

Dante Society Newsletter

Volume 5, Number 2

April 1999

Letter from the President

Dear Colleagues,

The 117th Annual Meeting of the Dante Society of America will be held on Saturday, May 22, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. in Ticknor Lounge, Boylston Hall, on the Harvard University campus in Cambridge, Massachusetts. After our usual brief business meeting, **Amilcare**

Iannucci, University of Toronto, will speak on **Dante on Broadway: The American Francesca**. A reception will follow at the same location. At the Dante Society's MLA session in Chicago this coming December our speaker will be **Christian Moevs**, University of Notre Dame. The title of his talk is **Paradiso 29.1-48: Where and When the World Was Created, and How**.

Accompanying this mailing you will find an enclosed ballot containing the slate of candidates prepared by the Nominating Committee, as provided by our by-laws. Kindly mark your ballot, seal it in the envelope provided, and return it, together with the proxy statement, in time to have it included in the vote count on May 15. The returning members of the Council are Teodolinda Barolini, Theodore Cachey, Alison Cornish, Robert Durling, Lino Pertile, and H. Wayne Storey.

A brief update on our Society's millennial conference, **Dante2000**, to be held in New York City at Columbia's Italian Academy for Advanced Study in America on April 7-9 of 2000. Preparations are going

well. There will be a session on New Technologies as well as speakers on the subjects **Dante and Gender**, **Science and Philosophy**, **Material Culture/filologia materiale**, **Reception and Cultural Studies**, **The Body**, **Eschatology and Visions**, **Dante and Ovid**, **Eros**

Dante Studies, volume 115 (1997), will be sent to members early this summer and volume 116 (1998) will appear by the end of the calendar year. This year's volume is scheduled to appear in time for **Dante2000**. schedule with volume 116. (1998) in early 1999.

and **Mysticism**. On this millennial occasion the Society will also have the pleasure of honoring our colleague **John Freccero** for his outstanding contributions to the study of Dante.

Finally, I would like also to take this opportunity to remind you to encourage your best students to enter their essays on Dante in our undergraduate and graduate prize contests, as well as to send your own contributions to the Society's electronic bulletin (*EBDSA*), and, of course, to our print journal, *Dante Studies*. Recruitment of new members also remains vital. If you can think of appropriate persons (their interest in Dante need not be professional), please send their names to our Secretary-Treasurer, Richard Lansing. You will note

mailing addresses on the reverse side.

With best wishes,

Teodolinda Barolini

Spring Election

The Nominating Committee has placed the following nominees on this spring's ballot:

John Ahern (Vassar College) Professor of Italian on the Dante Andolini Chair. Selected publications: **Singing the Book: Orality in the Reception of Dante's *Comedy***, in *Dante: Contemporary Perspectives*, ed. Amilcare Iannucci (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1997); **The New Life of the Book: The Implied Reader of the *Vita Nuova***, in *Dante Studies* 110 (1992); **Binding the Book: Hermeneutics and Manuscript Production in *Paradiso 33***, in *PMLA* 97 (1982).

Steven Botterill (University of California, Berkeley) Associate Professor of Italian; Associate Editor of *Dante Studies*. Selected publications: *Dante and the Mystical Tradition: Bernard of Clairvaux in the *Commedia** (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1994); **Dante Studies in the British Isles Since 1980**, in *Dante Studies*, 111 (1993); **Dante Studies and the Study of Dante**, in *Annali d'Italianistica* 8 (1990).

George Economou (University of Oklahoma) Professor of English. Selected publications: *The Goddess Natura in*

Medieval Literature (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1972); co-author, *In pursuit of perfection: courtly love in medieval literature* (Port Washington, N.Y. : Kennikat Press, 1975); *Saying Spirit in Terms of Matter: The Epic Embrace in Medieval Poetic Imagination*, *Lectura Dantis* 11 (1992).

Nancy Vickers (Bryn Mawr College)

President, Bryn Mawr College.
Selected publications: co-editor, *L'esposizione di Bernardino Daniello da Lucca sopra la Comedia di Dante* (Hanover: University Press of New England, 1989); *Widowed Words: Dante, Petrarch, and Metaphors of Mourning*, in *Discourses of Authority in Medieval and Renaissance Literature*, ed. Kevin Brownlee and Walter Stephens (Hanover: University Press of New England, 1989); *Seeing Is Believing: Gregory, Trajan, and Dante's Art*, *Dante Studies* 101 (1983).

DanteNet

We remind members that the Society maintains a website at www.princeton.edu/~dante. New articles have appeared recently on our electronic bulletin (*EBDSA*), and updates of the *American Dante Bibliography* and *Dante Journals* (which provides title page and table of contents information) will appear shortly.

Dante Society Newsletter

The Newsletter is published twice a year, in April and November, by the Dante Society of America and distributed to members. Send material for publication to the Editor, Richard Lansing, preferably by email to lansing@mediaone.net, or Brandeis University, MS 024, Waltham MA 02454-9110.

Deadlines:
October 1 and March 1

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