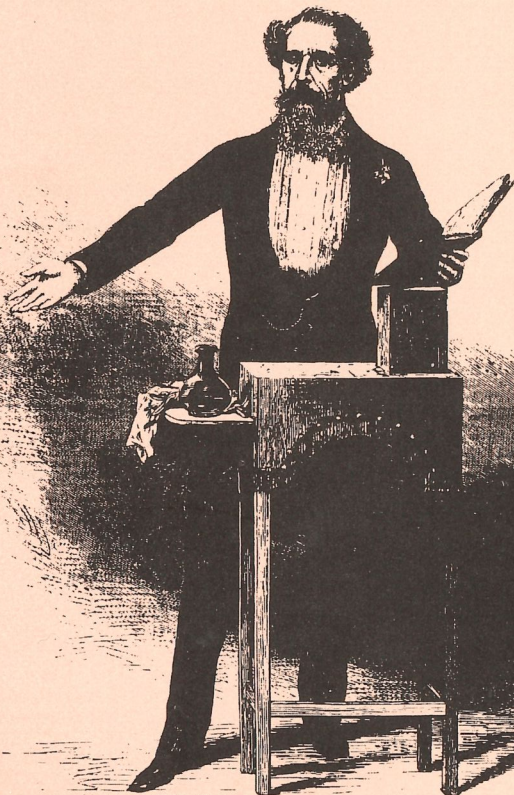


THE
DICKENS
UNIVERSE

JULY 28–AUGUST 3, 1996

JOIN US TO EXPLORE THE WORLD OF
DICKENS. . . ON THE UNIVERSITY OF
CALIFORNIA'S SANTA CRUZ CAMPUS

Presented by The Dickens Project



1. THE PLOT

A MERRY PARTY

THIS SUMMER, THE DICKENS PROJECT WILL PRESENT the Dickens Universe, its fifteenth annual Summer Institute on Charles Dickens. Distinguished scholars from the various University of California campuses and other major universities here and abroad will offer lectures and small seminars. There will also be films, videos, readings from Dickens's works, a book fair, daily workshops for teachers, Victorian teas, other festive events, and one or two surprises. The comprehensive program is designed both for teachers and the general public. The only prerequisite is a fondness for reading Dickens and talking about his work.

In 1996 we will read and discuss Dickens's five Christmas Books: *A Christmas Carol* (1843), *The Chimes* (1844), *The Cricket on the Hearth* (1845), *The Battle of Life* (1846), and *The Haunted Man and the Ghost's Bargain* (1848). Of course, *A Christmas Carol* remains certainly the best known and probably the best loved of all Dickens's narratives. But the four other Christmas Books though less widely known are in many ways equally intriguing. Each of the five explores in distinctive ways the interconnected questions of conversation, remembrance, and compassion.

The Chimes, actually more a New Year's than a Christmas story, examines, like its predecessor, the theme of a man cured by visions, but *The Chimes's* hero, Trotty Veck, is poor and sympathetic, unlike his precursor Scrooge. *The Cricket on the Hearth*, as its title suggests, is more a domestic story, an often very funny tale of family life and the possibilities for romantic self-fulfillment. Much darker, *The Battle of Life*, actually subtitled "A Love Story," is the only one of the five not to rely on supernatural interventions. It tells the story of two sisters, Marion and Grace Jeddler, involved with the same man, Alfred Heathfield, and the sacrifice by one sister to secure the happiness of the other. The last Christmas Book, *The Haunted Man and the Ghost's Bargain*, returns to the supernatural. Its hero, Redlaw, finds himself released from his brooding on past injustice only to realize that without memory no one can function as a moral creature.

We will look at all five of these books critically, not only as fictions, but specifically as Victorian fictions. We will of course consider the role they have played in the modern celebration of Christmas, both as representation of earlier British traditions and also as a crucial source for both nineteenth- and twentieth-century modes of marking the holiday. But we will also examine the ways in which they can interest us apart from any specifically Christmas, or indeed even religious, associations. We will pay particular attention to their relation to the contemporary economic depression in England, known as the Hungry Forties. We will explore different ways in which they treat relations between the sexes, and especially ways in which they represent contemporary women's limited access to the possibilities of pleasure that holidays epitomize. And we will also investigate the Books' pivotal connection to the emerging world of nineteenth-century spectacle, to the radically new era of mass advertising, merchandizing, and consumption that was beginning to transform every aspect of Victorian personal and social experience.

2. THE CHARACTERS

A MERRY DISCOURSE

COORDINATOR

JOHN O. JORDAN, Associate Professor of English, teaches Victorian literature, especially Dickens, at the University of California, Santa Cruz. He is Director of the Dickens Project.

FACULTY

MURRAY BAUMGARTEN, Professor of English and Comparative Literature at UC Santa Cruz, is Founding Director of the Dickens Project and Editor-in-chief of a multi-volume edition of the works of Thomas Carlyle. He has published studies of Dickens and other Victorian writers and serves on the editorial board of *Dickens Studies Annual*.

ROBERT L. PATTEN, Professor of English at Rice University and Editor of *SEL: Studies in English Literature 1500-1900*, will publish the second volume of his biography of George Cruikshank, detailing the artist's relations with Dickens, in April 1996. Patten's earlier book, *Dickens and His Publishers*, was reissued in paperback by the Dickens Project in 1991.

JOSEPH CHILDERS is Associate Professor of English at UC Riverside. He is the author of *Novel Possibilities: Fiction and*

the Formation of Early Victorian Culture and the editor of the *Columbia Dictionary of Modern Literary and Cultural Criticism*.

ELISABETH GITTER is Professor of English at John Jay College, CUNY, where she teaches in an interdisciplinary program combining philosophy, literature, and law. She has published on a variety of Victorian subjects, and her most recent Dickens work is on Forster's "Life."

ROBERT NEWSOM is Professor of English Literature at UC Irvine. He is the author of *Dickens on the Romantic Side of Familiar Things: Bleak House and the Novel Tradition* and *A Likely Story: Probability and Play in Fiction* in addition to essays in Victorian Literature.

Associate Professor HILARY SCHOR teaches Victorian literature at the University of Southern California. She is the author of *Scheherazade in the Marketplace: Elizabeth Gaskell and the Victorian Novel* as well as of a recently completed book-length study of Dickens.

ROBERT TRACY is Professor of English and Celtic Studies at UC Berkeley. He is the author of *Trollope's Later Novels* and of many studies of Dickens and other Victorian writers.

Professor PHILIP COLLINS of the University of Leicester in Great Britain is one of the world's foremost Dickens scholars. He is the author of *Dickens and Crime*, *Dickens and Education* and many other studies of Dickens's life and writings, and is President of the Dickens Society.

Professor JOHN GLAVIN teaches nineteenth-century literature and playwriting at Georgetown University. He has written articles on Oscar Wilde, Muriel Spark, and Anthony Trollope. His plays *God's Boys* and *The Winter Cup* have been staged by the Philadelphia Company.

HELENA MICHIE is Professor of English at Rice University. She has written widely on Victorian fiction and is the author of *The Flesh Made Word: Female Figures and Women's Bodies* and of *Sororophobia: Differences Among Women in Literature and Culture*.

Dr. DAVID PARKER is Curator of the Dickens House Museum in London. He has published many studies of Dickens's life and writings.

3. THE TIME SCHEME

WHAT THE BELLS SAID

SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, JULY 28, 1996

- 2:00-3:30 P.M. Room Registration for participants staying on campus
- 5:30-6:30 P.M. Dinner
- 6:30-7:30 P.M. Program Registration at Kresge Town Hall
- 7:30 P.M. Welcome and preview of the week's events, followed by an opening address

MONDAY, JULY 29-FRIDAY, AUGUST 2

- 7:30-8:30 A.M. Breakfast
- 8:30-9:30 A.M. Small group discussion of Victorian contexts with Dickens Universe faculty
- 9:45-11:00 A.M. Faculty lectures on *The Christmas Books*
- 11:15-12:30 A.M. Workshops on *The Christmas Books* and the lecture material
- 12:30-1:00 P.M. Lunch
- Afternoons Informal lectures, films, teas, teaching workshops.
- 5:30-6:30 P.M. Dinner
- 6:30-7:30 P.M. Sherry and social hour
- 7:30 P.M. Films, performances, lectures

FRIDAY, AUGUST 2

- 7:00 P.M. Closing festivities: party and performances

SATURDAY, AUGUST 3

Morning departures

[Universe participants may also choose to stay and attend the weekend conference on "Victorian Spectacle"]

4. THE SETTING

INDOORS AND OUT

WE WILL BE DISCUSSING THE CHRISTMAS BOOKS FAR from Dickens's own dreary landscape of sniping frost and foggy snow. The Santa Cruz campus of the University of California, 75 miles southeast of San Francisco and 50 miles north of Carmel, is perched on a hill high above the city of Santa Cruz, a place of open vistas, redwood groves, and nearly tame deer. There is easy access to Santa Cruz's many shops, restaurants, and beaches. The climate is mild: cool mornings and evenings, warm afternoons. While we dwell imaginatively in nineteenth-century England, we will simultaneously enjoy the amenities of the most beautiful of the University of California's campuses.

Since many people summer in Santa Cruz, off-campus housing is usually in short and expensive supply. For this reason, we suggest that you stay at Kresge College, where all conference events are held. Campus parking permits and meals at the dining hall are included in the room rates. Accommodations at Kresge feature two-bedroom suites, with common living room. Kresge is designed to resemble a traditional Mediterranean village, along a single winding street. There is a short walk among the redwoods to nearby Porter College for meals.

The registration fee for the conference is \$612 for a single room and \$535 for a double per person. Non-resident fee is \$175. The registration fee includes all programs and parties.

You may receive 2 units of credit (quarter system) in Literature; please indicate your wish on the registration form. The course is approved to be repeated for credit.

Students taking the course for credit are expected to write a paper 5-7 typewritten pages in length, which will be due August 31. The topic of the paper will be discussed at the program.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS NOT ANSWERED BY THIS BROCHURE, please write or phone the Dickens Project, 1156 High St., University of California, Santa Cruz, 95064, (408)



459-2103. A detailed schedule of activities will be sent to all registrants. All programs are accessible.

CANCELLATIONS

CANCELLATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED IN WRITING BEFORE July 21. A service charge of \$30 will be withheld from the registration fee refund. Housing cancellations must be arranged by 5 PM, July 26, or one night's meals and lodging will be charged.

BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

THE BAYTREE BOOKSTORE OF UC SANTA CRUZ WILL supply copies of the Oxford edition of *The Christmas Books*. This is the recommended text for the Dickens Universe. Just indicate your wish on the registration form and include the amount with your total payment. The book will be sent directly by the Baytree; if you have questions about your order, please call them at 408-459-4216.

5. THE PLOT THICKENS

FAMILIAR SCENES

FROM THURSDAY EVENING, AUGUST 1, THROUGH NOON on Sunday, August 4, The Dickens Project will present a scholarly conference on "Victorian Spectacle," to which all Dickens Universe participants are invited without additional fee. Well-known scholars of nineteenth-century literature and culture will discuss Victorian expressions of "spectacle," including theatricality; parades, pageants, and jubilees; museums and exhibitions; hysteria, scandal, and gossip; and Christmas and other pageants. Conference registration for non-Universe participants is \$60.



6. THE READING PUBLIC

PERFECT RAPTURE

THE DICKENS PROJECT IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THE

7. FACTS AND FIGURES

THE KETTLE GROWS MUSICAL

REGISTRATION

THE DICKENS UNIVERSE, JULY 28 TO AUGUST 3

Resident: Six nights, Sunday night to Saturday noon. Rooms are close to conference activities and fee includes programs, parties, meals, parking, and *Victorian Spectacle*.

single room \$612.00

double (per person) \$535.00

Extra Night Option: You may stay over one more night, Saturday, August 3. Especially useful if you are attending *Victorian Spectacle*

single room \$73.00

double (per person) \$60.00

If you cannot stay for an entire conference, meals and lodging can be arranged through the University Conference office at 408-459-2611. Tell the staff person you would like to arrange "guest housing" and the dates you will be needing it.

roommate's name, if mailed separately

Non-resident: Parking not included

Non-resident: \$175.00

You may take the Dickens Universe for credit at no extra charge.

Post-baccalaureate credit Undergraduate credit

Total Universe Registration \$ _____

(Please give Social Security # to identify student records)

VICTORIAN SPECTACLE, AUGUST 1 TO 4

Three nights, Thursday night to Sunday noon. Registration for the Dickens Universe includes free registration to Victorian Spectacle.

single room \$279.00

double (per person) \$240.00

non-resident \$60.00

Total Victorian Spectacle Registration \$ _____

PUBLICATIONS

Please send me a copy *The Christmas Books, Oxford Edition*

\$12.00 (Includes tax and shipping)

Total Publications \$ _____

\$\$\$

Name: _____

Address: _____

City State Zip

Phones: () _____ day () _____ eve.

Total Conference Registration \$ _____

Please make checks payable to UC Regents,

or charge to: Visa MasterCard

No. _____ exp. date _____

Authorizing signature

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Please make checks payable to UC Regents and mail to The Dickens Project, Kresge College, UCSC, Santa Cruz, CA 95064

408-459-2103

A publication of its latest resource for teachers and students of Dickens, *Doorway to Dickens*, produced by BBC Educational Developments, in association with the Dickens Project.

Doorway to Dickens draws primarily on the two 1994 BBC adaptations of *Hard Times* and *Martin Chuzzlewit*, but it also refers to other works by Dickens and earlier television adaptations. The handsomely packaged kit contains video and audio tapes, an activity workbook, and a resource anthology.

The eight-section, 90-minute video was largely filmed at UCSC in 1994, when Dickensians from around the world had gathered at the Dickens Universe. The video gives an overview of Victorian society, the social and economic circumstances of women, Dickens's attitude toward love and marriage, his style and characterization, Dickens's biography, and the plot and themes of *Hard Times* and *Martin Chuzzlewit*.

The kit also contains a 75-minute audiotape, with readings from *Oliver Twist*, *Nicholas Nickleby*, *Great Expectations*, *Hard Times*, and *Martin Chuzzlewit*; interviews with actors from the 1994 adaptations; and sound collages of the Victorian schoolroom and circus that may be used for student writing or drama activities.

The activity workbook closely follows the sequence of the video, offering classroom activities, background information, photocopiable resources, and key passages from the novels.

The resource anthology is a collection of contemporary sources: articles, books, literary criticism, and other materials that provide contextual information about *Hard Times*, *Martin Chuzzlewit*, and other Dickens texts.

A 32-page viewers' guide to *Hard Times* and *Martin Chuzzlewit* is also available. This publication is an introduction to the two novels and includes background information on Dickens's life at the time that he wrote the books, the themes he explored, and the problems of adaptation to the modern television screen.

U.S. distribution of *Doorway to Dickens* starts in mid 1996. To order directly from the BBC, write to Angie Mason, Educational Developments, 201 Woodlane, White City BBC, London, England, W12 7TS. Kits will cost about \$120.

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UC Santa Cruz
The Dickens Project
1156 High Street
Santa Cruz CA 95064

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