BLAKE

N E W S

Blake in the News

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Blake in the News

"Eight years ago a girl of 20 [Margaret Trudeau] met a prime minister of 49 [Pierre Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada] on the island of Tahiti. They shared a passion for William Blake, the poet who once wrote, 'Love to faults is always blind / Always is to joy inclin'd.'" Quoted from Ellen Goodman in her syndicated newspaper column At Large, for Thursday, 31 March 1977.

On 28 April CBS-TV aired "Tiger, Tiger," a documentary on the Bengal tiger, an endangered species.

Correction: Island Tape

I am very grateful for Martin Nurmi's appreciative remarks (Newsletter 40) about our audio-tape production of Blake's Island in the Moon. I'm sorry to have to inform readers, however, that the assertion in the review that the tape is now available for sale is incorrect (and I hasten to add that the responsibility for this misinformation may well not lie with the reviewer). Alas, as with many worthy things done with too little money, the tape is frozen into a complicated limbo of rights, residuals, union stipulations, and the like. Mr. Cansino and I labor towards that happy day when all can have an Island that everyone will joy to hear, but we cannot now foresee it.

In the meantime the tape is authorized only for rental to noncommercial radio stations for broadcast purposes (the rates varying according to the size, character, and relationship to Pacifica of the local station). Readers with a cooperative college or community radio station at hand can have the station arrange a broadcast through Pacifica Program Services, 5316 Venice Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 90027.

My personal copy of the tape can also be sometimes loaned to substantial Blake gatherings; but it is beyond both my capacity and my contractual restrictions to satisfy personal, scholarly, or classroom needs. Again, alas.

Finally, it ought to be noted that we have come this far at least with partial financial assistance from the National Endowment for the Arts (on the genial principle that when empire puts money into art, such recognition encourages them to keep doing it). EVERETT FROST, CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO.

*A Query from Ruthven Todd

Ruthven Todd is now gathering material for a final working over of his edition of Gilchrist's biography of Blake. He asks our readers to send him notes containing material that they think should be added to the biography. Contributors will be credited in print for their assistance. Todd's address is Ca'n Bieló, Galilea, Mallorca, Spain.

Two New Blake Catalogues

The Preston Blake Library has issued a supplement to its 1969 catalogue. The new supplement is cumulative and therefore supersedes the first supplement, issued in 1972. William Blake: Catalogue of the Preston Blake Library Presented by Kerrison Preston: Cumulative Supplement to the Printed Catalogue of 1969. Compiled by Phyllis Goff FLA. London: Westminster City Libraries, 1976. No pagination. ISBN 0 900802 02 2. Presumably the catalogue supplement is available from the Preston Blake Library, which is housed at the Westminster Central Reference Library, St. Martin's Street, London WC2H 7HP. The Blake Library itself is of course available for consultation by all those interested in Blake.





WILLIAM BLAKE IN THE ART OF HIS TIME

A catalogue of the exhibition held in conjunction with last year's conference on Blake in the Art of His Time at the University of California, Santa Barbara, has been published as a joint faculty-graduate student project organized by Corlette Walker of the Department of Art. The catalogue is 102 pages long, with many black-and-white illustrations and several in color. For a copy write Corlette Rossiter Walker, University Art Galleries, University of California, Santa Barbara.