the somewhat

incongruous term, "belonging" to encourage thinking outside the dualistic paradigm of oppression versus resistance. How do different subjectivities and collectivities coalesce or break down in relation to violence, through perpetration, victimization, and opposition? What are the relations, for example, between citizenship-belonging to a nation--and the exercise of violence at home and abroad? How are persons, groups and cultural expressions transformed by historical memories of violence? How do religious practices and beliefs perpetuate and provide sanctuary from violence?

We especially welcome historical and comparative perspectives on these issues, in fields such as comparative colonial history. We also welcome practitioners of fields new to American studies, such as geography, legal studies, and environmental studies among others. We encourage submissions that relate to the rich urban cultural context of Hartford, both in the past and the present. As the ASA returns to New England, it provides an occasion to reexamine the historical paradigms of the field. We seek a broad variety of proposals. We want the Hartford, CT, 2003, convention to reflect the diversity of scholarly interests and range of approaches and methods within American Studies. We also encourage sessions that juxtapose the humanities and the social sciences and sessions that explore expressive forms traditionally under-represented at ASA (architecture, dance, music, visual art, drama) as well as literature, photography, material culture, advertising, and film. We encourage sessions that place American Studies concerns in international contexts and look critically at traditional notions of the nation-state.

We encourage sessions that make surprising juxtapositions of subject matters and of participants, including the mingling of community members, secondary school teachers, journalists and social activists with American Studies scholars. We will give special attention in our selection process to sessions that mingle participants in this way. Proposals must be postmarked **by January 25, 2003**. Late proposals will not be considered, and incomplete proposals will be looked upon less favorably than complete proposals. Send above materials, including cover sheet, to: 2003 ASA Program Committee, c/o American Studies Association, 1120 19th Street, NW, Suite 301, Washington, DC 20036 Phone: (202) 467-4783 . Do not submit proposals directly to members of the Program Committee. No fax or e-mail submissions can be accepted. To confirm receipt of a proposal, include a self-addressed, stamped postcard with the submission. For further information you may contact the Convention Coordinator at annualmeeting@theasa.net; contact President-elect Amy Kaplan; or contact the Program Committee Co-chairs: Amy Kaplan, University of Pennsylvania, akpalan@mtholyoke.edu; David Roediger, University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign, dloedige@uiuc.edu; Carla L. Peterson, University of Maryland, College Park, cp10@umail.umd.edu; Rosa Linda Fregoso, University of California, Santa Cruz, rfegoso@cats.ucsc.edu. Please check the ASA's website for further information on requirements and workshop formats at <http://www.georgetown.edu/crossroads/AmericanStudiesAssn/annualmeeting/ASA2003/cfp2003.htm>

FELLOWSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT

Rockefeller Fellowships at the Center for Black Music Research Columbia College Chicago 2003–2004

Under the auspices of the Rockefeller Foundation, the Center for Black Music Research (CBMR) of Columbia College Chicago will offer two nine-month resident fellowships for the 2003–2004 academic year. The theme for the year will be “Researching the Circum-Caribbean.” The CBMR will accept applications to pursue work on musico-cultural issues related to Latin-American and West Indian cultures in the circum-Caribbean region. Applications will be considered from scholars in the fields of music and music librarianship, history, Caribbean studies, and American cultural studies.

Two fellowships will be offered during the 2003–2004 academic year. Fellows will spend half their time in residence at the AMRI in St. Thomas, from which they will do field or archival research, and the other half at the CBMR’s Chicago site preparing for or writing the results of the work they performed while at the Caribbean site or other sites of field research. The Fellows will present work-in-progress at colloquia and will have opportunities to interact with faculty, students, and members of the Chicago and St. Thomas arts, cultural, and educational communities. Each fellowship will carry a stipend of \$25,000 plus the following benefits: (1) an allowance of up to \$4,000 for moving to and from the Fellow’s home and the CBMR (or the Virgin Islands); (2) an allowance of up to \$2,000 for inter-island or intra-Caribbean research

travel; and (3) free housing in both locations. The total value of the stipend, travel allowances, and housing equals \$37,750.

Application Eligibility and Procedure: Candidates must have completed the Ph.D. or equivalent at the time of application and should be able to demonstrate their familiarity with the research of or related to the circum-Caribbean region..

Applicants must submit the following documents in five (5) copies by February 1, 2003:

A. A 100–word abstract of the project (with the name of the applicant beneath the heading);

B. A research proposal not to exceed twelve double-spaced pages, consisting of statements of (1) the purpose and rationale of the project; (2) applicant’s work on the project to date; (3) relationship of the applicant’s project to the theme of the residency program; (4) relevant work on the project by other scholars and (5) a selected bibliography not to exceed one page.

C. Curriculum Vitae (with complete contact information)

D. Two letters of recommendation from scholars familiar with the proposal and with the applicant’s work

Submit application materials by **February 1, 2003**, to: Dr. Johann S. Buis, Fellows Project Coordinator, Center for Black Music Research, Columbia College Chicago, 600 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago IL 60605-1996, USA. Applicants will be notified by April 1, 2003. Residencies will commence in September 2003. Direct all inquiries to Johann S. Buis (jbuis@cbmr.colum.edu); telephone: (312) 344-7573.

Visit the CBMR Web site at <http://www.cbmr.org/>.

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

“Writing Away from Home: Translocation and Text”; Postgraduate Conference

November 30, 2002

University of Glasgow, UK

Geographical transposition has been a crucial impetus and inspiration from the earliest years of travel and exploration up to the present day. The conference addresses literary texts that engage with the experience of translocation, from any period or culture. We hope that the conference will provide a space for exchange between developing areas of literary scholarship in identity and geography. Professor Susan Castillo and Dr. Adrian Hunter are confirmed for plenary sessions.

Possible topics for discussion might be:

-Exile and/or Captivity as impetus or inspiration, (e.g. Ovid, Bradstreet,

Rowlandson)

-Not writing in the mother tongue, (e.g. Conrad)

-‘First’ and ‘Second’ generation immigrant literature, (e.g. Singer,

Malamud)

-(Post)Colonial literature, (e.g. John Smith, Kipling, Rushdie)

-Construction of the homeland, (e.g. Tan)

-Expatriate movements and coteries, (e.g. Imagism, Dada)

-Issues of genre in translocational literature, (e.g. Swift).

Please contact <translocationconference@hotmail.com> for further information as well as accommodation.

“American Mirrors: (Self)-Reflections and (Self)-Distortions”; VI. S.A.A.S. Conference

April 9-11, 2003

Vitoria, Spain

The following panels have been proposed:

1.) Distorting Mirrors: the “ideologies of fracture” face the official discourse of the Reagan Revolution in the 1980s.

2.) *Re-writing American History*

- 3.) *“Old and New Mirrors: Men in Contemporary American Literature and Cinema”*.
- 4.) *America in Quest: Real and Metaphorical Literary Travels*
- 5.) *Different Mirrors: Self-Representation in Autobiographies of Childhood*
- 6.) Our Mirroring of America: American Literature and Culture in Franco’s and in Democratic Spain.
- 7.) *Trickster Narratives: Transforming and Self-Transforming Stories*.
- 8.) *Reflections and Distortions: The Legacy of Realism in the American Theatre*.
- 9.) *The Problematics of American Life Narratives*
- 10.) *Nature as Mirror of the American Self*.
- 11.) *Contemporary literary portraits of the American West*
- 12.) *The Wavering Optics of Recent American Poetry*

You can also go to SAAS Web page:
<http://www.usc.es/ia303/saas/saas.html>

CONFERENCE CHAIR: Dr. Felisa López Liquele.
 Departamento de Filología Inglesa . Universidad del País Vasco. Vitoria. Tel: 0034 945013971. Fax: 0034 945144092.
 E-mail: fiplolif@vc.ehu.es

"Citizens, Nations, and Cultures: Transatlantic Perspectives"

October 16-19, 2002.

**Maastricht Centre for Transatlantic Studies,
 Teikyo University, Maastricht, NL.**

This conference will bring together some 60 scholars from Europe, Africa, and the Americas (North & South) to consider transatlantic cultural, economic, and political exchanges over the past three hundred years. Panel discussions and lectures will explore a variety of issues including: migration, the black diaspora, national, ethnic and racial identity, transatlantic race and gender politics, artistic and cultural exchanges, transatlantic literature, transatlantic economies, and the meaning of 'transatlantic'.

For further information contact: Dr. Neil Wynn, Humanities & Social Sciences, the University of Glamorgan, Pontypridd, UK CF37 1DL e-mail: nawynn@glamorgan.ac.uk.

“Shadows that Stalk: Representations of Fear in American Culture and Literature”

20th Anniversary Conference

October 24- 25, 2002

**Hacettepe University, Department of American Culture and Literature
 Ankara, Turkey**

When Ralph Waldo Emerson in his “Self Reliance” wrote, “we are afraid of truth, afraid of fortune, afraid of death, and afraid of each other,” he was inviting the society to face its fears and find ways to come to terms with them since absolute freedom

meant freedom from fear. Just as each human community has its own repertory of fears ranging from the more universal ones to the ones that are more or less culture specific, American history can also be read as an account of a nation’s changing attitudes, feelings and reactions in the face of ever present but ever mutating forms of fear.

From its colonial beginnings to the present, from *New England Primer*’s “I will fear God and honor the King,” to Franklin D. Roosevelt’s “the only thing we have to fear is fear itself,” or to George W. Bush’s “freedom and fear are at war,” this seminar aims at exploring the constructions, manifestations and various expressions of fear throughout US history. To this end, over forty papers will be presented from the fields of literary and cultural studies, popular culture, media and film studies, history, psychology, sociology, philosophy, international relations, and political science.

The presentations will engage the following issues, among others:

Authority . Angst . Conspiracy . Order . Evil . Sin . Grotesque . Red scare . Nightmare . Technology . Phobias . Scaremongering . Witchcraft . Future . Terrorism . Paranoia . Existence . Isolation . Tragedy . Violence . Death . Change . Aliens . Homicide . Failure . Apocalypse . Other(s) . Madness . Fragmentation . Unknown . Closure . Disease . Mass destruction . Suicide . God . Nuclear Arms . Dystopia . Civilization . Awe . Anxiety . Parochialism . Yellow scare . Safety . Religion . Wilderness . Desire . Loneliness . Corruption . Femicide . Gothic . Void . Enemy . Silence . Commitment . Revolt . War . . .

*The presentations will be published as seminar proceedings.

To attend please contact: Dr. S. Bilge Mutluay Çetintas, Hacettepe University, Faculty of Letters, Department of American Culture and Literature, O6532 Beytepe, Ankara, TURKEY Fax: 0 312 299 20 85Ph: 0 312 297 85 22 – 0 312 297 85 00 or e-mail them to: mutluay@hacettepe.edu.tr

The registration form is also available on the web <http://www.ake.hacettepe.edu.tr/conference.html>

**Invitation to the Colloquium:
 Stemming “the Mississippi” (Constructing/
 deconstructing myth and reality)**

February 27-March 1, 2003

**CIRNA Research Group
 Paris, France**

To celebrate the bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase and the "Black History Month", the CIRNA research group calls upon all colleagues in the American Studies Network and EAAS to come to Paris and participate in an interdisciplinary colloquium that will take place the last week of February 2003 (Feb 27-28 and March 1st) on the subject **STEMMING "THE MISSISSIPPI" (Constructing/deconstructing myth and reality)** This colloquium is NOT intended merely to recapitulate what available knowledge has been gathered over time on the subject of "The Father of Waters", whether it be geographical, historical, hydrological, sociological or

economical, but rather to invite reflection on the birth and evolution of the River as a key reference in American culture, as well, consequently, as on its present status. It aims at tracing the construction of the Mississippi as a central historical axis for the identity and growth of the country (territorially, economically, mythically, etc) and at assessing the reality of its importance today.

Central issues include the following : - From the time of early explorations to the present, what evolutions can be identified in the importance of the reality and image of the River ? - Does contemporary historiography legitimize a critique of its past cultural, ideological and aesthetic functions ? - How much does "America's great river road" matter today, in sociological and economic terms ? - Why does the term "Mississippi" seem to have shifted its most immediate semantic contents from the River as a whole to its Southern section and to the state it gave its name to ? - How important in the evolution of the myth may have been the outcome of the regional rivalry between St Louis and Chicago ? -Why doesn't one just as readily think of its Upper Course as of its Lower ? - Is the River as a potential reserve for the sublime a thing of the past, and why ? - Did (do) European views of the Mississippi contrast with their American counterparts ? - Can it be affirmed that the River has, over the years, lost its operative mythical and oneiric power and is now, at most, only the object of a "museal" approach ?... As East/West, North/South dividing line, real or virtual, the Mississippi has exerted a powerful hold on the American imagination. Its division along Blue/Black lines seems to have slipped away early on while its mythology seems to have taken refuge in its southern segment, down to the delta. All the while, however, it left its imprint on a number of aesthetic and artistic configurations, in music, in painting, in literature. Two hundred years after the Louisiana Purchase, such are some of the questions specialists of all disciplines (history, sociology, literature, visual arts, music, socio-linguistics...) are invited to address in 2003. Marc Chénétier Institut Charles V 10 rue Charles V 75004-Paris Tel : 01-44-78-34-14 Fax : 01-44-78-34-99

Interested academics who would like to contribute a piece for the European number of *Revue Française d'Etudes Américaines* based on that colloquium are welcome to send them in till March 03.

**Invitation to the Symposium
"The Body as Interface: Dialogues between the Disciplines"
June 26-28, 2003
North American Studies Program / Department of English
University of Bonn, Germany**

The body has been at the center of debates in gender and cultural studies for more than two decades. Recent controversies about the ramifications of biotechnology,

bioethics, and cybernetics likewise capitalize on the body, while at the same time shifting the debates in the direction of the social sciences, the natural sciences, and law. Situating the body at an intersection of a range of discourses within the cultural, social and natural sciences and featuring contributions from the fields of history, literary and cultural studies, philosophy, law, biology, and medicine, the symposium "The Body as Interface" is dedicated to a dialogue between disciplines that we recognize as increasingly interdependent rather than separate. Such exchange across disciplinary lines is not only the basis for our concern with issues as crucial as the future of the human subject. The North American Studies Program also takes a particular interest in such interdisciplinary exchange because the debates about the new biosciences, biotechnologies, and bioethics are frequently set within a binarism between a 'new' American versus an 'older' European thinking and sense of subjectivity. Therefore these transatlantic debates also point toward new directions within the field of American studies. How in particular does the shift from cultural to biological perspectives on the body impact on gender and cultural studies? Are the recent debates at the crossroads of the cultural, social, and natural sciences extensions of a research that has interpreted discourses on the body as major agents in the construction of gender and power? Do the recent debates of the body within the biosciences and law eliminate the political concerns that gender studies inherited from feminist critique? Or do they pick up on and reformulate those concerns, both politically and ethically?

The symposium will open on June 26, 2003, with keynote lectures and a panel discussion on "Genetics, Ethics, Politics." It will continue on June 27 and 28 with sessions on • Beauty, Bidesign, Human Nature; • Race, Genetics, Ideology; • Virus, Immunity, Virtuality; • Brain, Memory, Trauma; and • Pain, Punishment, Power.

Among the key note speakers are Elisabeth Bronfen (Universität Zürich), Linda Gordon (New York University), Thomas Laqueur (University of California, Berkeley) and Hans-Jörg Rheinberger (Max-Planck-Institut für Wissenschaftsgeschichte, Berlin).

For more information please contact Prof. Dr. Sabine Sielke, Englisch Seminar / Nordamerikastudienprogramm, Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn, Regina-Pacis-Weg 5, 53113 Bonn, Phine +49 -228-737664, <ssielke@uni-bonn.de>. For registration please write to <nap@uni-bonn.de>.

A REMINDER TO ALL EAAS MEMBERS:

We welcome your contributions to our newsletter.

**The GENERAL DEADLINE for the Spring 2003 issue is:
January 15, 2003**

We appreciate your understanding. Thank you! The Editors

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS: BOOK REVIEWS ON THE INTERNET

As the book review site is the most frequently accessed on the EAAS webpage, we would like to continue to post frequent reviews of scholarly publications of our members.

Please take into consideration the following:

1. Book publications must be in English and must have been published within the present or previous year. 2. Books must be scholarly works which address subject matters related to American studies. 3. Interested members should contact **Theodora Tsimpouki** of HELAAS, University of Athens, Faculty of English Studies, School of Philosophy, University Campus Zografou GR-157 84 Athens, Greece. Fax +30 1 72 48 979. Email: tsimpouki@enl.uoa.gr. She has been appointed to organize the book review process. 4. We will post book titles for review and query potential reviewers (authors with specific suggestions of reviewers for their books should mention this directly to HELAAS). Bibliographical information (author, title, publisher, publishing date and place, and page number), and two sentences summarizing the volume should be sent to HELAAS. Reviewers will be sent their review volume by the authors. 5. Reviews are sent to HELAAS who will assume the responsibility of posting them.

Current reviews can be viewed at <http://www.let.uu.nl/eaas/reviews/REVIEWS.HTM>.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS BY MEMBERS

Jesús BENITO and Ana MANZANAS, eds. *Literature and Ethnicity in the Cultural Borderlands*. New York, Amsterdam: Rodopi, 2002. – This volume stems from the idea that the notion of borders and borderlines as clear-cut frontiers separating not only political and geographical areas, but also cultural, linguistic and semiotic spaces, does not fully address the complexity of contemporary cultural encounters. Centering on a whole range of literary works from the United States and the Caribbean, the contributors suggest and discuss different theoretical and methodological grounds to address the literary production taking place across the lines in North American and Caribbean culture. The volume represents a pioneering attempt at proposing the concept of the border as a useful paradigm not only for the study of Chicano literature but also for the other American literatures. The works presented in the volume illustrate various aspects and manifestations of the textual border(lands), and explore the double-voiced discourse of border texts by writers like Harriet E. Wilson, Rudolfo Anaya, Toni Morrison, Cormac McCarthy, Louise Erdrich, Helena Viramontes, Paule Marshall and Monica Sone, among others. This book is of interest for scholars and researchers in the field of comparative American studies and ethnic studies.

Rocío G. DAVIS. *Transcultural Reinventions: Asian American and Asian Canadian Short-Story Cycles*. Toronto: TSAR, 2001. – The central concern of this study lies in the exploration of the short-story cycle as a vehicle for the development of Asian American and Asian Canadian literature. Specifically, the book analyzes cycles by writers such as Rohinton Mistry, Lois-Ann Yamanaka, Shyam Selvadurai, Amy Tan, Sigrid Nunez, Sara Suleri, Garrett Hongo, Toshio Mori, Terry Watada, Sylvia Watanabe, M G Vassanji, and Wayson Choy, among others. The manner in which the diverse writers appropriate the cycle in order to

dramatize the act of representation becomes a metaphor for the complexity of ethnic lives and contemporary culture, the articulation of subjectivity and the process towards self-identification.

Rocío G. DAVIS and Sämi LUDWIG, eds. *Asian American Literature in the International Context: Readings on Fiction, Poetry, and Performance*. Vol. 1 “Contributions to Asian American Literary Studies”. Hamburg: LIT Verlag, 2002. – In their different and yet complementary perspectives, all of the essays in this volume reiterate the universal theme of pluralism. They are divided into sections that deal with biraciality and biculturalism, interethnic negotiations, poetic creation, narrative experiments, and (re)constructing self. The wide variety of approaches reflects the contributors' training in different cultures and across cultures. It showcases refreshing new perspectives in reading that combine the views of literary scholars from three different continents. This collection creates a space for discussion and commentary, of heightened appreciation and increased creativity, a forum that turns the discipline of Asian American studies into a truly international debate. Contributors include: Amy Ling, Gordon Taylor, Eulalia Piñero-Gil, Alicia Otano, Dorothy Wang, Carol Roh-Spaulding, Aitor Ibarrola, Johnny Lorenz, Robert Vorlicky, Seiwoong Oh, Helena Grice, Carmen Faymonville, Kirsten Twelbeck, Zhou Xiaojing, and Geoffrey Kain.

Anne GARRAIT-BOURRIER. *L'esclavage aux Etats-Unis: du déracinement à l'identité*. Coll. “Les Essentiels de Civilisation”. Éditions Ellipses, 2001.

Cristina GIORCELLI, ed. *Clothing and Identity--Abito e Identità*. Vol. IV. Palermo: Palma, 2001. . – The eight essays collected in the fourth volume of the series are either in English or Italian.

Donatella IZZO. *Portraying the Lady. Technologies of Gender in the Short Stories of Henry James.* Lincoln: U of Nebraska P, 2001.

Till KINZEL. *Platonische Kulturkritik in Amerika. Studien zu Allan Blooms *The Closing of the American Mind* [Platonic Culture Criticism in America. Studies on Allan Bloom's *The Closing of the American Mind*].* Schriften zur Literaturwissenschaft 18. Berlin, Germany: Duncker & Humblot, 2002. – Allan Bloom's (1930-1992) great essay *The Closing of the American Mind* from 1987 has received a highly controversial and politicized reception which, however, didn't do justice to its philosophical core. While taking account of the political reception of Bloom in the wake of the culture wars, the author emphasizes the philosophical intention of Bloom's culture criticism. In his analysis of the state of philosophy in America, Bloom draws on Leo Strauss's political philosophy, especially on Strauss's adaptation of Plato's cave image. He points back to Plato whose erotic philosophizing turns out to be paradigmatic for Bloom's philosophical politics of friendship. Bloom's appropriation of Strauss's hermeneutics is directed towards the key question of philosophy which for the Bloom is the question of what constitutes the good life. Bloom's criticism of contemporary theories of reading and his defense of the 'great books' from Homer to Nietzsche converge at this point. Bloom's analysis aims at a defense of the theoretical life: *The Closing of the American Mind* has to be understood as an exhortation for philosophy under the conditions of nihilism in its American variety. Bloom's culture criticism is both political and philosophic and therefore Platonic. Its aim is to preserve a place for philosophy as a way of life within the busy commercial republic. The kingdom of the philosophers is to be found in the conversations of friends jointly striving for wisdom while also caring about the fate of the American republic.

Sämi LUDWIG. *Pragmatist Realism: The Cognitive Paradigm in American Realist Texts.* Madison, WI: U of Wisconsin P, 2002. – Literary realists have often been dismissed by later writers of the modernist and post-structuralist schools for their lack of aesthetic sophistication and etymological naïvete. In *Pragmatist Realism*, Sämi Ludwig argues that the artistic quality of realist texts is better appreciated by approaching them from a cognitive perspective, rather than from a linguistic or formalist one. Ludwig notes that literary realism arose from the same cultural scene as the pragmatist philosophy of William James and Charles Sanders Peirce, and that cognitive psychology built upon pragmatist philosophy. He argues that the aim of realist writers, like that of cognitive scientists, is to track the arc of learning from experiences. Ludwig contends that this cognitive perspective is a useful corrective to other approaches to literary criticism that focus on textual hermeneutics. He argues further that the cognitive paradigm can enhance our understanding of literary representation, not only in realist works by Mark Twain, William Dean Howells, Henry James, Charles Chesnutt, and others, but in literature generally.

Sonia SANTOS VILA. *E. T. A. Hoffmann en sus narraciones fantásticas: Sueños, visiones y alucinaciones del*

Totalkünstler. Madrid: Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia, 2002.

Sabine SIELKE. *Reading Rape: The Rhetoric of Sexual Violence in American Literature and Culture, 1790-1990.* Princeton, NJ: Princeton UP, 2002. – Sielke's *Reading Rape* examines how American culture talks about sexual violence and explains why, in the latter twentieth century, rape achieved such significance as a trope of power relations. Through attentive readings of a wide range of literary and cultural representations of sexual assault—from antebellum seduction narratives and “realist” representations of rape in nineteenth-century novels to *Deliverance*, *American Psycho*, and contemporary feminist accounts—Sabine Sielke traces the evolution of a specifically American rhetoric of rape. She considers the kinds of cultural work that this rhetoric has performed and finds that rape has been an insistent figure for a range of social, political, and economic issues. Sielke argues that the representation of rape has been a major force in the cultural construction of sexuality, gender, race, ethnicity, class, and indeed national identity. At the same time, her acute analyses of both canonical and lesser-known texts explore the complex anxieties that motivate such constructions and their function within the wider cultural imagination. Provoked in part by contemporary feminist criticism, *Reading Rape* also challenges feminist positions on sexual violence by interrogating them as part of the history in which rape has been a convenient and conventional albeit troubling trope for other concerns and conflicts. This book teaches us what we talk about when we talk about rape. And what we're talking about is often something else entirely: power, money, social change, difference, and identity.

Mirosława ZIAJA-BUCHHOLTZ. *Reflections of the Master: The Reception of Henry James in Poland.* Torún, PL: Nicolas Copernicus UP, 2001. – Far from insisting on the centrality of Polish themes in James's fiction, or Polish scholarship in James criticism, this study seeks to explore intercultural phenomena for the double purpose of discovering truths about Polish critical habits and the quality of James's writing. In terms of methodology, this project positions itself, again, at the crossroads, interrogating representatives of sociological and translational studies. To describe the whole project, which addresses two aspects of reception (critical response and translation), I would like to use the metaphor of glass: tinted glass, convex or concave glass, which enables one to see through, and yet always distorts one's vision. To describe the process of assimilation of James's work in Poland, I employ the model of cultural exchange proposed by Patrice Pavis to deal with intercultural theater. In numerous studies devoted to James's style, scholars such as Seymour Chatman (1972), Tuomo Laitinen (1975), Mary Cross (1993), Sheila Teahan (1995), and others give, indirectly, reasons for the fascination James holds for critics, and the dread he strikes into translators; namely, they point out his desire to express the inexpressible, and to go beyond the linguistic norm that sets the boundaries of the capacity for understanding and experiencing. The present study analyzes the uses to which James's work was put by those who mediated between James and his readers in Poland.

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