On the Formation of a Secular Jewish Saturday School in Brooklyn

Blake/An Illustrated Quarterly, Volume 29, Issue 1, Summer 1995, p. 35


**NEWSLETTER**

**FIRST ANNUAL VINCENT A. DE LUCA MEMORIAL LECTURE**

On Monday, 27 February 1995, Robert N. Essick delivered the first annual Vincent A. De Luca Memorial Lecture at the University of Toronto. The lecture was entitled "Representation, Anxiety, and the Bibliographic Sublime."

"*IN . . . CAMBRIDGE & IN OXFORD, PLACES OF THOUGHT*"

As an addendum to his earlier bibliocritical reports on publications concerned with "Blake and His Circle," D. W. Dörriecker has recently compiled a list of Blake-related theses which were submitted for academic degrees between 1950 and 1994 to universities in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland. This checklist, which, apart from some 75 main entries also contains a few corrigenda to the winter 1992-93 issue of *Blake*, has now been privately printed at the University of Trier, and a limited number of copies is available from the author (write to D. W. Dörriecker, Department of Art History, FBIII, The University of Trier, D-54286, Trier, Germany).

**ON THE FORMATION OF A SECULAR JEWISH SATURDAY SCHOOL IN BROOKLYN**

"The parent-workers didn’t want their children to go to the conservative religious schools, but they did want them to learn Jewish history and socialism. They offered to pay the rent for several meeting rooms every Saturday morning and to provide petty cash—not petty to them—for minimal school supplies. All three friends were enthusiastic about the project, and my mother was asked to plan a curriculum. It proved to consist of the Communist Manifesto, poetry by Blake, Shelley, and Walt Whitman, some Old Testament material (largely Exodus and the more troublesome prophets) and (rather surprisingly) Henry Morgan’s anthropology."—in: Rubinstein, Annette T. "Socialist Sunday Schools," *Science & Society* 58 (1994): 331-33. (Submitted by Ralph Dumain to the online Blake group, blake@albion.com.)

**THE BLAKE SOCIETY AT ST. JAMES’S PICADILLY: EVENTS IN 1995**

Sunday, 13 August, 12 noon:
Visit to Bunhill Fields (site of Blake’s grave)

Wednesday, 27 September, 7:30 pm:
Peter Ackroyd, "Blake the Londoner"

Wednesday, 11 October, 7:30 pm:
David Worrall, "Recent Trends in Blake Criticism"

Tuesday, 7 November, 7:30 pm:
David Punter, "‘His shadowy Animals’: The Idea of Living Creatures in Blake"

Tuesday, 5 December, 7:30 pm:
A general meeting of the Blake Society

**WORTDSWORTH-COLERIDGE ASSOCIATION NEWS**

In honor of the 25th anniversary of *The Wordsworth Circle* and the Wordsworth Summer Conference, the Wordsworth-Coleridge Association is sponsoring two panels at the 1995 meeting of MLA: "The Profession of Romanticism" and "The Collected Coleridge."

**NEW BLAKE JOURNAL**

*The Journal of The Blake Society at St. James* is now available. The first issue is free to members of the Society. For non-members the charge is UK £4 (includes postage) or USA $15 (includes airmail delivery). Please send remittances to Jim Dewhurst, Broomey Leys, 20 Stoneleigh Close, Stoneleigh, Coventry, CV8 3DE, UK.

**UROTMONA**

*Urotmona* is a new arts magazine that "takes Blake as its guiding spirit." It "aims to look at the arts from a spiritual perspective, and is particularly interested in the overlaps between the work of the great artists of the west, such as Blake, and the spiritual traditions of Buddhism. The current issue has several articles on Blake . . ."

Subscriptions are £5 for two issues. Send checks to *Urotmona*, 19 Newmarket Road, Cambridge, CB5 8EG.

**BLAKE OPERA**

Dana Harden has been working on a new opera based on William Blake's *Milton*. There will be two semi-staged productions of part 1 (The Bard's Song) of the opera, at 3 pm, 25 and 26 November 1995 at the Boulder Public Library Auditorium in Boulder, Colorado. Along with Harden's score and libretto, Blake's art work and original set designs will be projected on a 20 x 20 foot screen behind the singers and actors. Blake's language of gestures will be incorporated into the choreography. Funding is needed to further stage this production and the rest of *Milton* next year. This will include developing "Virtual Sets" based on Blake's artwork and creating the libretto and staging. Audio and video recordings of the upcoming November performance will be available upon request. Please contact Dana Harden at (303) 550-7617, Golgonooza Productions, PO Box 19614, Boulder, CO, 80301-2614 or by email at womansway@aol.com (soon to be golgonooza@aol.com).

**KEATS-SHELLEY JOURNAL**

The Keats-Shelley Journal has a web page on the world wide web. The address is http://www.luc.edu/publications/keats-shelley/ksjweb.htm. Blake hopes to have a web page sometime soon.

Summer 1995