

ANNOUNCING

THE MIAMI UNIVERSITY  
SUMMER INSTITUTE  
FOR LITERARY  
HISTORY

# Reinventing the Poet-Critic

June 2-4, 1994

*Speakers*

**Charles Bernstein**

SUNY Buffalo

Author of *A Poetics, Content's Dream, Rough Trades*; editor of *The Politics of Poetic Form*

**Rachel Blau DuPlessis**

Temple University

Author of *The Pink Guitar: Writing as Feminist Practice, Writing Beyond the Ending: Narrative Strategies of 20th Century Women Writers*, and *Tabula Rosa*

**Nathaniel Mackey**

University of California, Santa Cruz

Author of *School of Udhra, Discrepant Engagement: Dissonance, Cross-Culturality, and Experimental Writing*, and *Bedouin Hornbook*

**Avital Ronell**

University of California, Berkeley

Author of *Telephone Book: Technology-Schizophrenia-Electric Speech*, and *Crack Wars: Literature, Addiction, Mania*

## SUMMER INSTITUTE FOR LITERARY HISTORY

The Institute is organized and sponsored by the Department of English for the purpose of addressing important questions and issues in literary history. Each Institute has two components: a conference featuring presentations by distinguished scholars, and a graduate seminar taught by the directors of the Institute.

The 1994 Institute is being directed by Andrew Lakritz and Keith Tuma, assistant professors in the Miami University Department of English. Lakritz has published articles on American modernist poetry, literary theory, and feminist criticism; he is currently completing *Uncommon Grounds*, on identification and difference in literary and cultural texts, and *Natural Histories*, a Benjaminian study of Robert Frost, Wallace Stevens, and Marianne Moore. Tuma has published articles on modern and contemporary American and British poetry and on the construction of national identity in theories and histories of the avant-garde; he is currently completing *Fishing By Obsolete Isles: British Modernist Poetry and American Readers* while co-editing the forthcoming *Mina Loy: Woman and Poet* (The National Poetry Foundation).

## THE CONFERENCE

With the introduction of new methodologies in literary study and the increasing popularity of cultural studies, the content of the typical academic essay or book has begun to look very different from what it might have looked like just a few years ago. But even as we redefine

the objects and goals of scholarship, our essays and books, considered as writing, are often as boring and predictable as ever. With its main point of reference being the work of poet-critics for whom the act of writing criticism is coextensive with the practice of an art, this conference will be devoted to discussions of the discursive modes of critical writing, with special attention being paid to experiments in criticism that explode conventional genres and categories. Featured speakers will address the conventions of criticism, the history of poet-critics, and the possibilities of imagining a new critical prose from their own perspectives as poets, scholars, critics, and theorists. Each presentation will include an opportunity for questions and comments; small group discussions will facilitate interactions among all conference participants. A panel discussion will conclude the conference. The conference fee is \$35.00.

## THE GRADUATE SEMINAR

Between May 16 and June 4, the Institute directors will offer a graduate seminar on the work of canonical and contemporary poet-critics. Searching for ways in which the poet-critic might be "reinvented" as a model for critical practice, the seminar will try to identify the strengths and weaknesses of various poet-critics, the kinds of questions that have typically preoccupied them, and the ways in which their discursive modes can be thought of as opposed to the conventions of professional critical discourse. Students in the seminar will attend the conference and meet with the speakers.

*Miami University: Equal opportunity in education and employment.*

1994

Miami University • Department of English

Registration Form

SUMMER INSTITUTE FOR LITERARY HISTORY

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ HOME PHONE ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ OFFICE PHONE ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Please check all appropriate boxes:

I am registering for the Conference; \$35 check enclosed, payable to Miami University.

I will require on-campus housing, payable upon arrival.

Per Night  single: \$20.00

double: \$16.00 per person sharing room with \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival Time/Date \_\_\_\_\_ Departure time/Date \_\_\_\_\_

I will provide my own housing.

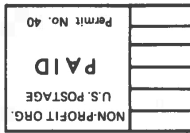
I am interested in the Seminar; please send housing/ tuition information and application materials.

Mail to :  
SUMMER INSTITUTE  
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Department of English  
Miami University  
Oxford, Ohio 43056



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**ANNOUNCING**

**THE MIAMI UNIVERSITY SUMMER INSTITUTE**

**June 2-4, 1994**

# Reinventing the Poet-Critic

## CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

### Thursday, June 2, 1994

8:00-9:15 p.m.  
Rachel Blau DuPlessis  
9:30 p.m.  
Reception

### Friday, June 3, 1994

9:00-10:15 a.m.  
Charles Bernstein  
10:30 a.m.- noon  
Small group discussions  
2:00 p.m.-3:15 p.m.  
Nathaniel Mackey  
3:45 p.m.-5:00 p.m.  
Avital Ronell

### Saturday, June 4, 1994

10:00 a.m.-noon  
Panel discussion  
7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m.  
Poetry Reading featuring  
Charles Bernstein,  
Rachel Blau DuPlessis, and  
Nathaniel Mackey

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Please contact the Institute directors: Andrew Lakritz & Keith Tuma  
Summer Institute for Literary History  
Department of English, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio 45056  
Telephone: (513) 529-5221

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Although participants may register at the conference, early registration, preferably by May 9, 1994, is requested. This will enable you to receive additional conference information prior to arrival and help ensure accommodation in university housing.

### HOUSING

Housing for the conference is provided in an air-conditioned dormitory, at \$20.00 per night for a single, \$16.00 per person per night for a double. The University will accept payment for housing upon arrival. Information on housing for the seminar will be sent upon request.

### MEALS

Meals are available in the University's Shriver Center or in area restaurants on a pay-as-you-go basis.

### SEMINAR TUITION

Seminar tuition information will be provided upon request.