

Notes

The Narrated Gravity's Rainbow

The final presentation at the Antwerp conference during International Pynchon Week in June 1998 was *The Narrated Gravity's Rainbow*—a critical reading/performance of Pynchon's novel by Project Vox Libris. Their reading of the novel centers on the ideas of Europe as a Zone of conflicting human and technological forces, the transformation of power in the ever-changing shapes of entertainment, and the evolution of technology from V-2 missiles to space dreams and computer mirages. Spanning several orthodox categories, *The Narrated Gravity's Rainbow* integrates criticism with animated digital collage (using the work of Canadian artist Larry Daw), theatre and contemporary music into a compelling aural and visual performance, transforming Pynchon's postmodern fiction into Performance Art. The entire presentation is now available on CD-ROM or PAL-format VHS video for \$12.00 (U.S.) plus postage. An order form is available on the *Pynchon Notes* website at <<http://www.ham.muohio.edu/~krafftjm/voxLibris.html>>.

Project Vox Libris are Massimiliano Aloisi—computer programming, visual arts, bass, guitar, samples, voice; Mattia Carratello—sound editing, movie production, guitar, keyboard, voice; Doc Rossi—computer programming, digital effects, text preparation, guitar, cittern, lead voices.

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To All Rocketeers

I would like to draw your attention to a little booklet published in Germany a few years ago: *V2 Aufbruch zur Raumfahrt*. It contains some very interesting material on the rocket and the Heeres-versuchsanstalt Peenemünde. Unfortunately, the text is rather biased, emphasizing the scientific achievement far above the military aspects and omitting any reference to the fact that the rocket was actually produced by KZ-prisoners under the most terrible conditions. But the introductory text is only a few pages long, and the rest of the fifty pages is made up of diagrams and photos of the various V-rockets, of the launching site, of historical documents and of the personnel at

Peenemünde. This material may prove very useful to those who follow Slothrop on his quest for the rocket.

The full bibliographic data are: Engelmann, Joachim. *V2 Aufbruch zur Raumfahrt*. Peenemünde: Axel-Dietrich, 1997. ISBN: 3-930066-50-5. This is a licensed reprint of the edition Wölfersheim: Podzun-Pallas, 1985. ISBN: 3-7909-0241-1. An English edition was published as *V2: dawn of the Rocket Age*. West Chester, PA: Schiffer, 1990. ISBN: 088740233X.

The German edition is hard to come by. Even amazon.de does not have it in their program. It can be ordered from the publisher for 14.80 DM (about \$9) plus postage. The publisher has a website, <<http://www.wild-east.de/firmen/dietrich/index.html>>, but please bear in mind that the German gremlins govern websites even more autocratically than their American counterparts do. The English edition can be ordered for \$9.95 plus \$3.95 postage and handling by calling 610-593-1777, or by writing to Schiffer Publishing, 4880 Lower Valley Road, Atglen, PA 19310.

—Dirk Vanderbeke
Greifswald

Websites of Special Interest

The *Pynchon Notes* website: <<http://www.ham.muohio.edu/~krafftjm/pynchon.html>>

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

Tim Ware's web-guides to Pynchon's fiction: <<http://www.hyperarts.com/pynchon/>>

Pynchon Reading Group, c/o Niran Abbas, Birkbeck College: <<http://www.bbk.ac.uk/Departments/English/pynchon/>>

Stuart Moulthrop's *Hyperbola* stack: <<http://raven.ubalt.edu/staff/moulthrop/hypertexts/hyperbola.html>>

Larry Daw's Spermatikos Logos: <<http://rpg.net/quail/libyrinth/pynchon>>

Soniferous Aether: Thomas Pynchon, Sound, Music, and Information: <<http://www.netspace.org/crudites/spaces/pynchon/>>

Susan Argus's Pynchon links: <<http://www.city-net.com/~argus/pynchon.html>>

Richard Lane's Pynchon files: <<http://www.pynchonfiles.com>>

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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 messages to waste@waste.org (leaving the Subject line blank):

```
subscribe pynchon-l  
end
```

[or]

```
subscribe pynchon-l-digest  
end
```

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 and at [ftp.waste.org](ftp://waste.org).

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

```
info pynchon-l  
end
```

—or look under Other Electronic Resources at the *Pynchon Notes* website.