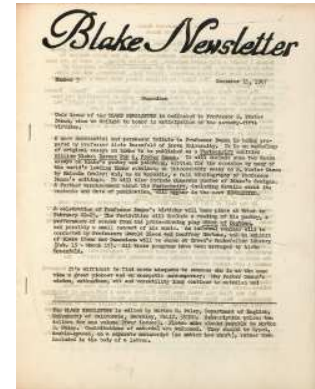


AN ILLUSTRATED QUARTERLY
BLAKE

N E W S

English Institute Program

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NEWS

1. ENGLISH INSTITUTE PROGRAM September 3-6, 1968 at Columbia University

One of the topics this year is

BLAKE: "VISIONARY FORMS DRAMATIC" (Chairman, David V. Erdman).

Prize money of \$200.00 will be awarded by the Institute for the best essays on this or any of the topics. In this topic the focal word is "forms"; essays may consider any aspect or aspects of the form or style of Blake's illuminated works (counting "Tiriel" as such a work). Slides may be included; yet the pictorial aspect need not be treated.

Essays, which will be judged by members of the Supervising Committee, must be sent before July 1, 1968 to Professor Roy Harvey Pearce, University of California at San Diego, the chairman of the 1968 session. They must be no longer than 6000 words, typed double-spaced, and accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope, or, if submitted from abroad, by the appropriate international postage coupons. If slides are to be used, transparencies or small prints should accompany the typescript.

2. BLAKE AT PRINCETON

The keen eye of Virginia Erdman detected the following item in Princeton Town Topics for November 9, 1967:

BLAKE BOOK HERE

Gift to Princeton: A rare copy of William Blake's book, "Songs of Innocence and of Experience" has been given to Princeton University and is now on exhibition in Firestone Library.

Hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sundays.

The volume was probably printed in 1815 according to Charles A. Ryskamp, curator of English and American literature for the library. It was printed in red-brown ink, and contains 54 copper-engraved plates, elaborately and brilliantly colored with watercolors and gold.

"Blake's book is considered by many to be the most beautiful book in the history of English art and poetry and this is certainly one of the finest copies," says Professor Ryskamp. The volume was the gift of Miss Caroline Newton of Berwyn, Pennsylvania. It was included in the Grolier Club exhibition of Blake's works in 1905 in New York and at the Philadelphia Museum of Art exhibit in 1939.

The history of the Princeton book can be traced to 1824, when it was sold to the publisher, Edwards. It was subsequently bought by William Beckford the novelist, who assembled the first important Blake collection, and then by Quaritch, the British booksellers, who used it for a