

Annual Jacob Bronowski symposium to be held; Sir Roy Strong to lecture on the Renaissance

February 26, 1985

An annual symposium on the Renaissance, begun by the late Jacob Bronowski, is being revived at the University of California, San Diego.

The three-day symposium on drama, theatre and society in Renaissance England will take place March 1-3 and is sponsored by UCSD and the Salk Institute, where a major portion of the symposium will be held.

The symposium begins with a public lecture at 8 p.m., March 1, in the Mandell Weiss Center for the Performing Arts, called "Prince Henry Stuart and the Lost Renaissance," by Sir Roy Strong, director of the Victoria and Albert Museum, London.

The remaining two days will be devoted to scholarly meetings at the Salk Institute.

The symposium is the fifth one held in honor of Bronowski, who created and hosted the popular Public Broadcasting series "The Ascent of Man."

At the time of his death in 1974, Bronowski was a resident fellow of the Salk Institute working on human specificity. While at Salk, he inaugurated a yearly lecture series examining the role of the Renaissance and its relationship to human endeavors such as science and medicine.

"The Renaissance is one of the most exciting eras in western civilization and a constant focus of activity for many scholars," said Robert Ritchie, associate professor of history, who first suggested reviving the conferences. "It seemed appropriate to revive the Bronowski Conferences to bring focus to local scholarly interest in Renaissance studies."

On Saturday, March 2, there will be two closed sessions. The first will focus on the topic "Place, Event and Text," and will include speakers Jonathan Goldberg, Temple University, on "Speculations: Macbeth and Source"; Leah Marcus, University of Wisconsin, Madison, on "Shakespeare and the Unease of Topicality"; and Stephen Orgel, Johns Hopkins University, on "Caliban and Carthage, Dido and Virginia." Commentators are Richard Helgerson, University of California, Santa Barbara, and Stephanie Jedd, UCSD.

Session two on Saturday afternoon will focus on the topic "Authority and Theatricality," and will include speakers Stephen Greenblatt, University of California, Berkeley, on "Loudon and London: Exorcism and the Stage-Taint" and Steven Mullaney, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, on "Apprehending Subjects, or the Reformation in the Suburbs." Commentators at this session are Michael Meeker and Don Wayne, both of UCSD.

On Sunday, the final session will focus on the topic, "Gender, Ideology and Dramatic Representation," and will include speakers Lisa Jardine, a Jesus College Fellow, Cambridge, whose talk will be on "This was sometime a paradox: Shakespeare's Learned Ladies." Jardine is Bronowski's daughter. Also speaking, Coppelia Kahn, of Wesleyan University, on "Wives and Whores in Jacobean Drama"; and Leonard Tennenhouse, Wayne State University, on "Monstrous Women and the Politics of Jacobean Drama." Commentators at this session are Page Dubois, UCSD, and Frank Whigham, Claremont Graduate School.

(February 26, 1985) For more information contact: Alixandra Williams, 452-3120