Conference reports,
Spring 2004

Saints and Pilgrimage around the Atlantic

In conjunction with the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies and supported by numerous entities at the college, CLAW hosted a successful conference in February that explored the cross-cultural nature of religious pilgrimages in the Atlantic World as well as the various cults of saints that developed.

Conference participants came from around the world and represented a variety of academic disciplines. John Corrigan, Edwin Scott Gaustad Professor of Religion and Professor of History, and Director of the Center for the Study of Emotion at Florida State University, was the keynote speaker, sponsored by the Wachovia Lecture Series.

Watch for the forthcoming volume of papers presented at the conference edited by Professor Margaret Cormack of the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, conference convenor.

Southern Intellectual History Circle

With the support of the Humanities Council of South Carolina, CLAW co-hosted with The Citadel the Annual Meeting of the Southern Intellectual History Circle on February 26, 27 and 28. The theme chosen by Michael O’Brien of Cambridge University and our Executive Director, Vernon Burton, was Postcolonialism and the American South.

The aim of the conference was to examine the applicability of this popular literary theory to Southern history. The meeting kicked off with a well-attended plenary given by Jack Matthews from the Department of English at Boston University on “The U.S. South, Modern American Empire and Postcolonial Studies” to which Dr. O’Brien responded. Other sessions focused on the comparisons between postcolonialism in Latin America and the South, and Southern involvement in American empire building.

The informal seminar format of the meeting allowed for long and lively discussion between historians and literary scholars. All agreed that the cross-disciplinary approach was valuable, and indeed spirited debate continued via e-mail after the end of the conference.

CLAW, with the support of the University of North Carolina Press, was also pleased to host a reception for the launch of Michael O’Brien’s two-volume intellectual history of the Old South entitled Conjectures of Order: Intellectual Life and the Old South, 1810-1860.

Next year’s meeting of the Southern Intellectual History Circle will be held at the University of the South in Sewanee and will focus on O’Brien’s book and Southern music.

Hines Prize Awarded

As a part of our “The Carolina Lowcountry and the Atlantic World” Book Series with the University of South Carolina Press, the Hines Prize is awarded biennially for the best first book relating to any aspect of the history and life of the Carolina Lowcountry and/or the Atlantic World. This Remote Part of the World: Regional Formation in Lower Cape Fear, North Carolina, 1725—1775 by Brad Wood is the first recipient of this honor.

In this study, Wood, an Assistant Professor of History at Eastern Kentucky University, explores the frontier development of this eighteenth-century settlement in a region surrounded by more-established communities. Totally uninhabited by Europeans in 1700, and first settled in 1725, the region grew to be the most prosperous in North Carolina by 1775. Challenging many commonly held beliefs, Wood presents the Lower Cape Fear as a prime example for understanding North Carolina—and the entirety of colonial America—as a patchwork of regional cultures.

Join us on Friday, August 27th at 7 pm in Alumni Hall of Randolph Hall for the presentation of the Hines Prize. After the award, Professor Wood will give a talk about This Remote Part of the World. A reception will follow.
Lecture and Presentation of the Inaugural Hines Prize

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 27** at 7 pm in ALUMNI HALL OF RANDOLPH HALL.
Professor Brad Wood, Assistant Professor of History at Eastern Kentucky University, will be presenting the inaugural Hines Prize for his book This Remorse Part of the World: Regional Formation in Lower Cape Fear, North Carolina, 1725-1775. After the presentation, Professor Wood will give a talk about the book, and a reception will follow.

Requiem

Poetry by Kwame Dawes with music by John Carpenter.

Requiem is a multi-dimensional, multi-genre collaboration between musicians, writers and artists to create a work that celebrates the resilience of those people who suffered the brutal mercantile trade called the Middle Passage. Monument commemorative this horrible hotace have found expression in art. This Tom Feelings, African American artist and pan-Africanist philosopher, spent two years thinking through the most stunning and amazing reoccurrence of the period in history in his book The Middle Passage: White Ships/Black Cargo (Dal, 1991) and Kwame Dawes has responded to that work with a series of poems that dialogue with the art and tell their own journey as a Ghanaian-born, Jamaican poet, musician and scholar John Carpenter, an Orlando native and a scholar and musician of the highest order has responded to the same subject with a musical score that resonates with the blues, reggae, African rhythms, rock and jazz in what is a powerful anthem for the Middle Passage. These elements come together in this dynamic performance which explores the troubled history of the Middle Passage through image and sound, and that ultimately constitutes a moving requiem to those who made the journey and those who did not make it across the Atlantic.

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10** at 7 pm in PHYSICIANS AUDITORIUM.
This event is part of the annual Moja Festival.

Reading by Madison Smartt Bell

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19** at 8 pm (VENDO T.A.K.) Bestselling author Madison Smartt Bell will read from his novel in his trilogy chroning Hunt's history. Bell will hold a question and answer session on Haiti before the reading.

In the Future

**SPRING 2005—HATI SYMPOSIUM**
In conjunction with the film and discussion series hosted by the John Rivers Communication Museum, we will be holding a symposium on Haiti, featuring two films: The Agronomist and Poté Mak Sonje and a number of invited speakers, including Nadine Dominique, a recent graduate of the University of Paris, France. Nadine Dominique—subject of The Agronomist. and Christine Cynn—Director of Poté Mak Sonje. Patches of writers, historians, local aid workers, and others will discuss these works and their relevance to the current situation in Haiti.

**18-20 AUGUST 2005—CAROLINA GOLD RICE SYMPOSIUM**
We are pleased to be part of a consortium of academic and private groups under the direction of the Carolina Gold Rice Foundation (CGRF) that will sponsor a symposium in Charleston exploring the biology, history, culinary applications, nutrition, dissemination, agriculture, and cultural influence of Carolina Gold Rice. The staple crop of the Carolinas and Georgia Lowcountry, and Carolina White Rice, the Southern crop that would become the favored rice of South America. The Carolina Gold Rice Symposium will focus on the development of a wide variety of culinary dishes prepared with Carolina Gold Rice by prominent local chefs, the well known and cultural exhibits featuring the world of the Carolina Rice Planters, and a Lowcountry BBQ of rice and sumptuous dishes prepared with Carolina Gold Rice by prominent local chefs, the well known and cultural exhibits featuring the world of the Carolina Rice Planters, and a Lowcountry BBQ of rice and sumptuous dishes prepared with Carolina Gold Rice by prominent local chefs, the well known and cultural exhibits featuring the world of the Carolina Rice Planters, and a Lowcountry BBQ of rice and sumptuous dishes prepared with Carolina Gold Rice.

**SPRING 2007—CONFERENCE: THE IREISH IN THE ATLANTIC WORLD**
CLAW will host a conference gathering scholars from both sides of the Atlantic to examine the influence of the Irish Diaspora from Canada to Argentina and everywhere in between. Contact co-conver Dan O'Connell (dolmewn@cfedu.edu) for further information.

**SPRING 2008—CONFERENCE: THE IMPACT OF THE "END" OF THE ATLANTIC SLAVE TRADE IN THE AMERICAN SOUTH**
To mark the Bicentennial of the abolition of the Atlantic Slave Trade in the United States and the British Empire, CLAW with the International African American Museum will hold a conference in 2008 focusing on the impact the trade, and its end, had on the Lowcountry and on the American South as a whole. Topics to be covered include: African culture in the Lowcountry; Lowcountry/Caribbean trade connections; impact on the Southern economy; the growth of the internal slave trade; Charleston as a slave trading center; impact on pro- and anti-slavery ideology in the South; the growth of "scientific" racism; attempts to re-open the trade; and the illegal importation of slaves.

**The Fruits of Exile: Central European Intellectual Émigrés in the United States in the 1930s**

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11** at 7pm in Arnold Hall, Jewish Studies. Reception to follow.

Other featured speakers include:
- Inna V. Caron, Ph.D. Candidate, Ohio State University in Russian Literature, "How Rand Before the Fountainhead"
- Nandor F. Dreisziger, Professor, Department of History, Royal Military College of Canada, "On Oscar Jasper's Activities and Writings in America in the 1940s"
- Sabine Feiss, Arizona State University, "Schoenberg in America Reconsidered—a Historiographic Investigation"
- Tibor Frank, Professor of History, Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary, "The Exile of Hungarian Jewish Intellectuals and Professionals in the Wake of World War I"
- Jürgen Nautz, Department of Economics, University of Vienna, "The Women Economists of the Austrian School of Economics in Emigration"
- Donald L. Wallace, Ph.D. Candidate, University of California, San Diego, "Herman Broch's Comparative Investigation of German Anti-Semitism and American Racism"
- D.A. Jeremy Telman, Valparaiso University School of Law, "Selective Affinities: On the American Reception of Hans Kelsen's Legal Theory"

**CONFERENCE REGISTRATION:** $20 if paid by 15 October; $25 for late registration.

**For more information or updates:** check our website www.cfr.edu/atlanticworld or call the CLAW office at 803-125-1923

**Upcoming Faculty Seminars**

The following seminars will take place in the Blacklock House. Please check our website for updates and additions to the schedule.

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29** at 3:15 pm
Rich Bodek will present a paper on Jewish Immigration and Intellectual Life in the Twentieth Century. Bodek, an Associate Professor of History at the College of Charleston, specializes in German and Modern European Social and Cultural History.

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19** at 3:15 pm
Peter McCandles will present a paper on his work on the Carolina Lowcountry as a Disease Environment. McCandles, a Professor of History at the College of Charleston, researches the history of medicine and disease in Britain and the U.S. His publications include Moonlight, Magnolias, and Madness: Insanity in South Carolina from the Colonial Period to the Progressive Era (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1996).
The Carolina Lowcountry and Atlantic World Program is pleased to announce that The Final Victims: Foreign Slave Trade to North America, 1783–1810 by James A. McMillin has recently been published as a part of the Program’s Book Series with the University of South Carolina Press. McMillin, the Associate Director of Bridwell Library and an Associate Professor of American Religious History at Southern Methodist University, provides a detailed study challenging previously held assumptions that the foreign slave trade to North America declined in the years following the American Revolution.

USC Press says: McMillin examines the volume and business of importing slaves from 1783 to 1810, the African origins of those captives, and their treatment by shippers and North American merchants. Tracing a shift in North American slaving commerce from New England to the lower South, McMillin tracks the vessels that imported slaves to America, particularly into Charleston, Savannah, and New Orleans. McMillin suggests that previous scholars have underestimated the number of slave voyages and consequently the magnitude of American overseas slave trading during this era. He maintains the founding fathers did little to discourage the importation of slaves and asserts that—with the lengthening duration and distance of the notorious “middle passage”—conditions for African captives most likely worsened after the Revolution.

The Final Victims comes with a searchable CD-ROM on which McMillin appends the massive data used in this study. The information includes places of origin for the captives; names of vessels, captains, and owners; size of slave cargoes; ports of arrival; and other data pertinent to his investigation.

New Journal Acquired

The College of Charleston Library has subscribed to Atlantic Studies, a new multi-disciplinary journal from Routledge Press, which aims to provide an international forum for research and debate on historical, cultural and literary issues arising within the new disciplinary matrix of the circum-Atlantic world. The journal will publish twice per year; its initial volume was April 2004.