

David Bromwich: Short Vita

ACADEMIC TRAINING:

1973 B.A. Yale University ("summa cum laude"); 1977 Ph.D. Yale University.

POSITIONS HELD:

1977-87 department of English, Princeton University

1987-88 Mellon Professor of English

1988- professor, department of English, Yale University

1991-94 director, Whitney Humanities Center

2006- Sterling Professor of English

BOOKS:

Hazlitt: the Mind of a Critic (Oxford University Press, 1983). Second edition, Yale University Press, 1999.

A Choice of Inheritance: Self and Community from Edmund Burke to Robert Frost (Harvard University Press, 1989).

Politics by Other Means: Higher Education and Group Thinking (Yale University Press, 1992).

Disowned by Memory: Wordsworth's Poetry of the 1790s (University of Chicago Press, 1998).

Skeptical Music: Essays on Modern Poetry (University of Chicago Press, 2001).

Moral Imagination (Princeton University Press, 2014).

The Intellectual Life of Edmund Burke (Harvard University Press, 2014).

American Breakdown: the Trump Years and How They Befell Us (Verso, 2019).

How Words Make Things Happen (Oxford University Press, 2019).

EDITIONS:

Romantic Critical Essays (Cambridge University Press, 1987).

On Empire, Liberty, and Reform: Speeches and Letters of Edmund Burke (Yale University Press, 2000).

On Liberty by John Stuart Mill, co-edited with George Kateb (Yale University Press, 2003).

American Sonnets (Library of America, 2007).

The Turn of the Screw by Henry James (Penguin, 2011).

Writing Politics: an Anthology (NYRB Books, 2020).

Selected Poems by Thomas Hardy (Yale University Press, 2023).

TEXTBOOK

Literature as Experience, with John Hollander and Irving Howe (Harcourt, Brace, 1979).

UNCOLLECTED ESSAYS:

"Parody, Pastiche, and Allusion," in Lyric Poetry, ed. Chaviva Hosek and Patricia Parker (Cornell University Press, 1985).

"From Wordsworth to Emerson," in Romantic Revolutions, ed. Kenneth Johnston et al. (Indiana University Press, 1990).

"The Big Heat," Threepenny Review, Summer 1990.

Introduction, Poems of Keats (Everyman edition, Dent, 1992).

"Wollstonecraft as a Critic of Burke," Political Theory, November 1995.

"Brando and On the Waterfront," Threepenny Review, Spring 1996.

"King Lear, Edmund Burke, and the French Revolution," in Reading in an Age of Theory, ed. Bridget Gellert Lyons (Rutgers University Press, 1997).

"Democracy, Merit, and Presumptive Virtue," Dissent, Fall 1997.

"Scholarship as Social Action," in What's Happened to the Humanities, ed. Alvin Kernan (Princeton University Press, 1997).

"Reflections on the Revolution in France," in A Companion to Romanticism, ed. Duncan Wu

(Blackwell, 1998).

"Rousseau and the Self without Property," The Social Contract and the First and Second Discourse by Jean-Jacques Rousseau, edited by Susan Dunn (Yale University Press, 2002).

"Love against Revenge in Shelley's Prometheus," Philosophy and Literature, October 2002.

"Eliot and Anti-Semitism: a Response," Modernism/Modernity, January 2003.

"Burke on the Sublime and the Uncontrollability of Persuasion," Annals of Scholarship double issue 14.3 and 15.1 (2003).

"Acting Alone," Dissent, Winter 2003.

"Disinterested Imagining and Impersonal Feeling," in Metaphysical Hazlitt, edited by Uttara Natarajan, Tom Paulin and Duncan Wu (Routledge, 2005).

"Burke and the Argument from Human Nature," in An Imaginative Whig, edited by Ian Crowe (University of Missouri Press, 2005).

"Hazlitt on Shakespeare and the Motives of Power," The Hazlitt Review, vol. 1, no. 1, 2008.

"Destruction and the Theory of Happiness in the Poetry of Yeats and Stevens," Essays in Criticism, April 2010.

"What Shakespeare's Heroes Learn," Raritan, Spring 2010.

"How Lincoln Explained Democracy," Yale Review, January 2011.

"Academic Freedom and its Opponents," Raritan, Winter 2012; reprinted in Who's Afraid of Academic Freedom, edited by Akeel Bilgrami and Jonathan R. Cole (Columbia University Press, 2015).

"Working the Dark Side," London Review of Books, January 8, 2015

"What Are We Allowed to Say?" London Review of Books, September 22, 2016.

"Lincoln as Realist and Revolutionist," Raritan, Spring 2017.

"Burke on the New and Old Whigs," Studies in Burke and his Time, vol. 26 (2016-2017).

"Scholarly Truth and the Hunger for Progress," Social Research, Fall 2017.

"Burke, *Reflections on the Revolution in France*," in British Literature of the French Revolution

in the 1790s, edited by Pamela Clemit (Cambridge University Press, 2011).

“Crazy Talk,” New York Review of Books, November 8, 2018.

“Natural Piety and Human Responsibility,” in Nature and Value, edited by Akeel Bilgrami (Columbia University Press, 2020).

“Democracy and the Rise of Strongmen,” TLS, June 12, 2020.

“Is America Ungovernable?” Harper’s Magazine, November 2020.

Introduction to Hannah Arendt, On Lying and Politics (Library of America, 2022).

Monthly columns for The Nation, January 2021-January 2023.

“The Chaos and Confusion of Donald Trump on Trial,” The New Statesman, June 9, 2023.

“Private Thought and Public Speech,” Compact, May 22, 2024.

<https://www.compactmag.com/article/private-thought-and-public-speech/>

“Reflections on the New Encampment Culture,” Persuasion, September 20, 2024.

<https://www.persuasion.community/p/reflections-on-the-new-encampment/>

“Spaces between the Stars,” London Review of Books, September 26, 2024.

“The Fantasy of the Happy Warrior,” Compact, November 3, 2024. 4

<https://www.compactmag.com/article/the-fantasy-of-the-happy-warrior/>

“Burke and Paine on Reform and Revolution,” Raritan vol. 44 no. 4.2 (late spring, 2025).

“The War Habit,” The Point Magazine, volume 35 (Summer 2025).

“Law-Abiding Citizenship and Non-violent Protest,” Law and Contemporary Problems, vol. 87, no. 3 (August 2025).

REVIEWS:

Robert Frost: the Work of Knowing by Richard Poirier, TLS, March 17, 1978.

Collected Poems by Allen Tate, TLS, November 24, 1978.

The Hamlet Vocation of Coleridge and Wordsworth by Martin Greenberg, Southwest Review, Winter 1988.

The Works of Mary Wollstonecraft ed. Janet Todd and Marilyn Butler, TLS, January 19-25

1990.

The Ideologies of Theory by Fredric Jameson, The New Republic, February 19, 1990.

The Great Melody by Conor Cruise O'Brien, The New Republic, March 1, 1993.

Romanticism and Contemporary Criticism, by Paul de Man, London Review of Books, October 7, 1993.

Film reviews for The New Leader, 1993-94.

The Political and Philosophical Writings of William Godwin, TLS, May 20, 1994.

There's No Such Thing as Free Speech by Stanley Fish, Raritan, Summer 1994.

Poetic Justice by Martha Nussbaum, London Review of Books, October 17, 1996.

Achieving our Country by Richard Rorty, Journal of Philosophy, November 1998.

The Origins of Postmodernity by Perry Anderson, London Review of Books, February 4, 1999.

Henry James: a Life in Letters edited by Philip Horne, TLS, September 3, 1999.

Garrick by Ian McIntyre, TLS, May 4, 2001.

Groucho by Stefan Kanfer, London Review of Books, May 10, 2001.

Orson Welles by Peter Conrad, London Review of Books, June 3, 2004.

Elia Kazan by Richard Schickel, The Nation, March 13, 2006.

Let Us Now Praise Famous Men, A Death in the Family, Shorter Fiction, Film Writing, and Selected Journalism by James Agee, London Review of Books, September 7, 2006.

Team of Rivals: the Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln by Doris Kearns Goodwin, New York Review of Books, October 19 and November 2, 2006.

Freedom's Battle: the Origins of Humanitarian Intervention by Gary J. Bass, The American Conservative, March 9, 2009.

An Army of Phantoms: American Movies and the Making of the Cold War by J. Hoberman, London Review of Books, January 26, 2012.

"Lincoln," a film by Steven Spielberg, New York Review of Books, January 10,

2013.

Ambition, a History: from Vice to Virtue by William Casey King, New York Review of Books, July 11, 2013.

The Letters of Robert Frost, Volume I: 1896-1920, TLS, July 30, 2014.

When the Facts Change: Essays 1995-2010 by Tony Judt, National Interest, May-June, 2015.

Ezra Pound: Poet: The Epic Years 1921-1939 by A. David Moody, TLS, July 31, 2015.

The Soul of the Marionette by John Gray, New York Review of Books, November 5, 2015

Dark Money by Jane Mayer, The Nation, May 17, 2016.

Map: Collected and Last Poems by Wislawa Szymborska, New York Review of Books, September 29, 2016.

The Letters of Robert Frost, Volume II: 1920-1928. TLS, July 7, 2017.

On Empson by Michael Wood, New York Review of Books, October 26, 2017.

“Vice,” a film by Adam McKay, New York Review of Books, January 5, 2019.

Hate Inc. by Matt Taibbi, New York Review of Books, December 5, 2019.

Leadership and the Rise of Great Powers by Yan Xuetong, TLS, June 12, 2020.

The Beauty of Living: e.e. cummings and the Great War by J. Alison Rosenblitt, New York Times Book Review, July 21, 2020.

James Gillray: A Revolution in Satire, by Tim Clayton, London Review of Books, September 21, 2023.

The End of Enlightenment: Empire, Commerce, and Crisis, by Richard Whatmore, Literary Review, May 2024.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Board of editors, Dissent; Raritan; Journal of the History of Ideas (1991-2011); Studies in Romanticism.

Co-editor (with James Chandler and Lionel Gossman), *Literature in History* series, Princeton University Press.

Visiting professor, Columbia University, spring 1988.

Director, NEH Summer Seminar for College Teachers, 1991, on "The Revolution Debate and English Literature in the 1790s."

Executive council, Association of Literary Scholars, Critics, and Writers, 1999-2002; 2015-2023.

Chair, publications committee, Yale University Press, 2004-2009.

Visiting professor, University of Chicago, fall 2011.

Board of Trustees, National Humanities Center, 2018-2023.

President, Association of Literary Scholars, Critics, and Writers, 2020-22.

HONORS AND APPOINTED LECTURES:

1976-77 Prize Teaching Fellowship, Yale University.

1984 National Book Critics Circle finalist in criticism for Hazlitt: the Mind of a Critic.

1986-87 Guggenheim Fellowship.

1993 Lionel Trilling Seminar, Columbia University.

1994 Ida Beam Lectures, University of Iowa.

1995 Gauss Seminars in Criticism, Princeton University ("The Radicalism of Edmund Burke").

1998 Election National Academy of Arts and Sciences

2002 PEN Spielvogel/Diamonstein Prize for book of essays, Skeptical Music.

2007 Edward Said Memorial Lecture, Columbia University.

2008 Irving Howe Memorial Lecture, CUNY Graduate Center.

2013 DeVane Lectures, Yale University.

2013 Clarendon Lectures in English, University of Oxford.

2016 Director's Lecture, Neubauer Collegium, University of Chicago.

2016 Fraenkel Lecture, Free University of Berlin.

2017 Huggins Lectures, Harvard University.

2018 Visiting Lecturer, Peking University and Fudan University.

2019 Tocqueville Lecture, Furman University.

2017-20 Carnegie Fellowship.

2021 Invited lecture to "plebes" on intellectual freedom, US Military Academy West Point.

2024 Governance, Service & Civic Engagement Lecture, Princeton University.

2024 Keynote Talk, Conference for Study of Political Thought, Columbia University.