
From: Lesley Groff <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 6:31 PM
To: Jeffrey Epstein CC
Subject: Fwd: PED Seminar: Brian Boyd (Apr. 16th @ 4:00pm)
Attachments: Shape of a Human Life Radcliffe agenda.docx; Untitled attachment 00105.htm

hi Lesley:

attached is Radcliffe's tentative agenda that Michael from my office got today from Stephen Greenblatt. in addition to Brian Boyd's April 14th (9:30am) paper presentation, the agenda shows that Brian Boyd will be responding to another paper on April 13th (10:15am). should Michael inquire with Stephen Greenblatt about getting Jeffrey invited to either/both of those sessions? thanks, May :)

Subject: /b>PED Seminar: Brian Boyd (Apr. 16th @ 4:00pm)

The Program for Evolutionary Dynamics presents:

"Story versus Verse: Convergent versus Open Pattern."

by Professor Brian Boyd (Dept. of English, University of Auckland, New Zealand)

Abstract:

In On the Origin of Stories (2009) I proposed that we can find the common features of all the arts if we understand art as cognitive play with pattern. There, I focused on fiction. In its companion piece, Why Lyrics Last: Evolution, Cognition, and Shakespeare's Sonnets (April 2012), I focus on verse. Together these form the two main, often intertwined, strands of literature.

I'd like to build on the difference between these two books to contrast the almost automatic convergence of patterns in fiction, or narrative more generally, and the compounding of patterns upon patterns—patterns athwart or concealed behind other patterns—in verse, especially in lyrics, verse without narrative.

In much of his work Shakespeare weaves both strands together more memorably than anyone else. How can I show the enormous difference between the love lyricism in his greatest romantic comedy and the love lyrics in his Sonnets? Poet Don Paterson, in his buoyant recent book on the Sonnets, assumes that they "have to be read as a narrative of the progress of love." I will suggest, on the contrary, that we need to read them as lyrics, as verse without narrative, where other kinds of patterns come into play, patterns of experience and motion, image and idea, word and structure, set forms and found freedoms.

When: 4:00pm, Monday, April 16th, 2012

Where: 1 Brattle Square, 6th floor, Cambridge, MA 02138 (link to directions
<<http://www.ped.fas.harvard.edu/location/>>)

For more info on the PED Seminar Series, please contact:
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