



## Walt Whitman: A Current Bibliography, Summer 2015

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## WALT WHITMAN: A CURRENT BIBLIOGRAPHY



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- Benjamin, Tui. "Walt Whitman's Birthday Honoured with Walk and Poetry." *Bolton* [England] *News* (May 31, 2015). [Reports on Whitman's connections to Bolton, England, and on the annual Bolton "Whitman Day" celebration, including a walk and a poetry reading.]
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- Lemon, Bob. "Walt Whitman's Sampler." *Timothy McSweeney's Internet Tendency*, [mcsweeneys.net/tendency](http://mcsweeneys.net/tendency). [Whitman parody, including "Song of My Shelf," with "Molasses Chew," "Chocolate Whip," "Messenger Boys," and "Cherry Cordial."]
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poetrynw.org. [Analyzes the Apple iPad television ad with Robin Williams reciting “O Me! O Life!,” speculates about whether “Whitman would have approved” of his implied endorsement of the product, and argues that the ad badly misrepresents the poem; goes on to muse about how Whitman would have reacted to the iPad.]

Nabae, Hitomi. *The Spirit of No Place: Reportage, Translation and Re-told Stories in Lafcadio Hearn*. Kobe, Japan: Kobe City University of Foreign Studies, Monograph Series in Foreign Studies no. 54, 2014. [Chapter 4, “Trans-Pacific Songs,” contains a section called “My Song and Our Song: Demystifying Whitmanesque America” (120-142), that examines ways that Whitman “mythologizes the Orient” and ways that Lafcadio Hearn “struggled to transcend the pervasive Whitmanesque values of his time” and looked to “Japan as a counterexample to American individualism”; finds that “Hearn’s critique of American individualism as a self-complacent egoism” derived from “his analyses of Whitman,” including his discomfort “with Whitman’s verse due to its lack of form,” with Whitman’s “explicit sexual expressions,” and “with Whitman’s open admiration of himself as well as his belief in American democracy,” attitudes that “encouraged democratic capitalism, selfish pursuit of materialistic gain, and self-complacency” and undermined “the spiritual, or invisible realms that [Hearn] saw as the sources of creative imagination,” qualities that he found much more apparent in Japan: Hearn believed “one has to make efforts to erase one’s individuality in order to achieve an ethically sound society,” and thus he “was simply unable to sing the song of democratic America together with Whitman.”]

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Price, Kenneth M. “Retrospect and Prospect: Walt Whitman and the Study of Periodicals.” *American Periodicals* 25 (2015), 35-38. [Considers the changes

in periodical studies brought on by the digital revolution and describes how the online *Walt Whitman Archive* ([whitmanarchive.org](http://whitmanarchive.org)) has developed its presentation of Whitman's "periodical texts in a digital environment."]

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