

AN ILLUSTRATED QUARTERLY
BLAKE

N E W S

Teaching Blake

David V. Erdman

Blake/An Illustrated Quarterly, Volume 4, Issue 2, Fall 1970, p. 35



interest in the works of William Blake and his circle, was established July 7, 1970. The Foundation is moving to create a trust fund which will be used to finance national and international symposia, to award research grants, to give scholarships, and to create a research library. Funds will accrue from a projected reprint series of Blake's illuminated works. Negotiations are currently underway to produce moderately priced full-color and black-and-white facsimiles which will be generally available to the student and scholar.

Executive Board:

Roger R. Easson
 Kay Parkhurst Easson
 Dale J. Briggs, Attorney-at-law

Advisory Board of Directors:

Stuart Curran, The University of Wisconsin
 David V. Erdman, The New York Public Library
 Robert F. Gleckner, University of California at Riverside
 John E. Grant, University of Iowa
 Jean Hagstrum, Northwestern University
 Joseph Holland, Los Angeles, California
 Karl Kroeber, Columbia University
 Paul Miner, Seattle, Washington
 E. J. Rose, University of Alberta, Canada
 Rodger L. Tarr, Illinois State University
 Robert R. Wark, Huntington Art Gallery
 Winston Weathers, The University of Tulsa
 Joseph A. Wittreich, Jr., The University of Wisconsin

Inquiries and suggestions should be directed to:

The American Blake Foundation
 c/o *Blake Studies*
 Department of English
 Illinois State University
 Normal, Illinois 61761

TEACHING BLAKE

David Erdman writes that

A semester Blake course is being given this fall in the SUNY CEH (Continuing Education in the Humanities) format, and seems to be going well. Thursdays at 7 p.m. Erdman holds forth, usually with slides, in one of the new lecture rooms--attendance of around 160 (half undergraduates, half schoolteachers); at 8:30 or earlier the class divides into five sections for "seminars" led by five dissertation-contemplating Teaching Assistants (dissertations on Blake, of course). The teaching group, with a few stray grad students who have joined the course, gather about 4 p.m. to start the conversation; it ends finally at 10 p.m., or later. One small knot continued past midnight. Then on Tuesday mornings we have a reading aloud of *The Four Zoas*, reaching Night the Eighth on Election Day. (The bureaucratic rubric for the course is "The Great Tradition. I.")