

# The Folger Institute

# of Renaissance and **Eighteenth-Century Studies**



1976-77

**Seminar Program** 

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# The Folger Institute of Renaissance and Eighteenth-Century Studies

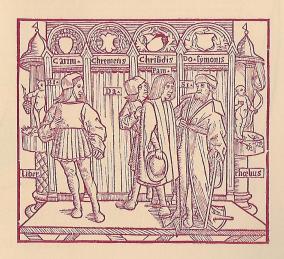
A unique collaborative enterprise sponsored by the Folger Shakespeare Library and eleven universities in the Middle Atlantic region (American University, Catholic University of America, University of Delaware, Georgetown University, George Washington University, Johns Hopkins University, University of Maryland, University of North Carolina, Princeton University, University of Virginia, and West Virginia University), the Folger Institute of Renaissance and Eighteenth-Century Studies was founded in 1970 to promote advanced teaching and research in the humanities. Aided by support from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Institute offers a growing interdisciplinary program of seminars, workshops, conferences, colloquia, and lectures.

The physical center of the Institute is the Folger Shakespeare Library, located just two blocks from the nation's Capitol and across the street from the Library of Congress. The Folger is preeminent in the world for its Shakespeare collection and second only to the British Museum for its holdings of other English Renaissance books; it is also internationally recognized as a repository of materials in late medieval and early eighteenth-century English litera-ture and history, Continental Renaissance literature, Reformation studies, early American cultural history, and English and American theater history from the beginnings to the twentieth century Scholars from throughout the world make use of Folger materials for research in fields as diverse as drama, music, philosophy, theology, and history of science, as well as work in such disciplines as textual analysis and literary criticism. Participants in Folger Institute seminars are provided access to the Library's collections, and they are also afforded opportunities to meet and talk with Folger staff members, readers, fellows, and resident scholars. The Library makes an effort to provide frequent social occasions in which a genuine community of interest may be fostered.

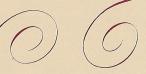
Folger Institute seminars meet in the conference room of the Folger. Enrollment is normally limited to twelve participants per seminar, with priority in admission accorded to advanced graduate

students and postdoctoral scholars from sponsoring institutions. Participants from sponsoring institutions register free of charge; other participants are required to pay a registration fee of \$75. The Folger Institute does not award credit, certificates, or degrees, but at the end of each semester seminar leaders issue letters to participants from sponsoring institutions indicating whether these participants have satisfactorily completed their seminar work. Institute seminars are conducted as symposia of mature scholars oriented toward common goals, rather than as formal graduate courses, and each participant is encouraged to develop his own research interests within the limits, broadly interpreted, of the general topic designated by the seminar leader.

A limited number of Folger Institute fellowships are available to support participants in the seminars. Fellowships are awarded at the same time that admission decisions are made—normally during the semester preceding the seminars being applied for—by a Central Executive Committee consisting of one representative from each sponsoring institution. Seminar and fellowship applicants from sponsoring institutions are urged to get in touch with their campus representative before applying.



# The Folger Institute of Renaissance and Eighteenth-Century Studies







## FALL 1976 Seminars

# LATE MEDIEVAL AND EARLY TUDOR DRAMA David M. Bevington

Mondays at 1:00 p.m. September 20–December 13

This seminar will explore the development of dramatic genres and their interrelationships in the fifteenth and early sixteenth centuries, with special focus on cyclical drama, moralities, saints' plays, humanist drama, and school drama. Attention will be paid to developments in staging as well as to developments in dramatic structure, characterization, topical concern, and language.

David M. Bevington is Professor of English at the University of Chicago. Currently serving as President of the Shakespeare Association of America, he is the author of such studies as From Mankind to Marlowe: Growth of Structure in the Popular Drama of Tudor England (1962) and Tudor Drama and Politics: A Critical Approach to Topical Meaning (1968). He edited the Folger facsimile edition of The Macro Plays: The Castle of Perseverance, Wisdom, Mankind (1972).

## ENGLISH RENAISSANCE POETRY: THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE

Edward R. Weismiller

The seminar will begin with a study of the prosodic origins of English accentual-syllabic verse in the syllabic verse of France and Italy. Forms in use in continental verse will then be traced, where significant influence occurred, into English. Forms examined will range from line and stanza (or canzone) through blank verse and limited forms such as the sonnet, to forms of thought, literary forms such as lyric and ode, pastoral (drama) and epic. Members of the seminar will be asked to read widely in the works of great English poets and translators from Wyatt and Surrey through Milton.

Edward R. Weismiller is Professor of English at George Washington University. Highly regarded as a poet himself, Professor Weismiller has published widely in his scholarly specialty, prosody and Renaissance poetry, and was a contributor to the 1972 Variorum Commentary on the Poems of John Milton.

#### PETRARCH AND THE ENGLISH SONNET SEQUENCES

Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. September 23-December 16

The seminar will re-examine the nature of sonnet sequences, beginning with Dante and Petrarch and ending with the major English sonneteers: Sidney, Spenser, Drayton, Daniel, Fulke Greville, Shakespeare. Participants in the seminar will become familiar with the various methods of Renaissance scholarship—biographical, textual, rhetorical, iconographical—and each member of the seminar will choose one of the English sequences for work throughout the course of the seminar.

Thomas P. Roche, Jr., is Professor of English at Princeton University. The author of The Kindly Flame: A Study of the Third and Fourth Books of Spenser's Faerie Queene (1964), Professor Roche has also published and lectured extensively on the sonnets of Petrarch, Spenser, and Shakespeare. He is currently at work on a book, Petrarch and the English Sonnet Sequences.

#### PATRISTIC LEARNING IN THE RENAISSANCE: FROM PETRARCH TO LUTHER

Francis X. Murphy

This seminar will study the impact of the writings of the Church Fathers (Tertullian, Jerome, Augustine in the West; Origen, Basil, Chrysostom in the East) on Renaissance scholars from Petrarch and Chaucer to Erasmus and Luther. Following an introduction to the primary sources and editions of both the Fathers and the Renaissance scholars, the seminar will investigate the motives and methods involved in the publication of the great Renaissance collections of patristic literature. A reading knowledge of Latin, though not essential, will be helpful.

Francis X. Murphy is Professor of History at the Academia Alfonsiana of Lateran University, Rome. The author of numerous books and articles on the Church Fathers and for five years (1962–67) an editor of the New Catholic Encyclopedia, he has lectured on five continents.

### SPRING 1977 Seminars

## THE WORLD OF DONATELLO.

H. W. Janson

The seminar will explore, on the basis of the current state of Donatello scholarship, the master's relation to other sculptors of the first two thirds of the fifteenth century (Jacopo della Quercia, Ghiberti, Michelozzo, Luca della Robbia, Desiderio de Settignano); his contacts with humanists and humanism in Florence, Rome, and Padua; and his conflict-ridden relationship with his patrons. A reading knowledge of Italian and German is essential. and German is essential.

H. W. Janson is Professor of Fine Arts at New York University. Widely known for his monumental History of Art (1962), he is also the author of The Sculpture of Donatello (1957), of which he is now preparing an updated edition, and of numerous articles on Florentine Early Renaissance sculpture. His Andrew W. Mellon Lectures at the National Gallery of Art (1974), Nineteenth-Century Sculpture Reconsidered, will soon be published in the Princeton University Press Bollingen Series.

#### LEARNED CULTURE AND REVOLT IN THE SEVENTEENTH CEN-TURY

Orest Ranum

The seminar will explore the impact of revolt and violence upon the writings of men of learning and letters in the seventeenth century. Of particular interest will be a study of the images of past revolt created by these writers either to legitimize or to criticize the social and political disruptions of their own day. Participants in the seminar will be encouraged to develop European perspectives regarding the effects of revolt either upon individual writers, or upon genres or works, such as martyrologies, or upon generations of lesser writers.

**Orest Ranum** is Professor of History at Johns Hopkins University. A specialist in early modern French history, Professor Ranum is the author of *Richelieu and the* 

Fellow at the Institute for Advanced Studies in 1973–74.

#### ENGLISH RENAISSANCE PALEOGRAPHY

Laetitia Yeandle

Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. February 2–April 27

This workshop, which is offered annually by the Folger Institute, is designed to provide an introduction to paleographical research and to assist participants with textual problems they encounter in their own work.

Laetitia Yeandle is Curator of Manuscripts at the Folger Shakespeare Library. She is co-author, with Giles E. Dawson, of Elizabethan Handwriting 1500-1650: A Manual (1966), and she is currently editing Richard Hooker's Tractates for the Folger Library Edition of The Works of Richard Hooker.

#### EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY BRITISH LITERATURE AND THE PROB-LEMS OF LITERARY CHANGE

Ralph Cohen

The seminar will explore the nature of literary change from Milton to Wordsworth. Inquiries will take into account modern as well as eighteenth-century theories of change as they apply to selections from poetry, drama, fiction, and philosophy. The problems pertinent to change will be approached historically and critically.

Ralph Cohen is William R. Kenan, Jr., Professor of English at the University of Virginia. He is the editor of the distinguished journal New Literary History and of The Essential Works of David Hume (1965) and the author of New Directions in Literary History (1974). He has written a number of recent articles about literary change and eighteenth-century literary forms.









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The Chairman of the Folger Institute is Dr. John F. Andrews, Director of Research Activities at the Folger Shakespeare Library.