

Folger Shakespeare Library
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THE FOLGER INSTITUTE

1983-84 Seminar Program

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THE FOLGER INSTITUTE of Renaissance and Eighteenth-Century Studies

Seminar Program 1983-84

Supported in Part by a Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities

A unique collaborative enterprise founded in 1970 and now co-sponsored by twenty-one major universities, the Folger Institute of Renaissance and Eighteenth-Century Studies is a rapidly-growing center for advanced study and research in the humanities. Through support from such agencies as the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and the Surdna Foundation, the Institute offers a complex interdisciplinary program of seminars, workshops, symposia, 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. Preeminent in the world for its Shakespeare collection and second only to the British Library for its holdings of other English Renaissance books, the Folger is also internationally recognized as a repository of materials in late medieval and early eighteenth-century English literature and history, Continental Renaissance literature, Reformation studies, early American cultural history, and English and American theatre 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 the history of science, as well as in such disciplines as textual analysis and literary criticism.

Among the Folger Institute's newer ventures are several programs offered in cooperation with the Newberry Library's Center for Renaissance Studies in Chicago, a consortium founded in 1979 and now co-sponsored by thirteen major universities in the Midwest. The Folger Institute and the Newberry Center have recently announced a series of summer institutes in the Archival Sciences, programs designed to provide intensive training in the techniques fundamental to work with primary source materials in four important vernacular traditions: English, Italian, French, and Iberian/Hispanic-American. The Folger Institute and the Newberry Center are also collaborating on advanced interdisciplinary seminars and workshops. This fall, for example, Professor D. P. Walker of the Warburg Institute will be in residence at the Folger for ten weeks and then visit the Newberry for two weeks; and in the spring Professor Marc Fumaroli of the Sorbonne will conduct a ten-week seminar at the Newberry, followed by a two-week workshop at the Folger. By a reciprocal arrangement, faculty members and graduate students from either consortium are eligible to participate in programs offered by the other. For further information on Newberry Center programs, interested scholars should contact Director John Tedeschi, Associate Director Paul Saenger, or Assistant Director Mary Beth Rose (at the Newberry Library, 60 West Walton Street,

Chicago, Illinois or phone [312] 943-9090).

This year the Folger Institute also inaugurates a new Center for the Study of British Political Thought, to be overseen by a Steering Committee comprised of Professor J. G. A. Pocock of Johns Hopkins University, Professor Gordon J. Schochet of Rutgers University, and Professor Lois Schwoerer of George Washington University. Professor Schochet's spring offering, "From Bosworth to Yorktown," will provide an overview of the issues to be addressed in a three-year sequence of seminars, symposia, colloquia, and publication projects on the history of British political thought from 1500 to 1800.

Enrollment in Folger Institute seminars is normally limited to twelve participants per course, with priority in admission accorded to advanced graduate students and postdoctoral scholars from member institutions. Participants from member institutions may sign up free of charge; others are required to pay a registration fee of \$200. The Folger Institute does not directly award grades, certificates, or degrees, but upon request at the end of each semester the Institute issues letters to the sponsoring institutions of any participants who wish to have it recorded that they have satisfactorily completed their seminar work. Institute seminars are conducted as symposia of mature scholars oriented toward common goals, and each participant is encouraged to develop his or her own research interests within the limits of the general topic designated by the seminar leader.

FELLOWSHIPS. The Folger Institute awards three kinds of fellowships to participants in its seminars. (1) Graduate students and faculty members from affiliated institutions are eligible to apply for fellowships funded in part by Folger Institute membership fees. These applicants should contact their campus representatives to the Institute's Central Executive Committee. (2) Postdoctoral faculty members from non-affiliated colleges and universities are eligible for a limited number of "at-large" stipends made possible by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. These applicants should write directly to the Folger Institute. (3) Scholars who have received their doctorates within the past ten years and who are members of the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies are eligible for one annual ASECS/Folger Institute fellowship, awarded to aid research in the period 1660-1815. Again, these applicants should write to the Folger Institute, 201 East Capitol Street, S.E., Washington, D.C. 20003, or phone (202) 544-4600, ext. 248. The deadline for fall semester applications is June 1, 1983; the deadline for spring semester applications is December 1, 1983.

THE FOLGER INSTITUTE CENTRAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

THE FOLGER INSTITUTE 202/544-4600 ext. 248	Chairman: John F. Andrews Associate Chairman: Lena Cowen Orlin	University of Maryland, College Park 1101 E. Francis Scott Key	Shirley Strum Kenny (English) 301/454-6791
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The Folger Shakespeare Library is administered by the Trustees of Amherst College. O.B. Hardison, Jr. is Director.

THE FOLGER INSTITUTE of Renaissance and Eighteenth-Century Studies

FALL 1983

VASARI'S LIVES AND THE PAGEANT OF RENAISSANCE ART

Paul Barolsky

This seminar will deal with Giorgio Vasari as biographer, historian, raconteur, poet, critic, theorist, academician, entrepreneur, courtier, painter, draftsman, and architect—viewing his life and achievement in the context of the art, literature, and history of his time. Particular attention will be paid to the traditions of Dante, Petrarca, and Boccaccio. Vasari's legacy as a writer and his influence on subsequent art criticism and imaginative literature will also be explored.

PAUL BAROLSKY is Associate Professor of Art History at the University of Virginia. He is the author of *Infinite Jest: Wit and Humor in Italian Renaissance Art* (1978), of *Daniele da Volterra: A Catalogue Raisonné* (1979), and most recently of a series of essays on Walter Pater's *The Renaissance*.

September 16–December 2
Fridays at 1:00 p.m.

BEN JONSON, DRAMATIST

Anne Barton

This seminar will explore Ben Jonson's development as a writer for the theatre, focusing on the range and flexibility of his dramatic modes and the ways in which his achievement has been distorted and undervalued as the result of a false polarization with Shakespeare. Among other things, participants will also consider whether the attempt to contain Jonson's plays within the limits of his own critical dicta has impaired appreciation of his work in subsequent periods.

ANNE BARTON is a Fellow and Tutor in English and a University Lecturer at New College, Oxford. Author of *Shakespeare and the Idea of the Play* and of the introductions to the comedies in *The Riverside Shakespeare*, Dr. Barton has published widely on Elizabethan, Jacobean, and Restoration drama, and is now completing a new book, *Ben Jonson, Dramatist*.

September 26–November 2
Mondays and Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m.

"PUBLIC AND PRIVATE": RHETORICAL MODES OF THE LATER EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

Irma S. Lustig

"Public and private" (the phrase is James Boswell's) is a good way to describe the literature to be studied in this seminar: formal works addressed to a general audience (autobiography and biography, travel literature, the essay, fiction, and poetry) and intimate compositions written primarily for the authors themselves or for one other person (diaries, journals, prayers, and letters). The later eighteenth century is rich in both kinds of writing, and they offer us an opportunity to study a significant aspect of the creative process: the transformation of personal and professional writing by Samuel Johnson, James Boswell, Oliver Goldsmith, Edward Gibbon, Fanny Burney, and William Cowper.

IRMA S. LUSTIG, Senior Research Associate in English at Yale University, is the author of numerous articles on Boswell, Johnson, and their circle, and is the editor, with Frederick A. Pottle, of *Boswell: The Applause of the Jury, 1782/1785*, the eleventh volume of journals in the Yale Editions of the Private Papers of James Boswell. Dr. Lustig has taught English literature at the University of Pennsylvania and at Bryn Mawr College as well as at Yale.

September 19–December 5
Mondays at 1:00 p.m.

ERASMUS AND HIS CATHOLIC CRITICS

Nelson H. Minnich and Daniel J. Sheerin

This seminar will explore Erasmus' interaction with his Catholic critics, viewing both Erasmus and his detractors from scholastic and humanistic backgrounds—from the perspectives of university, court, and cloister. Each seminar participant will be responsible for a study of Erasmus' interchanges with a particular opponent, and then the group as a whole will undertake a comparative study of these controversies, giving attention to a prosopography of Erasmus' Catholic critics, their patterns of argument, their polemical styles, and their effects upon Erasmus. A sound reading knowledge of Latin is necessary.

NELSON H. MINNICH is Associate Professor in the Departments of Church History and History at the Catholic University of America and Associate Editor of *The Catholic Historical Review*; he is contributing the section on the Fifth Lateran Council to the *Konciliengeschichte* series. DANIEL J. SHEERIN is Associate Professor in the Department of Greek and Latin at Catholic University; he has published a number of studies on Christian Latin literature. Professors Minnich and Sheerin are collaborating on the translation of Erasmus' writings against Alberto Pio for the University of Toronto Press's *Collected Works of Erasmus*.

September 15–December 8
Thursdays at 2:00 p.m.

SHAKESPEARE AND THE HISTORY OF TASTE

Joseph G. Price

Johnson described Shakespeare as not of an age but for all time. But the specific appeal of Shakespeare in each age provides a touchstone of critical and popular taste. By reviewing contemporary criticism and analyzing theatrical ephemera such as promptbooks, playbills, prints, and engravings preserved in the Folger Library, participants in this seminar will construct a history of literary and dramatic taste—in the process defining those qualities in the plays which mirror each age.

JOSEPH G. PRICE, Professor of English at Pennsylvania State University, is general editor of a new thirty-volume series, *Shakespearean Criticism*. Author of *The Unfortunate Comedy: A Study of "All's Well that Ends Well" and Its Critics* and editor of *The Triple Bond: Plays, Mainly Shakespearean, in Performance*, Professor Price is now collaborating on a book-length interpretation of *Troilus and Cressida* based upon the play's history.

September 16–December 2
Fridays at 1:00 p.m.

DISCUSSIONS OF MIRACLES FROM THE EARLY REFORMATION TO THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

D. P. Walker

This seminar will explore various attitudes to miracles such as those recounted in the Bible, with particular reference to the debate about whether miracles still occur. Most Protestants answered this question in the negative; nearly all Catholics answered in the affirmative. Since the debate also involved other disputed beliefs and practices—hagiology (in particular mariology), the veneration of images, the identity of Antichrist, the reality of diabolic phenomena such as possession and witchcraft—the seminar will also investigate how seventeenth-century scientists viewed the supernatural in general, a study that will be continued up to David Hume's essay "Of Miracles."

D. P. WALKER is Professor Emeritus of the History of the Classical Tradition in the University of London at the Warburg Institute, a Fellow of the British Academy, and an Honorary Fellow of the Warburg Institute. He is the author of *Spiritual and Demonic Magic* (1958), *The Decline of Hell* (1964), *The Ancient Theology* (1972), *Studies in Musical Science in the Late Renaissance* (1978), and *Unciaeque* (1981).

September 20–November 22
Tuesdays at 11:30 a.m.

SPRING 1984

MUSIC AND LITERATURE IN AUGUSTAN ENGLAND

J. Merrill Knapp

This interdisciplinary seminar will examine the relation of music to literature and drama in the first half of the eighteenth century in England. The focus will be on literary genres concerned with London theatrical music—opera librettos, journals, letters, essays, and poetry—as well as on the music itself. The seminar will draw on primary sources both at the Folger and in the Music Division of the Library of Congress, and it will deal with aesthetic criticism and social comment as well as with the actual musical literature. Some ability to read music is desirable but not essential.

J. MERRILL KNAPP is Professor Emeritus of Music at Princeton University and former Dean of the College at Princeton. The editor of two opera volumes (*Amadigi* and *Flavio*) for the complete Handel edition in Germany, Professor Knapp is also a conductor; he gave the first performances in America of two Handel operas, *Imeneo* and *Amadigi*. His books include *Selected Lists of Music for Men's Voices* and *The Magic of Opera*.

February 6–April 23
Mondays at 1:00 p.m.

PARADISE LOST AND LITERARY FORMS

Barbara K. Lewalski

This workshop will explore Milton's *Paradise Lost* as an encyclopedic epic comprehending many poetic genres, rhetorical forms, and literary modes. Lectures and discussions will consider just how and for what purposes Milton embeds earlier literary structures and devices in *Paradise Lost*, with reference to Renaissance genre theory, literary precedent, and Milton's ways with genre in his other poetry.

BARBARA K. LEWALSKI is William R. Kenan Professor of English Literature at Harvard University. The author of such studies as *Milton's Brief Epic: The Genre, Meaning and Art of "Paradise Regained"* (1966), *Donne's "Amnesiacs" and the Poetry of Praise: The Creation of a Symbolic Mode* (1973), and *Protestant Poetics and the Seventeenth-Century Religious Lyric* (1979), she is now completing a book on *Paradise Lost*.

May 30–June 15
Wednesdays and Fridays at 1:00 p.m.

THE INTERTEXTS OF THE TEMPEST

Stephen Orgel

This seminar will examine *The Tempest* as presentation, representation, and text. Discussion will focus on the relation of script and performance to the text preserved in the First Folio. Contexts to be considered will include mythographic, iconographic, social, political, and biographical issues, as well as the play's history of realization and interpretation.

STEPHEN ORGEL is Sir William Osler Professor of English Literature at Johns Hopkins University. Other studies and editions, he is currently editing *The Tempest* for the Oxford Shakespeare.

February 1–April 18
Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m.

FROM BOSWORTH TO YORKTOWN: THE DEVELOPMENT OF BRITISH POLITICAL THOUGHT FROM HENRY VII THROUGH THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Gordon J. Schochet

As the first formal offering of the Folger Institute's new Center for the Study of British Political Thought, this seminar will present an overview of the origins and development of British political thought in the period 1500–1800. The emphasis will be upon overarching problems and issues rather than upon the texts of the "major" political theorists. Problems to be considered include the language of public discourse; the rise and transformation of "absolutist" theory and practice; authority in the household and the changing status of women; the Reformation, religious dissidence, and toleration; the impact of such disciplines as law and science; "property," commerce, trade, and empire; and "individualism," virtue, and republicanism.

GORDON J. SCHOCHET, Professor of Political Science at Rutgers University, is a member of the Steering Committee for the Folger Institute's Center for the Study of British Political Thought, 1500–1800. He is the author of *Patriarchalism in Political Thought* (1975) and is currently engaged in research on John Locke's doctrines of religious toleration.

February 7–April 24
Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m.

THE SOCIAL CONTEXT OF FAITH IN THE GERMAN REFORMATION

Gerald Strauss

This seminar will consider how the religious ideas of the sixteenth-century Reformation in German-speaking countries became acceptable to, and were accepted by, the various social groups whose allegiance made the Protestant Reformation possible. Participants will examine contrasting political and social circumstances in different locations, with discussions based on an analysis of contemporary documents and a reading of important selections from recent scholarly literature.

GERALD STRAUSS is Professor of History at Indiana University. His books include *Luther's House of Learning: Indocrination of the Young in the German Reformation* (1978) and *Nuremberg in the Sixteenth Century* (1976). The author of numerous articles on German social and cultural history, Professor Strauss is now completing a book on the opposition to Roman Law in sixteenth-century Germany.

April 3–May 10
Tuesdays and Thursdays at 1:00 p.m.

DIDEROT'S CONSTRUCTIONS AND DECONSTRUCTIONS

Jack Undank

This seminar will focus on Diderot's concept of language as a form of symbolic action and his approach to literature as an instrument of imprisoning or liberating power. Participants will examine how, as he grows older, Diderot questions and subverts his enterprise within its own boundaries. Among other things, the seminar will attempt to reassess existing definitions of eighteenth-century sentimentality, "realism," and irony.

JACK UNDANK, Professor of French at Rutgers University, is one of the contributing editors to the new international edition of Diderot's *Oeuvres complètes*. His most recent books are *Diderot, Inside Outside, and In-Between* (1979) and (as co-editor) the forthcoming *Diderot: Dispersion and Dispersation*, a collection of essays commemorating the 1984 bicentennial of Diderot's death. Professor Undank is currently at work on a book to be called *The Ethics of Discourse*, a study of several Enlightenment writers.

February 2–April 26
Thursdays at 1:00 p.m.

A LIMITED NUMBER OF FELLOWSHIPS, for graduate students and faculty members at affiliated universities and for postdoctoral faculty members at both affiliated and non-affiliated institutions, are available. General inquiries and requests for admission and fellowship application forms should be directed to the Office of the Executive Committee on the Folger Shakespeare Library, 201 East Capitol Street, S.E., Washington, D.C. 20003. Phone (202) 544-4600, ext. 248.

The deadline for the spring semester is December 1, 1983.
Chairman: John R. Andrews & Associate Chairman: Lena Cowen Orlin
Program Assistants: Gregory Barz and Amy Brooks

