



Hamburg, 25 April 2005

3/2005

Dear members:

Lots of news! This is why I shall keep it short here, so as not to distract you from the important news from other quarters. However, I should like to remind you that we will hold our tri-annual membership meeting in Philadelphia during our conference at which of course all are most welcome: I should also be grateful for everything you might wish to bring to the attention of the Board and membership of IAWIS/AIERTI at the meeting. Send me an email well in advance to include in our agenda. And please check out our new website for information concerning the Association's activities (see below).

Some of you will receive this newsletter although they have overlooked to pay their membership fees due this year. Our next *Newsletter* will only reach those who will have done so until then.

With my best wishes,

*Charlotte Schoell Glass, University of Hamburg*

**Steven Paul Scher (1936-2004)**

*Hans Lund (Lund, Sweden)* writes us that Professor Steven Paul Scher (Dartmouth College, NH) died last year. Scher was one of the leading scholars within the field of word & music interrelations research. Prof. Scher edited *Literatur und Musik. Ein Handbuch zur Theorie und Praxis eines komparatistischen Grenzgebietes* (Berlin: Erich Schmidt, 1984), and he was one of the editors of the book series *Word and Music Studies* (Rodopi, Amsterdam). For an obituary you may want to go to: <http://www.dartmouth.edu/~news/releases/2004/12/27b.html>

**Proceedings Hamburg 2002**

Volume 5 of Word&Image Interactions, entitled *Orientations: Space / Time / Image / Word*, will be ready this fall, at the time of our next conference. The volume contains twenty-three articles based on papers presented at the 2002 conference in Hamburg. They have been arranged in sections called "History and Identity," "Cultural Memory," "Texts and Photographs: Cultural Anthropology and Cultural Memory," "Mixed-Media Texts: Cartography in Contemporary Art and Fiction," "Mixed-Media Texts: 'Yellow-Cover Books', Artists' Books, and Comics," "Intermedia Texts: Logotypes," and "Space, Spatialization, Virtual Space." The volume includes an introduction by IAWIS president Charlotte Schoell-Glass. All the pieces are currently passing through the various stages of final proofing.

*Véronique Plesch, Colby College*

**Proceedings Claremont 1999**

After numerous changes in the workflow introduced by the publisher during the editing process, the final printout of the Claremont Proceedings is now again at Rodopi's. The publisher is aware of the urgency of the project and I expect his feedback in the next few days. As the production takes about three months we can reasonably expect to see the book in August, hopefully just in time for the Philadelphia conference.

*Martin Heusser, University of Zurich*

### **IAWIS-sponsored session at CAA**

IAWIS sponsored a session at the annual College Art Association Conference, held this year in Atlanta, Georgia, February 16-19, 2005. Co-chaired by Véronique Plesch (Colby College) and Laura Saltz (Colby College), the session was entitled "Beyond the Written Source," and it considered innovative art historical approaches for understanding the relationship between image and text. The first speaker was Byron Breese (Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley). His paper, "The Inscrutable Mr. Johns: Personal Knowledge and Cultural Transformation in the *Flag and Target* Paintings of the 1950s," argued for the importance of Johns's experiences in the military to the production of the *Flag and Target* paintings. The second speaker, Jonathan Bass (Rutgers University), delivered a paper entitled, "Text and Image Reversal in Two Works by Marcel Duchamp." Bass argued that *Green Box* (1934) is "a plastic and allegorical response" to the *Large Glass* (1915-23), which turns the latter into a form of writing. Our third and fourth scheduled speakers, Michael Thimann (Kunsthistorisches Institut, Florence) and Stefano Riccioni (University of Rome "La Sapienza") had to cancel due to personal and family illnesses. Their talks were entitled, respectively, "Carmen Perpetuum-Pictura Perpetua: Jean Jacques Boissard's Drawings of the Metamorphoses (1556) and the Debate on Picta Poesis in Sixteenth-Century France," and "Visual Insights and Rhetoric Delights in the Mosaics of San Clemente in Rome."

*Véronique Plesch, Colby College*

### **Elective Affinities, 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference of Word & Image Studies, 23-27**

**September 2005** The conference organizing committee is now in the final planning stages for the program. We were delighted at the response to the call for papers, which attracted over three hundred proposals. The registration process for accepted speakers is under way, with a registration deadline of April 30<sup>th</sup>. A preliminary program, featuring forty-two scholarly sessions, is now on-line at the conference website: <http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/affinities/>

The conference promises to be an intellectual feast. Several events are being planned on the University of Pennsylvania campus to dovetail with Elective Affinities. Penn's Arthur Ross Gallery will be opening an exhibition of historic maps of the Pacific Coast, with an evening reception for conference participants on September 23rd. The Rare Book Room of van Pelt Library will present an exhibit curated by John Dixon Hunt entitled "From Book to Garden and Back: Works of Ian Hamilton Finlay." This largely loan exhibition of concrete poetry, pamphlets, books and garden projects explores the creative world of the Scottish poet Ian Hamilton Finlay. It highlights a series of his recurrent themes and media: concrete poems, emblems, inscriptions, metamorphosis, the sea, the French Revolution, two earlier garden makers, their gardens and writings – William Shenstone and the Marquis de Girardin, and a series of garden projects Finlay has devised along with examples of their publication in book form as built work. A fully illustrated and annotated catalogue, also containing four essays on words and images in Finlay's work, is available as a special issue of *Word & Image*, and copies will be available for sale or order at the exhibition. The Institute of Contemporary Art will be exhibiting the work of Rodney Graham, the Canadian conceptual artist. Graham has been heralded as a master of mixing media, and his works reference a rich range of subjects from music, literature, and pop culture, including James Bond, Cary Grant, Sigmund Freud, Kurt Cobain, John Cage, and elevator music.

On Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, Jane Golden, director of the Philadelphia Mural Arts Project, will lead conference participants on a guided tour of the "city of murals," with a special eye to community projects throughout Philadelphia that address word and image intersections. Another Sunday excursion will take participants through Fairmont Park under the expert guidance of John Dixon Hunt. A group visit to the celebrated Barnes Foundation is also planned. Our final reception/buffet will take place at the Institute of Contemporary Art on September 27<sup>th</sup>.

Keynote speakers at the conference will be Peter Stallybrass (on "Material Images: Recycling Woodcuts and the Printing of Books") and Yve-Alain Bois (on automatic writing and

drawing in Surrealism). Finally, Art Spiegelman, author of *Maus*, and most recently *In the Shadow of No Towers*, a meditation in words and images on 9/11, will present a lecture on the history of the comic book on the last day of the conference.

*Catriona MacLeod, University of Pennsylvania*

## **THE – NEW AND MUCH IMPROVED! – IAWIS WEBSITE**

As many of you may have already noticed, our Association's website at <http://www.iawis.org> has been upgraded earlier this Spring. On the 'front'-side, this is evident from the new structuring of the information and the entirely new 'look-and-feel'. Both were implemented to give the visitor a better overview of and easier access to the information contained. Some examples: the subsections concerned with conference and publication news have been fully restructured; there is now a special page for news on the forthcoming IAWIS conference; separate subsections for reviews and conference reports have been added; and all recently updated website pages are now listed on and directly accessible from the site's home page. All this has first been carried through in the 'public domain' section of the website, which was re-launched March 3, 2005.

Even more important, however – though not immediately 'visible' – is the fact that the 'back'-side of the website is completely new. We have (finally) moved from a collection of 'flat' and static website pages, with all its limitations on input and interaction and its implications for maintenance, to a fully database-driven environment. This opens up an almost unlimited range of possibilities, some of which are implemented in the now-added 'members only' section of the website.

By definition, access to the 'members only' section is limited to IAWIS members. In the days following the distribution of this newsletter, each of you will receive a login name and password at your e-mail address listed with the IAWIS member administration. Those of you whose e-mail address we do not know will find a slip of paper with your login name and password included with the ordinary mail version of this newsletter (together with a request to provide your e-mail address ASAP through the on-line address book; see below). To log in, type (or copy and paste) name and password in the respective fields of the "member login" area at the upper right corner of your screen and click the "login" button. If you didn't make a typing error – and please note: both name and password are **case-sensitive** – you're in, which is confirmed on-screen.

Once you are logged in, you see that the navigation menu on the left side of your screen has changed. It now gives access to those parts of the website which are 'members only'. These are indicated by a darker grey background. Presently, there are four 'members only' subsections: 'personal', 'association', 'resources' and 'community' – plus a set of member input facilities.

### **Personal**

One of the very first things you will probably want to do, is to change the password you have received from IAWIS (an 8-digit string of randomly selected letters and numbers) into something you can actually remember. This you can do by selecting the 'change password' option from the 'personal'-menu. (There are some rules which apply; these are explicated on-screen. You can change your password whenever and as many times as you please, but you cannot change your login **name**. If you have been given a login name that you really don't like or consider inappropriate, please contact the webmaster (and make sure to include a suggestion for a new name) – but also: please respect the extra work involved.)

The other option in the 'personal'-menu is to update your own page in the IAWIS 'address book'. Yes – we finally have an IAWIS address book. Please make use of this update-option at your earliest convenience and fill in the – many – blanks on your page. You can decide for yourself which information to include, of course. Only your first and last name are absolutely required. Whether you want to include information such as 'home address' is up to you. But please **do fill** the fields for 'Research Areas', 'Selected Publications' and 'Activities'. Next to name, affiliation and location, these fields are **searchable** in the address book itself. This provides opportunities to do a keyword-search on the address book (i.e. IAWIS membership) for

specific Word & Image interests, to increase awareness of “what we are actually doing”, to set up contact groups, etc. Obviously, such benefits depend on members taking the effort of getting (and keeping) their own page up to date. It’s not a major effort: no doubt there is some “CV”-file stored on your computer from which you can copy and paste the requested information.

Absolutely none of the information you provide (address, e-mail, etc.) is accessible to non-members – except for the contact information of **board** members included in the ‘public domain’. More importantly: since Internet spiders and other robots cannot get access to the ‘members only’ section, your information is safeguarded from their grabbing attempts as well!

### **Association**

In this subsection, you can browse or search the IAWIS address book. Second, this subsection includes a ‘News from the board’ page, where you will find announcements by the IAWIS Executive Board. A third page collects IAWIS materials offered for download. You will find back issues of the IAWIS newsletter here (as PDF files); also, the general IAWIS flyer with information on the association and a membership registration form can be downloaded from this page. Please help to promote IAWIS by downloading and printing out this flyer, making a few copies and posting them on your department’s message board or distributing them at relevant meetings.

### **Resources**

Following some of the suggestions made at the Utrecht symposium in 2004, we have launched three projects (and a fourth) here: ‘key bibliography’, ‘key webliography’ and ‘on-line syllabi’. In the present stage, these projects are concerned with **gathering** information; later on, this information will be used to set up resource facilities as well as follow-up projects.

The first two – bibliography and webliography – are now executed as on-line ‘polls’: you are cordially invited to ‘vote’ for your favorite Word & Image books/readers and websites, respectively (detailed instructions are presented on-screen). Please participate! And please pay extra attention to the “keywords”-part of the poll-forms. For the additional aim of the bibliography and webliography polls is to collect a set of Word & Image keywords that may – if all goes (very) well – form the basis of an exciting future project: the ever-requested Word & Image thesaurus. As we are hoping to be able to present the first results of these polls in Philadelphia, please “enter your votes” before August 1, 2005.

The purpose of the ‘on-line syllabi’ resource is to advance an association-wide, international exchange of information on the contents and structures of Word & Image (related) courses by means of a catalogue of annotated links to syllabi posted elsewhere on the web. At the Utrecht ‘Teaching Word & Image’ Symposium, this was considered one of the most important requests for the new website. It is also related to (in fact: a first step towards) the fourth resource-to-be included in this subsection: the ‘Model Introductory Course’ project, which is a follow-up of the Utrecht meeting, to be continued in Philadelphia. More information on this fourth project will be published shortly on the IAWIS website.

### **Community**

Obviously, the website’s purpose of providing an instrument for the exchange of information cannot be achieved without a decent discussion forum/bulletin board. This ‘Community’ environment also allows for the return of our former (pre-2003) ‘Special Interest’ pages in a new and far more up to date format: you can start your “very own” forum, devoted entirely to “your” special interest! The rules are explained in the ‘Read me first’ post of ‘Suggestions for special interest areas’.

Your special attention is called to the ‘Criticism in Translation’ project. Proposed in Utrecht by Jan Baetens, we are happy to provide a space for the preparatory discussion of this project in the Collaborative Member Projects forum. If you are interested to participate, please post to this forum at your earliest convenience. The Philadelphia conference provides an ideal opportunity for a first evaluation.

## Other Member Input Facilities

Next to the four main subsections presented above, IAWIS members also are provided with a number of opportunities to post their own news and other contributions to other parts of the website, whether directly or mediated. Once you're logged in, the submenu of 'publications' is extended with options to 'submit [a] publication announcement' and to 'submit [a] review'. Similarly, you will find options to 'submit [a] call for papers' and to 'submit [a] conference report' in the submenu of 'conferences'.

'Submit publication announcement' leads you to a set of on-line forms by means of which you can post your publication announcements **directly** to the website. The submission forms are self-explanatory. Please bear in mind that your contribution is immediately visible to all website visitors (including the 'public domain' visitors) and please use this facility only for the announcement of **recent or forthcoming** publications. If you want to inform the IAWIS membership about your earlier publications, you're very welcome to do so – but please use your personal page in the address book for that purpose.

The other three options to submit information are mediated. 'Submit call for papers' allows you to enter a call for papers for a conference, seminar, etc. in which you participate, whether as organiser or panelist, or that you wish to bring to the attention of our website visitors for other reasons. However, there is presently one proviso: as we only wish to include **brief** descriptions of non-IAWIS conferences or seminars on the IAWIS website, the conference or seminar at stake **must** have its own website, at which further information can be found. The Internet address of that website (URL) must be included with your call for papers submission (as explained on-screen in the submission form). The Call for Papers Editor of the IAWIS website will subsequently check your submission, especially for the correctness of that URL and for its 'Word & Image' relevance in general, and – if everything is OK – will validate it for publication, upon which it is automatically included in the 'public domain' of our website.

The 'submit review' and 'submit conference report' forms at the IAWIS website allow you to send a message to our Review and Conference Reports Editors, respectively, and to **attach** a prepared review/report with that message (the exact procedure is explained on-screen). We have chosen this procedure – instead of a full-content submission form – in order to preserve all the text editing options (including the use of images) you are accustomed to. The Review and Conference Reports Editors will decide on the publication of your review/report.

## Finally

We have tried to make the means and methods of the new, 'interactive' facilities at the IAWIS website as self-explanatory as possible. Those of you who are accustomed to use on-line submission forms and Internet bulletin boards will hopefully find the ones at the IAWIS website familiar and self-evident. For the benefit of those who do not, there is a brief but detailed user manual available for download through the "how to use this site" link, which you find in the upper right corner of your screen. Information on platform- and browser-compatibility is also included in this manual

The best we could do was to build and offer the new website to you. Whether its various new (sub)sections will prove to be a success depends on you. We hope that many IAWIS members will see the benefits of participating in the discussions, sharing news, giving information about themselves through the address book, etc., and act accordingly by providing input.

*Eric Vos, webmaster*