

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

Richard Perceval Graves: *Robert Graves and The White Goddess.*

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* 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 womens 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 p m **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.