

CURRICULUM VITAE

Leslie Brisman

EDUCATION: A.B., Columbia College, 1965; M.A., Cornell University, 1966; Ph.D., Cornell University, 1969.

POSITIONS: Assistant Professor, Yale University, 1969-74; Associate Professor, 1974-79; Professor, 1979-present; the Karl Young professorship, 2002-present.

AWARDS: Morse Fellowship (Yale), 1973-74; Guggenheim Fellowship, 1976-77. National Endowment for the Humanities Seminars, 1991, 1993, 1996, 1999. Honorable Mention, The Conference on Christianity and Literature 1990 Book Award [for *The Voice of Jacob*]. The Sidonie Miskimin Clauss Prize for Teaching Excellence in the Humanities, 2000. The William Clyde DeVane Medal for Teaching and Scholarship, 2001.

PUBLICATIONS: BOOKS:

Milton's Poetry of Choice and Its Romantic Heirs. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1973.

Romantic Origins. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1978.

The Voice of Jacob: On the Composition of Genesis. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1990.

Diabolic Reading: The Bible as a Literature (in progress)

Lies against Time (in progress)

ARTICLES:

"Serpent Error: *Paradise Lost* X:216-18," *Milton Studies* 2 (1970), 27-35.

"'More Glorious to Return': Miltonic Repetition," *The Yearbook of English Studies* 1 (1971), 78-87.

"'All Before Them Where to Choose': L'Allegro and Il Penseroso," *JEGP* 71(1972), 226-40.

"Critical Priorities," *Diacritics* 4(1974), 24-27.

"Coleridge and the Ancestral Voices," *The Georgia Review* 29 (1975), 469-98.

"'At Thy Word': A Reading of *Romeo and Juliet*," *Midwest Modern Language Association Bulletin* 8(1975), 21-31.

"Keats, Milton, and What One May 'Very Naturally Suppose,'" *Milton and the Romantics* 1(1975), 4-7.

"Byron: 'Troubled Stream from a Pure Source,'" *ELH* 42(1975), 623-50.

"The Poet as Pigmy: George Darley," *Studies in Romanticism* 15(1976), 119-41.

"The Romantic Faith and the Primitive Logia" [on Matthew Arnold], *The Arnoldian* 5(1977), 2-15.

"Swinburne's Semiotics," *The Georgia Review* 31(1977), 578-97.

"'Back to the First of All': *By the Fireside* and Browning's Romantic Origins," in *Robert Browning: A Collection of Critical Essays*, ed. Harold Bloom and Adrienne Munich (Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall, 1979), 39-59.

"Lies against Solitude: Symbolic, Imaginary, and Real" [with Susan H. Brisman] in *The Literary Freud: Mechanisms of Defense and the Poetic Will. Psychiatry and the Humanities* 4(New Haven: Yale University Press, 1980), 29-65.

"Mysterious Tongue: Shelley and the Language of Christianity," *Texas Studies in Language and Literature* 23(1981), 389-411.

"Coleridge and the Supernatural," *Studies in Romanticism* 21(1982), 123-59.

"Portrait of a City Boy as Literary Critic" [on Coleridge and the Bible] , *A Jewish Journal at Yale* 1 (1983), 6-14.

"'Of Lips Divine and Calm': Swinburne and the Language of Shelleyan Love," in *Romanticism and Language*, ed. Arden Reed (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1984), 247-62.

"Merrill's Yeats," in *James Merrill: Modern Critical Views*, ed. Harold Bloom (New York: Chelsea House, 1985), 189-98.

"Blake's Comme-bined Cherubim: A Note on *Milton* Plate 32," *Blake: an Illustrated Quarterly* 21[3](1987-88), 95-98.

"On the Divine Presence in Exodus," in *Exodus: Modern Critical Interpretations*, ed. Harold Bloom (New York: Chelsea House, 1987), 105-22.

"*Maud*: The Feminine as the Crux of Influence," *Studies in Romanticism* 31(1992), 21-43.

"Satanic Verses of the Bible: Swallowing Ezekiel's Loathsome Word," *Essays in Literature* 20(1993), 315-26.

"A Parable of Talent" [on Matthew 25 and John Hollander's "Hidden Rhymes"], *Religion and the Arts* 1(1996), 74-99.

"Biblical Revisionism," *New Literary History* 29(1998), 273-93.

"Sacred Butchery: Exodus 32:25-29," *Theological Exegesis: Essays in Honor of Brevard S. Childs*, ed. Christopher Seitz and Kathryn Greene-McCreight (Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans, 1999), 162-81.

"Unequal Affliction: The Scroll of Esther," *Conservative Judaism*. 52 (1999-2000),3-13.

"New Criticism in the Twenty-First Century," *Poetics Today* 25:3 (Fall 2004), 529-40.

"Daring to Go Wrong," in *The Wordsworthian Enlightenment: Romantic Poetry and the Ecology of Reading*, ed. Helen Regueiro Elam and Frances Ferguson (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press, 2005), 263-80.

"Bloom upon Her Mountain: Unclouding the Heights of Modern Biblical Criticism," in *The SALT Companion to Harold Bloom*, ed. Roy Sellars and Allen Graham (2007), 332-46.

"'As One Man': National Unity and the Violences of Judges 19-21." *Genre* 40 (2007), 79-101.

"'The Wall Is Down': New Openings in the Study of Poetry." *Poetics Today* 29:2(2008), 245-75.

"What Took You So Long?" [on Shakespeare and the Bible] *The Yale Review*.97:2 (April 2009), 1-17.

"Harold Bloom: Fence-Maker Extraordinaire" *Harold Bloom: 80 [Yale Review]*, 13-15.

"The King James Bible and the Dream of Wholeness." *The Yale Review* 99#4 (2011), 119-44.

"Wordsworth's Autism," *La Questione Romantica: New Perspectives on William Wordsworth*, vol 3 no 2 (Aprile 2011 [2014]), 81-96. 2014.

"Hartman on Wordsworth's 'Anti-Self-Consciousness.'" *Philological Quarterly* 94 (2015), 150-55.

"From Metaphor to Theology: The Suffering Servant." *Religion and the Arts* 19 (2015) 295-319.

"The Savior of All Humanity." Accepted by *Raritan* (2016).

REVIEWS:

Joseph H. Summers, *The Heirs of Donne and Jonson*. *The Yale Review* 60(1971), vi-viii.

"Literary Derivations and Critical Deviations: George P. Elliott," *boundary 2* [3](1975), 483-88.

"George Herbert and the 'Skewing of Origins,'" *Diacritics* 6(1976), 22-30.

Hans W. Frei, *The Eclipse of Biblical Narrative: A Study in Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century Hermeneutics*, and *The Identity of Jesus Christ: The Hermeneutical Bases of Dogmatic Theology* [review article]. *Comparative Literature* 28(1976), 368-72.

Susan Fox, *Poetic form in Blake's Milton*. *Studies in Romanticism* 16(1977), 260-67.

Frances Ferguson, *Solitude and the Sublime: Romanticism and the Aesthetics of Individuation*; Laura Claridge, *Romantic Potency: The Paradox of Desire*. *Nineteenth-Century Literature* 49(1994), 249-56.

Bryan Shelley, *Shelley and Scripture: The Interpreting Angel*. *The Keats-Shelley Journal* 44(1995), 240-42.

"The Bible as [a Coherent Work of?] Literature" [review article]. J. Cheryl Exum and David J.A. Clines, eds., *The New Literary Criticism and the Hebrew Bible*. *Journal for the Study of the Old Testament: Supplement Series*, no. 143; David M. Gunn and Danna Nolan Fewell, *Narrative in the Hebrew Bible*. *Oxford Bible Series*; Mark Allan Powell, *The Bible and Modern Literary Criticism: A Critical Assessment and Annotated Bibliography*; Jason P. Rosenblatt and Joseph C. Sitterson, Jr. "Not in Heaven": *Coherence and Complexity in Biblical Narrative*. *Indiana Studies in Biblical Literature*. *Prooftexts* 15(1995), 263-71.

Lisa Low and Anthony John Harding, eds., *Milton, the Metaphysicals and Romanticism*. *Modern Philology* 95(1997), 120-22.

Christopher Burdon, *The Apocalypse in England: Revelation Unravelling, 1700-1834*; Stephen Prickett, *Origins of Narrative: The Romantic Appropriation of the Bible*. *The Wordsworth Circle* (forthcoming).

Sandor Goodhart, *Sacrificing Commentary: Reading the End of Literature*. *Criticism* 40(1998), 462-67.

Robert M. Ryan, *The Romantic Reformation: Religious Politics in English Literature, 1789-1824*. *The Keats-Shelley Journal*, forthcoming.

Brian M. Britt. *Walter Benjamin and the Bible*. *The Journal of Religion*

81 (2001), 149-50.

Guinn Batten, *The Orphaned Imagination: Melancholy and Commodity Culture in English Romanticism*. *Modern Philology*, 100 (2002), 122-26.

Robert Douglas-Fairhurst, *Victorian Afterlives: The Shaping of Influence in Nineteenth-Century Literature*. *Modernism/Modernity* 10 (2003), 391-93.

David Daniell, *The Bible in English: Its History and Influence*, in *The Journal of Modern History* 78:2(2006), 465-67).

Dayton Haskin, *John Donne in the Nineteenth Century*. *Victorian Studies* 51(2008), 153-54.

Alexander Regier and Stefan H. Uhlig, eds., *Wordsworth's Poetic Theory: Knowledge, Language, Experience*. *New Books On Literature* 19 [2010]:
http://www.nbol-19.org/view_doc.php?index=90

Brian R. Bates, *Wordsworth's Poetic Collections, Supplementary Writing, and Parodic Reception* (Pickering & Chatto) vii +236 pp. *Review* 19 [2012-09-04].
http://test.nbol-19.org/view_doc.php?index=244

Richard Gravil and Daniel Robinson, eds., *The Oxford Handbook of William Wordsworth*. *Review* 19 (7/22/2015). http://www.nbol-19.org/view_doc.php?index=404.

ACADEMIC LECTURES

"Coleridge and the Ancestral Voices." Comparative Literature Colloquium, Yale University, October 12, 1972.

"Wordsworth and the Rites of Passage." Cornell Literature Forum, Cornell University, November 12, 1976.

"The Romantic Origin of Religious Metaphor: Matthew Arnold and Mordecai Kaplan." MLA Convention in Chicago, December 29, 1977.

"Lies Against Solitude: symbolic, Imaginary, Real." English Department Colloquium, Yale University, February 21, 1978.

"Poetic Apostrophe and the Dialogue of One." The University of California at Irvine, March 2, 1978.

"The Solitude of the Man of Science and the Counterspirit of Poetry." California Institute of Technology, March 3, 1978.

"'Adam's Pigmy Sperm': George Darley and the Problem of Poetic Stature." Johns Hopkins University, October 18, 1978.

"Transference: The Analyst and the Addressee." The Washington School of Psychiatry, November 2, 1978.

"Robert Browning, Elizabeth Barrett, and the Equal Rights Amendment." Wesleyan University, November 9, 1978.

"Swinburne and the Language of Shelleyan Love." MLA Convention in New York, December 27, 1978.

"St. Paul and the Romantics: Seven Types of Natural supernaturalism." University of Texas at Austin, April 28, 1979.

"'Amid the Alien Corn': The Literary Critic in the Field of Hermeneutics." the American Academy of Religion and the Society of Biblical Literature, November 16, 1979.

"Coleridge and the Supernatural." MLA Convention in San Francisco, December 29, 1979.

"Renaissance and Romantic Imagination: The Case of Swinburne." English Department Colloquium, Yale University, December 9, 1981.

"The Author's Reading." City College, February 25, 1983.

"Scriptural Quotation." Yale University Graduate Students' Colloquium, May 5, 1983.

"The Last Shall Be First: Belatedness and Originality in Genesis." Dartmouth College, February 13, 1984.

"Revisionism and Inspiration in Genesis." Yale University, April 1, 1984.

"What is a 'Literary' Approach?" Vassar College, April 26, 1984.

"Wrestling with the Old Gods: Jacob and Other Readers at His Heel." English Department Colloquium, Yale University, December 5, 1984.

"What is 'As Literature'?": The Bible in the College Curriculum." The Bronx House, July 24, 1984.

"Blake's Comme-bined Cherubim." Conference on Poetry and Prophecy, The Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University, April 29, 1985.

"Satanic Verses in the Bible: Swallowing the Loathsome Word of Ezekiel." Indiana University, March 24, 1991.

"Ezekiel and the Anxiety of Influence." The Conrad-Selby Lecture at Brewton-Parker College, May 19, 1993.

"Authorial Intention in Literature and Scripture: The Unjust Steward." Emory University, February 9, 1998.

"Milton 'Without Knowing It.'" Yale University, February 18, 1998.

"Turning on the Chosen: Massacre in Esther" Modern Language Association Convention, San Francisco. December 28, 1998. [I also chaired this session, "The Violences of Biblical Narrative," which included Regina Schwartz, R. Clifton Spargo, René Girard.]

"Traditions of Consolation." The Program for Humanities in Medicine, Yale University School of Medicine. March 30, 2000.

"Hands-On Biblical Criticism." Yale University, October 22, 2000. [Parents Day Lecture]

"'Elu v'Elu': Midrash and Modern Biblical Criticism." The Judaic Studies Program Faculty Colloquium. Four-part series, January 16-19, 2001. Vassar College.

"Civility and Consensus: The Model of Judges." Yale Political Union, January 26, 2001.

"Experience and Choice: A Midrashic Approach." Trumbull College, February 9, 2001.

"The Text of the Bible:1701-2001" Yale Tercentennial Talk, Yale University, October 18, 2001.

"Kohelet: Voices from the Congregation. " Yale University, February 7, 2002.

"'The Pros and Cons of a Large-Scale Military Involvement'; The Book of Judges and American National Unity," MLA Convention in New York City, December 29, 2002.

"Sacred and Secular Interpretation: Moses and Elijah at Sinai." The Erasmus Institute at The College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, June 18, 2003.

"Parables as Literature." MLA Radio Series, "What's the Word?" February 23, 2004.

“‘What Took You So Long?’ Scenes of Instruction in Shakespeare and the Bible,” The British Literature Colloquium, Harvard University, February 8, 2008.

“The Bible as a Literature.” The King James Bible and Its Cultural Afterlife Conference, Ohio State University (Columbus), May 6, 2011.

“The Symbolic Agenda of The King James Bible.” ACLS (Boston), October 15, 2011.

“Wordsworth’s Autism.” The Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century Colloquium, Yale University, April 27, 2012.

COMMUNITY SERVICE LECTURES

"The Aesthetics of Silence: Poetry of Dan Pagis." Jewish Community Center of New Haven, February 1, 1997.

"On Setting Priorities." The Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth. Wesleyan University. November 18, 2000.

"Appointing Time." The Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth. Wesleyan University. November 17, 2001.

"Freud and the Concept of the Chosen People.: The Jewish Community Center of New Haven, January 26, 2002.

"On Regular and Irregular Obligation: Judaic, Christian, and Islamic Traditions." The Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth. Wesleyan University. November 16, 2002.

"Shichicha: A Short History of Jewish Forgetfulness." The Jewish Community Center of New Haven, January 25, 2003.

“Enobarbus and the Ethics of Abandonment.” The Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth. Wesleyan University. November 8, 2003.

"Second Best: Maimonides and the Tradition of Accommodation." The Jewish Community Center of New Haven, January 31, 2004.

“College Study of English and the 2004 Election.” The Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth. Wesleyan University. November 20, 2004.

“Torah after Derrida: Did the Great Philosopher Make a Difference?” The Jewish Community Center of New Haven, January 29, 2005.

“Quantitative Reasoning? The Case of *King Lear*.” The Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth. Wesleyan University. November 19, 2005.

“God’s Evil: A Persistent Problem in Biblical Exegesis.” The Jewish Community Center of New Haven, January 28, 2006.

“Blowing It Back: Mark Strand, Andrew Hudgins, Barry Spacks.” The Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth. Wesleyan University. November 18, 2006.

“Kamocha B’Elim: The Biblical Roots of Religious Pluralism,” Jewish Community Center of New Haven, January 27, 2007.

“‘A Thing Apart’: Frost, Bishop, Heaney, Kinnell, Groarke.” The Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth. Wesleyan University. November 17, 2007.

“Deconstructing and Reconstructing the Akedah [Genesis 22],” The Jewish Community Center of New Haven, January 26, 2008.

“Poetry and Politics after November 4, 2008: The Example of Frank Bidart.” The Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth, Wesleyan University, November 15, 2008.

“Jewish Shakespeare: Beyond the Anti-Semitism Issue.” The Jewish Community Center of New Haven, January 31, 2009.

“*Kidvarecha*: Midrashic Imagination in the Hebrew Bible.” The Jewish Community Center of New Haven, January 30, 2010.

“Accessing God after Sinai: The Poetics of Intrabiblical Citation.” Stephen Wise Free Synagogue, June 8, 2010.

“Civilization and Its Discontents: The Legacy of Mordecai Kaplan.” Jewish Community Center of New Haven, January 29, 2011.

“Biblical Multivocality.” Shibboleth. Yale University, October 31, 2011.

“Ancient Quarrels with Obedience: Misreading the Biblical Prooftexts.” Jewish Community Center of New Haven, January 28, 2012.

“The Suffering Servant: A Jewish/Christian Watershed.” Jewish Community Center of New Haven, January 26, 2013.

“The Incoherence of Psalms.” Jewish Community Center of New Haven, January 26, 2014.

“Biblical David: Mythology and Realpolitik,” The Jewish Community Center of New Haven, January 31, 2015.

"The Science and Art of Biblical Intertextuality, " The Jewish Community Center of New Haven, January 30, 2016.

“Catching the Conscience of Hamlet.” The New Haven Teachers’ Institute lecture. March 22, 2016.

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