

KAREN SWANN

Morris Professor of Rhetoric
English Department
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Education:

Cornell University (1976-83):

Ph. D. in English Literature, received August 1983.

M. A. in English Literature, received August 1979.

Oberlin College (1971-75):

B. A. with Highest Honors in English, 1975.

Research interests: British romantic-era literature, including romantic poetry, British colonial literature, and the literature of natural history; poetics; eco-poetics; critical theory; contemporary poetry.

Employment:

2013-2016: Associate Dean, Office of Institutional Diversity and Equity, Williams College.

1984-present: English Department, Williams College, Williamstown, MA. Current rank: Professor of English.

1983-84: Assistant Professor of English, Ithaca College, Ithaca, NY.

Selected Publications:

Book in progress: *Lives of the Dead Poets: Keats, Shelley, Coleridge*.

“The Mask of Keats.” *Romantic Praxis* (online), special issue on “Minimal Romanticism,” ed. David L. Clark and Jacques Khalip. Spring 2016.

“Teaching *Jerusalem*.” *European Romantic Review*, ed. Jonathan Mulrooney 25:3 (June 2014), 397-402.

“Blake’s *Jerusalem*: Friendship with Albion.” *Blackwell’s Companion to British Romanticism*, ed. Charles Mahoney. Blackwell’s, 2011.

“Shelley’s Pod People.” *Romantic Praxis* (online). Winter 2005.

“*Endymion*’s Beautiful Dreamers.” *The Cambridge Companion to Keats*, ed. Susan

Wolfson. Cambridge UP, 2001.

“The Strange Time of Reading.” *European Romantic Review* 9:2 (1998).

“‘Martha’s name’: the Scandalous Case of ‘The Thorn.’” *Dwelling in Possibility: Essays in Gender, Genre, and Poetry*, ed. Maera Schrieber and Johanna Prins. Cornell UP, 1998.

“Public Transport: English Romantic Experiments in Sensationalism.” *ANQ* 6: 2&3 (April, July 1993).

“Suffering and Sensation in *The Ruined Cottage*.” *Publications of the Modern Language Association*. January, 1991; rept. in Halmi, Nicholas (ed.) *Wordsworth's Poetry and Prose*. New York, NY: Norton, 2014.

“The Sublime and the Vulgar.” *College English* 52 (January 1990).

“Teaching *Christabel*.” *Approaches to Teaching Coleridge*, ed. Richard Matlack. *Publications of Modern Language Association*, 1990.

“Public Transport: Adventuring on Wordsworth’s Salisbury Plain.” *ELH* 55 (Winter 1988).

“Harassing the Muse.” *Romanticism and Feminism*, ed. Anne Mellor. Indiana UP, 1987.

“Literary Gentlemen and Lovely Ladies: the Debate on the Character of *Christabel*.” *ELH* 52 (Spring 1985). Rept. in *Romantic Poetry: Recent Revisionary Criticism*, ed. Karl Kroeber and Gene Ruoff (Rutgers UP, 1993); in *Romanticism*, ed. Cynthia Chase (Longman’s, 1994); and in *Coleridge, Keats, and Shelley*, ed. Peter Kitson (St. Martin’s, 1996).

“*Christabel*: the Wandering Mother and the Enigma of Form.” *Studies in Romanticism* 23 (Winter 1984). Rept. in *Romanticism: A Critical Reader*, ed. Duncan Wu (Blackwell’s, 1995).

Selected Papers:

“Tracing Keats.” Invited public lecture and seminar, Cogut Center for Romantic Studies, Brown University, November 2-3 2016.

Master class on Blake’s *Jerusalem*. North American Society for the Study of Romanticism, Boston, August 2013.

“The Mask of Keats.” North American Society for the Study of Romanticism. Boston, August 2013.

“Posthumous Affection: The Legacies of Keats and Shelley.” Modern Language Association Convention. Boston, January 2013.

“*Adonais* and the Catastrophe of the Dead Child.” International Conference on Romanticism. Phoenix, November 2012.

“Coleridge the Talker.” Plenary address, Coleridge Conference. Cannington, England. August, 2012.

“Friendship with Albion.” North American Society for the Study of Romanticism. University of Toronto, August 2008.

“Late Coleridge.” Invited lecture at Princeton University, Spring 2006.

“Coleridge’s Work of the Negative.” Modern Language Association Convention, Philadelphia, December 2004.

“Work without Hope.” “Uncontainable Romanticism.” Cornell University, December 2004.

“Thinking about Things that don’t Matter.” North American Society for the Study of Romanticism, Seattle, Summer 2003.

“Shelley’s Pod People.” Harvard Center for the Humanities, Fall 2003.

“Keats’s Afterlife.” Invited lecture at Bowdoin College, Spring 2002.

“Keats’s Beautiful Dreamers.” Modern Language Association Convention, Washington, December 2000.

“Shelley’s Exquisite Corpus.” Invited lecture at Vanderbilt University, October 2006.

“Relics.” North American Society for the Study of Romanticism, Phoenix, September 2000.

“Shelley’s Bones.” Invited lecture, Cambridge University, June 2000.

“Shelley’s Bones.” Invited lecture, Cornell University, April 2000.

“The Strange time of Reading,” North American Society for the Study of Romanticism, Toronto, 1997.

Recent courses taught:

British Romantic Poetry
William Blake
New Poetry
Colonial Subjects
Romantic Nature
Romanticism and Modernism
Witnessing

Selected Williams College Activities:

Associate Dean for Institutional Diversity and Equity, 2013-2016.

Chair, Affirmative Action Advisory Committee, 2013-2016.
Chair, Committee on Diversity and Community, 2015-16.
Member, Diversity Action Research Team, 2013-16.
Member, Affirmative Action Committee, 2012-2013.
Member, Committee on Diversity and Community, 2013-2015.
Representative of Office of Strategic Planning and Institutional Diversity, tenure appeal
assistance, 2012-2013
Chair, English Department, 2004-07.
Chair, Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies, 2001-02.
Chair, Committee on Educational Policy, 1996-97; member, 1995-96.
Member, Campus Committee on Race Relations, 1994-97.
Ad hoc Faculty committee for U. S. Latina/o Studies, 1993-94.
Chair, Women's Studies Program, 1990-91.

Professional Memberships:

Modern Language Association of America
North Atlantic Society for the Study of Romanticism