

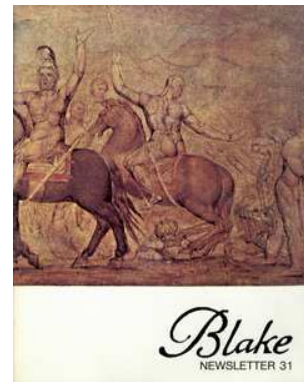
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N E W S

Conference on British Romantic Art and Europe

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Blake Symposium—Edinburgh

The Blake symposium held at the University of Edinburgh 1-4 May 1974 was attended by about 25 people, who kept discussion going variously during the intervals of eating and sight-seeing. The sights were in the University of Glasgow Library (an exhibition of emblem books and of the work of a 19th-century Scottish follower of Blake, David Scott) and at Pollock House, Glasgow, an Adams mansion now a museum of the fine arts housing six Blake originals, including the painting of *The Canterbury Pilgrims* and portraits of *Adam* and of *Eve* (the latter partly repainted).

The sensation of the conference was a dramatic performance, "Conversations at Mr. Quid's" (based on *An Island in the Moon* and, as an imaginative interlude, *The Book of Thel*), directed by Dr. Roger Savage—a smashing hit, all agreed. A public lecture by E. P. Thompson, who also participated in the seminar, presented some of the evidence of Blake's doctrinal affinities with such fellow antinomians as the Muggletonians and the radical Swedenborgians.

There were seven seminar papers, each followed by extensive discussion, most of them illustrated by slides. They were:

- Heather Glen, "Blake's Criticism of Moral Thinking in the *Songs*"
- Frank M. Parisi, "*The Gates of Paradise* and Emblems of Melancholy"
- Belinda Humfrey and David Worrall, "Who Shall Bind the Infinite: A Study of *Europe*"
- David V. Erdman, "*Milton* and *The Song of Los*: Text and Illuminations"
- James B. Ferguson, "Prefaces to *Jerusalem*"
- John Beer, "Blake and the Problems of Influence"
- Annette S. Levitt, "Comus, Cloud, and Thel's 'Unacted Desires'"

(Our thanks to David V. Erdman for this item. Eds.)

Conference on British Romantic Art and Europe

A conference on "British Romantic Art and Europe" was held at the Courtauld Institute, London, on 12, 13, and 14 December 1974, coinciding with the Turner exhibition at the Royal Academy. Five sessions were scheduled for the conference: three to discuss the relationship between British art and Italy, Germany, and France respectively; one devoted exclusively to the Turner exhibition; one to encompass archival material, photographic schemes, and other tools of research relevant to the subject. Each session was to include three

half-hour papers given by invited speakers, followed by a discussion and brief contributions from two or three research students working in the field. Scheduled speakers were: David Irwin, Basil Skinner, and Francis Haskell on "Italy"; David Bindman, William Vaughan, and Rudiger Joppien on "Germany"; Michael Kitson on "France."

Blake Exhibition 1975—Hamburg & Frankfurt

The British Council is sponsoring a Blake exhibition to be held in Hamburg and Frankfurt during March and April 1975, for which David Bindman is writing the catalogue. This will be the next to last exhibition in a series organized by Dr. Werner Hofmann of the Hamburg Kunsthalle. The other exhibitions are "Ossian," "Friedrich," "Fuseli," and "Sergel." A representative



Blake portrait for *Proverbs of Hell*, Taurus Press