



Matt Gold <mattgold@gmail.com>

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To: mattgold@gmail.com

Mon, Feb 29, 2016 at 9:51 AM



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Hi there,

Your new forum topic:

"----- Forwarded message -----"

From: Jonathan Reeve

Date: Mon, Feb 29, 2016 at 9:14 AM

Subject: [xpmethod] Fwd: [ENCLgrad] Brad Pasanek on "Poetic Diction: Tokens and Change" 3/7 at 6:10pm

To: xpmethod@lists.columbia.edu

Hi everyone,

Monday's talk in the Eighteenth Century Colloquium (English) might be of interest to some in the lab, especially those that are interested in computational literary analysis. See forwarded message below.

-Jonathan

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Candace Gail Cunard

Date: Fri, Feb 26, 2016 at 5:12 PM

Subject: [ENCLgrad] Brad Pasanek on "Poetic Diction: Tokens and Change" 3/7 at 6:10pm

To: enclgrad@lists.columbia.edu

Hello all,

I'm writing to announce a pair of events sponsored by the Eighteenth Century Colloquium and involving Professor Brad Pasanek (University of Virginia), whose first book, **Metaphors of Mind: An Eighteenth-Century Dictionary** was recently published by Johns Hopkins. The first of these events is a talk about his new project on the evening of Monday, March 7; the second is a seminar discussion of excerpts from his book on the morning of Tuesday, March 8. Both events will be of interests to students across fields who are interested in metaphor, poetry, and digital humanities methods. Full details for both are included below. Please feel free to circulate this announcement widely to any who may be interested!

Talk: "Poetic Diction: Tokens and Change"

Monday, March 7 from 6:10-8pm in 402 Hamilton

"Poetic diction" is an early modern term of art, used to mark distinctions between prose and verse. It signals a belief that poets speak and write a special kind of language. But "poetic diction" is also the term selected by William Wordsworth in the preface to *Lyrical Ballads* to sum up and mark a break with eighteenth-century poetics. "Poetic diction," complained Wordsworth, is "mechanical" and "artificial," a "hubbub of words." Poets should instead write poems, claims Wordsworth, famously, in the "real language of men." By 1800, it would seem the seventeenth- and

eighteenth-century stock of words and phrases was well worn if not worn out.

Poetic diction, as a topic of scholarly interest, had itself become well worn by the 1960s; but then computational methods may offer new insights into moribund topics. In particular, when I see critics compile a large "set of phrases" that occur with "wearisome iteration" or provide a short list of stock phraseology ("blushing flowers," "cool gales," "lab'ring oxen," "curling smokes," "fleet shades," and "dusky green"), it is the mechanical, iterative nature of the verse that I would revisit, alongside the twentieth-century attempts of scholars like Josephine Miles to come to terms with it. Computational methods work by iteration; and from the perspective of a computational linguist, the stock of phrases complained of by some literary critics are so many types and tokens, waiting to be counted and mapped. An opportunity to identify a representative stock of phrases and visualize their circulation presents itself in the current moment, but the uneven and unbalanced complexion of large-scale text collections challenges responsible search and analysis.

Please note that an informal pizza dinner will be held at Jenny Davidson's apartment following the talk; let me know if you are interested in attending!

Seminar Discussion: Metaphors of Mind

Tuesday, March 8 from 9-10:30am in 302 Philosophy

We will meet to discuss selections from Prof Pasanek's recent first book, *Metaphors of Mind: An Eighteenth-Century Dictionary*. I have attached several selections below. To quote Prof Pasanek when I asked him which parts one should read, "It may be brain damaging to read the thing straight through! So, don't worry about your own reading in it: it's made to be pulled apart. When it bores you, put it down or ahead! Different parts were written for readers." In the spirit of this desultory reading, please feel free to skip

and skim through the various selections as you are moved - and I've included the table of contents in the first file, which will give you a sense of the scope of the book (and of how difficult it is to get that scope across in a few finite selections!).

*RSVPs are encouraged for this event *so that I can acquire enough coffee and breakfast food for attendees! (Also let me know if you have any dietary restrictions.) Additionally, please note that 302 Philosophy is the seminar room adjacent to the graduate student lounge and requires Columbia ID card to access -- if you'd like to attend but don't have ID card access, let me know so I can make sure to let you in!

And, as always, please contact me at cgc2118@columbia.edu with any questions!

Best,

Candace Cunard"

Could not be posted because it appears you already created this topic before.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.



Email sent February 29, 2016 @ 10:51 am



For any requests, please contact commons@gc.cuny.edu