

WILLIAM KEACH

Department of English
Brown University, Box 1852
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EDUCATION:

B.A., University of Texas (Austin), 1965
B.A./M.A., Oxford University, 1967
Ph.D., Yale University, 1970

ACADEMIC HONORS AND AWARDS:

Phi Beta Kappa, University of Texas, 1964
Honorary Woodrow Wilson Fellowship, 1965
Rhodes Scholarship, 1965-1967
Yale University Sterling Fellowship, 1969-1970
Lindback Award for Excellence in Teaching (1983)
Guggenheim Fellowship (1988-89)
Distinguished Scholar Award, Keats-Shelley Association of
America (1998)

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS:

Assistant Professor of English, Rutgers University, 1970-1976
Associate Professor of English, Rutgers University, 1977-1985
Professor of English, Rutgers University, 1985-1986
Professor of English, Brown University, 1986-retirement in 2019

ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS:

Associate Director of Graduate Studies, Department of English, Rutgers University,
1974-1977
Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of English, Rutgers University, 1981-1984
Acting Chair, Department of English, Rutgers University, Jan.-July, 1985
Director of Graduate Studies, Department of English, Brown University, 1989-1992
Director, Brown University Program in Bologna, Sept.-Jan., 1990.
Acting Director, Program in Creative Writing, Department of English, Brown University,
1994-5
Associate Chair, Department of English, Brown University, 1994-96

PUBLICATIONS:

Books

Elizabethan Erotic Narratives (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 1977)

Shelley's Style (London: Methuen, 1984)

The Poems of Coleridge, edited (London: Penguin, 1997)

Arbitrary Power: Romanticism, Language, Politics (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2004)

Literature and Revolution by Leon Trotsky, edited (Chicago: Haymarket Books, 2005)

Friendly Fire by Giuliana Sgrena, edited (Chicago: Haymarket Books, 2006)

Book in Progress

"The Ruins of Empire and Romantic Cultural Property"

Textbook

Adventures in English Literature, with Leopold Damrosch, Leonard F. Dean, and Gerald Levin (New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1980; revised edition, 1988). New edition by Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1996

Articles, Chapters in Books

"Marlowe's Hero as 'Venus' Nun," English Literary Renaissance, 2 (1972), 307-320
Rpt. in Christopher Marlowe: Modern Critical Views, ed. Harold Bloom (New Haven: Chelsea House, 1986).

"Reflexive Imagery in Shelley," Keats-Shelley Journal, 24(1975), 49-69.

"Verbal Borrowing in Elizabethan Poetry: Plagiarism or Parody?" Centrum, 4 (1976), 21-3.

"Cupid Disarmed, or Venus Wounded? An Ovidian Source for Michelangelo and Bronzino," Journal of the Warburg and Courtauld Institutes, 41 (1978), 327-331.

"Obstinate Questionings: The Immortality Ode and Alastor," The Wordsworth Circle, 12 (1981), 36-44.

"Shelley, Rhyme, and the Arbitrariness of Language," Romanticism Past and Present, 6 (1982), 23-42. Rpt. In Romantic Poetry: Recent Revisionary Criticism, ed. Karl Kroeber and Gene W. Ruoff (New Brunswick: Rutgers UP, 1993).

"Shelley's Last Lyrics" (from Ch. 7 of Shelley's Style), in Percy Bysshe Shelley: Modern Critical Views, ed. Harold Bloom (New Haven: Chelsea House, 1986) and in Shelley, ed. Michael O'Neill (London: Longman Critical Readers, 1993).

"Cockney Couplets: Keats and the Politics of Style," Studies in Romanticism, 25 (1986), 182-96.

"Political Inflection in Byron's Ottava Rima," Studies in Romanticism, 27 (1988), 551-62.

"Shelley's Workmanship of Style," in Approaches to Teaching Shelley's Poetry, ed. Spencer Hall (New York: MLA, 1990), 36-40.

- "Arlo Hill" and "Primitivism," The Spenser Encyclopedia (University of Toronto Press, 1989)
- "Shelley and the Social Text of Virgil's Tenth Eclogue," Texas Studies in Language and Literature 33 (1991), 261-70.
- "Blake, Violence, and Visionary Politics," Representing the French Revolution: Literature, Historiography, and Art, ed. James A.W. Heffernan (Hanover, N.H.: University Press of New England, 1992), 24-40.
- "Romanticism and Language," A Companion to British Romanticism, ed. Stuart Curran (Cambridge: Cambridge Univ. Press, 1993), 95-119.
- "Words Are Things': Romantic Ideology and the Matter of Poetic Language," Ideology and Aesthetics, ed. George Levine (New Brunswick: Rutgers UP, 1994), 219-39.
- "A Regency Prophecy and the End of Anna Barbauld's Career," Studies in Romanticism 33 (1994), 569-77.
- "Shelley and the Constitution of Political Authority," Shelley: Poet and Legislator of the World, ed. Betty T. Bennett and Stuart Curran (Johns Hopkins University Press, 1995), 39-48.
- "Shelley and the Revolutionary Left," Evaluating Shelley, ed. Timothy Clark and Jerrold E. Hogle (Edinburgh University Press, 1996), 75-90.
- "Poetry, after 1740," The Cambridge History of Literary Criticism, vol. 4: The Eighteenth Century (Cambridge: Cambridge Univ. Press, 1997), 117-66.
- "Byron's Internationalism: The Exiled Aristocrat in the Post-Napoleonic Era," La Questione Romantica, 2 (1996), 53-63.
- "Barbauld, Romanticism, and the Survival of Dissent," Romanticism and Gender, ed. Anne Janowitz (Cambridge: Boydell & Brewer, 1998), 44-6.
- "Cythna's Subtler Language," Studies in Romanticism, 37 (1998), 7-16.
- "Young Shelley," Early Shelley: Vulgarisms, Politics, and Fractals, ed. Neil Fraistat (College Park, MD: University of Maryland Press, 2000).
- "A Transatlantic Romantic Century," European Romantic Review 11 (2000), 31-35.
- "Byron Reads Keats," The Cambridge Companion to Keats, ed. Susan Wolfson (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2001), 203-14.
- "Cuba on Our Minds" (review essay), Raritan 16 (2001), 103-16
- "The Political Poet," The Cambridge Companion to Shelley, ed. Timothy Morton (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006), 123-42.
- "Trade and Poesy in Moore's Lalla Rookh: An Oriental Romance," La Questione Romantica 11 (2007), 1-8.
- "Rethinking Romantic poetry and history: lyric resistance, lyric seduction," The Cambridge Companion to British Romantic Poetry, ed. James Chandler and Maureen McLane (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2008), 217-38.
- "Guantánamo, Empire, and the 'War on Terror,'" Raritan 27 (2008), 130-42.
- "The Ruins of Empire and the Contradictions of Restoration: Barbauld, Byron, Hemans," Romantic Circles Praxis Series, 2012 (online).
- "Property," Political Concepts: A Critical Lexicon, 2017 (online).
- "Byron as Greek Ambassador to the United States?," The Byron Journal 45 (2017), 69-73.

“Romantic Writing and the Determinations of Cultural Property,” European Romantic Review 30 (2019), 223-37.

Reviews

- Gordon Braden, The Classics and English Renaissance Poetry: Three Case Studies. Renaissance Quarterly 32 (1979), 639-642.
- David Simpson, Irony and Authority in Romantic Poetry. Studies in Romanticism, 20 (1981), 539-543.
- Lloyd Abbey, Destroyer and Preserver: Shelley's Poetic Skepticism; Jean Hall, The Transforming Image: A Study of Shelley's Major Poetry; The Letters of Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley: Vol. I, ed. Betty T. Bennett. "Essays in Criticism, 32 (1982), 82-88.
- Melanie Bandy, Mind Forg'd Manacles: Evil in the Poetry of Blake and Shelley. The Wordsworth Circle, 13 (1982), 142-144.
- Clark Hulse, Metamorphic Verse: The Elizabethan Minor Epic. Renaissance Quarterly, 36 (1983), 132-136.
- Miriam Allott, ed., Essays on Shelley. Keats-Shelley Journal, 32 (1983), 220-223.
- John Fyler, Chaucer and Ovid. Helios, 12 (1985), 75-79.
- Michael Henry Scrivener, Radical Shelley: The Philosophical Anarchism and Utopian Thought of Percy Bysshe Shelley; P.M.S. Dawson, The Unacknowledged Legislator: Shelley and Politics; Paul Foot, Red Shelley. Raritan, 5 (1985), 120-29.
- Kelvin Everest, ed., Shelley Revalued: Essays from the Gregynog Conference. The Wordsworth Circle, 16 (1985), 193-96.
- Hans Aarsleff, From Locke to Saussure: Essays on the Study of Language and Intellectual History. Studies in Romanticism, 25 (1986), 271-75.
- Paul de Man, The Rhetoric of Romanticism; Paul H. Fry, The Reach of Criticism; Hazard Adams, Philosophy of the Literary Symbolic. Keats-Shelley Journal, 35 (1986), 213-18.
- Heather Dubrow, Captive Victors: Shakespeare's Narrative Poems and Sonnets. Renaissance Quarterly, 41(1988). 752-54.
- Stuart Sperry, Shelley's Major Verse. Keats-Shelley Journal 39 (1990).
- Christopher Hitchens, Prepared for the Worst: Selected Essays and Minority Reports. Raritan 10 (1990).
- The Letters of Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley, Vol. III, ed. Betty T. Bennett. The Wordsworth Circle 22 (1991).
- John A. Hodgson, Coleridge, Shelley, and Transcendental Inquiry. Modern Language Review (1991).
- Timothy Clark, Embodying Revolution: The Figure of the Poet in Shelley. "Philological Quarterly (1991).
- L'Esilio Romantico: Forme di un Conflitto, ed. Joseph Cheyne and Lilla M. Crisafulli Jones; La Rivoluzione Francese in Inghilterra, ed. Lilla M. Crisafulli Jones; Lilla M. Crisafulli Jones, Interpretazioni: Percy Bysshe Shelley fra Ottocento e Novecento. Keats-Shelley Journal 41 (1992).

- Alexander Cockburn, The Golden Age Is In Us: Journeys & Encounters. Raritan 16 (1996), 103-15.
- The Bodleian Shelley Manuscripts, vol. XVI (ed. Donald H. Reiman and Michael J. Nath), vol. XVII (ed. Steven E. Jones), vol. XX (ed. Michael O'Neill). Keats-Shelley Journal 45 (1996).
- David Duff, Romance and Revolution: Shelley and the Politics of a Genre. Modern Philology, 94 (1997), 402-6.
- Jack Stillinger, Coleridge and Textual Instability. Romanticism 3 (1997), 123-29
- James Chandler, England in 1819: The Politics of Literary Culture and the Case of Romantic Historicism. Keats-Shelley Journal 49 (2000), 209-13.
- The Poems of Shelley, ed. Everest & Matthews; Shelley's Poetry and Prose, ed. Reiman and Fraistat. Keats-Shelley Journal, 52 (2003), 198-202.
- Michael Löwy and Robert Sayre, Romanticism Against the Tide of Modernity. Left History 9 (2004), 174-79.
- Andrew Elfenbein, Romanticism and the Rise of English. The Wordsworth Circle 40 (2010).
- E. J. Clery, Eighteen Hundred and Eleven: Poetry, Protest, and Economic Crisis. Wordsworth Circle (2020)
- Mark Steven, Class War: A Literary History, New Politics (2024).

LECTURES, PAPERS:

- "'Plagiarism' and Elizabethan Poetry," Modern Language Association Convention, New York, December 1976.
- "Shakespeare and Ovid, Venus and Narcissus," Modern Language Association Convention, New York, December 1981.
- Organized and chaired program entitled "Language and the Younger Romantics" sponsored by the Keats-Shelley Association of America, Modern Language Association Convention, New York, December 1981.
- "Shelley's Skepticism and the Style of Mont Blanc," Northeast Modern Language Association Convention, New York, April 1982.
- "Basic Assumptions of the Discipline," Rutgers Council for Integrative and Cross-disciplinary Studies, October 1982.
- "Shelley's Last Lyrics," Rutgers University Department of English, February 1983.
- "English Romanticism and Skepticism" (respondent), Modern Language Association Convention, New York, December 1983.
- "Keats and the Politics of Style," Modern Language Association Convention, Washington, D.C., December 1984.
- "Romanticism and the Politics of Language," Brown University, November 1985.
- "'A certain class of readers': The Politics of Shelley's Imagining his Audience," Modern Language Association Convention, Chicago, December 1985.
- "On the way to Mont Blanc: Shelley and Locke," Modern Language Association Convention, Chicago, December 1985.
- "Byron and Marlowe," Northeast Modern Language Association Convention, New Brunswick, April 1986.
- "Arbitrary Power: Language, Politics, Romanticism," Northwestern University, October 1986.

- "Melville, Shelley, and the Trope of Blankness," Modern Language Association Convention, New York, December 1986.
- "Habit: Hume and the Romantics," Modern Language Association Convention, New York, December 1986.
- "Romanticism and the Politics of Language," University of Denver and University of Colorado, Boulder, April 1987.
- "Political Inflection in Byron's Ottava Rima," Modern Language Association Convention, San Francisco, December 1987.
- "Romanticism and Language: Rethinking Empiricism," Rhode Island College, April 1988.
- "Vulgar Idioms," Harvard University, Center for Literary and Cultural Studies, November 1988.
- "Words are things': Romanticism, Language, and Materiality," University of Texas-Austin, April 1989.
- "Blake and the French Revolution: Violence and Visionary Politics," Rome, international conference on "The French Revolution and Romantic Thought," 28-30 September 1989.
- "Blake, Violence, and Visionary Politics," Boston University, 9 October 1989.
- "Style and Romantic Class Consciousness," University of Maryland, 11 November 1989.
- "Byron and the Risks of Reification," Modern Language Association Convention, Washington D.C., December 1989.
- "Shelley and the Social Text of Vergil's Eclogue 10," Modern Language Association Convention, Washington D.C., December 1989.
- "Blake, Violence, and Visionary Politics," University of Michigan, March 1990.
- "Empowering the Reader in Coleridge's Rime of the Ancient Mariner," University of Rome, November 1990.
- "Blake, Violence, and Visionary Politics," University of Bologna and University of Pavia, December 1990.
- "Wordsworth's Prelude and the 'mystery of words'," Istituto Britannico, Bologna, December 1990.
- "Women, Language, and Political Authority in Romantic Writing," Modern Language Association Convention, San Francisco, December 1991.
- "Shelley and the Constitution of Political Authority," International Bicentenary Conference: "Shelley: Poet and Legislator of the World," New York, May 1992.
- "Shelley and the Revolutionary Left," International Shelley Conference, Gregynog, University of Wales, August 1992.
- "The Shelleys and Dante's Matilda," International Conference for the Bicentenary of P.B. Shelley: "Shelley and Italy," Rome, 9-11 November 1992.
- "Shelley and Poetic Language: Ideology and Aesthetics," University of Macerata, Italy, April 1993.
- "Coleridge and the Language of Romantic Poetry," University of Naples, April 1993.
- "A Regency Prophecy and the End of Anna Barbauld's Career," Modern Language Association Convention, Toronto, December 1993.
- "Anna Barbauld's Radical Prophecy," Radical London--Urban Rhetorics, 1600-1900, Center for English Studies, London, March 1995.
- "Romanticism and Language," Associazione Italo-Britannica, Bologna, Italy, March 1995.

- "Byron, the English Aristocracy and European Society after Napoleon," *La Letteratura Romantica: Nazionalismo e Internazionalismo*, international conference, Ischia, Italy, 29-31 March 1995.
- "Arbitrary Power: Politics and Romantic Writing," Johns Hopkins University, May 1995.
- "Women, Language, and Political Agency in British Romanticism," University of Warwick, November 1995.
- "Byron as a Reader of Keats," International Conference--The Bicentenary of John Keats, Bologna, November 1995.
- "Editing Coleridge's Poetry," Modern Language Association Convention, Chicago, December 1995.
- "What's So Great About William Blake?," *Marxism 96*, London University, London, 1996.
- "Cythna's Subtler Language," North American Society for the Study of Romanticism Conference, Boston, November, 1996.
- "Arbitrary Power," Harvard University, Center for Literary and Cultural Studies, December 1996.
- "The Jacobin Terror," *Marxism 97*, London University, London, July 1997.
- "The Debate on the Death Penalty in Massachusetts," National Conference on Wrongful Convictions and the Death Penalty, Northwestern University School of Law, November 1998.
- "Literature and Social Change," Rhode Island College, November 2000.
- "Vulgar Idioms: Romanticism and the Language of Class," Queen Mary College, University of London, October 2001.
- "Wollstonecraft's History of the French Revolution and the Next Generation," Modern Language Association Convention, New York 2002.
- "The Language of Terrorism," North American Society for the Study of Romanticism conference, New York, 2003.
- "Trotsky, the 'Law of Art,' and the Problem of Determination," "Rethinking Marxism" conference, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, November 2003.
- "Determination and Play," Princeton University, April 2005.
- "Lyric Resistance," Yale University, October 2006.
- "Anna Barbauld and the Culture of Dissent," University of Bologna, March 2007.
- "Romantic Lyric: Resistance and Seduction," Institute of Advanced Studies, University of Bologna, March 2007.
- "Genre and Transnationalism I," keynote address for conference at Centro Studi Americani, Rome, May 2007.
- "Genre and Transnationalism II," Centro Studi Americani, Rome, May 2007.
- "Adorno and Romantic Lyric," University of Rome-La Sapienza, June 2007.
- Keynote address for conference on "The Future of the Profession," University of Colorado-Boulder, April, 2008.
- "Transnational Romanticism," three lectures at the University of Macerata, Italy, May 2008.
- "The Ruins of Empire and the Culture of Romanticism," series of lectures at the University of Rome-La Sapienza, March-May 2009.
- "Empire, Ruin, and Cultural Property," University of Naples-Orientale, May 2010.
- "Communities, Coteries, Vanguards," colloquium on "Romanticism and the Question of Community," Brown University, November 2010.

- Respondent in session on “Public Voices,” conference entitled “Urban Identity and the Atlantic Public Sphere,” University of Massachusetts-Boston, October 2012.
- “Romanticism and the Ruins of Empire,” graduate student colloquium, Tufts University, February 2011.
- “The Ruins of Empire and Romantic Cultural Property: Gibbon and Volney,” Mahindra Humanities Center, Harvard University, November 2011.
- “Prospects in Ruins,” conference entitled “No Prospects: Romanticism at the Edge,” University of Massachusetts-Boston, November 2012.
- “Romanticism and the ‘Long Century,’” Modern Language Association convention, Boston, January 2013.
- “Britain’s Ruins as Cultural Capital,” British Romanticism Division, Modern Language Association convention, Boston, January 2013.
- “Shelley and the Hermeneutics of Abbreviation,” North American Society for the Study of Romanticism convention, Boston, August 2013.
- “Romantic Writing in Rome and (Post)Romantic Cultural Property, Princeton University, March 2014.
- “Property,” Political Concepts Conference, Brown University, December 2015.
- “Byron as Greek Ambassador to the United States?,” Modern Language Association Convention, Austin, January 2016.
- “‘English Literature’: Transatlantic and Transnational Perspectives” and “London’s Ruins: China Miéville’s The Tain,” University of Rome-La Sapienza, May 2017.
- “Romantic Writing and the Determinations of Cultural Property,” keynote lecture at North American Society for the Study of Romanticism (NASSR) Conference, Brown University, June 2018.
- “The Politics of Hope, Shelley, 1820,” 1820: Aesthetics, Politics, and the Legacies of Romanticism: A Stuart Curran Symposium, sponsored by the Keats-Shelley Association of America, October 2021 (virtual).
- “The Life and Legacy of Samuel Taylor Coleridge,” roundtable discussion on “Talking History” program, Irish Radio: News Talk, Dublin, October 2021 (radio broadcast).
- “The Jane Poems,” Shelley 200 conference roundtable discussion organized through Sheffield University, January 2022 (virtual).
- “Volney’s Ruins and the (In)visibility of Cultural Property,” Romanticism Across Borders, seminar sponsored by Laboratoire de Recherche sur les Cultures Anglophones, University of Paris (June 2022).
- “Percy Shelley and the Ruins of the East,” Brown Romanticism Seminar (May 2023).

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Editorial Board, Keats-Shelley Journal (1989-96)
- Chair, Executive Committee, British Romantic Division, Modern Language Association of America (1994-5)
- Co-chair, Romanticism Seminar, Center for Literary and Cultural Studies, Harvard University (1992-1994)
- Advisory Board, La Questione Romantica (1995-2005)
- Co-chair, Romanticism Seminar, Center for Literary and Cultural Studies, Harvard University (1992-1996)

Delegate Assembly, Modern Language Association of America (1998-2001)
 Program Committee, Modern Language Association of America (1999-2002)
 Reader/referee for Renaissance Quarterly, Studies in English Literature, English Literary Renaissance, Helios, Romanticism Past and Present, English Language Notes, Studies in Romanticism and others. Reader/consultant for Princeton University Press, University of Missouri Press, Rutgers University Press, New American Library (Signet Classics), Methuen, Cambridge University Press, Haymarket Books, Oxford University Press, Johns Hopkins University Press, Yale University Press, University of California Press, and others.
 Senior appointment and promotion review evaluator for University of California-Santa Cruz, University of Nebraska, The Johns Hopkins University, University of Colorado, University of Maryland, University of Pennsylvania, University of Arizona, Boston University, University of Texas-Austin, Brandeis University, Stanford University, Yale University, University of Toronto, University of Sydney, Wesleyan University, Duke University, Harvard University, and others.

MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:

Modern Language Association of America
 North American Society for the Study of Romanticism (NASSR)
 Renaissance Society of America
 Shakespeare Association of America
 Keats-Shelley Association of America
 Wordsworth-Coleridge Association
 Byron Society

COURSES TAUGHT FROM 2009 TO RETIREMENT IN 2019

(undergraduate)

“British Romanticism”
 “Literatures and Cultures in English, 1688-1865” (with Philip Gould and James Egan)
 “Literature and Revolutions”
 “Orientalism in British Literature”
 “Literature and the Ideology of the Aesthetic”
 “Being Romantic”
 “Writing and the Ruins of Empire”

(graduate)

“Political Romanticisms” (with Zachary Sng, German Studies and Comparative Literature)
 “Writing the Ruins of Empire: Romantic Cultural Property”
 “Romanticism and the Ideology of the Aesthetic”
 “Orientalism and Romantic Writing”

