

**THE TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL MEETING**

of the

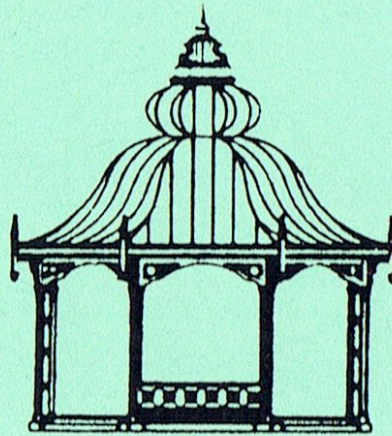
**T. S. ELIOT SOCIETY**

featuring

**THE 2000  
T. S. ELIOT MEMORIAL LECTURE**

by

**CARL PHILLIPS**



**22-24 SEPTEMBER 2000  
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI**



## PROGRAM OF EVENTS

*For conference locations, see distributed maps.*

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

3:00 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting . . . . . The Inn at the Park

6:00 p.m. Transportation from the Inn to Washington University

6:00 p.m. Registration. . . . . Brown Lounge, Washington University  
William Charron, Treasurer

7:00 p.m. Opening Session . . . . . Brown Lounge

#### Welcome

Linda Wyman, President

#### Eliot Aloud Allowed--and Encouraged!

Readings by attendees

#### Presentations

David Huisman, Secretary, Chair

Rev. Earl K. Holt III, *First Unitarian Church, St. Louis*  
"Nearest to Truth and to God": William Greenleaf  
Eliot and Washington University"

Patricia Sloane, *New York City Technical College  
of the City University of New York*  
"Close Reading and Phoenician Sailors"

Robert F. Fleissner, *Central State University*  
"Eliot and Goethe"

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

8:20 a.m. Transportation from the Inn to Tower Grove Park

9:00 a.m. Second Session . . . . . Piper Palm House, Tower Grove Park

#### Announcements

Linda Wyman, President

#### Welcome

John Karel, Director, Tower Grove Park

#### Presentations

Shyamal Bagchee, Vice President, Chair

Christopher Wilkins, *Boston University*  
"That Uncorruptible Sincerity of Word": Eliot's  
Dryden and the Absence of Hopkins"

Venus S. Freeman, *Thonotosassa, Florida*  
"What Tiresias Sees": *The Waste Land's* Revision  
of Mythic Paradigms"

Lois A. Cuddy, *University of Rhode Island, emerita*  
"Caught in the Circle: The Paradox of Evolution  
and Personal Progress in *Ash Wednesday*"

11:00 a.m. **Twenty-first Annual T.S. Eliot Memorial Lecture**

Carl Phillips, *Washington University*  
"Poetry, Consciousness, Gift: The Model of T.S. Eliot"

12:30 p.m. Lunch (*advance registrants only*). . . . . Piper Palm House  
(*Afternoon free for exploring Tower Grove Park, the adjacent Missouri  
Botanical Garden, and other attractions in St. Louis*)

5:45 p.m. Transportation from the Inn to Washington University

6:00 p.m. Cash Bar . . . . . Holmes Lounge, Washington University

7:00 p.m. Dinner (*advance registrants only*) . . . . . Holmes Lounge

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

9:30 a.m. Eliot Sunday . . . . . First Unitarian Church, 5007 Waterman Boulevard

#### Sermon

"All Aboard for Natchez, Cairo and St. Louis"  
Rev. Earl K. Holt III, Minister

#### Special Music

"T.S. Eliot Impressions for Organ" (1998, 1999)  
Dennis Bergin, Composer & Organist

11:00 a.m. Third Session . . . . . Clark Chapel, First Unitarian Church

#### Presentations

Melanie Fathman, Board Member, Chair

Marcia Karp, *Boston University*  
"The Upset of Time in *The Love Song of J. Alfred  
Prufrock* and in *Edwin Morris*"

Katey Kuhns Castellano, *Bucknell University*  
"A heap of broken images": Unity in the Shattered  
Promises of Spiritual Transcendence in T.S. Eliot's *The Waste Land*"

*The cover graphic is used courtesy of Tower Grove Park.*



## **A Note on T.S. Eliot's Life**

Thomas Stearns Eliot was born in St. Louis, Missouri, on September 26, 1888, of a family distinguished for its contributions to the city and its institutions. In later years, Eliot often spoke appreciatively of St. Louis. Returning in 1953, he expressed his gratitude before an audience at Washington University, founded a century earlier by his grandfather William Greenleaf Eliot, as was the First Unitarian Church of St. Louis. In a booklet commemorating this occasion, the poet acknowledged that "St. Louis affected me more deeply than any other environment." This influence is evident in his poetry from *Prufrock* through *The Dry Salvages*. Eliot died in London, England, his adopted country, on January 4, 1965. A 1948 Nobel Laureate, he is deemed the most significant poet of the 20th century.

### **T.S. Eliot Memorial Lecturers 1980-2000**

Sr. Marcella Holloway  
Robert C. Roach  
Charles Guenther  
Rev. Earl K. Holt III  
Jewel Spears Brooker  
W. Ronald Schuchard  
Grover Smith  
James Olney  
A.D. Moody  
Leonard Unger

Shyamal Bagchee  
Cleo McNelly Kearns  
Denis Donoghue  
Christopher Ricks  
William Harmon  
Louis Menand  
Marianne Thormählen  
James Longenbach  
Charles Altieri  
Helen Vendler

Carl Phillips

### **Present Directors of the T.S. Eliot Society**

Linda Wyman, President  
Shyamal Bagchee, Vice-President  
William Charron, Treasurer  
David Huisman, Secretary  
Virginia Phelan, Historian  
Michael Coyle  
Melanie Fathman  
William Harmon  
Rev. Earl K. Holt III  
Benjamin Lockerd, Jr.  
Jayme Stayer

The T.S. Eliot Society is an international organization of scholars and others interested in the mind and work of Eliot. It was founded in 1980 by the Hungarian-American man of letters, Leslie L. Konnyu, for the purpose of providing fellowship and enrichment of understanding, and as a focus for commemorating Eliot in the city of his birth, St. Louis. Its annual program includes a Memorial Lecture by a critic or scholar.

The Society, incorporated in Missouri as a non-profit organization, is supported by the annual dues of its members. For information concerning membership, address: William Charron, Treasurer, 709 S. Skinker, #401, St. Louis, MO 63105.

The T.S. Eliot Society is in correspondence with the author societies participating in ALA (The American Literature Association).

The T.S. Eliot Society gratefully acknowledges the generosity and cooperation of Washington University, Tower Grove Park, and First Unitarian Church in hosting the 2000 Annual Meeting.