

ENGL 3852 Topics in Poetics: 'After' Objectivism
Spring Quarter, 2014
CRN 4486
T & Th 12:00 – 1:50
Margery Reed Hall 019

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SH 387-E

Écrit #1: Archives, Secrets, Images & Objects

Works:

Dana Gioia, ed. *Twentieth-Century American Poetics*. Boston: McGraw Hill, 2004:
Amy Lowell: "Preface to *Some Imagist Poets*." W. C. Williams: "A New Measure" and "The Poem as a Field of Action." Ezra Pound: "A Retrospect." Louis Zukofsky: "An Objective." Denise Levertov: "Some Notes on Organic Form." Lyn Hejinian: "The Rejection of Closure."
Greene, Roland, ed. *The Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2012. Library: <http://library1.du.edu/site/>; or
Credo Reference: <http://0-search.credoreference.com.bianca.penlib.du.edu/content/title/prpoetry>
Susan Howe. *That This*. New York: New Directions, 2010.
William Carlos Williams. *Paterson*. Ed. Christopher MacGowan. New York: New Directions, 1992.

Questions:

- Discuss the significance of interpersonal relationships in *That This* and *Paterson*.
- How and why do archives play significant roles in *That This* and *Paterson*? What sorts of secrets do Howe and Williams seek? How and why do they search for hidden information in different ways in these two works?
- Discuss the significance of change in *That This* and *Paterson* (perhaps concerning interpersonal relationships, emotions, images & objects, personae, poetic form, history, etc.).
- How and why do these works, *That This* and *Paterson*, complicate questions of reading & writing, such as: *where does the poem begin or end*; and/or *where does any poetic tradition begin or end*?
- Invent your own question.

Write your Écrit in reply to one of these prompts. Provide evidence (i.e. direct quotation) from: at least three of the above selections in *Twentieth-Century American Poetics*; at least two entries (your choices) in *The Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics*; and, last but not least, *That This* and *Paterson*.

Length: 5-7 pages (not including your Works Cited page).

Specs.: Times new Roman font, 12 point; double-spaced; 1" margins; hard copy, pages stapled.

Due: Tuesday, April 15