

Renaissance symposium to be held at Sherwood Hall

April 24, 1968

The emergence of the University of California, San Diego as a major American center for Renaissance studies will take a giant step forward early next month, when the school includes the community in its first symposium on the Renaissance.

The program, titled "Man and Nature in the Renaissance," will be held at 7:30 p.m., Sunday, May 12 in Sherwood Hall, La Jolla. It will be sponsored jointly by UCSD and the Salk Institute of Biological Studies and will feature two of the nation's foremost scholars in Renaissance studies: Dr. Jacob Bronowski, Senior Fellow at Salk, and Dr. Charles S. Singleton, Professor of Humanistic Studies and Director of the Humanities Center at the Johns Hopkins University.

Dr. Bronowski will speak on "Magic and Science in Renaissance Humanism." Dr. Singleton's topic is "Natura sibi relicta: A New Human and Natural Order in the Renaissance." The UCSD Madrigal Singers will perform during the symposium intermission in the Sculpture Courtyard at Sherwood Hall.

According to Gian Roberto Sarolli, Professor of Romance Philology and Italian Literature at UCSD and cochairman with Dr. Jason L. Saunders, Professor of Philosophy, of the committee planning the symposium, this is the first of many ventures into the Renaissance with the community.

"We want to share with the community, beyond the academic specialists, our interest in the period, which is characterized by a communal, rather than an institutional approach, to man and his culture. In a time when an interest in Machiavelli, for instance, has been taken up by management analysts rather than only statesmen, we think that a broad look at topics of Renaissance civilization may make the period a living experience and more encompassing, than the art of the 15th century," Sarolli said.

Dr. Bronowski, who has been at Salk since 1964, has been involved in the study of man as a whole, including his biological, his mental and his social development. Dr. Bronowski is particularly interested in the intellectual history and in the place of science in human affairs. His studies of Renaissance humanism, magic and science are included in his book "The Western Intellectual Tradition."

Dr. Bronowski is known for his radio and television talks and dramas. His play "The Face of Violence" won the Italia prize for the best dramatic work broadcast throughout Europe during 1950 and 1951. In November 1966 Dr. Bronowski spent some time in India at the invitation of the Indian Prime Minister to give his advice on education in general, and in particular on the use of radio and television as an educational aid.

Dr. Singleton taught French and Italian at the University of Missouri (1936-37) and then accepted a position at Johns Hopkins, where he was until 1948. At that time he became Professor of Romance Languages and Chairman of Italian Studies at Harvard University. In 1957 he returned to Johns Hopkins to be Professor of Humanistic studies and Professor at Large, teaching philosophy history and Italian literature. Dr. Singleton has honorary degrees from the University of Bologna and the University of Missouri.

Dr. Singleton, who has a number of publications on the Renaissance to his credit, is considered the foremost authority on Dante. He was awarded the Gold Medal for Dante Studies by the City of Florence, and the "Forte dei Marmi" International Award for studies in Italian literature.