NEWS

Query

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I am working on a new catalogue raisonné of Blake's separate plates for Princeton University Press. I would appreciate hearing from anyone with information not recorded in Keynes' Engravings by William Blake: The Separate Plates (1956), Bentley's Blake Books (1977), or other standard reference works on the separate plates. I am interested in new information about states, printing or coloring techniques, and paper, as well as the location of unrecorded copies of the original graphics ("Joseph of Arimathea," "The Ancient of Days," "The Three Accusers," etc.) and the rarer reproductive plates ("Morning Amusement," "The Fall of Rosamund," "Robin Hood and Clorinda," etc.). Please write to Robert N. Essick, The Huntington Library, San Marino, Calif. 91108. I will of course acknowledge in the catalogue the source of all new information sent to me.

As our readers know, Ruthven Todd died in Galilea, Mallorca, 11 October 1978. According to Robert Latona of The American School in Mallorca, Todd's collection of books, prints, and photos related to Blake will be going to the University of Leeds, where they will form the nucleus of a new collection. Leeds will also receive Todd's papers on Blake, including manuscript material that was to have been included in the revised life of Blake by Gilchrist.

We are only too well aware that subscribers sometimes don't receive their issues; here we always lay the blame on the Addressograph machines, the shippers, and the post office. But we always try to be helpful and sympathetic with our subscribers when they file claims for issues not received. For practical reasons, however, we have found that we must set a limit on the time within which a valid claim will be accepted: we will accept claims for a period of one year from the date of publication of the issue for which a claim is being filed.

A conference, "Jungian Perspectives on Creativity and the Unconscious," is to be held at Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, 2-4 June, 1979. Scheduled to open the conference on Saturday are special lectures by and a symposium composed of Silvano Arieti, M.D., psychoanalyst, author of The Will to Be Human, The Intrapsychoyal Self, and Creativity: The Magico-Synthesis, and recipient of the National Book Award in Science, 1975; Walter Darby Bannard, painter and art critic, and recipient of the National Foundation Arts Award, 1968-69; Richard Howard, Pulitzer Prize-winning poet, translator and critic, author of Untitled Subjecta, Findings, Two-Part Inventions, Fellow Feelings; Walter Netsch, architect with Skidmore, Owings, and Merrill; and June Singer, Ph.D., Jungian Analyst, author of Boundaries of the Soul, The Unholy Bible and Androgyny. Sessions of Jungian studies in art, architecture, film, literature, philosophy, and religion are scheduled for Sunday and Monday. A special section on promoting creativity in the arts and humanities at the university level will be scheduled for Monday afternoon.

At the annual meeting of the Midwestern American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies, held this year at the University of Kansas in Lawrence, James E. Swearingen (Marquette University) presented a paper on "Blake & the Anatomy of Nihilism" as part of the session on "New Approaches to Eighteenth Century Literature," 16 November 1978.

At the annual meeting of the Western Society for Eighteenth Century Studies, Nelson Hilton (University of California, Santa Cruz) presented a paper on "Blake's Visions: Of Mary Wollstonecraft & Henry Fuseli," 18 February 1979.

Lectures given in London this year have fleshed out, slightly but significantly, the circumstances surrounding two publishing ventures that involved Blake's designs. G. E. Bentley, Jr., in his lecture on "Blake and the Illustrated Book Publishers of His Time" at the Tate Gallery on 19 April 1978, set Richard Edwards' deluxe edition of Edward Young's Night Thoughts in the tradition of Boydell's Shakespeare and Macklin's Bible, and pointed out that it was the continental market that made all the difference to the viability of such ventures. When war with France destroyed this market in the 1790s, restricting sales to Great Britain alone, such publications were no longer profitable, hence the collapse of Edwards' venture after only one of the projected four parts had been printed, in 1797.

Dr. Pedro Schwartz, in a paper on "Ackermann and the Latin-American Market" given at the Ackermann symposium held at the Berkeley Hotel on 22 September 1978, gave the background to what has always seemed,