



The Goethe Society
of North America

GOETHE NEWS AND NOTES

Address correspondence to:
Ehrhard Bahr
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Number VI, 1

Spring 1985

Call for Papers for MLA Chicago Special Session: "Goethe and Language."

Please send two-page abstracts by March 1, 1985. Completed papers (10-12 pages) must be received by March 21, 1985. Discussions of either literary or non-literary texts are invited. Address all inquiries and submissions to Professor Clark S. Muenzer, Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures, 1409 Cathedral of Learning, University of Pittsburgh, PA 15260.

Goethe Society Seminar at the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Society Conference in Toronto, 18-21 April 1985:

Seminar 10: Eternal Return: Cycle, Echo, Rebirth in Goethe

(Goethe Society Seminar)

(Larkin Building, Rm. 241, Trinity College, Univ. of Toronto).

Chair: Neil Flax, University of Michigan-Dearborn

1. Garold N. Davis, Brigham Young University, "Word Echoes in Goethes Faust"
2. Laurence A. Rickels, University of California, Santa Barbara, "Return to Sender: Images of Death from Goethe to Lessing"
3. Willi Goetschel, Harvard University, "Goethe, Faust, Moses and Judaism."

Professor Garold Davis will be discussing some of his findings based on the new Faust computer concordance being prepared at Brigham Young University.

Computer Concordance of Goethe's Works:

The Humanities Research Center at Brigham Young University has recently prepared a computer-readable version of the works of Goethe based on the Hamburg edition, including the four volumes of letters. Concordances to the major works are being prepared and will soon be available. It is anticipated that eventually the corpus will be accessible on line to other scholars.

In the meantime, the Humanities Research Center would be pleased to provide lists of all citations of individual words or groups of words. More extensive use of the corpus can be negotiated. Please address inquiries to Goethe Project, Humanities Research Center, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT 84602.

New Publications:

Goethe as a Critic of Literature, ed. by Karl J. Fink and Max L.

Baeumer. Lanham, MD: University Press of America, 1984.

Pp. 236. Cloth \$23.50, paper \$12.25.

This informative collection of essays represents a chronological and topical study of Goethe's contribution to the history of literary criticism. Topics discussed include the scope of Goethe's critical writings, his early enthusiasm for the discovery of Shakespeare, his efforts in the aesthetic education of the Germans, his shaping of German theatre history, his evaluation of outstanding contemporary authors, and his later judgments on both scientific and literary writings. To order write to University Press of America, 4720 Boston Way, Lanham, MD 20706.



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Fall 1985

Business Meeting:

The annual business meeting will be held on Saturday, 28 December 1985, 3:30-4:45 p.m., Illinois, Marriott Hotel, Chicago, after the lecture "Goethe and the Musicians" by Robert Spaethling, University of Massachusetts at Boston. Presiding: Gloria Flaherty, University of Illinois at Chicago.

The business meeting of the Goethe Society of North America will conclude the program.

AGENDA:

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| 1. Approval of the Minutes of the 1984 Meeting | Ehrhard Bahr |
| 2. Confirmation of the Board of Directors | Ehrhard Bahr |
| 3. President's Address | Victor Lange |
| 4. Report of the Secretary-Treasurer | Meredith Lee |
| 5. Report on the <u>Goethe Yearbook</u> | Thomas P. Saino |
| 6. Report of the Ad-hoc Committee to Review the By-Laws | Gerhard Weiss
Jim Hardin
Peter Boerner |
| 7. Program of Future Meetings | Ehrhard Bahr |
| 8. New Business | |

Associated Meeting of the GSNA at the MLA Convention in Chicago on Sunday, 29 December 1985:

439. GOETHE AND LANGUAGE

12:00-1:15 p.m., Michigan State, Chicago Marriott Hotel.
Presiding: Clark S. Muenzer, U of Pittsburgh.

1. "Die natürliche Tochter, Or the Defeat of Language,"
Irmgard Wagner, George Mason U.
2. "Speech and Writing in the West-östlicher Divan,"
Benjamin Bennett, U of Virginia.
3. "Anthropomorphism and Nature's Real Joints,"
Karl J. Fink, St. Olaf C.
4. "Desired Reconciliations: On Language as Experiment,"
Liliane Weissberg, Johns Hopkins U.

Associated Meeting of the GSNA at the Annual Meeting of the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (ASECS) in Williamsburg, Virginia, 13-16 March 1986:

The topic of the seminar is "Goethe and America," Garold N. Davis, Brigham Young University, presiding. The program will be announced in the next newsletter.

Call for Papers:

Goethezeit: History and Commitment: International Symposium, State University of New York at Albany, 23-25 October 1986. Submit abstracts or papers by May 1, 1986, to Wolfgang Wittkowski, German Department, SUNY, Eu-209, 1400 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12222.

The Age of Goethe Today: Critical Reexamination and Literary Reflection: Sixth Symposium on Literature and the Arts, University of Houston, 4-8 March 1987. For information write to Theodore G. Gish or Gertrud B. Pickar, Department of German, University of Houston -- University Park, Houston, Texas 77004.

Faust through Four Centuries: An international Faust conference will be held at Indiana University, Bloomington, in October 1987. For information write Peter Boerner or Sidney M. Johnson, Department of Germanic Studies, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47405.

Minutes of the Annual Meeting - 1984

The annual business meeting of the Goethe Society of North America was held on Friday, December 28, 1984, at 3:00 p.m. in the Caucus Room of the Washington Hilton in Washington, D.C. President Victor Lange presided.

The minutes of the 1982 meeting were approved as read. A summary of the discussion at the 1983 gathering of the Society, which was not an official business meeting, was provided. The Board of Directors was confirmed for 1985 by acclamation.

Secretary-Treasurer Meredith Lee reported that about 190 members will receive Goethe Yearbook, volume 2, in January. Dues notices for 1985 will be mailed after distribution of the yearbook. Current balance of the Society accounts is \$8507.42. The decision of the Board of Directors at the 1983 meeting to collect dues on an annual schedule without specific correlation with the publication of the yearbook was recalled. To assist European members in the payment of dues, an account has been opened with the Dresdner Bank in Bochum (Bankleitzahl 430 800 83; Kontonummer 8 534 202 01). Professor Uwe Ketelsen of the Ruhr Universität-Bochum will assist with European memberships. The results of the 1984 mail ballot were announced: the Board of Directors was confirmed by unanimous ballot; President Victor Lange and Vice-President Christoph E. Schweitzer were reelected by an overwhelming majority.

Yearbook editor Thomas P. Saine reported on the publication of Goethe Yearbook 2 and requested manuscripts for volume 3. It was suggested that publication costs could be reduced by the addition of advertising from selected presses. Victor Lange agreed to inquire whether Suhrkamp/Insel would be interested in such an arrangement. Thomas Saine agreed to explore the possibility with other presses.

Gerhard Weiss, chair of the ad-hoc committee appointed to review the by-laws, reported on the progress of the review and distributed a draft revision. Prior to the 1985 meeting of the Society the proposed revisions will be distributed to the entire membership. A mail ballot will follow. Meredith Lee agreed to inquire about any restrictions placed by the state of California on the revision of the by-law of non-profit tax-exempt organizations.

Neil Flax, chair of the GSNA session at the upcoming meeting of the American Society for Eighteenth-century Studies to be held from April 18-21, 1985, in Toronto, announced the papers to be read. Richard Schade of the Lessing Society invited submissions for the 1985 sessions sponsored by the Lessing Society at the MLA. It was agreed that the two chairs of the GSNA sessions at the 1984 MLA, Rita Terras and Clifford Bernd, would identify chairs for the 1985 meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

November 4, 1985

News from the editor of the Goethe Yearbook

The first volume of the Goethe Yearbook has received a number of favorable reviews so far. It would be a great service to the Society if each member would check whether his or her institution's library has subscribed to the Yearbook on a continuing basis. By now it should possess volumes one and two. Volume three of the Goethe Yearbook is in production. As of this writing (November 3, 1985) we expect page proofs any day and hope the volume will be available for mailing to our membership early in 1986. The contents of volume three are as follows:

- Benjamin Bennett, "Werther and Montaigne: The Romantic Renaissance"
Syndy McMillen Conger, "The Sorrows of Young Charlotte: Werther's English Sisters 1785-1805"
Alan C. Leidner, "'Fremde Menschen fielen einander schluchzend in die Arme': Die Räuber and the Communal Response"
Susanne Zantop, "Eignes Selbst und fremde Formen: Goethes 'Bekenntnisse einer schönen Seele'"
Friederike Eigler, "Wer hat 'Wilhelm Schüler' zum 'Wilhelm Meister' gebildet? Wilhelm Meisters Lehrjahre und die Ausprägungen einer hermeneutischen Verstehens- und Bildungspraxis"
John M. Ellis, "How Seriously Should We Take Goethe's Definition of the Novelle?"
Gail K. Hart, "Goethe's Tasso: Reading the Directions"
Peter Hanns Reill, "Bildung, Urtyp and Polarity: Goethe and Eighteenth-Century Physiology"
Jocelyne Kolb, "Presenting the Unpresentable: Goethe's Translation of Le Neveu de Rameau"
Liselotte E. Kurth-Voigt, "Otilie von Goethe und Clara Mundt; mit einem unbekanntem Brief"
Judith Ryan, "Kunst und Ehebruch: Zum Nachleben von Goethes Wahlverwandschaften"
Rainer Nägele, Review Essay on Hans R. Eissler

The Book Review Section is edited by Hans R. Vaget and contains reviews by T.J. Reed, Ludwig Uhlig, Hans Eichner, Meredith Lee, Gerwin Mahrahrens, Erdmann Wanek, Neil Flax, Virgil Nemoianu, Benjamin Bennett, Dennis F. Mahoney, Jane E. Brown, Hans R. Vaget, John Gearey, Ulrich Weisstein, Harry E. Seelig, Thomas P. Saine, and Christa Sammons.

I am now seeking manuscripts for consideration for volume four. I welcome submissions dealing not only with Goethe, but with the "Goethezeit" in general. Manuscripts should conform to the MLA Style Sheet (with complete endnotes, not a simple list of works cited!) and be sent to me at the Department of German, University of California, Irvine, CA 92717.

Thomas P. Saine