

AN ILLUSTRATED QUARTERLY  
**BLAKE**

N E W S

A “Musical Illumination” of Blake’s Songs

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## NEWSLETTER

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### BLAKE EXHIBITION AND CONFERENCE AT THE HUNTINGTON

From November 1987 through February 1988, the Huntington Art Gallery will exhibit works by Blake and his circle selected from the collection of Robert N. Essick. In addition to drawings by Blake and pages from his illuminated books, the sixty-four items in the show will include works by Fuseli, Romney, Flaxman, Palmer, Linnell, and other artists among Blake's contemporaries and followers. The Huntington will publish an illustrated catalogue of the exhibition authored by the collector. On 29-30 January 1988, the Huntington will host a conference on Blake, jointly sponsored by the Huntington, the Berkeley, Los Angeles, and Riverside campuses of the University of California, and the California Institute of Technology. The speakers will be Martin Butlin, Detlef Dörrbecker, Morris Eaves, Morton Paley, and Aileen Ward. The *Huntington Library Quarterly* plans to publish the conference papers in a special issue of the journal. For further information about the exhibition and conference, contact Dr. Shelley Bennett, Associate Curator of British and Continental Art, Henry E. Huntington Library and Art Gallery, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino CA 91108.

### COLLABORATORS INVITED

Collaborators are invited to join a small British-American *ad hoc* group to produce a "Reader's Guide" to Abraham Rees's *Cyclopaedia*. The guide will probably include biographical notes on the contributors to this multi-volume nineteenth century work; a concordance to the major articles; an analytical subject index; and chapters on the printing and publishing history of both

the English and the American editions. Because the *Cyclopaedia* is so inclusive, collaborators from many fields, including all the humanities, the sciences, medicine, the arts, and technology can be accommodated in areas coinciding with their scholarly interests. For further details contact Prof. J. Z. Fullmer, Department of History, Dulles Hall, Ohio State University, Columbus OH 43210.

### BLAKE IN BUFFALO

The Albright-Knox Art Gallery in Buffalo, New York, mounted a small exhibition of fourteen of Blake's engravings from Job and Dante series. These engravings were acquired by Albright-Knox in 1943. *The Engraved Illustrations of William Blake* was exhibited from 26 September 1986 to 25 January 1987.

### A "MUSICAL ILLUMINATION" OF BLAKE'S SONGS

On the weekend of 9-11 January 1987, the New Wave Festival at the Brooklyn Academy of Music sponsored composer William Bolcom's musical tribute to Blake. The 2½ hour performance of "Songs of Innocence and of Experience, A Musical Illumination of the Poems of William Blake" involved an eclectic combination of musical styles, performers, and media including classical (with a full symphony orchestra), chorus, children's chorus, jazz, folk, reggae, operatic solos, rock, and country ("The Sheperd"). The Brooklyn Academy performance was reviewed by the *New York Times*, *Newsweek*, and *The New Yorker*, among others. Bolcom's "Songs" will also be reviewed in a forthcoming *Blake*. A tape of the University of Michigan production of "Songs" is available for about \$24 from Roger Arnett, Electronic Services, School of Music, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor MI 48109.