

FORTHCOMING
in
SCE Reports

NEWS and NOTICES
Spring 1982

SPRING/SUMMER 1982

A Special Issue on the Work of
MICHEL FOUCAULT

This issue will be edited by Peggy Kamuf (Miami University) and will include essays by Robert Knapp (Reed College), Georges Van Den Abbeele (U.C. at Santa Cruz), Arthur Frank (University of Calgary), Larysa Mykyta (Miami University) and Cynthia Chase (Cornell University).

FALL 1982

LITERARY CHANGE / CRITICAL CHANGE

This issue will be edited by Susan Elliott (Clark University) and will feature a position paper by Ralph Cohen (University of Virginia). This issue will be concerned with theoretical conceptions of change in literary study; specific illustrations of such conceptions of literary/critical change; interrelationships between literature and criticism affecting or effecting change; other disciplinary and institutional considerations regarding change. The papers in this issue will be discussed at SCE's MLA sessions. If you are interested in this issue, contact Susan Elliott (19 Sorrento St., Worcester, MA, 01602 / (617) 753-5087) as soon as possible.

SPRING/SUMMER 1983 TENTATIVE

JAMESON

At present SCE is negotiating with Fredric Jameson to lecture at Miami University and the 1982 MMLA meeting in Cincinnati. If our plans are realized, we will publish several papers related to the work of Jameson that will be presented at the SCE sessions in Oxford and at the MMLA.

FALL 1983

AUTHORITY IN THE PROFESSION OF LITERARY STUDY

This issue will be edited by David Shumway (Miami University) and will focus on the interrelationships among authority, power, discipline, training, critical discourse and their forums/arenas in the historical institutionalization and professionalization of literary study. If you are interested in these issues, contact David Shumway (Department of English, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, 45056 / (513) 529-4698).

SCE has sponsored several projects and events in the last year.

The Spring/Summer issue of the James Joyce Quarterly (18, 3, 1981) is devoted to an SCE sponsored project, the Miami University Research Group Experiment (MURGE) analysis of James Joyce's "Araby" following Seymour Chatman's Story and Discourse with commentaries by Seymour Chatman, Jonathan Culler and Gerald Prince. A description of the MURGE project by Diana Uhlman (Miami University) will appear in SCE Reports #11.

Fall 1981

In September, SCE cosponsored with Indiana University a conference on the Theories of Reading featuring Barbara Herrnstein Smith, Peter Brooks, Louise Rosenblatt, Judith Fetterley, David Bleich, Inge and Rob Crossman, Patricia Harkin [Sosnoski], Murray Schwartz, Jared Curtis, Alfred David, Michael Steig and Jane Gallop. A report of the conference by Rick Barney (University of Virginia) will appear in SCE Reports #11.

In October, SCE sponsored a special session at the SCMLA meeting chaired by C. Harry Bruder (University of Southwestern Louisiana). Ronald Schleifer read a paper on "Filling the Gaps, Story Telling as Interpretation"; Joel Weinsheimer on "The Function of Prejudice in Teleological Hermeneutics"; and J. Dudley Andrew on "Connotation and Figuration."

In November at the MMLA meeting SCE sponsored two sessions on the topic "Community and Dissemination." In the first, Charlie Altieri's and Verena Conley's papers were commented upon by Donald Marshall and Mary Wiseman. In the second, Tim Murray, Dan Brewer and Brit Harwood offered critiques of the positions of Gerry Graff and Ihab Hassan who responded to their three critics in a very lively session.

Also in November Gregory Ulmer chaired an SCE session at the SAMLA meeting on the topic, "The Interpretation of the Social Sciences and Humanities: Toward a New Transdiscipline."

At MLA in December Wally Martin chaired an SCE session on "The Return of the Text" with papers by Cynthia Chase, Felicity Baker and Kurt Heinzelman to which Michel Pierssens responded. See SCE Reports #10.

Forthcoming Events

This April 3-5 at the NEMLA meeting at Hunter College, New York, Susan Elliott will chair an SCE session on "the concepts of production and reception" and Marshall Grossman will chair an SCE session on the work of Fredric Jameson.

Next October 20-22, SCE will again co-sponsor a conference with various departments at Indiana University. The topic is "theories of representation" and some of the panelists are Gerald Graff, Barbara Johnson, Seigfried Schmidt, Svetlana Alpers, James Olney, Robin Lakoff, John Akin and James Creech. Any SCE members interested in participating in small group sessions on various aspects of this topic should contact James Creech (French, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, 45056) or David Bleich (English, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, 47401).

Next October, Bruce Henricksen will chair a session on Theory and Criticism at the SCMLA meeting in San Antonio entitled "The 'Literary' in Literary History." In his call for papers Bruce writes: Literary history has seen the lines between the literary and the non-literary drawn in various ways and according to various definitions - aesthetic, utilitarian, sociological, etc. The past decade, on the other hand, has witnessed a refusal to accept any distinction between the literary and the non-literary, replacing the dichotomy with such broader terms as "écriture," "discourse," and "textuality."

Papers are sought on the problem of the "literary" in literary history - on the political and intellectual forces that have caused the line between the literary and the non-literary to shift and recently to disappear. Papers are also sought on the analogous question of genre boundaries within the literary - what forces have caused the major relocation of such boundaries?

Some possible questions are: (1) To what extent are changes in boundaries results of cultural power struggles? (2) Are such changes aspects of larger epistemological breaks or paradigm shifts? (3) Does the recent attempt to dissolve the distinction between the literary and non-literary deflate the truth claims of philosophical and political texts by implicating them in the problematics of literary representation? (4) How must literary history be written today?

Papers on any of the theoretical concerns suggested above should be sent to: Bruce Henricksen, Dept. of English, Loyola University, New Orleans, LA 70118, (504-865-2295).

(November 1982) SCE is currently negotiating to bring Fredric Jameson to Miami University and to the MMLA convention in Cincinnati. (We will keep you posted.)

Matt Marino (University of Alabama) will chair an SCE session at the SAMLA meeting on "Excentric Criticism: A Focus on the Effect of Critical Models on Literary Study." In his call for papers, Matt writes, "Even if the text and literature are the center of literary criticism, the structure of many critical models is constituted either historically or currently away from that center. EXcentric critical models seem to have special implications and effects -- often unexamined. Synchronically active EXcentric criticism might include models based on FEMINISM, MARXISM, ETHNICITY, ... Historically subsumed EXcentric criticism, which has been appropriated by the literary community, might include PATRISTIC EXEGESIS, FREUDIAN ANALYSIS, JUNGIAN ARCHETYPES." Papers that are concerned with the effects of a model rather than the explication of a work or author should be sent to Matt Marino (English, Drawer AL, University of Alabama, University, Alabama 35486) by May 1, 1982.

Note

Last Fall, Bruce Henricksen edited a special issue of The New Orleans Review (Vol. 8, No. 3 / \$2.95) entitled "The Post-Structuralist Issue" which includes the following essays: Julie Lepick on "Jacques Derrida at the Limits"; Alexander Argyros on "The Possibility of History"; Herman Rapaport on "On Recuperating Derrida"; Ronald Schleifer on "The Poison of Ink: Modernism and Post War Literary Criticism" and Gregory S. Jay on "Going After New Critics: Literature, History, Deconstruction." For copies write to Bruce Henricksen, Non-Fiction Editor, The New Orleans Review, Loyola University, New Orleans, LA 70118 and include a check for \$2.95.

An SCE Project of Interest

Five members of SCE, James Fanto (French), David Shumway (American Studies), Steve Nimis (Classics), Larysa Mykyta (French) and James Sosnoski (English) on the basis of common concerns formed a Research Group on the Institutionalization and Professionalization of literary studies (GRIP). The group is studying four different but parallel forms of "authorization" in their four areas of literary study. The GRIP project takes as its point of departure the critiques of professional institutions developed in recent years by Michel Foucault, Pierre Bourdieu, Burton Bledstein, and Steven Toulmin. It focuses upon the interrelationships among authority, power, discipline, training, critical discourse and their forums/arenas in specific historical developments that have resulted in particular modes of the institutionalization and professionalization of literary study.

David Shumway is chairing an SCE MLA session on "Authority in the Profession of Literary Study". The papers in this session will appear in SCE Reports #12. Inquiries should be addressed to David Shumway (Department of English, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio 45056/ (513) 529-4698).

Steve Mailloux, Jim Fanto and David Shumway are currently exploring the possibility of an MLA forum on this topic.

Plans are also underway for a conference on "Theories of Institutionalization and Professionalization" to be held at Indiana University in the Fall of 1983.

Members of SCE who are interested in this topic should contact James Sosnoski (Department of English, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio 45056/ (513) 529-2328).