Walt Whitman: A Current Bibliography, Spring 1996

Ed Folsom
University of Iowa, ed-folsom@uiowa.edu

ISSN 0737-0679 (Print)
ISSN 2153-3695 (Online)

Copyright © 1996 Ed Folsom

Recommended Citation
Abieva, Natalia A. “Impressionisticheskie osobennosti poetiki Uitmena: Issledovaniia po sintaksisu i stilistike romano-germanskikh iaykov” [“Impressionistic peculiarities of Whitman’s poetics: Research on the syntax and stylistics of romano-germanic languages”]. Studia Linguistica 3 (1996), 66-71. [Suggests that Whitman’s poetics—especially his “catalog” technique—have much in common with literary impressionism; in Russian.]


Adolph, Robert. “Whitman, Tocqueville, and the Language of Democracy.” In Donald E. Morse, ed., The Delegated Intellect: Emersonian Essays on Literature, Science, and Art in Honor of Don Gifford (New York: Peter Lang, 1995), 65-88. [Focuses on Tocqueville’s and Whitman’s related notions of democratic literature and a democratic language, and attempts “to define and compare the relation both saw between democracy, language, and literature.”]


Asselineau, Roger. “Jorge Guillén et Walt Whitman.” In Homenaje a Jorge Guillén (Paris: Office Culturel de l’Ambassade d’Espagne, 1995), 157-161. [In French; discusses Guillén’s attitudes toward and similarities to Whitman: “L’exemple de Whitman a donc été pour Jorge Guillén un encouragement très précieux à oser être pleinement lui-même, c’est-à-dire tout ensemble lumineux et chaleureux.”]


Bain, Robert. Whitman’s and Dickinson’s Contemporaries: An Anthology of Their Verse. Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press, 1996. [Selection of poems by fifty-three poets—from the obscure to the well-known—who wrote during the same years Whitman and Dickinson did.]

Beach, Christopher. ““Now Lucifer was not dead”: Slavery, Intertextuality, and Subjectivity in Leaves of Grass.” Canadian Review of American Studies 25 (Spring 1995), 27-48. [Offers close readings of “I Sing the Body Electric” and Section 6 of “The Sleepers,” emphasizing “their larger historical and political discursive contexts” (especially discourses of slavery and race) and demonstrating how these poems “engage in a dialogue with works by American writers such as Longfellow, Whittier, and Herman Melville.”]


Cavaioli, Frank J. “Columbus, Whitman, and the Italian-American Connection.” In Jerome Krase and Judith N. DeSena, eds., Italian Americans in a Multicultural Society (Stony Brook, NY: Forum Italicum, 1994) [Filibrary no. 7; monographic supplement to Forum Italicum], 127-141. [Suggests the “symbolic similarities between Walt Whitman and Christopher Columbus,” especially as evident in Whitman’s “Spain, 1873-74,” “Passage to India,” “Prayer of Columbus,” and “A Thought of Columbus.”]


aesthetics of “amplitude” as opposed to a poetics of “point,” seeing his “expansion of the connecting link between poet and presumed auditors” as “licensing” his “amplitude in general.”]


Fink, Guido. “Griffith e Whitman: le mani sulla culla” [“Griffith and Whitman: The Hands on the Cradle”]. In Loretta Innocenti, Franco Marucci, and Paola Pugliatti, eds., Semeia: Itinerari per Marcello Pagnini (Bologna: Il Mulino, 1994), 541-553. [Explores the influence of Whitman on the filmmaker D.W. Griffith, especially in the recurring image of the rocking cradle in Intolerance, and suggests that Whitman’s poetic technique is a precursor of the montage technique in film; in Italian.]


———. “Gay Wilson Allen, 1903-1995.” Walt Whitman Quarterly Review 13 (Summer/Fall 1995), 99-100. [Obituary tribute to Gay Wilson Allen, followed by other tributes, each listed separately in this bibliography.]

———. “Paradise on the Prairies: Walt Whitman, Frederick Jackson Turner, and the American West.” In Jay Semel and Annie Tremmel Wilcox, eds., Utopian Visions of Work and Community (Iowa City: Obermann Center for Advanced Studies, 1996), 101-113. [Investigates why Whitman “disdained utopias even while he loved perfection” and looks at how, after the Civil War, Whitman began to “coerce paradise onto the prairies,” projecting the prairie states as the future center of democratic activity; suggests that Turner picked up important elements of his “frontier thesis” from Whitman.]

———, ed. Whitman in Translation. Walt Whitman Quarterly Review 13 (Summer/Fall 1995), 1-97. [Special double issue, containing transcript of 1992 Whitman in Translation Seminar (1-58), Section 1 of “Song of Myself” in fifteen different languages (73-89; all reprinted from previous book publications), and other materials related to translation, each listed separately in this bibliography. Participants in the seminar on “Whitman in Translation” included Fernando Alegria, Gay Wilson Allen, Carl L. Anderson, Roger Asselineau, V. K. Chari, Ed Folsom, Ezra Greenspan, Walter Grünzweig, Guiyou Huang, Maria Clara Bonetti Paro, M. Wynn Thomas, and Li Yeguang; the seminar transcript deals with a number of issues, including specific problems in translating Whitman’s poems, the art of translation, and the nature of cultural differences as revealed in the varied translations of Leaves of Grass. The fifteen translations of Section 1 of “Song of Myself” are by Zhao Luorui (in Chinese, 74), Roger Asselineau (in French, 75), Hans Reisiger (in German, 76), Nikos Proestopoulos (in Greek, 77), Simon Halkin (in Hebrew,
78), V. P. Sharma (in Hindi, 79), Mario Corona (in Italian, 80), U Sam Oeur and Ken McCullough (in Khmer, 81), Andrzei Szuba (in Polish, 82), Geir Campos (in Portuguese, 83), Kornei I. Chukovsky (in Russian, 84), Uros Mozetic (in Slovenian, 85), Jorge Luis Borges (in Spanish, 86), K. A. Svensson (in Swedish, 87), and M. Wynn Thomas (in Welsh, 88).


Goulet, Catherine, ed. “*Conversations*.” (Spring 1996). [Newsletter of the Walt Whitman Association, with reports on association activities.]

Gurney, Kenneth P. *Manassas to Resolution*. Shorewood, WI: Hodge Podge, 1996. [Poems occasioned by the author's visits to Civil War sites, where he “walked with Walt Whitman’s Ghost, though my brother didn’t see him”; several of the poems recreate encounters with Whitman’s ghost.]


Hecht, Jamey. “Dissenting Modernisms: The Construction of the Transcendental Term in Hart Crane and Dylan Thomas with Introductory Chapters on John Keats and Walt Whitman.” Ph.D. Dissertation, Brandeis University, 1995. [Examines how various poets “produce their own conditions of erotic and eschatological hope,” and claims that “Whitman’s speaker” uses “a strategy which is anti-climactic, based not on climax or crisis but on the ‘lazy’ refusal of self-externalizing action he invented in ‘Song of Myself.’” *DAI* 56 (August 1995), 546A.]

Herrero Brasas, Juan Antonio. “Walt Whitman’s Mystical Ethics of Comradeship.” Ph.D. Dissertation, University of Southern California, 1993. [Views Whitman as a “genuine reformer” and examines how his “new morality of comradeship is a sophisticated attempt to liberate certain aspects of male behavior from their marginal status and into the habitual.” *DAI* 56 (September 1995), 982A.]

Huang, Guiyou. Review of Zhao Luorui, trans., *Cao Ye Ji [Leaves of Grass]*. *Walt Whitman Quarterly Review* 13 (Summer/Fall 1995), 90-93.


Larbaud, Valery. “Walt Whitman en français.” Europe 73 (October 1995), 121-124. [Discusses the challenges of translating Whitman into French, with a focus on the problems of Léon Bazalgette’s 1908 translation; reprinted from La Phalange (1909); in French.]


Leimberg, Inge. “The Myth of the Self in Whitman’s ‘Song of Myself’ and Traherne’s ‘Thanksgiving’: A Hypothesis.” Connotations 5 (1995/96), 167-186. [Explores the “affinity” of Leaves of Grass to Thomas Traherne’s Thanksgivings, as “one single component in the tradition of singing the self in English and American poetry,” concluding that, while “the religious concern with the glory of selfhood is very similar,” in Traherne “God is praised as the giver of gifts (of good ones only) and the self, the receiver of the gifts, is exalted, body and soul,” while in Whitman “the self, body and soul, has expressly become an object of worship.”]

Levine, Herbert. “Beyond Negation: Paradoxical Affirmation in Whitman’s Third Edition.” In Daniel Fischlin, ed., Negation, Critical Theory, and Postmodern Textuality (Dordrecht, The Netherlands: Kluwer Academic, 1994), 175-190. [Analyzes the nine cases of “negative analogy” (a “self-cancelling figure” of grammar—“not the X is so any more than the Y is”) that occur in Whitman’s poetry (all in the 1860 edition of Leaves), and argues that “Whitman’s use of negation illuminates subjects about which Whitman may have wanted to equivocate, such as his homosexuality, and points to arguments he was having with himself and with his culture.”]

Lisk, Thomas. “I Loafe and Invite My Soul.” American Letters and Commentary 6 (1994), 77-93. [Musings on “the two Whitmans, the man and his creation,” with some suggestions of a comparison to Bob Dylan.]


McCullough, Ken. “An Interview with U Sam Oeur.” Walt Whitman Quarterly Review 13 (Summer/Fall 1995), 64-67. [Interview with first Khmer translator of Leaves of Grass.]
Metzer, David. “Reclaiming Walt: Marc Blitzstein’s Whitman Settings.” *Journal of the American Musicological Society* 48 (Summer 1995), 240-271. [Analyzes Whitman-based songs composed in the 1920s by Marc Blitzstein, seeing them as “significant works not only in the tradition of Whitman settings, particularly those by gay composers, but also in the broader reception of the poet.”]


Moon, Michael. “Memorial Rags.” In George E. Haggerty and Bonnie Zimmerman, eds., *Professions of Desire: Lesbian and Gay Studies in Literature* (New York: Modern Language Association of America, 1995), 233-240. [Views *Drum-Taps* as “one of the great collections of male-homoerotic memorial writing” and analyzes the “eroticized process” of these poems, including their fetishism, suggesting the ways they “represent care-giving as erotically charged.”]

Morris, Daniel. “Without Valid Restraints: The Figure of Walt Whitman in ‘Old Doc Rivers.’” *Journal of Popular Culture* 28 (Spring 1995), 113-131. [Proposes that William Carlos Williams’s short story “Old Doc Rivers” is Williams’s “attempt in fiction to come to terms with his literary heritage as an American poet through a displaced portrayal of the reputation of a gigantic influence on his own poetry, Walt Whitman.”]


Price, Kenneth M. “An Interview with Zhao Luorui.” Walt Whitman Quarterly Review 13 (Summer/Fall 1995), 59-63. [Interview with the first translator to render the complete Leaves of Grass into Chinese.]


----------, ed. Walt Whitman: The Contemporary Reviews. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1996. [Collects the full range of contemporary reviews of Whitman’s various books, including reviews by Fanny Fern, John Burroughs, Henry James, Oscar Wilde, and Whitman himself; number 9 in the Cambridge American Critical Archives Series.]

Reich, Kathleen, ed. The William Sloane Kennedy Memorial Collection of Whitmaniana. Winter Park, FL: Olin Library, Rollins College, 1996. [Annotated and illustrated catalogue of the Kennedy Collection at Rollins College, incorporating Kennedy’s papers, a few Whitman manuscripts, some early editions of Whitman’s work, and a large collection of books about Whitman; preface by Ed Folsom (v-vi) and introduction by Kathleen Reich (vii-ix).]


Sherbo, Arthur. “Last Gleanings from The Critic: Clemens, Whitman, Hardy, Thackeray, and Others.” Studies in Bibliography 47 (1994), 212-221. [Offers “hitherto unrecorded materials by and about American and English authors” appearing in The Critic (1881-1906), including a letter Whitman published in the October 13, 1888, issue (214), responding to Edmund Gosse’s essay, “Has America Produced a Poet?” Whitman says, in part, that “the names of Bryant, Emerson, Whittier, and Longfellow (with even added names, sometimes Southerners, sometimes Western or other writers of only one or two pieces) deserve in my opinion an equally high niche of renown” as any of the
great English poets, “after placing Shakspere on a sort of preeminence of fame not to be invaded yet.”]


———. “Walt Whitman at Dartmouth College.” The Walt Whitman Circle 5 (Spring 1996), 1. [Summarizes and discusses Whitman’s 1872 reading of “As a Strong Bird on Pinions Free” at Dartmouth.]

———, ed. The Walt Whitman Circle 5 (Winter 1996) and 5 (Spring 1996). [Quarterly newsletter of the Leisure World Walt Whitman Circle, with news of Circle events and notices of Whitman-related activities around the world; the winter issue contains an obituary, written by Strassburg, of Whitman scholar William Luther Moore (2-3).]

Tanner, James T.F. “Walt Whitman’s Presence in Maxine Hong Kingston’s Tripmaster Monkey: His Fake Book.” MELUS 20 (Winter 1995), 61-74. [Seeks to demonstrate “the remarkable cultural interaction between Walt Whitman, nineteenth century idealist-democrat-humanist, and Maxine Hong Kingston, twentieth century Asian American-modernist” by pointing out Whitmanian allusions, echoes, and themes in Kingston’s novel, particularly in the protagonist, a Chinese-American playwright named Wittman Ah Sing.]


———. Piesn o Mnie [Song of Myself]. Krakow: Wydawnictwo Miniatura, 1996. Translated by Andrzej Szuba. [Translation into Polish of the complete “Song of Myself” (5-108) and twenty-nine other poems from Leaves of Grass; with an afterword by Szuba (195-199).]
Poetry and Prose. New York: Library of America, 1996. [This "Library of America College Edition" reprints the original 1982 Library of America edition of Whitman's Complete Poetry and Collected Prose, but adds a section, "Supplementary Poems" (673-696), which includes "Respondez!", several Calamus poems, and other pieces not included in the 1855 or 1891 editions of Leaves. Notes, chronology, and selections by Justin Kaplan.]


Unsigned. "Missing Whitman Papers Surface After 53 Years." Manuscript Society News 16 (Spring 1995), 45-49. [Tells the story of the return of four missing Whitman notebooks to the Library of Congress and quotes a vice president of Sotheby's, Selby Kiffer, who estimates that if the manuscripts had been sold, the presale price would have been set as high as $500,000.]
