



# MARGARET FULLER SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

## Fuller Society Gains MLA Allied Organization Status

Through the efforts of Robert Hudspeth, immediate past-president of the Fuller Society, and Jeffrey Steele, organizer of Modern Language Association convention special sessions for the Society from 1996 through 2000, the MLA Executive Council approved the application of the Fuller Society for allied organization status with the MLA, beginning with the 2001 convention in New Orleans. Hereafter, the Fuller Society will be eligible to arrange two regular sessions for each MLA convention. The sessions may be used for paper presentations, business meetings, or social events.

## Fuller Society Special Session at 2000 MLA Convention

The following Fuller Society session will be held Friday, December 29, at the MLA Convention in Washington, D.C.

### The Spaces and Borders of Margaret Fuller's Writing

Chair: Jeffrey Steele

Cheryl J. Fish, "Geographies of Desire, Displaced: Margaret Fuller's 'Public' and 'Private' *Summer on the Lakes*."

Dorri Rabung Beam, "Fuller Out-of-Body: Mystical Space and Electric Pleasures."

Brigitte Bailey, "Covering New York: Fuller, the *Tribune*, and the American Urban Imaginary."

## Fuller's New York Tribune Writings

Columbia University Press has published the volume *Margaret Fuller, Critic: Writings from the New York Tribune, 1844-1846*, edited by Joel Myerson and Judith Mattson Bean. The collection includes a historical introduction and eighty-seven Fuller essays. The complete set of essays (1844-46) can be found on the searchable CD-Rom which accompanies the book. All of the pieces are annotated.

## CALL FOR PAPERS

### 2001 MLA Convention in New Orleans

The 2001 MLA Convention to be held December 27-30 in New Orleans will feature two sessions sponsored by the Fuller Society. The topics are open and anyone wishing to read a 20-minute paper should submit a 250-word proposal by **March 7, 2001** to The Margaret Fuller Society, Department of English, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843-4227. You may also e-mail LJR@tam.u.edu. All participants must be members of the MLA or must join by 1 April 2001.

### Fuller Sessions at 2001 ALA Conference

At the 2001 Conference of the American Literature Association to be held in Cambridge, Massachusetts, May 24-27, two Fuller Society sessions will be held:

#### In Concord No More: Emerson, Sturgis, Fuller, and the Late 1840s

Chair: Thomas R. Mitchell

Andrew Jenkins, "'O Sister of My Song': Ralph Waldo Emerson, Caroline Sturgis, and Emerson's *Poems* (1847)."

David M. Robinson, "Margaret Fuller, New York and the Politics of Transcendentalism."

Brigitte Bailey, "Fuller at the *New-York Tribune*: Writing the National City."

#### The Overlooked and the Revisited: New Studies of Margaret Fuller's Manuscripts

Chair: Deshae Lott

Christel-Maria Maas, "Femininity and Creativity: Margaret Fuller's Use of Novalis' Flower Symbolism."

Judith M. Bean, "Tensions Between Author and Publisher: Tracing Fuller's Plans for *Papers in Literature and Art*."

Joan Von Mehren, "Establishing the Facts on the Ossoli Family: An Example of E-Mail Research."

## Fuller Session at 2000 ALA Conference

At the 2000 Conference of the American Literature Association held in Long Beach, California, May 26-29, the following two Fuller Society sessions were held:

### Fuller and Democracy

Chair: Thomas R. Mitchell

Elizabeth Hewitt, "Phenomenal Friends: Fuller's Epistolary Democracy."

T. Gregory Garvey, "Fuller's Conversations and the Domestication of Discursive Democracy."

Respondent: David M. Robinson

### Fuller, Gender, and the Exceptional Woman

Chair: Robert N. Hudspeth

Colleen Glenney Boggs, "Margaret Fuller and the Subject of Translation."

Stephanie Barron, "Health, Education, and Exceptionality in Fuller's 'Autobiographical Romance.'"

Lance Newman, "The Landscape of Democracy in *Summer on the Lakes, 1843*."

## Fuller Session at 2001 SSAWW

At the 2001 Conference of the Society for the Study of American Women Writers, to be held in San Antonio, Texas, on February 16, the following Fuller session will be held:

### Margaret Fuller and Women's Health

Chair: Maria Karafilis

Deshae E. Lott, "'I Became a Coward': Margaret Fuller's Conception, Containment, and Care-Taking under Catholicism."

Cheryl J. Fish, "'Obliged to Stop by a Violent Headache': Margaret Fuller's Letters and Scenes of Critical Writing."

Jeffrey Steele, "Curing 'America': Sickness and Health in Fuller's *New-York Tribune* Articles."

Stephanie K. Barron, "'Exalted and Sensitive Existence(s)': Health, Mesmerism, and Exceptionality in Margaret Fuller's *Summer on the Lakes*."

## International Conference

## Devoted to Fuller

On November 20-22, 2000, a major international conference entitled "Margaret Fuller: tra Europa e Stati Uniti d'America" was held at the American Academy in Rome. The co-organizers of the conference were Professor Giuliana Limiti, of the Mazzini Society, and Professor Cristina Giorcelli, of the Department of American Studies, University of Rome Three. Some twenty-four papers, presented by scholars from Germany, Greece, Italy, Poland, Russia, and the United States, addressed a range of topics including Fuller's transnationalism, her ideal of heroism, her relations with Mazzini, her participation in salon culture, her methods of interpretation, her narrative forms, her abilities as a journalist, her indebtedness to Goethe, her relations with the Brownings, with Mickiewicz, and with Belgiojoso, and her influence upon Hawthorne and Henry James. Featured American speakers included Charles Capper (keynote), Bell Gale Chevigny, Robert Hudspeth, Larry Reynolds, and Joan Von Mehren. Papers were presented in Italian and English with simultaneous translations. Conference proceedings will appear as a special issue of the journal of the Dipartimento di Storia del Risorgimento, Università di Roma "La Sapienza" and as a book published in English by the American Academy.

The conference provided many new insights into Fuller's life and work and demonstrated the great admiration for Fuller among Europeans, especially Italians. It also revealed widespread Italian certainty about Fuller's marriage to Ossoli, new evidence of the Ossoli family's interest in Fuller's financial assets, following her death, and specifics about conditions in the hospitals of Rome during the siege. According to Professor Limiti, some Catholic priests worked in the hospitals, fought on the side of the Republicans, and were arrested when Pope Pius IX returned to Rome. As for the women, including Fuller, who worked in the hospitals, the pope called them prostitutes. Now, 150 years later, the Republic and Fuller herself are accorded high regard.

On Thanksgiving day, November 23, 2000, following the conference, the city of Rome recognized Fuller for her participation in the struggle of the Roman Republic by placing a commemorative plaque on the building in which she lived (now Piazza Barberini 2) during the fall, winter, and spring of 1848-49. Bell Chevigny during a stay in Rome in 1999 identified this building with the help of Roberto Colzi, Roman archivist, and subsequently the mayor's office, at the urging of the Mazzini Society, arranged for the plaque's inscription, placement, and dedication. Representatives of the mayor's office, the Mazzini Society, and the Fuller Society attended the ceremony. A plaque recognizing Fuller has also been proposed for placement on Piazzale Garibaldi on the Janiculum Hill.



Organizers of the Fuller Conference in Rome:  
Giuliana Limiti and Christina Giorcelli.



Fuller Scholars in Rome: Bell Chevigny, Charles  
Capper, Robert Hudspeth, and Krzysztof Zaboklicki.



Dedication of Fuller Plaque in Piazza Barberini, November 23, 2000.  
(Arrow points to veiled plaque on Fuller's building, Pza. Barberini 2.)

## Fleischmann Collection Published

*Margaret Fuller's Cultural Critique: Her Age and Legacy*, edited by Fritz Fleischmann, has been published by Peter Lang Publishing. Based upon the highly successful 1995 conference held at Babson College, the book contains the following essays: Fleischmann, "Introduction: Cultural Translation as Cultural Critique"; Bell Gale Chevigny, "'Cheat Me [On] by No Illusion': Margaret Fuller's Cultural Critique and Its Legacies"; Cynthia J. Davis, "What 'Speaks in Us': Margaret Fuller, Woman's Rights, and Human Nature"; Judith Strong Albert, "Refrains: Margaret Fuller's Presence between Centuries"; Carolyn L. Karcher, "Margaret Fuller and Lydia Maria Child: Intersecting Careers, Reciprocal Influences"; Judith Mattson Bean, "Margaret Fuller and Julia Ward Howe: A Woman-to-Woman Influence"; Thomas R. Mitchell, "'This Mutual Visionary Company': Nathaniel Hawthorne and Margaret Fuller"; Mary-Jo Haronian, "Margaret Fuller, Perceiving Science"; Jeffrey Steele, "Symbols of Transformation: Fuller's Psychological Languages"; Cheryl Fish, "'Unconnected Intelligence' and the Woman of Letters: Margaret Fuller's Darting (Dial)ogues"; Michaela Bruckner Cooper, "Textual Wandering and Anxiety in Margaret Fuller's *Summer on the Lakes*"; Susan Gilmore, "Margaret Fuller 'Receiving' the 'Indians'"; Brigitte Bailey, "Representing Italy: Fuller, History Painting, and the Popular Press"; Dorothy Z. Baker, "Arthur Buckminster Fuller's (Re)Vision of the Life and Work of Margaret Fuller"; Jeffrey Steele, "Editing Margaret Fuller's Poetry."

According to Annette Kolodny, quoted on the cover, "This is a collection of consistently illuminating essays. Margaret Fuller emerges in these pages as a powerful foremother of modern feminism, as an early and astute critic of colonialist projects, and as a major voice in United States intellectual history. Fuller's range, like these essays, is breathtaking."

## Myerson Transcendentalism Reader Available

Joel Myerson's edition of *Transcendentalism: A Reader* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2000) is now available for use in spring 2001 classes. The book, in which Fuller is well represented, is 712 pages long and has a paperback price of \$29.95. A table of contents and other information is available at <http://www.oup-usa.org/sc/0195122127/index.html>.

## Prospects for Fuller Studies

In a bibliographic essay entitled "Prospects for the Study of Margaret Fuller," published in *Resources for American Literary Study* Volume 26, Number 2 (2000): 139-58, Larry Reynolds surveys the past fifteen years of Fuller scholarship and suggests promising areas for future editorial, biographical, and critical work.

## Steele Book Forthcoming

In the spring of 2001, the University of Missouri Press will publish a new book on Fuller by Jeffrey Steele, now titled *Transfiguring America: Myth, Ideology, and Mourning in Margaret Fuller's Writing*.

## Recognition of Fuller's Death

On the evening of July 27, 2000, John J. Kenney gave a speech about Margaret Fuller before the Point 'O Woods Association at a meeting held to honor the 150th anniversary of Fuller's death. Mr. Kenney owns property on the beach opposite where the *Elizabeth* broke up and is an enthusiastic Fuller advocate.

## Margaret Fuller Society Information

President: Joel Myerson (2000-2002)

First Vice-President: Jeffrey Steele (2000-2002)

Second Vice-President: Brigitte Bailey (2000-2002)

Immediate Past President: Robert N. Hudspeth

Executive Secretary-Treasurer and *Newsletter*  
Editor: Larry J. Reynolds (2000-2002)

Advisory Board:

Judith Mattson Bean (1998-2000)

Thomas R. Mitchell (1999-2001)

Nicole Tonkovich (1999-2001)

Mary Kelley (2000-20002)

Joan Von Mehren (2000-2002)

Marie Urbanski (2000-2002)

You may enter or renew your membership in the Margaret Fuller Society by sending your dues (\$10 for faculty; \$5 for students and independent scholars) to the Margaret Fuller Society, Department of English, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas 77843. The Fuller Society website is at <http://www-english.tamu.edu/fuller/>