

Notes

International Pynchon Week

In the week beginning June 8, 1998, the University of Antwerp and the University of London will host International Pynchon Week. Two complementary events will take place, the first in Antwerp and the second in London, with ample travel time in between. The Programme for International Pynchon Studies (PIPS) will help coordinate activities between sites, informing and assisting participants whenever possible.

1. Antwerp: "*Gravity's Rainbow: The First 25 Years*"

"When the heavy rocket attacks began against Antwerp I knew it could not be an accident. . . ." (GR 546)

"*Gravity's Rainbow: The First 25 Years*" will attempt to deal with every possible aspect of Pynchon's most intimidating novel, from the film-sprocket holes separating its sections to the history of its critical reception. Unless the number of acceptable proposals exceeds a workable limit, papers (thirty minutes) will all be presented in plenary sessions, to assure the development of a conference dynamic. Keynote speakers will include Bernard Duyfhuizen, Steven Weisenburger, and Hanjo Berressem. Publication of conference papers is a certainty. Deadline for two-page proposals: 1 February 1998. Conference organizer: Luc Herman, Department of English, University of Antwerp, Universiteitsplein 1, B-2610 Wilrijk (Antwerp), Belgium. Fax: 32-3-820 27 62. E-mail: Luc.Herman@uia.ua.ac.be.

2. London: "Thomas Pynchon: Beyond the Rainbow's End"

Messmates throng here from all over England, even some who are allergic or outright hostile to bananas, just to watch. (GR 5)

"Thomas Pynchon: Beyond the Rainbow's End" will attempt to afford the greatest possible diversity of expression arising from the totality of the Pynchon opus, while also allowing for a substantial consideration of *Mason & Dixon*, to which the second day of the conference will be devoted. Participants will include internationally acclaimed critics, novelists, poets, artists and filmmakers inspired by Pynchon's achievement, as well as a wide variety of scholars wishing

to make their first venture Beyond the Rainbow's End. A variety of multimedia events and archival displays will complement an intensive and extensive academic conference schedule. Papers may be any length not exceeding forty-five minutes. Publication of conference papers is a certainty. Deadline for two-page proposals: 1 February 1998. Conference organizer: Eric Alan Weinstein, Programme for International Pynchon Studies, C.C.H./Office For Humanities Communications, Kings College, University Of London, The Strand, London WC2R 2LS, Great Britain. Fax: 44-0171-873-5081. E-Mail: E.A.Weinstein@qmw.ac.uk or PIPS@kcl.ac.uk.

The paper-selection committee for International Pynchon Week consists of John M. Krafft, Luc Herman and Eric Alan Weinstein.

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Pinchin' Thomas Pynchon, or Sulle tracce di Thomas Pynchon
International Conference, Rome, January 22-23, 1998

To mark the 60th birthday of American writer Thomas Pynchon, The American Studies Center and the arts and literature journal *Praz!* are organizing an international conference in Rome, scheduled for January 22-23, 1998. The conference will be concerned with Pynchon's broader social and cultural influence on readers, writers and the academy, and with his relation to technological and cyber culture. Send inquiries via post, fax, e-mail or W.A.S.T.E. to: Daniele Fiorentino, Direttore, Centro di Studi Americani, Via M. Caetani 32, 00186 Roma, Italia. Voice: 68801613. Fax: 68307256. E-mail: csa@usis.it or carratel@uniroma3.it or docrossi@johncabot.edu

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Call for Papers: Extension of Deadline for Submissions

Symposium on Pynchon and Law, sponsored by *Oklahoma City University Law Review*, Oklahoma City University Law School, to be published Summer 1998

Thomas Pynchon's writings have always invited inquiry into science and technology. With the publication of *Vineland* and *Mason & Dixon*, Pynchon focuses his sights on the formation, founding, and foibles of the American Republic. In light of this expansion of his interests, the

natural question is how does Pynchon's work inform our notions of law, literature, and society.

The *Oklahoma City University Law Review* welcomes papers that touch on the intersection of Pynchon and Law from any perspective. Especially desirable are papers which focus on Pynchon's legal landscape; natural and scientific law in "Entropy," *V.* and *Gravity's Rainbow*; law and representation in *The Crying of Lot 49*; race, colonialism and integration; the historical Pynchon and the Puritan roots of *Gravity's Rainbow*; the Enlightenment as seen in *Mason & Dixon*; borders and community; law and lawlessness in the Zone and *Vineland*; gender and sexuality; as well as other topics.

As of October 1, 1997, we have received proposals dealing with Pynchon's view of Puritanism; law of simulated war in *Gravity's Rainbow*; spatial boundaries in *The Crying of Lot 49*; law's representation in *Mason & Dixon* and *The Crying of Lot 49*; property and boundaries in *Mason & Dixon*; and several other topics.

Proposals in the form of drafts, précis, abstracts or outlines are due by February 1, 1998. Final drafts should be completed by June 1, 1998.

Please submit all proposals or inquiries to Professor Shubha Ghosh, Oklahoma City University School of Law, 2501 N. Blackwelder, Oklahoma City, OK 73116. Voice: 405-521-5809. E-mail: sghosh@lec.okcu.edu

World-Wide Web Sites of Special Interest

The *Pynchon Notes* web site:

<http://www.ham.muohio.edu/~krafftjm/pynchon.html>

The Pomona Pynchon page: <http://www.pomona.edu/pynchon/>

The Italian Pynchon page: <http://www.dada.it/biblio/pynchon.htm>

Larry Daw's Spermatikos Logos:

<http://rpg.net/quail/libyrinth/pynchon.html>

Programme for International Pynchon Studies (PIPS):

<http://www.kcl.ac.uk/humanities/cch/PIPS>

Andrew Dinn's Pynchon-I archive (soon to move from):

<http://www.cee.hw.ac.uk/~andrew/pynchon-I.html>

Stuart Moulthrop's *Hyperbola* stack:

<http://raven.ubalt.edu/staff/moulthrop/hypertexts/hyperbola.html>

Tim Ware's web-guides to Pynchon's fiction:

<http://www.hyperarts.com/pynchon/>

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The Pynchon E-Mail List

pynchon-l is an open e-mail discussion list managed by Oliver Xymoron and Murthy Yenamandra. To subscribe to the list, send either of the following two-line messages to waste@waste.org (leaving the Subject line blank):

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subscribe pynchon-l
end
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[or]

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subscribe pynchon-l-digest
end
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To post a message to the list, send it to pynchon-l@waste.org. That is the posting address even for subscribers to the digest.

Archives of list postings are available at www.waste.org, at the Pomona web site and on Andrew Dinn's home page.

For more detailed information about the Pynchon list, send the following message to waste@waste.org (leaving the Subject line blank):

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info pynchon-l
end
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Or look under Other Electronic Resources at the *Pynchon Notes* web site.

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Marco Colapietro has recently published his first novel, *M.*, written in Italian, under the pen name Tommaso Pincio. He writes to the editors of *Pynchon Notes*:

It should be evident to a Pynchonian that *M.* comes from *V.*, and the most evident connection is the fact that an *M* may be seen as a doubled *V* upside down. However, there is more. But even if there are more links, *M.* may easily exist by itself. It did not need so much from *V.* to be written, and it does not need *V.* at all to be read. . . .

Pincio is the phonetic italian transcription of Pynchon but is also a topographical reference. Tommaso is more Thomas than you can imagine. Tommaso Pincio is my name-in-fiction and my faith as writer.

Please do not see *M.* and my name-in-fiction as a parody or grotesque imitation. To consider *M.* and Tommaso Pincio as the result of surrogating my identity in Pynchon's would be more advisable. . . .

My second novel is in progress. It will be set in Jerusalem during 1948, and might be seen as a sort of *GR* remake. Among major characters will be Sarah Hazard, Groucho Marx, Musther Mark, Santa Kaos, Abdul Khader, Laika Grantour, Max Brod and the crowd of its kasher-nokasher restaurant.

Marco Colapietro is also working on a guide to *Gravity's Rainbow* for Italian readers. The first Italian translation of *GR* will be published in 1998.