



1880 to 1960

# Modernism

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Virginia  
Humanities  
Conference

March 19 - 20, 2004



BRIDGEWATER  
COLLEGE

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Conference

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Bridgewater College and the Virginia Humanities Conference acknowledge with gratitude the many people who have helped with preparation for this conference and with the work involved in conducting it. In addition to those named elsewhere in the program, we extend particular thanks to Dr. Catherine Elick, to Jessica Axford, to Dr. Terri Russ to Mary Beth Schwab, and to Dr. Patricia Clark, as well as to Chartwells for food preparation and service.

In 2005, under the Presidency of Professor Peggie Barker, the Virginia Humanities Conference will meet at **FERRUM COLLEGE, FERRUM, VIRGINIA, MARCH 18-19**. The theme of the Conference will be "Humanities in the Age of Technology." Further information about the Conference and specific issues to be discussed is available from Professor Barker.

*Cover artwork from a circa 1940s sketchbook by Isaac J. Sanger, Bridgewater College class of 1924.*

Conference Sessions will be held in Bowman Hall, Cole Hall,  
the McKinney Center for Science and Mathematics and the Kline Campus Center

## **Friday, March 19**

9 a.m.

### **Registration**

Lobby, Kline Campus Center

Registration will continue throughout the day

9-10:30

### **Refreshments**

Lobby, Kline Campus Center

Continental Breakfast

10:30

### **Welcome**

Room 109, Bowman Hall

ROBERT ANDERSEN

*Associate Dean, Bridgewater College*

Welcome to the Conference and to Bridgewater  
College

### **SESSION ONE**

#### **Politics and Power in Modernist**

#### **Literature: The Possibilities for Reform**

Chair: DAVID FRANCIS ALEXICK

*Christopher Newport University*

CHRIS FOSS, *Mary Washington College*

Socialism for Art's Sake: Wilde's Utopian  
Aesthetics

MARA SCANLON, *Mary Washington College*

'Do not answer me, Helen': Probing Dialogic  
Egalitarianism in H.D.'s Helen in Egypt

TIMOTHY WALTONEN, *Mary Washington College*

Rendering Modernist Griefwork: Olsen's 'Tell  
Me a Riddle' and Benjamin's 'Theses on the  
Philosophy of History'

Noon

### **Luncheon**

Main Dining Room, Kline Campus Center

There will be reserved seating for the  
conference participants in the main dining  
room.

1:30 p.m.

### **SESSION TWO**

#### **Individuals and Modern Society**

Room 109, Bowman Hall

Chair: RICHARD FOGARTY

*Bridgewater College*

GEORGE TESCHNER

*Christopher Newport University*

Nazi Ideology as Reactionary Modernism: The  
Challenge to the Paradigm of the Value of the  
Individual

PRESTON BROWNING

*University of Illinois, Emeritus*

American Global Hegemony vs. the Quest for a  
New Humanity

**An exhibit of urban art will  
be on display in the lobby of  
Bowman Hall throughout the  
Conference. Special thanks to  
Professor Michael Hough and  
the group of senior art majors  
who created the exhibit.**

1:30 p.m.

**SESSION THREE**

**Modernism in American Literature**

Room 314, Bowman Hall

Chair: KATHLEEN BURKE  
*Bridgewater College*

BRYAN BERRY, *Wheeling Jesuit University*  
Henry James and Henry Adams: Modernity  
Perceived Under 'very strong lights'  
of Consciousness

PHILIP F. O'MARA, *Bridgewater College*  
Two Brooklynites (one of them Marianne  
Moore) on Life in Virginia

JEREMIAH FORSHEY, *James Madison University*  
Original Sin as Metaphor in Robert Penn  
Warren's All the King's Men

3 p.m.

**Coffee Break**

Lobby, Bowman Hall

3:30 p.m.

**SESSION FOUR**

**Musicology**

Room 109, Bowman Hall

Chair: JOAN O'MARA  
*Washington and Lee University*

MARY JEAN SPEARE, *James Madison University*  
Martinu's Chamber Opera Ariane

BETH ARACENA, *Eastern Mennonite University*  
Psychiatry and Serialism: Musical Responses  
to Freud in Early Twentieth Century Vienna

FREDERICK LUBICH, *Old Dominion University*  
The Cradles of Cabaret: Paris – Vienna –  
Berlin (ca. 1890 – 1933)

3:30 p.m.

**SESSION FIVE:**

**Questioning Democracy and Aristocracy**

Room 103, Bowman Hall

Chair: JAMES JOSEFSON  
*Bridgewater College*

WINSTON DAVIS, *Washington and Lee University*  
Secular Humanism in the Late Writings of  
Feuerbach: Phenomenology without Brackets

BEN CHAPPELL, *Bridgewater College*  
Ghost Modernism: Allegory and the Way of the  
Samurai in Jarmusch's Film Ghost Dog

ALLEN DUNN, *University of Tennessee*  
The Devil in the Details: Modernism and the  
Dilemmas of Democratic Pluralism

5:30 p.m.

**Music Recital**

Cole Hall

*See program on following page*

DANIEL BRINSON, organ  
*Robert E. Lee Memorial Church*

JAMES KLUESNER, trumpet  
*James Madison University*

LARRY TAYLOR, organ  
*Bridgewater College*

7 p.m.

**Dinner**

Boitnott Room, Kline Campus Center

8:30 p.m.

**Poetry Readings**

Room 109, Bowman Hall

Readings by Frederick Lubich and Constance  
Smith, followed by open microphone. Master of  
Ceremonies (Lord of the Amps), Sean Dunn,  
*Bridgewater College*.

# Music Recital

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Virginia Humanities Conference  
March 19, 2004  
Bridgewater College Cole Hall

**THE HOLLOW MEN** (1944) Vincent Persichetti  
(1915-1987)

Daniel Brinson, organ  
James Kluesner, trumpet

**PSALM-PRELUDES** Herbert Howells

I. *De profundis clamavi  
ad te, Domine*  
III. *Sing Unto Him a new song: play skillfully  
with a loud noise"*

Larry Taylor, organ

**MEDITATIONS ON THE  
MYSTERY OF THE  
HOLY TRINITY** (1969) Olivier Messiaen  
(1908-1992)

IV. *God Is*  
VIII. *God is Simple/The Three are One*

Daniel Brinson, organ  
James Kluesner, trumpet

**RUBRICS** Dan Locklair

Titles from the instructions (rubrics) to the services for *The Book of Common Prayer*

1. "Hallelujah, has been restored..."
2. "Silence may be kept."
3. "...and thanksgiving may follow."
4. "The Peace may be exchanged."
5. "The people respond - Amen!"

Larry Taylor, organ

## PROGRAM NOTES

**VINCENT PERSICHETTI** was a pianist, organist, and one of the finest American 20<sup>th</sup>-century composers. He was a member of the composition faculty of the Julliard School of Music. *The Hollow Men* is inspired by the poem of the same name by T.S. Eliot (1925). The music conveys the mood of the poem:

*"We are the hollow men  
We are the stuffed men  
Learning together  
Headpiece filled with straw...  
This is the dead land  
This is cactus land...  
In this last of meeting places  
We grope together  
And avoid speech  
Gathered on this beach of the tumid river..."*

**OLIVER MESSIAEN** composed his *Meditations sur le Mystere de la Sainte Trinite* in 1969, drawing inspiration from the *Summa Theologica* of St. Thomas Aquinas. Each of the nine movements deals with a different attribute of the Trinity. The score is filled with quotations from scripture and Messiaen's own explanation to the performer as to how these relate to the music. Many elements of Messiaen's musical language are juxtaposed, including plainsong, birdsong, Greek rhythms, various scales and modes, and his own "communicable language", a method of transcribing words into music. But despite using these complex methods, the listener does not need a complicated understanding of the music to appreciate it. The gestures are bold and clear, full of light and color.

## Saturday, March 20

8 a.m. - Noon

### **Registration**

Lobby, Kline Campus Center

8 - 9 a.m.

### **Refreshments**

Lobby, Kline Campus Center

Continental Breakfast

9 a.m.

### **SESSION SIX:**

#### **Art and Architecture**

Room 100, McKinney Center

Chair: PAUL BENDER

*Bridgewater College*

JOAN O'MARA, *Washington and Lee University*  
Modernism in the Art of One Culture is  
Tradition in Another

BRUCE CARCHIDI

*Edmeades & Stromdahl Architects*

Art and Technology: Development of the Glass  
Tower 1889-1958

KIP REDICK, *Christopher Newport University*  
Wilderness as Visual Art and the Naissance of  
Environmental Consciousness in the Landscapes  
of Jasper Francis Cropsey and Frederick Law  
Olmsted

DAVID ALEXICK, *Christopher Newport University*  
Fragmentation, Disruption, Anxiety and  
Violence in the Cubist Idiom of Pablo Picasso

9 a.m.

### **SESSION SEVEN:**

#### **Belief and Unbelief**

Room 109, Bowman Hall

Chair: WILLIAM ABSHIRE

*Bridgewater College*

MARY BETH MATHEWS, *Mary Washington College*  
The Containment of Fundamentalism in the  
South

JEFFREY CARR, *Christopher Newport University*  
Sartre's Protagonism

10:30 a.m.

#### **Plenary Session and Keynote Address**

Boitnott Room, Kline Campus Center

Welcome

PRESIDENT PHILLIP C. STONE

*Bridgewater College*

Introduction of the Keynote Speaker

PHILIP F. O'MARA, *Bridgewater College*

Keynote Address

STEPHEN K. SFEKAS, Attorney

*Partner, Cook and DiFranco, Baltimore*

American Law and the Ethical and  
Organizational Challenges of Modernity

Noon

#### **Delegates' Luncheon**

President's Dining Room, Kline Campus Center

*For VHC delegates only*

Music: Recordings of songs mentioned in James  
Joyce's *Ulysses*

Nathaniel Blanchard, Master of Ceremonies  
*Bridgewater College*

Noon

**Lunch**

Boitnott Room, Kline Campus Center

A **BUFFET LUNCH** will be served for all other conference participants.

1:30 p.m.

**SESSION EIGHT:**

**International and Colonial Themes**

Room 109, Bowman Hall

Chair: JULIA CENTURION MORTON  
*Bridgewater College*

ROBERT YOUNGBLOOD, *Washington and Lee University*

Early Internationality in the Modern Novel:  
The Cross-Cultural Case of Italo Svevo and James Joyce

VICTORIA CARCHIDI, *independent scholar*  
Forged Between the Wars: T.E. Lawrence's  
The Mint and Virginia Woolf's Between the Acts

GILLIAN HUANG-TILLER, *University of Virginia's College at Wise*  
'Hilda's Book' or 'The Hilda Book': Ezra Pound's Early Journey into Imagism

MOHAMED KAMARA, *Washington and Lee University*  
French Colonial Education and the Making of the African Bourgeoisie

1:30 p.m.

**SESSION NINE:**

**Science, Philosophy and Politics**

Room 103, Bowman Hall

Chair: PHILIP SPICKLER  
*Bridgewater College*

LORI UNDERWOOD, *Christopher Newport University*

Can War Lead to Perpetual Peace: Modern Relevance of the Kantian Argument

CARL TRINDLE, *University of Virginia*  
What's so Modern about Modern Physics?

JAMIE FRUEH, *Bridgewater College*  
Managing Social Identities: South African Apartheid and its Relationship to Modernity

3 p.m.

**Coffee Break**

Lobby, Bowman Hall

3:30 p.m.

**SESSION TEN:**

**Philosophy, Politics and Literature**

Room 109, Bowman Hall

Chair: STEVE WATSON  
*Bridgewater College*

LAURA TERNES, *James Madison University*  
As I Lay Dying as Mock Epic

CRAIG VASEY, *Mary Washington College*  
Metaphor, the Hermeneutics of Suspicion and Politics

VARUN BEGLEY, *College of William and Mary*  
A Tale of Two Toasters: Commodity Reification and the Late Modern Stage

STANLEY GALLOWAY, *Bridgewater College*  
Alienation in "Tarzan's First Love"

5 p.m. Conference Ends

## Biographies

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### Virginia Humanities Conference

**DANIEL BRINSON** is Director of Music at R.E. Lee Memorial Episcopal Church in Lexington, VA, where he conducts the parish choir, handbell choir, children's music program, and plays the organ. Brinson is a graduate of Oberlin College and the Yale Institute of Sacred Music, where he studied organ performance, choral conducting, and composition. Brinson has special interest in 20<sup>th</sup> century music and in how new music is used in the church.

**JAMES KLUESNER** is Professor of Trumpet at James Madison University. He has degrees from the University of Iowa and Northwestern University. Kluesner is the 1999-2000 recipient of the Carl Harder Distinguished Teaching Award at James Madison University. He is currently a member of the Madison Brass Quintet and the Skyline Brass Ensemble. His principal teachers include John Beer, Vincent Cichowicz, and Adolph Herseth. Kluesner has served as Principal Trumpet with the Orchestra of the State Theater of Hessen in Wiesbaden, Germany, the Symphony Orchestra of Schleswig-Holstein in Flensburg, Germany, and the Roanoke Symphony Orchestra. He has also performed with the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, the Chicago Symphony, and the Frankfurt Radio Orchestra. Kluesner formerly taught at Bemidji State University, the Akademie für Tonkunst, in Darmstadt, Germany, and the Wiesbaden Conservatory and has performed at numerous national and international conferences.

He has also performed with the "Legends in Concert" show in Las Vegas, Nevada, and with such well known artists as Ray Charles and the Moody Blues.

**STEPHEN SFEKAS**, the conference's keynote speaker, is an attorney in private practice at the law firm of Cook & DiFranco in Baltimore, Md. He has practiced law for over 30 years, concentrating on the representation of health care institutions and disabilities providers. He teaches health care law at the University of Maryland and the University of Baltimore Law School and lectures on health law issues at the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health. He received his bachelor's and law degrees from Georgetown University and has a master's degree from Yale University. He is a Fellow of the Maryland Bar Foundation and a Fellow of the Society for Values in Higher Education.

**LARRY TAYLOR** is Assistant Professor of Music at Bridgewater College and serves as organist and choir director at Luray United Methodist Church. Taylor holds a bachelor degree of sacred music from Seton Hall University and masters' degrees in music from Emory University and the University of Notre Dame. Larry is pursuing his doctorate at the University of Cincinnati.