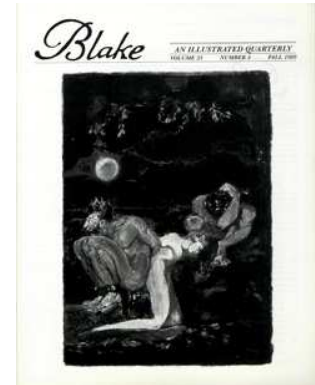


AN ILLUSTRATED QUARTERLY
BLAKE

N E W S

Revolution and Romanticism

Blake/An Illustrated Quarterly, Volume 23, Issue 2, Fall 1989, p. 113



ENCYCLOPEDIA OF ROMANTICISM

Romanticism: An Encyclopedia. Contributors are sought for Garland Press's forthcoming one-volume study of the culture, lives, and times of English Romanticism. Original essays from five to 20 pages in length that treat topics drawn from all aspects of the period will be assigned according to scholarly interest, expertise, and enthusiasm. Topics will be commissioned probably spring of 1990 and due at the end of the summer. Write to Professor Laura Dabundo, Department of English, Kennesaw State College, PO Box 444, Marietta GA 30061.

BLAKE SOCIETY NEWS

The Blake Society at St James's, Piccadilly, London presented three lectures and a retrospective of the work of Humphrey Jennings this fall. On 13 September Peter Marshall, whose publications include *William Godwin* (Yale UP, 1987) and *William Blake: Visionary Anarchist* (Freedom Press, 1988) spoke on "The Visionary Anarchism of William Blake." On 12 October Geoffrey Ashe gave a talk on "Blake's Albion and Arthur," accompanied by Caitlín Matthews on the harp. This talk explored Blake's myth of the Giant Albion in relation to King Arthur; the music was drawn from Arthurian and Mabon traditions. The third lecture in the program featured Andrew Lincoln, who spoke on "'All Nature is But Art, Unknown to Thee': Eighteenth-Century Optimism and Blake's 'Innocence.'" Other events include a two-hour retrospective of the work of Humphrey Jennings—poet, painter, and film-maker—and a celebration of Blake's birthday on Tuesday, 28 November.

REVOLUTION AND ROMANTICISM

In 1990 Morton D. Paley will be offering an NEH summer seminar for college teachers on "British Romanticism in an Epoch of Revolution." The seminar will run from 18 June to 10 August (eight weeks) at the University of California, Berkeley. Those interested in applying should write Paley at the Department of English, University of California, Berkeley CA 94720. From 15 February to 15 May, write Paley at V. Valhallavagen 4, 18263 Djursholm, Sweden (tel. Stockholm 755-5574). He describes the seminar as follows: Consciousness of living in an epoch of revolution shaped Romantic literature written in the period from the American Revolution through the French Revolution and ending with the Greek War of Independence. Beginning with Blake's *Poetical Sketches* and ending with Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley's *The Last Man*, participants in this seminar will analyze the role of these revolutions as thematic, imagistic, and structural parts of the works themselves. Some of the works, like Blake's *The French Revolution*, focus primarily on the revolution, while other works, such as Mary Wollstonecraft's *Letters Written During a Short Residence in Sweden, Norway, and Denmark*, respond to the revolution indirectly. In addition to these works, participants will study Godwin's *Caleb Williams*, Coleridge's *Destiny of Nations*, Wordsworth's *The Prelude of 1805-06*, and Shelley's *Prometheus Unbound*. Questions to be addressed include: Is Blake's *The French Revolution* a rewriting of Revelation in contemporary terms? Are Keats' Hyperion poems, depicting as they do the aftermath of cosmic revolution, susceptible of sociopolitical interpretation? Is Mary Shelley's *The Last Man* simply an "anatomy of failed revolution" and a repudiation of the most cherished attitudes of Romanticism or is it a pessimistic vision of the fate of art? Although the central focus of the seminar is English literature, historians, art historians, and others interested in the Revolution and Romantic periods are encouraged to apply.