1984

Eugene O'Neill International Conference 1984: Eugene O'Neill the Early Years, program

Eugene O'Neill Society

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SUFFOLK UNIVERSITY AND THE EUGENE O'NEILL SOCIETY
PRESENT
AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON

Eugene O’Neill---the Early Years

SUFFOLK UNIVERSITY, BOSTON, MA 02114

22 - 25 MARCH 1984

PROGRAM OF EVENTS
## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 1984

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event details</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Registration and coffee. (Thereafter in Dept. of English, Fenton 203.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>INTRODUCTION TO FILM FESTIVAL, by John Orlandello, Western Illinois Univ., author of O'Neill on Film. (Like all conference talks, the introduction will be taped for later listening in the Media Room.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>SESSION A: O'NEILL'S EARLIEST PLAYS.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>FILM: MOURNING BECOMES ELECTRA (1947).</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>MEDIA ROOM open for viewing and listening.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>SESSION B: O'NEILL AND THE ISMS, I.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:15 p.m.</td>
<td>SESSION C: REACTIONS AT HOME AND ABROAD.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:10 p.m.</td>
<td>SESSION D: O'NEILL AND AMERICA.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:20 p.m.</td>
<td>FILM: ANNA CHRISTIE (1930).</td>
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3. "Beyond Synge: O'Neill's Anna Christie." Thomas P. Adler, Purdue Univ.

Moderator: Frederick C. Wilkins, Suffolk Univ.

1. "Romantic Elements in the Early O'Neill." Frank R. Cunningham, Univ. of South Dakota.
2. "O'Neill's Early Experiments with Realistic Form." Brenda Murphy, St. Lawrence Univ.

Moderator: Steven F. Bloom, Emmanuel College.

1. "From Nobody to the Nobel: Two Decades of American O'Neill Criticism." Jordan Y. Miller, Univ. of Rhode Island.

Moderator: Marta Sienicka, Adam Mickiewicz Univ., Poznań, Poland.

2. "O'Neill and American History." Michael Hinden, Univ. of Wisconsin, Madison.

Moderator: Phyllis T. Dircks, Long Island Univ.

1:15 p.m. - 3:07 p.m. FILM: STRANGE INTERLUDE (1932).
5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.  SESSION E: PROVINCETOWN INSIGHTS.
2. "Dionysus in Provincetown." Robert K. Sarlós, Univ. of California, Davis.
Moderator: Richard J. Dircks, St. John's Univ.

6:15 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.  SOCIAL "HOUR" (cash bar).
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.  DINNER.
Welcoming remarks by Daniel H. Perlman, President of Suffolk Univ. and Michael R. Ronayne, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

9:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.  THEATRE EVENING I:
"LIFELINES: THE O'NEILL PROJECT."
Scenes from Before Breakfast, Welded, 'Ile, Abortion and Mourning Becomes Electra, in a montage conceived and performed by the Suffolk Student Theatre. Followed by Afterchat with cast and director.

FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 1984

8:00 a.m. - Noon.  Registration, coffee, and sales desk.
Books by conference participants, silkscreen reproductions of the conference poster, and back issues of the Eugene O'Neill Newsletter will be available for purchase.

8:30 a.m. - 9:50 a.m.  SESSION F: IDEAS IN & INFLUENCES ON EARLY O'NEILL.
2. "O'Neill's Early Debt to David Belasco." Michael Manheim, Univ. of Toledo.
Moderator: Edward L. Shaughnessy, Butler Univ.

9:00 a.m. - 10:20 a.m.  FILM: ANNA CHRISTIE (silent, 1923).

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  MEDIA ROOM open for viewing and listening.
(See Thursday 11 a.m. listing for details.)

10:00 a.m. - Noon.  SESSION G: FROM SEA TO STAGE.
2. "O'Neill's Innovative Craftsmanship in the 'Glencairn' Cycle (1914-1917)." Marc Maufort, Univ. of Brussels, Belgium.
3. "Dramatic Form in The Calms of Capricorn" (slide-illustrated talk). Esther M. Jackson, Univ. of Wisconsin, Madison.
Moderator: Kristin Morrison, Boston College.

10:30 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.  FILM: THE EMPEROR JONES (1933).

1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.  SESSION H: WORK DIARIES AND LETTERS.
2. "First Love: O'Neill and Boutade." Travis Bogard, Univ. of California, Berkeley.
Jackson R. Bryer, Univ. of Maryland, and
Travis Bogard, Univ. of California, Berkeley.
Moderator: Steven F. Bloom, Emmanuel College.

1:00 p.m. - 2:41 p.m.  FILM: AH, WILDERNESS! (1935).

2:30 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.  SESSION I: O'NEILL AND THE ISMS, II.
1. "O'Neill's Metadrama."
   Richard Hornby, Florida State Univ.
2. "O'Neill and the American Expressionists" (slide-illustrated talk).
   Yvonne Shafer, Univ. of California, Santa Barbara.
3. "O'Neill and European Expressionism: A Reappraisal."
   Haskell Block, State Univ. of New York, Binghamton.
Moderator: Paul D. Voelker, Univ. of Wisconsin Center, Richland.

3:00 p.m. - 4:51 p.m.  FILM: DESIRE UNDER THE ELMS (1958).

4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.  PANEL DISCUSSION: TEACHING O'NEILL.
Moderator: Jordan Y. Miller, Univ. of Rhode Island.
Panelists: James R. Harris, John Jay H.S., Katonah, NY.
          Kristin Morrison, Boston College.
          Lowell Swortzell, New York Univ.
          Gary Vena, Manhattan College.

8:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.  THEATRE EVENING II: AN O'NEILL CELEBRATION.
I. O'NEILL'S NOBEL PRIZE ACCEPTANCE SPEECH,
   read by Thomas F. Connolly, Boston Univ.
II. GOOD MORNING, EUGENE, a poetic tribute to the playwright, intro­
    duced by Marshall Brooks, Assoc. Ed., Eugene O'Neill Newsletter,
    and read by its author, Norman Andrew Kirk.
III. HERE BEFORE YOU...EUGENE O'NEILL, by David Wheeler.
    Performed by its author, this celebrated monodrama shows O'Neill in the
    summer of 1916, reviewing his life in Jig Cook's dining room, as he
    nervously awaits the Provincetown Players' verdict on his first sub­
    mission, Bound East for Cardiff.
    Followed by an Afterchat with Messrs. Kirk and Wheeler.

SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1984

8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.  NEW LONDON PRELUDE--"O'NEILL: TWO FAMILIES."
Videotape produced by the Milwaukee Rep when preparing concurrent
productions of Long Day's Journey Into Night and Ah, Wilderness!
Combining scenes from both plays, views of Monte Cristo Cottage
and vintage shots of O'Neill's years there, the tape will prepare
viewers for the 9:15 bus trip's destination. (Those who antici­
pate rising late may view it in the Media Room on Thursday or Friday.)

8:30 a.m. - 9:50 a.m.  FILM: THE LONG VOYAGE HOME (1940).

9:15 a.m. - 6:15 p.m.  BUS TRIP TO NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT.
9:15: Bus leaves front of Fenton Building.
9:30: Bus stops at Park Plaza Hotel for late risers.
12:30 (approx.): Tour of Monte Cristo Cottage with Curator Sally
Pavetti and Associate Curator Lois McDonald, including multi­
media presentation by Boston filmmaker Todd Gipstein.
3:00: Bus leaves Cottage and returns, via Park Plaza, to University.

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  MEDIA ROOM open for viewing and listening.
(See Thursday 11 a.m. listing for details.)
10:00 a.m. - 11:20 a.m. FILM: **THE EMPEROR JONES** (1933).

11:30 a.m. - 12:50 p.m. FILM: **ANNA CHRISTIE** (silent, 1923).

1:00 p.m. - 2:42 p.m. FILM: **ANNA CHRISTIE** (1930).

2:50 p.m. - 4:42 p.m. FILM: **STRANGE INTERLUDE** (1932).

4:50 p.m. - 6:31 p.m. FILM: **AH, WILDNESS!** (1935).

8:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. THEATRE EVENING III: CRUCIBLE ON THE CAPE.

*SUNDAY, MARCH 25, 1984*

8:30 a.m. - 10:10 a.m. FILM: **THE LONG VOYAGE HOME** (1940).

10:10 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. FILM SERIES AFTERCHAT with John Orlandello.

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. FAREWELL BRUNCH.

1:30 p.m. - 4:25 p.m. FILM: **MOURNING BECOMES ELECTRA** (1947).

4:40 p.m. - 6:31 p.m. FILM: **DESIRE UNDER THE ELMS** (1958).

NOTE: Materials in the Media Room (Fenton 438) are available for viewing and listening at unscheduled hours, if prior arrangement is made with the English Department (Fenton 203). The same is true of books, posters and Newsletters, which may be purchased when the Registration Room (Fenton 243) is closed. Membership in the Eugene O'Neill Society, whose green application forms will be ubiquitous, is available to all conference attenders. Exhibits of O'Neill memorabilia (in the lobby of the Sawyer Building) and production photos (in the hallways of Fenton) will be available throughout the conference.

WHO'S WHO AND WHERE: NOTES ON CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS

**THOMAS P. ADLER** (THU, 9:30 a.m.). Professor of English, Purdue Univ.; author of book on Robert Anderson and chapters on Williams and Albee; recently completed a study of the Pulitzer dramas, including O'Neill's four.

**HASKELL M. BLOCK** (FRI, 2:30 p.m.). Professor of Comparative Literature, SUNY-Binghamton; author of Mallarmé and the Symbolist Drama; co-editor of Masters of Modern Drama.

**STEVEN F. BLOOM** (THU, 11:00 a.m.; FRI, 1:00 p.m.). Assistant Professor of English, Emmanuel College; assistant director of conference; author of "Empty Bottles, Empty Dreams: O'Neill's Use of Drinking and Alcoholism in Long Day's Journey" in forthcoming Critical Essays on Eugene O'Neill; will speak on "Drinking and Drunkenness in The Iceman Cometh" at NMLA Convention in Philadelphia on March 29.
TRAVIS BOGARD (FRI, 1:00 p.m.). Professor of Dramatic Arts, Univ. of California-Berkeley; author of Contour in Time: The Plays of Eugene O'Neill and of intro. essays in "The Theatre We Worked For": The Letters of Eugene O'Neill to Kenneth Macgowan; editor of The Later Plays of Eugene O'Neill; working on edition of O'Neill's selected letters and collection of O'Neill's plays for the Library of America.

M ARSHALL BROOKS (FRI, 8:30 p.m.). Editor of No stoc; associate editor of the Eugene O'Neill Newsletter; creator of the (purchasable) poster for the conference.

JACKSON R. BRYER (FRI, 1:00 p.m.). Professor of English, Univ. of Maryland; editor of "The Theatre We Worked For": The Letters of Eugene O'Neill to Kenneth Macgowan and of Sixteen Modern American Authors: A Survey of Research and Criticism (including O'Neill); working on edition of O'Neill's selected letters to be published by Yale Univ. Press.

THOMAS F. CONNOLLY (FRI, 8:30 p.m.). 1983 winner of Rosalie Warren Prize for Distinguished Achievement in English, Suffolk Univ.; graduate student, Boston Univ.; frequent reviewer for the Eugene O'Neill Newsletter; activities coordinator of conference.

FRANK R. CUNNINGHAM (THU, 11:00 a.m.). Associate Professor of English, Univ. of South Dakota; author of articles in Modern Drama, Eugene O'Neill Newsletter (Sept. '77, Jan. '79, May '79), etc.; has completed book on O'Neill and the Romantic tradition.

PHYLLIS T. DIRCKS (THU, 3:10 p.m.). Professor of English, C.W. Post College of Long Island Univ.; editor of the Newsletter of the American Society for Theatre Research; author of soon-to-be-published critical study of David Garrick.

RICHARD J. DIRCKS (THU, 5:00 p.m.). Professor of English, St. John's Univ.; author of critical studies of Richard Cumberland (1976) and Henry Fielding (1983).


BARBARA GELB (THU, 7:00 p.m.). Co-author with Arthur Gelb of O'Neill; a founder and director of the Theatre Committee for Eugene O'Neill; author of So Short a Time: A Biography of John Reed and Louise Bryant and, most recently, Varnished Brass: The Decade After Serpico.

LIU HAIPING (THU, 1:15 p.m.). Professor of Foreign Languages and Literature, Nanjing Univ., China; currently a fellow at Harvard-Yenching Institute, Harvard Univ., where he continues a long-term study of interrelations, philosophical and theatrical, between O'Neill and China; translator and producer of a number of O'Neill's plays in China.

JAMES R. HARRIS (FRI, 4:00 p.m.). Teaches English at John Jay High School, Katonah, NY, where he has periodically taught, since 1970, an honors course in O'Neill; resident of Ridgefield, CT, and ardent collector of O'Neill memorabilia, who hopes to crown his collection with the acquisition of Brook Farm, O'Neill's Ridgefield home.
ADELE HELLER (SAT, 8:30 p.m.). Producing Director of the Provincetown Playhouse which, gutted by arsonists in the 1970's, will return to operation in the summer of 1985 in a new complex comprising playhouse, conference center, and Eugene O'Neill Theatre Museum.

MICHAEL HINDEN (THU, 3:10 p.m.). Associate Professor of English, Chair of Integrated Liberal Studies Program, Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison; board chairman of Eugene O'Neill Society; director of O'Neill session at 1983 MLA Convention; author of many articles on classical and modern drama, including frequent appearances in the Eugene O'Neill Newsletter.

RICHARD HORNBY (FRI, 2:30 p.m.). Professor of Theatre, Florida State Univ.; actor and director (of over 40 plays including A Touch of the Poet); author of Script Into Performance: A Structuralist View of Play Production, Patterns in Ibsen's Middle Plays, and many articles on modern drama; recently completed book on "Drama, Metadrama, and Reality."

YASUKO IKEUCHI (THU, 3:10 p.m.). Associate Professor of English, Ritsumeikan Univ., Kyoto, Japan; currently a fellow at Yale School of Drama; author of thesis (Nara Women's Univ., 1971) on "The Iceman Cometh: What a Salesman Failed to Sell."

ESTHER M. JACKSON (FRI, 10:00 a.m.). Professor of Drama, Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison, where she and her colleagues have been engaging in studies of production forms in the "difficult works" of major American playwrights, including five by O'Neill (Thirst, 1978; The Iceman Cometh, 1979; A Touch of the Poet, 1974; More Stately Mansions, 1980; and The Calms of Capricorn, 1981-82); author of studies of dramatic form in the works of Williams, Miller, Albee, Baraka, Maxwell Anderson and O'Neill.

NORMAN ANDREW KIRK (FRI, 8:30 p.m.). Poet; member of ed. board of Bitterroot, a poetry journal; author of Panda Zoo (West of Boston, 1983), which includes "Good Morning, Eugene."

WARD B. LEWIS (THU, 1:15 p.m.). Associate Professor of German, Univ. of Georgia; has completed a book on the reception of Eugene O'Neill in Germany, which will appear shortly; reader of two papers on O'Neill at 1983 conventions: "The 'Americanism' of O'Neills Ah, Wilderness! in Germany" (NEMLA), and "The Hairy Ape in Germany: Politics and Reception" (U. Cal.-Davis).

LOISE. McDONALD (SAT, 9:15 a.m.). Associate Curator of Monte Cristo Cottage, O'Neill's boyhood home in New London, CT.

WARREN J. MacISAAC (FRI, 8:30 a.m.). Associate Professor of Drama, Catholic Univ. of America, where he teaches courses in modern drama; dramaturg at the Center State in Baltimore; author of 1971, 1974 and 1978 articles in Shakespeare Quarterly.

MICHAEL MANHEIM (FRI, 8:30 a.m.). Professor of English, Univ. of Toledo; author of Eugene O'Neill's New Language of Kinship, and of "The Transcendence of Melodrama in The Iceman Cometh" in the forthcoming Critical Essays on Eugene O'Neill, plus a number of essays in Comparative Drama and The Eugene O'Neill Newsletter.

MARC MAUFORT (FRI, 10:00 a.m.). Doctoral candidate, Univ. of Brussels, working on O'Neill and the American literary tradition; holder of research appointment with National Fund for Scientific Research (Belgium); M.A., Univ. of Wisconsin, 1983, with thesis on "O'Neill's One-Act Plays of the Sea: A Study in Dramatic Form"; will discuss O'Neill at biennial conference of the European Association for American Studies in Rome, April, 1984.
JORDAN Y. MILLER (THU, 1:15 p.m.; FRI, 4:00 p.m.). Professor of English, Univ. of Rhode Island; secretary of the Eugene O'Neill Society; author of one of the first dissertations on O'Neill (Columbia, 1957), and of Eugene O'Neill and the American Critic (now in its 2nd ed.) and Playwright's Progress: O'Neill and the Critics.

KRISTIN MORRISON (FRI, 10:00 a.m. & 4:00 p.m.). Associate Professor of English, Boston College, where she teaches graduate course in O'Neill; co-author of Crowell's Handbook of Contemporary Drama (all entries on American drama); author of the just-published Canters and Chronicles: The Use of Narrative in the Plays of Samuel Beckett and Harold Pinter.

BRENDA MURPHY (THU, 11:00 a.m.). Associate Professor of English, St. Lawrence Univ.; essays on modern drama in Theatre Journal, Modern Drama, and the Eugene O'Neill Newsletter, whose Summer-Fall 1983 issue featured her "O'Neill's Realism: A Structural Approach"; completing book on "The Rhythm of Life: American Realism and American Drama."

JOHN ORLANDELLO (THU, 9:00 a.m.; SUN, 10:10 a.m.). Professor of English, Western Illinois Univ.; author of O'Neill on Film; organizer and coordinator of several experimental film series.

KRISTIN MORRISON (THU, 11:00 a.m.). Associate Professor of English, St. Lawrence Univ.; essays on modern drama in Theatre Journal, Modern Drama, and the Eugene O'Neill Newsletter, whose Summer-Fall 1983 issue featured her "O'Neill's Realism: A Structural Approach"; completing book on "The Rhythm of Life: American Realism and American Drama."

SALLY T. PAVETTI (SAT, 9:15 a.m.). Curator of Monte Cristo Cottage, O'Neill's boyhood home in New London, whose renovation she has overseen; member of board of directors of the Eugene O'Neill Society.

JOHN G. PETERS (FRI, 8:30 a.m.). Graduate student in English, Brigham Young University, where the paper he will deliver was created.

GERALD L. RATLIFF (FRI, 8:30 a.m.). Associate Professor of Speech/Theatre, Montclair State College; author of Playscript Interpretations and Production; director of the Wordmasters of Montclair State College, a touring reader's-theatre ensemble; published article on O'Neill's Fog in The Eugene O'Neill Newsletter (Winter 1982).

LOIS RUDNICK (SAT, 8:30 p.m.). Associate Professor of English, Univ. of Massachusetts-Boston; author of Mabel Dodge Luhan: New Woman, New Worlds, a biography just published by the Univ. of New Mexico Press.

ROBERT K. SARLÓS (THU, 5:00 p.m.; SAT, 8:30 p.m.). Professor of Dramatic Arts, Univ. of California-Davis; author of Jig Cook and the Provincetown Players: Theatre in Ferment, which won the 1983 Barnard Hewitt Award for distinguished achievement in theatre history.

YVONNE SHAFTER (FRI, 2:30 p.m.). Member of drama faculty, Univ. of California-Santa Barbara; member of executive board of Ibsen Society of America and editor of Ibsen News and Comment; actress, director, scholar and frequent speaker at ATA and other conventions.

EDWARD L. SHAUGHNESSY (THU, 1:15 p.m.; FRI, 8:30 a.m.). Professor of English, Butler Univ.; author of essays on Hughie and The Iceman Cometh in The Eugene O'Neill Newsletter (9/78 and 9/79 respectively) and of "Masks in the Dramaturgy of Yeats and O'Neill" (scheduled for Autumn 1984 issue of Irish University Review); at work on a study of O'Neill's reception in Ireland.

MARTA SIENICKA (THU, 1:15 p.m.). Professor of English, Adam Mickiewicz Univ., Poznań, Poland; author of a two-volume critical study, History of American Literature, and of "O'Neill in Poland" in Eugene O'Neill: A World View; currently residing in the United States.
LOWELL SWORTZELL (FRI, 4:00 p.m.). Professor of Educational Theatre, New York University, where he is Director of the Program in Educational Theatre and teaches a graduate course in "The Theatre of Eugene O'Neill."

SUSAN H. TUCK (THU, 3:10 p.m.). Associate Instructor of English and doctoral candidate, Indiana University; co-editor with Horst Frenz of the recent Eugene O'Neill's Critics: Voices from Abroad; author of numerous essays and reviews in The Eugene O'Neill Newsletter, and of "The O'Neill-Faulkner Connection" in the forthcoming Critical Essays on Eugene O'Neill.

GARY VENA (FRI, 4:00 p.m.). Assistant Professor of English, Manhattan College; Ph.D. dissertation (NYU, 1984) on the 1946 production of The Iceman Cometh; author of "The Role of the Prostitute in the Plays of Eugene O'Neill" (in Drama Critique).

R. VISWANATHAN (THU, 9:30 a.m.; FRI, 10:00 a.m.). Lecturer in English, Calicut Univ., Kerala, India, where he earned a doctorate with a dissertation on "O'Neill and the Sea" author of a number of articles on American literature, especially O'Neill, in Indian and U.S. journals.

PAUL D. VOELKER (THU, 9:30 a.m.; FRI, 2:30 & 4:00 p.m.). Associate Professor of English and Drama, Univ. of Wisconsin Center-Richland; author of essays on O'Neill in Studies in Bibliography, American Literature and The Eugene O'Neill Newsletter; resident humanist/O'Neill consultant, Milwaukee Repertory Theater, 1977-78; director of U.S. premiere of Servitude.

DAVID WHEELER (FRI, 8:30 p.m.). Sculptor, graphic artist, actor and teacher; creator and performer of monodramas about such artists as Gauguin, Cellini, Audubon and O'Neill; presently completing a "kinetic sculpture theatre" that will recreate, with marionettes, "12 of the most significant art riots of the 20th century."

FREDERICK C. WILKINS (THU, 9:30 a.m.). Professor and Chairman, Department of English, Suffolk Univ.; founder and editor, The Eugene O'Neill Newsletter; vice president, Eugene O'Neill Society; frequent writer and speaker about O'Neill; infrequent organizer of conferences.

GARY J. WILLIAMS (THU, 5:00 p.m.). Associate Professor of Drama, Catholic Univ. of America; author of just-completed book, "This Stage of Our Lives: The Provincetown Players and Eugene O'Neill," and of articles on the Players and the Experimental Theatre, Inc., in the forthcoming Eugene O'Neill Companion.

The Eugene O'Neill Conference, an event commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of Suffolk's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Michael R. Ronayne, Dean, is co-sponsored by Suffolk University and the Eugene O'Neill Society. Conference Director: Frederick C. Wilkins