ROBERT GRAVES AND THE WHITE GODDESS

A Conference Celebrating Fifty Years of The White Goddess

Hulme Hall, Manchester University

September 3-5, 1998

Conference Organizing Committee: Patrick Quinn, Patrick Villa, Ian Firla.

September 3

9 am - 1.30 pm  Registration:

2-2.30 pm  Session One: The Early Goddess

Patrick Quinn, The White Goddess in Graves' Early Poetry
Devindra Kohli, The Necessary Trance and the Love Ethic
Frank Kersnowski, Traumas of Death and Love: Early Signs of the Goddess

2:30- 3:45  Tea-Coffee Break

3.45-5.15 pm  Session Two: The Majorcan Influence

Joan Fiol, The Majorcan Moonlight
Juana-Maria Segui, The Oral Evidence on the Author of The White Goddess
Dionysious Psilopolous, The White Goddess and the New Divinity

5.30-6.15 pm  Special Session One


7.30-midnight  Plenary Talk and Dinner

Grevel Lindop: The White Goddess: Sources, Contexts, Meanings.
September 4

9:30 – 11:00 am  Session Three: The White Goddess: Between the Practice and the Theory

John Smeds, *Causality or Coincidence: relationship between the Goddess and the poem*
Dunstan Ward, *God and the Goddess, the Muse and the "muses"*
Bob Davis, *Robert Graves and The Black Goddess*

11:00 -11:15 am  Tea-Coffee Break

11:15-12:45 am  Session Four: The White Goddess in Twentieth Century Poetry

Fran Breaton, *Graves' Influence on Seamus Heaney*
Ben Freidlander, *Olson's White Goddess*
Ian Firla, *A Radical Tradition More Orthodox than Most*

12:45-2:00 pm  Lunch

2:00 -3.30 pm  Session Five: Myth, History and Inspiration

Simon Brittan, *Muse Contra Virgil: the reader over Graves' shoulder*
Anne Mounic, *Graves' Symbolic Consistency: the main features of his mythic pattern and its import for the vindication of poetry in modern times*
Ben Wright, *The Goddess' Instruction on Courtly Behaviour*

11:00 -11:15 am  Tea-Coffee Break

3.45-5:00 pm  Session Six: Sources

John Sharkey, *Robert Graves, Wales and The White Goddess*
Mary-Ann Constantine, *Scholars and silences: Graves and the Battle of the Trees*
Alice Hughes, *Edna O'Brien's "The High Road" and Graves' Goddess*

5.30-6.15 pm  Special Session Two

Julia Simon, *From White to Black: The Poetic Transference of the Muses*

6.30-8 pm  Dinner
8-late  **Poetry Reading**

Simon Armitage, David Constantine, Grevel Lindop, Bernard O'Donoghue, Simon Brittan, Patrick McGuinness and Andrew Painter

**September 5**

9.30-11:00 am  **Session Seven: The Creation of The White Goddess**

Andrew Painter, *Resituating The White Goddess*

Robert Bertholf, *The Expanding Views: The Growth of the manuscript.*

Paul O'Prey, *Socio- and Literary-Political Impulses Behind the White Goddess*

**Tea-Coffee Break**

11:15:12:45 am  **Session Eight: Feminism, women writers and The White Goddess**

Rita Rippetoe, *Goddess Poetry in a New Light: Robert Graves to the Current Revival.*

Asphodel Long, *Challenge or Inspiration? The White Goddess in contemporary feminism and women's studies*

Alison Goeller, *What Homer Never Told Us: Graves' Goddess in the Poetry of HD*

12.45-2:00 pm  **Lunch**

2:00-3.30 pm  **Session Nine: The White Goddess in Graves' Other Prose works**

Michel Pharand, *Unusual Idiosyncrasy: The Making of The Greek Myths*

John Presley, *King Jesus and The White Goddess*

Francesca Diffeci, *Robert Graves: Good-Bye To All That and The White Goddess*

**Tea-Coffee Break**

3.45-5 pm  **Session Ten: The Influence of The White Goddess**

Geoffrey Alvarez, *The Significance of The White Goddess for Musical Thought*

Thom Moore, *Graves' Theories on the Symbolism of the Menorah*

5.30 pm  **Society Meeting and Official Announcements**
8 pm - late  **Dinner and Farewell Drinks**

*Please take note that early registration and an informal drinks evening (as well as an outing to *Manchester's* famous `curry mile') will *take* place on September 2.*