

# NOTES

## CONFERENCES CELEBRATING H.D.'S CENTENNIAL

**Bryn Mawr College English Department Symposium on H.D. and Marianne Moore**, honoring the college centennial as well as the centennials of these two poets. March 29 and 30, 1985. Here is a description of this conference in the special issue of *Poesis* (listed below): "Some two hundred and fifty people attended the program . . . composing an audience that ran the gamut from alumnae and supporters of Bryn Mawr and students of modern poetry generally to practicing poets who may have come primarily to hear poets on the program." There were critical and biographical papers; readings by poets; a musical performance of settings of H.D.'s poems.

**The H.D. Centennial Conference**, sponsored by the National Poetry Foundation and the English Department of the University of Maine at Orono. Orono, Maine, June 5-7, 1986. This was the first conference devoted entirely to H.D. There were critical and biographical papers; readings by poets; and a dramatic reading of H.D.'s translation of Euripides' *Ion*, with original music based on Greek fragments. The celebration was also marked by the appearance of a new book by the National Poetry Foundation, *H.D.: Woman and Poet*, edited by Michael King (noted below).

**H.D. A Centennial Symposium: Moravianism and Modernism**, sponsored by Moravian College. Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, September 12-14, 1986. This conference was especially rich in capturing the spirit of H.D.'s birthplace and of her Moravian heritage. The organizers of the conference (including those from the college, from the city, from the Central Moravian Church) aimed to give us a sense of H.D.'s roots in Bethlehem. There were critical and biographical papers; a showing of the film *Borderline*; readings by poets, students, and the Friends of H.D., a group whose members have celebrated her birthday with readings for many years; a performance of musical settings of H.D. poems; a program of hymn singing at Central Moravian Church; and a tour of the old Moravian city.

**Companions of the Flame: Emily Dickinson/H.D. Dual Centennial Symposium**, sponsored by the San Jose Poetry Center and San Jose State University. San Jose, California, October 22-25, 1986. This conference, bringing together a large number and a wide range of readers/critics of these two poets, had the intention of emphasizing the experience of the poetry itself and its effect upon practicing poets. Panels treating a single poet were intermixed with others treating both poets under the same aegis. There were "guided readings" of Dickinson and H.D., as well as a discussion session by writers emphasizing the effect of these poets on their work.

## SPECIAL JOURNAL ISSUES CELEBRATING H.D.'S CENTENNIAL

**Poesis: A Journal of Criticism** 6.3-4 (1985).

A collection from papers presented at the Centennial Symposium. Essays on H.D. by Alicia Ostriker, Robert Duncan, Albert Guelpi, Susan Stanford Friedman, Barbara Guest, and Emily Wallace. Subscription, \$8 per volume of four issues, \$2 for single copies (Foreign subscribers add \$2 for postage in US currency). Department of English, Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr PA 19010.

**Contemporary Literature** 27 (Winter 1986). Special Editors: Susan Stanford Friedman and Rachel Blau DuPlessis. Includes a tribute to H.D. by Ezra Pound; Chapters 1-4 of H.D.'s novel *Paint It To-Day*, introduced by the editors; and articles by Alicia Ostriker, Adalaide Morris, Eileen Gregory, Deborah Kelley Kloepfer, and Joseph Milicia. Subscription, four issues annually, \$18 for individuals (\$5.50 more for foreign postage). Department of English, Helen C. White Hall, 600 N. Park Street, University of Wisconsin, Madison WI 53706.

**HOW(ever)** 3.3 (October 1986). Editor: Kathleen Fraser. From the editor's notes: "This issue . . . focuses on the concept of PALIMPSEST, a word given fresh meaning for women writers through H.D.'s use of it as both identification and practice in her own work." Contributions by Anna Cusenza, Beverly Dahlen, Julia Vose, Kate Delos, Rena Rosenwasser, Barbara Guest, and Virginia Smyers. Subscription, four issues annually, \$8 for individuals. Checks should go to Frances Jaffer, 871 Corbett Ave., San Francisco CA 94131.

**The Iowa Review** 16.3 (Fall 1986). Special Editor: Adalaide Morris. From the Introduction: "The focus of this issue is the charged connections that have made H.D. an agent of confusion, exhilaration, and change in the lives of those to whom her work has been crucial." Includes Chapter 2 from H.D.'s *The Gift* (excised in the *New Directions* text), *H.D. by Delia Alton [Notes on Recent Writing]*, letters by H.D. to John Cournos (presented by Donna Krolik Hollenberg), letters by H.D. during World War II in a memoir by Silvia Dobson; essays by Perdita Schaffner, Susan Stanford Friedman, Barbara Guest, Paul Smith, Diana Collecott, Louis H. Silverstein, Dale Davis, and Rachel Blau DuPlessis; and poems by Dale M. Kushner, Kathleen Fraser, Alicia Ostriker, John Walsh, Jane Augustine, Susan Howe, Frances Jaffer, and Edith M. Walden. For single copies (\$10 each) or subscriptions (\$15 for three issues), write *The Iowa Review*, 369 EPB, The University of Iowa, Iowa City IA 52242.

**Sagetrieb: A Journal Devoted to Poets in the Pound-H.D.—Williams Tradition** 6.2 (Fall 1987). Editors: Burton Hatlen and guest editor Rachel Blau DuPlessis. Includes H.D.'s *Borderline* pamphlet; a bibliography of H.D.'s contributions to periodicals by Michael Boughn; a chronology of the composition and publication of volumes by H.D. by Susan Friedman; essays by Michael Boughn, S. Travis, Cassandra Laity, Burton Hatlen, and Eileen Gregory; and reflections on H.D. by poets Fielding Dawson, Robert Creeley, Bruce Boone, Anne Waldman, and Beverly Dahlen. Subscription, two issues annually, \$15 for individuals (\$18 foreign). Write to *Sagetrieb*, 305 Neville Hall, University of Maine at Orono, Orono ME 04469.

**Agenda** 25.3-4 (Autumn/Winter 1987). Special Editors: Claire Buck and Diana Collecott. This illustrated issue includes by H.D.: "Prose Choruses," introduced by John Walsh; an essay, "A Note on Poetry" (1937); a review, "Responsibilities"; material from *The Gift*; "Mass Observation Reports" (1937 and 1939); and a story, "Within the Walls" (1940). It also includes essays by Susan Stanford Friedman, Gary Burnett, Zara Bruzzi and Philippa Berry, A. D. Moody, Eileen Gregory, Julie Abraham, Rachel DuPlessis, Silvia Dobson, Beverly Dahlen, Alicia Ostriker, Cyrena Pondrom, Bernard Burgoyne, Claire Buck, Erich Hedyt, Diana Collecott, and Jan Montefiore; reviews by Dianne Chisholm, Stephen Bann, and Peter Middleton; an interview with Denise Levertov by Diana Collecott; and poems by Dale Davis, Robert Duncan, Rachel DuPlessis, May Sarton, and Beverly Dahlen. (A few of these contributions are

still to be confirmed.) Cost of single issue, 6 pounds (postage paid within United Kingdom), \$10 surface mail or \$12 airmail to the USA. Orders to *Agenda*, 5 Cranbourne Court, Albert Bridge Road, London SW11 4PE, England.

**San Jose Studies.** Papers for this special issue, drawing from presentations at the Emily Dickinson/H.D. Symposium, have only recently been received, and plans for publication are as yet undecided. Tentative projections see the issue coming out in the fall of this year or in the spring of next year. More information is forthcoming. Subscription, 3 issues annually, \$12 for individuals, \$5 for a single issue. Write Editor, *San Jose Studies*, c/o English Department, San Jose State University, San Jose CA 95192.

### HELEN IN EGYPT: THE PUPPET SHOW

The Noh Oratorio Society of San Francisco recently (Jan, Feb., and March of this year) presented a staged reading of *Helen in Egypt*. From the press release: "Puppets take the stage, and slide-projected images bring on the scene; glist—shapes of puppets gather around, as the voices off-stage speak the words of Helen and Achilles, of Paris and Theseus." For those of you tantalized by this idea, I hope to correspond further with Claude Duvall of the Noh Oratorio Society, who conceived of the project, and with the directors—of—puppets Michael Shain and Marge Williams (the latter from the Hand Ghost Theatre). Anyone who saw the production and would like to give a brief review please let me know. Yusef Spires of the Noh Oratorio Society tells me in a letter: "A special nod should go to Felicity Wallis, whose reading of Helen was superb and immensely moving: she took several corners on two wheels and never came to grief."

### LECTURES ON H.D. AT NEW COLLEGE, SAN FRANCISCO

A series of nine lectures on H.D.'s work—by Albert Guelpi, Janice Robinson, and Diane di Prima—have been given this spring at the New College. If anyone has attended them and would like to give a brief review, please let me know.

### A CALL FOR PAPERS

Burton Hatlen, executive editor of *Sagetrieb*, asks me to tell you that *Sagetrieb* hopes to publish an essay on H.D. in each of its regular issues. Anyone wishing to submit papers may contact him at the address for *Sagetrieb* given above.

### BOOKS, NEW AND FORTHCOMING

Here are some new things that might be of interest to you. If you have other notices of books, please let me know.

**H.D.: Woman and Poet.** Ed. Michael King. Orono, Maine: National Poetry Foundation, 1986. This collection of essays includes a comprehensive, amply annotated bibliography by King and Mary S. Mathis, listing all work on H.D. since the 1969 bibliography in *Contemporary Literature* 10.

**H.D.: The Career of That Struggle.** By Rachel Blau DuPlessis. Key Women Writers Series. Bloomington: Indiana UP, 1986. An "overview of H.D.'s literary career informed by the new feminist criticism." From the Preface: "Four kinds of authority are at issue for women writers: cultural authority,

authority of otherness/marginality, gender authority, and sexual/erotic authority. . . . the interpretative and formal fiction upon which this book depends will make a specific question of authority correspond to each of four identifiable phases of H.D.'s career" (xiii).

**H.D.** A bilingual edition of selections from H.D.'s poetry, with translations and an introduction by Mary de Rachewitz (Ezra Pound's daughter). Milano: Strenna per gli amici, 1986. A private, limited edition, 300 copies. Includes a facsimile of "Winter Love," sent by H.D. to Pound and showing his corrections, and an early poem and a picture of H.D. found in Pound's possession

**Inspiring Women: Reimagining the Muse.** By Mary K. DeShazer. Fairview Park, N.Y.: Pergamon Books, 1987. "This book explores ways in which modern women writers have re-envisioned creativity and the creative process. Rejecting the traditional male pattern of reliance on a classical female "Other" for imaginative sustenance, these women have struggled to define their artistic identities. Rather than invoking a passive inspirer, modern women claim as muses powerful, active women through whom they find voice." Contains a chapter on H.D.

**Thought and Vision: A Reading of H.D.'s Poetry.** By Angela di Pace Fritz. Washington: Catholic University Press of America, 1987 or 1988. [Forthcoming]

**Writing for Their Lives: The Modernist Women 1910-1940.** By Gillian Hanscombe and Virginia Smyers. London: Women's Press, 1987 or 1988. Contains a chapter on H.D. and Bryher. [Forthcoming]

#### SUBMISSIONS/SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE H.D. NEWSLETTER

Submissions must be limited in length. I suggest no more than five pages for notes. Somewhat more lengthy submissions can be entertained, but not critical essays as such. Please limit descriptions of work-in-progress or work forthcoming to 100 words. The next issue will come out in November; all materials must be in by September 1. If you use an IBM-compatible word-processor you might abbreviate our work by sending a disc along with the printed material.

With the publication of the November issue, the subscription rate will increase to \$10 per year. Anyone who subscribes prior to publication of the second issue will receive the first two issues at the current rate of \$5. It has been necessary to increase the rate, since survival to this point has been possible through the generous contributions of some subscribers and through the donation of time and materials by friends (whose forbearance is not infinite). Please pass the word about the *HDN*, to friends, colleagues, students, and to libraries at your institutions.

#### CONVEYING INFORMATION ABOUT SUBSCRIBERS

In a list at the end of the *HDN* I have given a general address or academic affiliation for each contributor. If you wish to contact someone and are unable to do so by normal means, I may act as an intermediary. However, if anyone does not wish for their address to be so shared, let me know. Also, I have been and will continue to be asked to share the list of subscribers for the *HDN* with other organizations (e.g., my sponsor the Dallas Institute, the Beinecke Library). If you object to having your name included on mailing lists of organizations with affiliated interests, please let me know.

### QUERY

Louis Silverstein, who recently finished cataloging H.D.'s papers at Yale, is working on a detailed chronology of her life and work. If anyone has specific, not-easily-answered questions concerning chronology (or information to contribute) let him know. Also, Louis has a question: "I have been trying to untangle the complex question of what photographs of H.D. were actually taken by Man Ray." Only two known photographs, Louis thinks, were actually taken by him. There is "no way that I can see that Man Ray could have taken any photographs of H.D. before 1921," though some of those attributed to him would seem to be before this time. If anyone can share information, let him know.

### QUERY

Eileen Gregory wants to know (for a future *HDN* issue) if anyone has information about musical settings of H.D.'s poems—when performances have occurred, what poems have been set, and whether tapes of these performances have been made and might be available to interested parties.

### COMPANION ENDEAVORS

The editor wishes to thank several people who have mentioned the *HDN* in their publications, and to recommend them to you, in turn. Thanks to *Sagetrieb*, *HOW(ever)*, and *Agenda*. And these others. Peter Schmidt, Editor of the *William Carlos Williams Review*, Department of English, Swarthmore College, Swarthmore PA 19081. ■ John Serio, editor of *The Wallace Stevens Journal*, Department of English, Clarkson University, Potsdam NY 13676. ■ Patricia Willis, editor of the *Marianne Moore Newsletter* Rosenbach Museum and Library, 2010 DeLancey Place, Philadelphia PA 19103. ■ Roger Anderson, editor, *Noh Quarter* [affiliated with the Noh Oratorio Society], 1384 Masonic Ave., San Francisco CA 94117. ■ Norman T. Gates, editor of a newsletter on Richard Aldington, *The New Canterbury Literary Society Newsletter*. To contact write: 520 Woodland Ave., Haddonfield NJ 08033. The *NCLSN* frequently mentions H.D.; a full run of the newsletter is available at the Humanities Research Center in Austin, Texas.

### THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE HDN

I hope in this issue to focus on H.D.'s reading, presenting an essay by Silvia Dobson, "Cloud of Memories: Books H.D. Shared with Me, 1934-1960"; and lists of H.D.'s books, now located at Yale and in East Hampton, New York. Anyone who wishes specifically to comment on any aspect of H.D.'s reading or intertextual connections is welcome to contribute. But other contributions are welcome as well.

