



# The Wallace Stevens Society

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## The Wallace Stevens Journal

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Dear Fellow Stevensians,

We hope that this newsletter finds you safe and well. With a new year now under way, we write to share with you some upcoming events and publications, and to take note of some recent events in the Stevens world.

**Recent events:** The Society sponsored a panel on Stevens and short literary forms at the 2022 Convention of the Modern Literature Association in Washington, D.C. The panel was organized by Diana Leca and included presentations by Thomas Gould on “neighborly articles” in Stevens (like *the*), Diana Leca on the role of aphorisms in his poetry, and Seth Perlow on “Thirteen Ways of Looking at a Blackbird.”

The 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Wallace Stevens Birthday Bash was held virtually on November 6, 2021. Organized by Jim Finnegan and hosted by the Connecticut Center for the Book, this year’s event featured a talk by celebrated poet and cultural critic Edward Hirsch titled “Sunday Morning with Stevens.”

**Upcoming Events:** We are pleased to announce several events in the coming year. The Society will sponsor a panel at the American Literature Association conference in Chicago this May. The panel, organized by Florian Gargaillo, considers the topic of Stevens and Asia. Apala Das will consider Stevens’s *ascesis* and its relation to Buddhism; Peter Feng will connect Stevens to the concept of Tao; and Christopher Spaide will examine how contemporary Asian American poets are engaging with Stevens. We hope you will join us for what promises to be a fascinating session.

The Hartford Friends and Enemies of Wallace Stevens are organizing a Poetry Month Reading by John Surowiecki from his new book, *The Place of Solitaires: Poems from Titles by Wallace Stevens*, and Julie Choffel from her sequence “Dear Wallace.” The event will take place via Zoom on April 20 at 7:00PM EST. To register, please go to the following webpage:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMocuqvqT4sE90a-5gZTRMIP\\_AKwNPJ5pYw](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMocuqvqT4sE90a-5gZTRMIP_AKwNPJ5pYw).

In January 2023, the Society will also offer a guaranteed session at the MLA Convention in San Francisco on the subject of Stevens and / in Germany. If you are interested, please send an abstract of 150 words to the panel organizer, Andrew Gross, at [andrew.gross@phil.uni-goettingen.de](mailto:andrew.gross@phil.uni-goettingen.de). Topics may include Stevens’s

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references to German literature and language in poems and prose; affinities with German writers and philosophers; aspects of language; responses to German politics and the world wars; the poet's attitude toward the German elements in his own heritage; memories of growing up in Pennsylvania Dutch territory; as well as his reception in Germany.

**Publications:** The new year has also seen the release of a new book, *Perennial Earth: Poetry by Wallace Stevens and Paintings by Alexis Serio*, edited by John N. Serio and introduced by Glen MacLeod. The book pairs over thirty of Stevens's poems or passages with Serio's abstract landscapes. Although the paintings were not created in response to Stevens, they share with him a reliance on landscape to express deep thought and feeling as both artist and writer celebrate our physical world. NewPerennials press publishes works on social and ecological issues and provides free PDF copies at <https://www.newperennialsublishing.org>. A printed version of the coffee table book will soon be available for purchase. For more information, contact [johnserio@gmail.com](mailto:johnserio@gmail.com).

**Donations:** The Wallace Stevens Society welcomes donations in support of its work. Please contact George Burns, the Society's Treasurer ([gburns6126@gmail.com](mailto:gburns6126@gmail.com)), if you wish to make a donation.

**Call for Help:** As you can see, the Stevens world continues to be so active that we may have overlooked some relevant news items. In the future, if you know of any events or publications that might escape our attention, please alert our Secretary, Florian Gargaillo, at [gargaillof@apsu.edu](mailto:gargaillof@apsu.edu). We appreciate your help.

In closing, the Officers of the Wallace Stevens Society would like to thank you for your continued support. Please do not hesitate to contact me at [lisa.goldfarb@nyu.edu](mailto:lisa.goldfarb@nyu.edu) with ideas, responses, and reflections.

We wish you a good start to the spring and look forward to being in touch with you again soon.

Best,



Lisa Goldfarb  
President