Forthcoming in *PMLA*

In the May issue

Sylvia Molloy. "Presidential Address 2001: Crossings"

Terrell Scott Herring. "Frank O'Hara's Open Closet"

Cluster on Science in the Nineteenth Century

Garrett Stewart. Introduction

Denise Gigante. "The Monster in the Rainbow: Keats and the Science of Life"

Barri J. Gold. "The Consolation of Physics: Tennyson's Thermodynamic Solution"

Christine Ferguson. "Decadence as Scientific Fulfillment"

V. S. Naipaul. "Two Worlds" (Nobel Lecture 2001)

The Changing Profession: "Why Major in Literature– What Do We Tell Our Students?"

Commentaries by David F. Bell, Russell A. Berman, Christina Crosby, Frederick De Naples, Janet Hadda, Karen Newman, Randolph D. Pope, Elizabeth M. Richmond-Garza, Azade Seyhan, Haruo Shirane, H. Jay Siskin, and Patricia A. Ward

Features in *PMLA*

Manuscripts and correspondence related to the features described below should be sent to the Managing Editor, *PMLA*, Modern Language Association, 26 Broadway, 3rd floor, New York, NY 10004-1789.

Special Topic

Articles on the general topic are invited; the subtopics listed are provided by way of example and suggestion only. Submissions to *PMLA* must meet the requirements given in the statement of editorial policy.

Science Fiction and Literary Studies: The Next Millennium

Deadline for submissions: 31 May 2002

Coordinators: Marleen S. Barr (Columbia Univ.)
Carl Freedman (Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge)

The central concept of the special topic is the future, particularly in Ernst Bloch's sense of a utopian Not-Yet, a drive felt in the present toward the potential reconfiguration of the world. As futurity becomes an ever more urgent concern, the importance of science fiction (the genre of the future par excellence) is increasingly evident, and science fiction criticism becomes a privileged mode of literary and cultural analysis. The special topic is less a stocktaking of past achievements in science fiction criticism (though there is room for that) than an exploration of the potential of this criticism to define the literary profession in this decade, as postcolonial criticism did in the late 1980s and early 1990s. Contributors might address the following specific issues, among others: what is science fiction?; science fiction and its generic others (e.g., fantasy, realism, modernism, postmodernism); the history of science fiction (whether this history is held to begin as recently as the 1920s, with the American pulp magazines, or as long ago as Lucian or even the *Epic of Gilgamesh*); science fiction and critical theory, gender, race, or the canon; global science fiction (the genre's expansion beyond its traditional homelands—Britain, the United States, France, and eastern Europe—to such new frontiers as Brazil, Japan, and Australia); science fiction and film or electronic media like radio, television, video games, and the Internet; science fiction and an increasingly science-fictional real world.

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Criticism in Translation

MLA members are invited to submit to the *PMLA* Editorial Board proposals for translations. Articles, as well as chapters or sections of books that can function as independent units, will be considered. The originals may be in any language. Two types of proposals are welcome: (1) significant scholarship from earlier periods that has not lost its forcefulness and whose retrieval in English in *PMLA* would be a noteworthy event for a broad body of readers and (2) contemporary work of sufficient weight and potential influence to merit the attention of the field as a whole.

A member who wishes to make a proposal should first ascertain that no previous English translation exists. The proposer should then provide the managing editor with the following materials: (1) a photocopy of the original essay, (2) an extended summary of the entire essay in English, (3) an introductory statement of approximately 1,000 words, prepared in accordance with MLA style, that will be published with the essay if the essay is accepted, (4) information on the copyright status of the original (if the translation is accepted for publication, the proposer will be responsible for obtaining permission to print it). In addition, if the proposer wishes to serve as translator of the essay or to designate a translator (who must also be an MLA member), a 1,000-word sample of the translation should be submitted; otherwise the Editorial Board will select a translator.

The translated essays should normally not exceed *PMLA*'s 9,000-word limit. The Editorial Board will approve or decline the proposals, evaluate the quality of the translations, and cooperate with the proposers and translators.

Little-Known Documents

MLA members are invited to submit to the *PMLA* Editorial Board proposals regarding little-known documentary material that merits the attention of a broad range of readers. Consideration will be given to archival data from any period and in any language that do not exceed *PMLA*'s 9,000-word limit.

A member who wishes to make a proposal should provide the managing editor with the following materials: (1) a photocopy of the document, (2) an extended summary of the document in English, (3) an introductory statement of approximately 1,000 words, prepared in accordance with MLA style, that will be published with the document if it is accepted, (4) information on the copyright status of the original (if the document is accepted for publication, the proposer will be responsible for obtaining permission to print it). In addition, if the document is not in English and if the proposer wishes to serve as translator or to designate a translator (who must also be an MLA member), the proposal should include a 1,000-word sample of the translation; otherwise the

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In other issues

Christopher Braider. "Image and *Imaginaire* in Molière's *Sganarelle, ou le cocu imaginaire*"

Jennifer E. Bryan. "Hoccleve, the Virgin, and the Politics of Complaint"

Anne Mallory. "Burke, Boredom, and the Theater of Counterrevolution"

Maura B. Nolan. "Metaphorical History: Narrative and New Science in the Work of F. W. Maitland"

Todd Samuel Presner. "Jews on Ships; or, How Heine's *Reisebilder* Deconstruct Hegel's Philosophy of World History"

Charlotte Sussman. "'Islanded in the World': Cultural Memory and Human Mobility in *The Last Man*"

Caroline Weber. "The Sins of the Father: Colonialism and Family History in Diderot's *Le fils naturel*"

Harriet Beecher Stowe. "Introductory Essay," for *The Incarnation; or, Pictures of the Virgin and Her Son*, by Charles Beecher (1849). Introduction by Barbara Hochman (Little-Known Documents)

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Editorial Board will select a translator of accepted non-English material. The Editorial Board will approve or decline the proposals.

Solicited Contributions

The editor and the Editorial Board periodically invite studies and commentaries by specific authors on topics of wide interest. These contributions appear in the following series: Theories and Methodologies, The Changing Profession, The Book Market, The Journal World, Letters from Librarians, Correspondents Abroad, and Convention Miscellany. MLA members are welcome to suggest topics that might be addressed under these rubrics.

PMLA congratulates Gary Dyer, whose essay in the May 2001 issue, "Thieves, Boxers, Sodomites, Poets: Being Flash to Byron's *Don Juan*," won the 2001 Essay Award given by the Keats-Shelley Association of America. Dyer's essay also received honorable mention in the 2001 competition for the Crompton-Noll Award, given annually by the Gay and Lesbian Caucus of the MLA for the best essay in lesbian, gay, queer studies.

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