

# Inside the Mask: The English Poetry of Fernando Pessoa

How many masks wear we, and undermasks,  
Upon our countenance of soul, and when,  
If for self-sport the soul itself unmasks,  
Knows it the last mask off and the face plain?  
The true mask feels no inside to the mask  
But looks out of the mask by co-masked eyes.  
Whatever consciousness begins the task  
The task's accepted use to sleepness ties.  
Like a child frightened by its mirrored faces,  
Our souls, that children are, being thought-losing,  
Foist otherness upon their seen grimaces  
And get a whole world on their forgot causing;

*Dullness*



And, when a thought would unmask our soul's masking,  
Itself goes not unmasked to the unmasking.

*Fernando Pessoa*

s y m p o s i u m

17-18 April 2015

McCormack Family Theater/MacMillan Hall



BROWN

Brown University

On April 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>, 2015, voices from five different departments at Brown University will join with local poets, musicians, actors and scholars in a two-day celebration of Fernando Pessoa, a major twentieth-century writer known primarily for his Portuguese works (*The Book of Disquiet* and the heteronymic poetry).

Two things make this event unique. In October of 1977 Brown hosted the first international symposium on Pessoa. At that time Edwin Honig pointed out that much remained to be said about the poet's bilingualism, referring to his English output. No one more than George Monteiro has committed himself to exploring this largely ignored aspect of Pessoa, and his *Fernando Pessoa and Nineteenth-Century Anglo-American Literature* (2000) breaks new ground in its discussion of the vast implications of Pessoa's role as a voracious reader/writer of English.

This conference, conceived and organized in that same pioneering spirit and coming full-circle almost forty years later, will focus on a body of poetry that continues to grow due to discoveries still being made in the Pessoa Archive. Open to faculty, students, writers and lovers of poetry.

Friday

17 April 2015

McCormack Family Theater (70 Brown St.)

4:00pm **Opening Remarks**

**Opening Keynote Address**

Maria Irene Ramalho de Sousa Santos

"Seeing Nothing – Being Nothing – Being a Poet.

Emily Dickinson 'Reads' Fernando Pessoa"

5:00pm **Panel 1: Poets Reading a Selection of Pessoa's English Poetry**

Rosmarie Waldrop, Cole Swensen, Gale Nelson and

Stuart Blazer

6:30pm **Reception**

Location: Dept. of Literary Arts

(68 ½ Brown St.)

Sponsored by the Department of  Portuguese & Brazilian Studies

with the participation of Literary Arts | English | Comparative Literature | Music

Saturday

18 April 2015

MacMillan Hall (167 Thayer St.), Room 115

- 9:00am**     **Coffee**
- 9:30am**     **Panel 2: Pessoa's Major English Fictitious Poets**  
K. David Jackson "Pessoa's Voluptuous Skepticism"  
Stephen Foley and Patricio Ferrari "Pessoa's Wyatt"
- 10:45am**    **Panel 3: Multilingual Translator**  
Jorge Wiese "Pessoa's English Rendering of  
Espronceda's *El Estudiante de Salamanca*"  
Claudia J. Fischer and Forrest Gander "Pessoa as Self-  
translator: *Naval Ode* and *Opiary*."
- 12:15pm**    **Lunch**
- 1:30pm**     **Panel 4: Two Chapbooks and an Unpublished Typescript**  
Susan M. Brown "Thoughts on *The Mad Fiddler*"  
Joseph Reed "Pessoa's *Antinous*"  
Kenneth Haynes "Pessoa and *The Greek Anthology*"
- 3:15pm**     **Panel 5: Shakespeare, Pessoa and the Art of the Sonnet**  
Geoffrey Russom "How Do We Apprehend Pessoa's  
Rhythmical Effects?"  
John Casey "A Bad Orator/An Unperfect Actor: Pessoa  
Reading Shakespeare"  
Peter K. Saval "A Reader of Shakespeare turns to  
Pessoa's *Sonnets*"
- Coffee Break**
- 5:00pm**     **Closing Keynote Address**  
George Monteiro "And What Now, Fernando?"
- 6:00pm**     **Aurea Performance: *The Mad Fiddler***  
Consuelo Sherba, Katherine Winterstein, Emmanuel  
Feldman and Nigel Gore, featuring the music of  
Francaix, Purcell, Ravel and others

FUNDAÇÃO  
LUSO-AMERICANA

FUNDAÇÃO  
CALOUSTE  
GULBENKIAN

Organized by Patricio Ferrari

Charles Robert Aron

Alexander Search.

William Alexander  
Search.

How many masks wear we, and undermasks,

Chas. James Search

Frederick Wyatt  
~~Frederick Wyatt~~  
Frederick Wyatt

Thomas Lane