

The Transatlantic Walt Whitman Association is pleased to announce

## THE SIXTH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL WHITMAN WEEK

SEMINAR AND SYMPOSIUM Northwestern University Evanston, Illinois, U.S.A. June 24 -- June 29, 2013

Invitation for Applications to the Transatlantic Walt Whitman Seminar

Founded in Paris in 2007, The Transatlantic Walt Whitman Association (TWWA) invites students, researchers, and Whitman enthusiasts to participate in its sixth annual Whitman Week, consisting of a Seminar for advanced students interested in Whitman and Whitman's poetry, and a Symposium bringing together international scholars and graduate students. Previous annual Seminars have been held in Dortmund, Germany (2008), Tours, France (2009), Macerata, Italy (2010), Araraquara, Sao Paulo, Brazil (2011), and Pobierowo, Poland. The 2013 events will be held at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, on the shores of Lake Michigan, and just north of Chicago, one of the most vibrant, architecturally-compelling, and artistically-alive cities in the world.

**TWWA's Mission** Walt Whitman's *Leaves of Grass* remains a landmark of modern poetry and world literature. Every year new editions of Whitman's work are published in a variety of languages; an ever-expanding group of poets "reply" to him in their poetry; his poems are set to music and are quoted in films; he is invoked in the discussion of political and cultural issues, as well as of gender and sexuality; and he continues to be a huge presence in college and university curricula globally. In order to respond adequately to this international phenomenon, TWWA sponsors a yearly International Whitman Seminar, during which students from different countries come together for an intensive, credit-bearing Seminar taught by an international team of Whitman specialists.

<u>Seminar Structure</u> In the morning classes, focusing on some of Whitman's major poems, students will have an opportunity to confront Whitman's books, share their readings of key poems and clusters, and discuss Whitman's attempts at a multilingual English, his cohesive representation of human relations, and his work's international

significance. In addition, there will be afternoon workshops on the reception of Whitman in various countries, as well as the translation of his poems into various languages, including German, French, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, Polish, and Asian languages. (The specific readings that will be the focus of the Seminar will be announced at a later date, at least a month before the start of the Seminar.)

**Faculty** The team of international instructors for 2013 will be Éric Athenot (Professor of American Studies, Université François-Rabelais, Tours, France), translator of the 1855 *Leaves of Grass* and author of *Walt Whitman, poète-cosmos*; Christine Gehrhardt (Full Professor of American Literature and Culture, Otto-Friedrich-Universität Bamberg, Germany), author of *A Place for Humility: Whitman, Dickinson, and the Natural World*; Virginia Jackson (Professor and UIC Chair in Rhetoric and Communication, English Department, University of California at Irvine), author of *Before Modernism: Nineteenth-Century American Poetry in Public* (forthcoming), and *Dickinson's Misery: A Theory of Lyric Reading*; and Ivy Wilson (Associate Professor of English and Director of the American Studies Program at Northwestern University), author of *Specters of Democracy: Blackness and the Aesthetics of Politics in the Antebellum U.S.* 

**Housing** International students will live together at no charge with Northwestern University students, thus creating opportunities for meaningful intercultural dialogue.

**Symposium** Students are invited to attend or take part in the Symposium, held immediately following the Seminar, and featuring scholarly papers by Whitman scholars and graduate students from various countries. A separate paper proposal must be submitted in order to participate in the Symposium. This year's Symposium theme is *"Whitman North and South."* The Call for Papers appears below.

<u>Applications for the Seminar</u> should include a *curriculum vitae*, a one-page statement of interest, and a short letter of support from an instructor who knows the applicant well. All of these materials, including the letter of recommendation, should be submitted electronically to the Northwestern University Co-Chairs of the Seminar, Professor Betsy Erkkila and Professor Jay Grossman, at <twwa@northwestern.edu> by February 20, 2013.



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## **An Open Call for Papers**

## Whitman North and South

THE SIXTH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL WALT WHITMAN SYMPOSIUM

to be held at Northwestern University Evanston, Illinois, U.S.A. June 28 & 29, 2013

In 2013, the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address and the Emancipation Proclamation, TWWA welcomes papers discussing Walt Whitman's writings in relation to any aspect of the U.S. Civil War in **national or international memory**. **In addition to papers that interpret Whitman's work in terms of the War between the Northern and Southern States, we also welcome papers that approach Whitman either hemispherically or globally, focusing on** the legacies, significance, and lasting consequences of Whitman's writings as they have circulated, been translated, revised, and reworked by different language constituencies, nationalities, and literary schools in Central and South America **and in the Northern and Southern hemispheres of the globe more generally**.

One-page abstracts should be sent electronically, no later than April 1, 2013, to all four Symposium Organizers: Professor Ed Folsom <ed-folsom@uiowa.edu>, Professor Ken Price <kprice2@unl.edu>, Professor Jay Grossman <twwa@northwestern.edu>, and Professor Vanessa Steinroetter <vanessa.steinroetter@washburn.edu>.

