

A BLAKE SYMPOSIUM AND A BLAKE FESTIVAL

From Roger and Kay Easson, the Editors of *Blake Studies*:

The American Blake Foundation and the College of Arts and Sciences will sponsor their first Blake Symposium at Illinois State University in Normal, Illinois on 21 October 1971. The Symposium will include papers by Stuart Curran, Morris Eaves, John E. Grant, Edward J. Rose, Irene Tayler, and Joseph A. Wittreich, Jr., focusing upon Blake and Tradition.

During the same week Illinois State University will host a Blake Festival beginning Monday, 18 October, with the opening of an exhibition of Blake prints and drawings collected in cooperation with the University of Kansas. The exhibition will close at the University in Normal on 17 November and will open in Lawrence at the University Museum of Art on 28 November, closing 18 December. A printed catalogue will be sold at the exhibition for \$1. Readers of the *Newsletter* wishing copies of this exhibition catalogue may purchase them from the Editors of *Blake Studies* for \$1.50. The catalogue will have about 15 plates and 14 pages of text.

Other activities of the Festival will include a harmonium concert by Allen Ginsberg, a lecture by a major theologian, a production of *The Marriage of Heaven and Hell*, a readers' theater production, a concert of Blake musical settings, and several other performances of note.

For details of the Symposium and a full schedule of the Festival's events, please write *Blake Studies*, Department of English, Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois 61761. All events are without charge. Your presence and participation in informal discussions are encouraged.

A CATALOGUE RAISONNÉ OF BLAKE'S BOOK ILLUSTRATIONS

From Roger and Kay Easson:

The American Blake Foundation is pleased to announce the pending publication of the first volume in its series of Blake reproductions (announced earlier this year in the *Newsletter*). Robert N. Essick and Roger R. Easson are editing a three volume work, a *Catalogue Raisonné of William Blake's Book Illustrations*, collecting and reproducing Blake's plates and giving a complete bibliographical description of the books in which they appear.

The first of the three volumes is expected to go to press in October and should be ready for sale in late November or early December. This first volume will contain 124 plates, 59 of which have never been reproduced. Included are all plates from Young's *Night Thoughts*, Hayley's *Ballads* 1802 and 1805, Thornton's *Virgil*, *Royal Universal Family Bible*, Wedgwood's *Catalogue, Prologue . . . Of Chaucer's Pilgrims*. This volume is a collection of all the plates Blake both designed and engraved that were published as parts of books during his lifetime.

The two succeeding volumes will reproduce 257 plates, of which 165 have never been

reproduced since the original publication. These two volumes will contain both the plates that Blake himself designed and another engraved, and those that another designed and Blake engraved. The plates will be presented in chronological order with complete bibliographic entries.

The Foundation has decided to offer a special prepublication price of \$7 for the first volume or \$18 for the three volumes. Upon publication the volumes will be sold at \$8 each or \$24 for the three.

To receive the prepublication price of \$18 for the three volumes or \$7 for the first volume, please send remittance to:

The American Blake Foundation
Department of English
Illinois State University
Normal, Illinois 61761

If invoicing is requested, please add \$1 to the prepublication rate. European orders should add \$1 for postage and handling.

NEW BLAKE MUSIC

From Hazel Pierce, Kearney [Nebraska] State College:

"Three Songs by Blake," music by Richard Willis, formed part of a program of new works presented before the National Association of Teachers of Singing at their 26th annual convention in Dallas this past December. The work was one of several commissioned by the American Institute of Musical Studies for special presentation at this meeting. Mr. Willis chose "To Morning," "The Blossom," and "Mad Song" to set to music for soprano, clarinet, percussion, and piano. At the Dallas performance the performers included: Julia Lansford, soprano, Arkansas State College; Jerry Brumbaugh, clarinet, Dallas, Texas; Fred Raulston, percussion, Southern Methodist University; and Gary Hercher, piano, Arkansas State College.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Kauvar, Elaine M. (New York City): works on Blake's botanical imagery and "Blake's Bible."

Reisner, Thomas A. and Mary Ellen (Université Laval, Québec): "a research venture, subsidized by The Canada Council, into the dating of Blake's *Songs of Innocence and of Experience* on the basis of script variation in the uncoloured copies. We hope to check our results against concurrent works of more or less settled date, particularly *Thel*, *The Marriage*, *There Is No Natural Religion*, etc., and to carry further the work begun by David Erdman in his recent article on suppressed passages."