

THE THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING

of the

# T. S. Eliot Society

featuring

THE 2013

T. S. ELIOT MEMORIAL LECTURE

by

JAHAN RAMAZANI



27–29 SEPTEMBER 2013  
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

# PROGRAM OF EVENTS

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## Friday, September 27

*Events of the first day will be held on the campus of  
Washington University.*

**9:00 – 12:00**

### **Board of Directors Meeting**

Coffee Room, Duncker Hall

**10:00 – 12:00**

### **Peer Seminar**

Room 217, Eads Hall

“Eliot and Asia”

Seminar Leader: Anita Patterson, Boston U

Participants:

Joon-Soo Bong, Seoul National U

Aaron Dylan Graham, U of Wyoming

Nancy Hargrove, Mississippi State U

Christopher McVey, U of Wisconsin-Madison

Roderick B. Overaa, East Tennessee State U

—No auditors, please—

**10:00 – 12:00**

### **Scholars Seminar I**

Room 205, South Brookings Hall

Leader: Jayme Stayer, John Carroll U

Participants:

Anna Finn, U of California Irvine

Florian Gargaillo, Boston U

William Kinnison, Ohio Dominican U

Pablo Martínez Diente, Vanderbilt U

Steven Pokornowski, U of California-Santa Barbara

Bryan Salmons, Lincoln U

Matthew Scully, Tufts U

John Tamilio III, Salem State U

Nikolaus Wasmoen, University of Rochester

—No auditors, please—

**10:00 – 12:00**

**Scholars Seminar II**

Room 121, Duncker Hall

Leader: John Whittier-Ferguson, U of Michigan

Participants:

Jackie Fetzer, Clemson U

Kayla Harr, U of Maryland

Megan Harris, U of Toronto

Lauren Hawley, U of Wisconsin-Madison

Christina Iglesias, Columbia U

Emily Leithauser, Emory U

Kevin Rulo, Catholic U

—No auditors, please—

**12:00 - 2:30**

**Display of Eliot Materials**

Olin Library, Special Collections

**12:15 - 12:45**

**Special Presentation**

Olin Library, Special Collections

“Fame and Family: Eliot Materials in the Washington University  
Libraries Special Collections”

Joel Minor, Modern Literature Curator

**2:30 – 4:00**

**Panel Session I**

Hurst Lounge, Duncker Hall

Chair: John Morgenstern, Clemson U

“Specimen Voices: Eliot and the Harvard Vocabarium”

Elizabeth Micaković, U of Exeter

“Eliot, Sound Art and Sonic Philology”

John Melillo, U of Arizona

“Chopin’s Egregious Fate in ‘Portrait of a Lady’”

Abby Ang, Indiana U

**4:15 – 5:15**

Hurst Lounge, Duncker Hall

**Thirty-Fourth Annual  
T. S. Eliot Memorial Lecture**

Chair: Michael Coyle, Colgate U

**“T. S. Eliot, Poetry and Prayer”**

**Jahan Ramazani**

Edgar F. Shannon Professor of English  
at the University of Virginia

**5:15 – 6:15**

**Reception**

Sponsored by the Department of English,  
Washington University

**7:00**

**Dutch Treat Dinner**

Wildflower Restaurant  
4590 Laclede Ave.

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**Saturday, September 28**

*Morning and afternoon events will be held at the St. Louis  
Woman's Club, 4600 Lindell Blvd.*

**9:00 – 10:30**

**Panel Session II**

Chair: David Chinitz, Loyola U Chicago

“Evenings at the Phoenix Society”

Anthony Cuda, U of North Carolina, Greensboro

“Anthropology in *The Cocktail Party*”

Glenn Clifton, U of Toronto

“Living a Fiction: Finance and Fraud in *The Confidential Clerk*”

Matt Seybold, U of Alabama

**10:45 – 12:15**

**Panel Session III**

Chair: Cyrena Pondrom, U of Wisconsin-Madison

“Drying Combinations: Decadence, Modernism, and *The Waste Land*”

Vincent Sherry, Washington U

“‘A Satirist of Vices and Follies’: Beardsley, Eliot and Images of Decadent Catholicism”

Martin Lockerd, U of Texas, Austin

“Eliot and Japonisme”

Anita Patterson, Boston U

**12:30 – 2:00**

**Society Lunch**

Ballroom

**2:00 – 3:30**

**Panel Session IV**

Chair: Nancy Gish, U of Southern Maine

“Eliot, Mysteries, and Para-Authorial Roles”

Deborah Leiter Nyabuti, Southern Illinois U,  
Carbondale

“Classical and Medieval Theories of Friendship in Eliot’s Poetry”

Margaret Greaves, Emory U

“T. S. Eliot and Walt Whitman”

W. Shawn Worthington, Boston U

**6:00**

**Society Dinner**

Home of Tony and Melanie Fathman  
*4967 Pershing Place*

**7:15**

**Postprandial talk**

Update on the forthcoming editions of Eliot’s works

Ronald Schuchard, Emory U



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## Sunday, September 29

*All activities on Sunday will be held at the First Unitarian Church, 5007 Waterman Blvd. Society members who wish to attend the 9:15 a.m. service with the Eliot family's congregation will be welcome. The special sermon planned for the occasion is titled "The Life Lost in Living: Theology and T. S. Eliot."*

**10:00 – 11:30**

**Panel Session V**

Meeting Room

Chair: Chris Buttram, Winona State U

"Eliot's Theological Poetics"

John Whittier-Ferguson, U of Michigan

"*Four Quartets* and the Christian-Platonist Tradition"

James Matthew Wilson, Villanova U

"Some Influences of Evelyn Underhill on T. S. Eliot"

Joshua Richards, Palm Beach Atlantic U

**11:45 – 12:15**

**Concluding Session**

Meeting Room

**Eliot Aloud: Readings of Eliot's Works**

Ben Lockerd, Grand Valley State U

**Award Presentations:** Michael Coyle, Colgate U

## **2013 MEMORIAL LECTURER**

### **JAHAN RAMAZANI**

Jahan Ramazani is Edgar F. Shannon Professor of English at the University of Virginia. His 2013 Eliot Society lecture draws from his new book, *Poetry and Its Others: News, Prayer, Song, and the Dialogue of Genres*, forthcoming from the University of Chicago Press. Ramazani is the author of *A Transnational Poetics* (2009), winner of the 2011 Harry Levin Prize of the American Comparative Literature Association, awarded for the best book in comparative literary history published in the years 2008 to 2010. Previous books include *The Hybrid Muse: Postcolonial Poetry in English* (2001); *Poetry of Mourning: The Modern Elegy from Hardy to Heaney* (1994), a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award; and *Yeats and the Poetry of Death: Elegy, Self-Elegy, and the Sublime* (1990). He edited the most recent edition of the *Norton Anthology of Modern and Contemporary Poetry* (2003) and, with Jon Stallworthy, *The Twentieth Century and After* in the *Norton Anthology of English Literature* (2006, 2012). He is also an associate editor of the new *Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics* (2012). He has received a Guggenheim Fellowship, an NEH Fellowship, a Rhodes Scholarship, the William Riley Parker Prize of the MLA, and the Thomas Jefferson Award, the University of Virginia's highest honor.

### **T. S. Eliot Memorial Lecturers**

#### **1980–2012**

Daniel Albright	Geoffrey Hill	Shyamal Bagchee
Jean-Michel Rabaté	Carl Phillips	Leonard Unger
Michael Levenson	Helen Vendler	A. D. Moody
Ronald Bush	Charles Altieri	James Olney
Grace Schulman	James Longenbach	Grover Smith
George T. Wright	Marianne Thormählen	Ronald Schuchard
William Blissett	Louis Menand	Jewel Spears Brooker
Robert Crawford	William Harmon	Rev. Earl K. Holt III
Craig Raine	Christopher Ricks	Charles Guenther
Leon Surette	Denis Donoghue	Robert C. Roach
Marjorie Perloff	Cleo McNelly Kearns	Sr. Marcella Holloway

# The T. S. Eliot Society

The T. S. Eliot Society is an international organization of scholars and others interested in the life and work of Eliot. It was founded in 1980 to provide fellowship and enrichment of understanding, and as a focus for commemorating Eliot in the city of his birth, St. Louis.

The Society publishes its newsletter, *Time Present*, three times yearly, and it sponsors annual sessions at MLA, SAML A, ALA, and the Louisville Conference on Literature & Culture since 1900.

Incorporated as a non-profit organization, the Society is supported by the annual dues of its members. For information concerning membership, please visit the Society's website at [www.luc.edu/eliot](http://www.luc.edu/eliot).

To subscribe to the Society's listserv, please contact Cyrena Pondrom ([cpondrom@english.wisc.edu](mailto:cpondrom@english.wisc.edu)).

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

Michael Coyle, President  
Frances Dickey, Vice-President  
John Morgenstern, Historian  
Anthony Cuda, Secretary  
Melanie Fathman, Treasurer  
David E. Chinitz, Supervisor of Elections  
Christine Buttram  
Julia E. Daniel  
Nancy K. Gish  
Rev. Earl K. Holt III  
Gabrielle McIntire  
Cyrena Pondrom

*Cover:* Postcard photograph of Notre-Dame de la Garde, the basilica that Eliot told William Turner Levy he had in mind when composing part IV of *The Dry Salvages* ("Lady, whose shrine stands on the promontory").