

PMMLA



Publications of the
■
Modern Language
■
Association
■
of America
■

1 9 9 3

MAY

VOLUME 108 ■ NUMBER 3

Princeton



Black Riders

The Visible Language of Modernism Jerome McGann

Jerome McGann demonstrates the extraordinary degree to which modernist styles are related to graphic and typographic design, to printed letters—"black riders" on a blank page—that create language for the eye. He sketches the relation of modernist writing to key developments in book design, beginning with the nineteenth-century renaissance of printing, and demonstrates the continued interest of postmodern writers in the "visible language" of modernism.

"Black Riders is of immense importance. . . . In its brilliance and imaginative challenge to many assumptions of post-modernist thought, *Black Riders* reaches new ground. It will be required reading."

—Norman Kelvin, *City University of New York*

Paper: \$12.95 ISBN 0-691-01544-9

Cloth: \$35.00 ISBN 0-691-06985-9

Elizabeth Bishop and Marianne Moore

The Psychodynamics of Creativity Joanne Feit Diehl

This highly innovative work on poetic influence among women writers focuses on the relationship between Elizabeth Bishop and her mentor Marianne Moore. Departing from Freudian models of influence theory, Joanne Diehl applies the psychoanalytic insights of object relations theorists Melanie Klein and Christopher Bollas to woman-to-woman literary transactions.

" . . . as powerful, as daring, and as original as the writers it discusses. *Elizabeth Bishop and Marianne Moore* provides its readers with dazzling insight into the artistic modes and creative strategies of two of this century's most significant American poets."

—Lee Edelman, *Tufts University*

Cloth: \$17.95 ISBN 0-691-06975-1

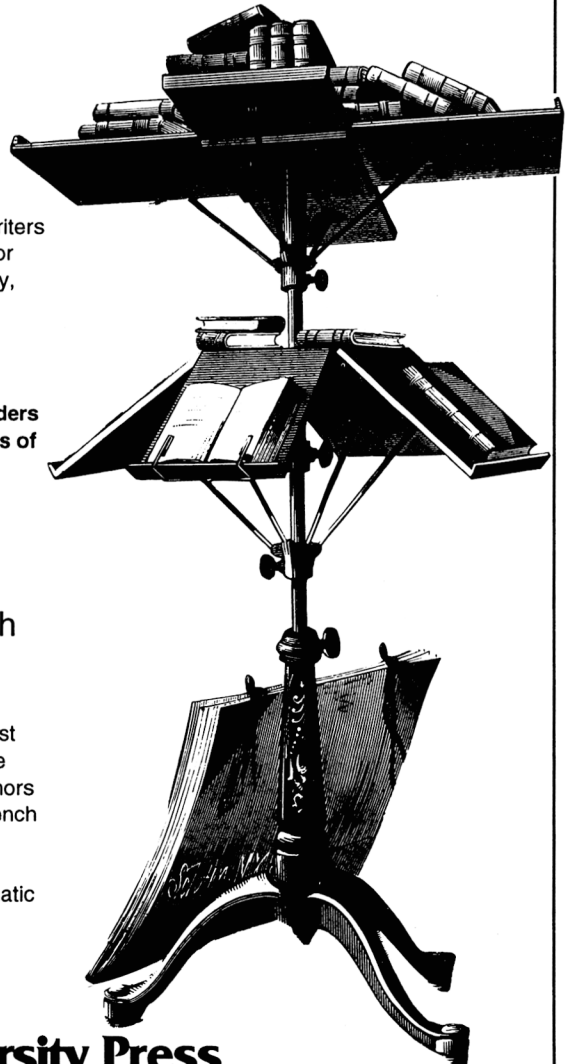
Of Words and the World

Referential Anxiety in Contemporary French Fiction

David R. Ellison

David Ellison explores the problems encountered by France's best experimental authors writing between 1956 and 1984. Through close readings Ellison examines the novels and theoretical writings of authors whose works are fundamental to our perception of contemporary French writing and thought: Camus, Robbe-Grillet, Simon, Duras, Sarraute, Blanchot, and Beckett. The result is a new understanding of the link between the referential function of literary language and the problematic of the ethics of fiction.

"Timely and significant."—Steven Ungar, *University of Iowa*
Cloth: \$32.50 ISBN 0-691-06964-6



Princeton University Press

41 WILLIAM ST., PRINCETON, NJ 08540 • ORDERS: 800-777-4726 • OR FROM YOUR LOCAL BOOKSTORE

May 1993

PMMLA

Publications of the
Modern Language Association
of America

Volume 108, Number 3

Published six times a year by the association

The Modern Language Association of America

Officers for the Year 1993

President: ELAINE MARKS, *University of Wisconsin, Madison*
First Vice President: PATRICIA MEYER SPACKS, *University of Virginia*
Second Vice President: SANDER L. GILMAN, *Cornell University*
Executive Director: PHYLLIS FRANKLIN

Executive Council

For the term ending 31 December 1993

SARA CASTRO-KLAREN, *Johns Hopkins University*
GERALD GRAFF, *University of Chicago*
CLAIRE KRAMSCH, *University of California, Berkeley*
NELLIE Y. MCKAY, *University of Wisconsin, Madison*

For the term ending 31 December 1994

STEPHEN GREENBLATT, *University of California, Berkeley*
MICHAEL HOLQUIST, *Yale University*
JACK ZIPES, *University of Minnesota, Minneapolis*

For the term ending 31 December 1995

MARTHA BANTA, *University of California, Los Angeles*
MARIANNE HIRSCH, *Dartmouth College*
NAOMI SCHOR, *Duke University*
NANCY A. WALKER, *Vanderbilt University*

For the term ending 31 December 1996

LINDA HUTCHEON, *University of Toronto, Saint George Campus*
SUSAN KIRKPATRICK, *University of California, San Diego*
SUSAN RUBIN SULEIMAN, *Harvard University*

Trustees of Invested Funds

CAROLYN G. HEILBRUN, *New York, New York*
HUGH O'NEILL, *New York, New York*
MALCOLM B. SMITH (Managing Trustee), *New York, New York*

PMLA (ISSN 0030-8129) is published six times a year, in January, March, May, September, October, and November, by the Modern Language Association of America. Membership in the association is open to persons who are professionally interested in the modern languages and literatures. Annual dues, which include subscription to *PMLA*, are based on members' incomes and are graduated as follows: student members (four years maximum), \$20; new regular members (first year), \$35; regular members (income under \$15,000), \$25; regular members (income \$15,000–\$20,000), \$40; regular members (income \$20,000–\$30,000), \$50; regular members (income \$30,000–\$40,000), \$65; regular members (income \$40,000–\$50,000), \$75; regular members (income \$50,000–\$60,000), \$85; regular members (income \$60,000–\$70,000), \$95; regular members (income \$70,000–\$80,000), \$105; regular members (income over \$80,000), \$125; foreign members, same as regular members (use the American-dollar equivalent to ascertain the dues category). Membership applications are available on request.

The subscription price of *PMLA* for libraries and other institutions is \$100. A subscription including a bound volume at the end of the year is \$235, domestic and foreign. Agents deduct 4% as their fee. Single copies of the January, March, May, and October issues may be obtained for \$12 each; the November (Program) issue for \$35; the September (Directory) issue for \$50.

Issues for the current year are available from the Member and Customer Services Office of the association (212 614-6377). Claims for undelivered issues will be honored if they are received within one year of the publication date; thereafter the single-issue price will be charged.

For information about the availability of back issues, inquire of Kraus Reprint, Millwood, NY 10546; 914 762-2200. Early and current volumes may be obtained on microfilm from University Microfilms, Ann Arbor, MI 48106. Purchase of current volumes on film is restricted to subscribers of the journal.

The office of publication and editorial offices are located at 10 Astor Place, New York, NY 10003-6981; 212 475-9500.

All communications including notices of changes of address should be sent to the Member and Customer Services Office of the association. If a change of address also involves a change of institutional affiliation, that office should be informed of this fact at the same time.

Second-class postage paid at New York, NY, and at additional mailing office.

© 1993 by The Modern Language Association of America. All rights reserved. Printed in the United States of America.

Library of Congress Catalog Card Number 12-32040. United States Postal Service Number 449-660.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *PMLA*, Member and Customer Services Office, Modern Language Association of America, 10 Astor Place, New York, NY 10003-6981.

Publications of the Modern Language Association

Published six times a year Indexes: Vols. 1–50, 1935; 51–60, 1945; 51–79, 1964

Editor: DOMNA C. STANTON, *University of Michigan, Ann Arbor*

Managing Editor: JUDY GOULDING

Assistant Editor: ERIC WIRTH

Editorial Assistants: LOUIS A. MORRA and ERIN TROSTLE

Advertising Manager and Administrative Assistant: CYNTHIA R. PORT

Administrative Assistant: XENI FRAGAKIS

Editorial Board

MARTHA NOEL EVANS, 1993, *Mary Baldwin College*

VALERIE D. GREENBERG, 1995, *Tulane University*

SYLVIA MOLLOY, 1994, *New York University*

HERBERT F. TUCKER, 1993, *University of Virginia*

JERRY W. WARD, JR., 1994, *Tougaloo College*

MARILYN L. WILLIAMSON, 1994, *Wayne State University*

Advisory Committee

JONATHAN ARAC, 1994, *University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh*

NINA BAYM, 1995, *University of Illinois, Urbana*

DOUGLAS COLLINS, 1993, *University of Washington*

RICHARD J. DELLAMORA, 1995, *Champlain College, Trent University*

GAIL FINNEY, 1995, *University of California, Davis*

SUZANNE FLEISCHMAN, 1995, *University of California, Berkeley*

SUSAN STANFORD FRIEDMAN, 1994, *University of Wisconsin, Madison*

JANE A. GALLOP, 1995, *University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee*

ARTHUR F. GANZ, 1994, *City College, City University of New York*

ANNE RUGGLES GERE, 1993, *University of Michigan, Ann Arbor*

CHARLES B. HARRIS, 1994, *Illinois State University*

ROBERTA JOHNSON, 1993, *University of Kansas*

COPPELIA KAHN, 1994, *Brown University*

LAWRENCE D. KRITZMAN, 1996, *Dartmouth College*

SETH LERER, 1994, *Stanford University*

WAHNEEMA H. LUBIANO, 1995, *Princeton University*

GREGORY L. LUCENTE, 1995, *University of Michigan, Ann Arbor*

LEAH MARCUS, 1993, *University of Texas, Austin*

PAUL L. MARIANI, 1994, *University of Massachusetts, Amherst*

RUTH PERRY, 1995, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*

SANDY PETREY, 1996, *State University of New York, Stony Brook*

TILOTTAMA RAJAN, 1994, *University of Western Ontario*

ERIC RENTSCHLER, 1995, *University of California, Irvine*

MARGERY SABIN, 1994, *Wellesley College*

STEPHANIE SANDLER, 1995, *Amherst College*

DEBORA SHUGER, 1996, *University of California, Los Angeles*

JOSEPH T. SKERRETT, JR., 1993, *University of Massachusetts, Amherst*

GARRETT STEWART, 1993, *University of California, Santa Barbara*

C. JAN SWEARINGEN, 1993, *University of Texas, Arlington*

FRANK TROMMLER, 1995, *University of Pennsylvania*

JAMES G. TURNER, 1994, *University of California, Berkeley*

MARGARITA ZAMORA, 1996, *University of Wisconsin, Madison*

A Statement of Editorial Policy

PMLA welcomes essays of interest to those concerned with the study of language and literature. As the publication of a large and heterogeneous association, the journal is receptive to a variety of topics, whether general or specific, and to all scholarly methods and theoretical perspectives. The ideal *PMLA* essay exemplifies the best of its kind, whatever the kind; addresses a significant problem; draws out clearly the implications of its findings; and engages the attention of its audience through a concise, readable presentation. Manuscripts in languages other than English are accepted for review but must be accompanied by a detailed summary in English (generally of 1,000–1,500 words) and must be translated into English if they are recommended to the Editorial Board. Articles of fewer than 2,500 words or more than 9,000 words are not considered for publication. The word count includes notes but excludes works-cited lists and translations, which should accompany foreign language quotations. The MLA urges its contributors to be sensitive to the social implications of language and to seek wording free of discriminatory overtones.

Only members of the association may submit articles to *PMLA*. Each article submitted is sent to at least one consultant reader and one member of the Advisory Committee. Articles recommended by these readers are then sent to the members of the Editorial Board, who meet periodically with the editor to make final decisions. Until a final decision is reached, the author's name is not made known to consultant readers, to members of the Advisory Committee and the Editorial Board, or to the editor.

Submissions, prepared according to *The MLA Style Manual*, should be sent in duplicate and addressed to the Managing Editor, *PMLA*, Modern Language Association, 10 Astor Place, New York, NY 10003-6981. With each submission please include a self-addressed envelope and enough postage for both copies to be returned. Authors' names should not appear on manuscripts; instead, a cover sheet, with the author's name and address and the title of the article, should accompany each manuscript. Authors should not refer to themselves in the first person in the submitted text or notes if such references would identify them; any necessary references to the author's previous work, for example, should be in the third person.

Criticism in Translation

MLA members are invited to submit to the *PMLA* Editorial Board proposals for translations. Articles, as well as chapters or sections of books that can function as independent units, will be considered. The originals may be in any language. Two types of proposals are welcome: (1) significant scholarship from earlier periods that has not lost its forcefulness and whose retrieval in English in *PMLA* would be a noteworthy event for a broad body of readers or (2) contemporary work of sufficient weight and potential influence to merit the attention of the field as a whole.

A member who wishes to make a proposal should first ascertain that no previous English translation exists. The proposer should then provide the managing editor with the following materials: (1) a photocopy of the original essay, (2) an extended summary of the entire essay in English, (3) an introductory statement of approximately 1,000 words, prepared in accordance with MLA style, that will be published with the essay if the essay is accepted, (4) information on the copyright status of the original (if the translation is accepted for publication, the proposer will be responsible for obtaining permission to print it). In addition, if the proposer wishes to serve as translator of the essay or to designate a translator (who must also be an MLA member), a 1,000-word sample of the translation should be submitted; otherwise the Editorial Board will select a translator.

The translated essays should normally not exceed *PMLA*'s 9,000-word limit. The Editorial Board will approve or decline the proposals, evaluate the quality of the translations, and cooperate with the proposers and translators.

Contents

Special Topic	399
Forthcoming in <i>PMLA</i>	399
Presidential Address 1992. Local Pedagogy; or, How I Redeemed My Spring Semester <i>Houston A. Baker, Jr.</i>	400
Cluster: Readings of Narrative, 1937–87	
Introduction. Readings of Narrative, 1937–87: Beyond Orthodoxy <i>Peter J. Rabinowitz</i>	410
God’s Law and the Wide Screen: <i>The Ten Commandments</i> as Cold War “Epic” <i>Alan Nadel</i>	415
In Search of Identity: The Israeli Arab Artist in Anton Shammas’s <i>Arabesques</i> <i>Rachel Feldhay Brenner</i>	431
Free Mules, Talking Buzzards, and Cracked Plates: The Politics of Dislocation in <i>Their Eyes Were Watching God</i> <i>Sharon Davie</i>	446
Mario Vargas Llosa, Euclides da Cunha, and the Strategy of Intertextuality <i>Renata R. Mautner Wasserman</i>	460
Giving Body to the Word: The Maternal Symbolic in Toni Morrison’s <i>Beloved</i> <i>Jean Wyatt</i>	474
The Dialectic of “Enscenment”: Patrick Süskind’s <i>Das Parfum</i> as Critical History of Enlightenment Culture <i>Richard T. Gray</i>	489
Ishmael Reed and the Problematics of Control <i>Kathryn Hume</i>	506
J. G. Ballard’s Empire of the Senses: Perversion and the Failure of Authority <i>Dennis A. Foster</i>	519
Forum	533
Report of the Executive Director	550

Cover illustration: Untitled photograph by Barbara Kruger. PMLA thanks the artist for permission to reproduce this image.

Forthcoming Meetings and Conferences of General Interest	563
Index of Advertisers	565
Professional Notes and Comment	578
Announcements	578
Journal Notes	586
Minutes of the MLA Delegate Assembly	586
Meeting of the MLA Executive Council	592
In Memoriam	596
Abstracts	630
