

ENGL 4650:  
Special Topics, 20th Century Literature  
HYBRID FORMS, GENRES & MODES

April 21, 2011

NOTES FOR WEEK 6

**Week 6**      *Poetics & Historiography*  
4/27            *Paterson*

Hello Everyone,

*Paterson* takes center stage for our next meeting. We will continue our discovery of & delight in the **artefactual/artifactual** dimensions of the work's vitality, shapes, contexts & origins, trajectories, and of our experience, our collaborative presence in the poem's field of action.

- **And so, for our next conversation-starter (#5): engage in some way with the artefactual/artifactual dimensions of *Paterson*. Instead of using Blackboard, we'll handle this one live during class. Following the poem's many invitations & invocations, choose your forms of apposition.**
  
- Also: new readings in poetics & philosophy/theory. You will find these six PDFs on my Portfolio site and also on Blackboard:
  - [Hejinian.Rejection of Closure.pdf](#)
  - [Kristeva.From One Identity to Another.pdf](#)
  - [Bachelard.Poetics of Space.pdf](#)
  - [Olson.Projective Verse.pdf](#)
  - [Williams.New Measure.and.Poem as Field of Action.pdf](#)
  - [Williams.Author's Introduction to The Wedge.pdf](#)

Let's begin with the three works by WCW: "Author's Introduction to *The Wedge*," "A New Measure," and "The Poem as a Field of Action." The other texts (from Olson, Bachelard, Kristeva, and Hejinian) will be good companions for our work during Week 7 and beyond.

- And yet: what about the role of *copia* in *Doubled Flowering*, *Rings of Saturn*, and *Urn Burial*? [OED. Plenty, a plentiful supply: now chiefly in the Latin phrase *copia verborum* abundance of words, a copious vocabulary.] For Sir Tho. Browne, *copia* celebrates the mystery; the liminal AllSpark [enargeia] informs the center and circumference of articulated wonderment.

Please read my comments in reply to your postings on Blackboard. I have thoroughly enjoyed reading and responding to your work. I would also encourage you to read the whole range of postings from your colleagues. I'll reply to your most recent postings in the next few days.

All best,  
Scott