

A WHITMAN BICENTENNIAL ALBUM: THE CELEBRATORY PROCESSION



In his influential essay “The Poet,” Ralph Waldo Emerson argues that the Poet is one whose vision “turns the world to glass, and shows us all things in their right series and procession.” Responding to Emerson’s description of poetic activity and justifying his claim to the title of The Poet, Walt Whitman declares that “All is a procession, / The universe is a procession with measured and perfect motion” (“I Sing the Body Electric”). “Procession” can evoke the ceremonious and often sombre, as Webster’s 1844 definition confirms by positioning three common processional scenarios side-by-side—a clergy’s procession into church, a triumphal procession, and a funeral procession—followed by a quote, “Him all his train / Follow’d in bright procession,” from Milton’s *Paradise Lost*, representative of stately Old World poetic tradition. But Webster truncates Milton’s description of the celestial procession, omitting the *wherefore* of their movements: the procession followed in order to “behold Creation and the wonders of His might,” after which came “acclamation and the sound symphonious of ten thousand Harps,” enough to make the “empyrean ring.” Milton describes a heavenly celebration, a birthday party for the new Creation, complete with a choir, a band, and swingin’ incense. It is perhaps that celebratory strain that Emerson’s Poet can discern within the universe, rather than a funeral march or a victor’s triumphant entry through the gates of a captured city. The celebratory procession is the very basis of Whitman’s poetic project, in which the celebration of self sings its way into ever-widening circles, until all space and all time find symphonious inclusion.

Like Milton’s angels on the first Sabbath, Whitman’s fans and followers have been celebrating a momentous birthday this year. Each party, performance, poetry reading, exhibition, and lecture has added its voice to a symphony that carries Whitman’s memory and his poetry around the world. It doesn’t take the sensitivity of Emerson’s nearly-di-

vine Poet to observe this procession as it winds through cities, states, and nations, attesting Whitman's wide appeal through a variety of tributes. Multiple actors (of varying beard length) have depicted the Good Gray Poet; historians and museums have curated their collections and hosted educational talks; poets and lovers of poetry have stepped to the mic to share their favorite lines. As the lengthy Bibliography at the end of this issue suggests, the ever-growing body of literature on Whitman has swelled with books, magazines, and articles from view-points fittingly multitudinous and contradictory. For promoting many of these tributes, designers—hired professional and talented amateur—were called in to create stunning and useful works of advertising art. Over the past year, *WWQR* has collected about a hundred of these posters, circulars, postcards, and digital marketing media, sent in by readers and discovered on the web. The album we have compiled from them is more representative than comprehensive, since collecting and documenting every Bicentennial observation would be a daunting task, even for a team of accomplished researchers. Perhaps the reader attended an event that is not represented in this album: do not be discouraged! Your celebration was still in the procession, still contributing to Whitman's birthday symphony.

The final 13 pages of the album are dedicated to Whitman treats—tributes in the form of beer, cookies, ice cream, and, of course, birthday cakes. Whitman had promised readers in "Song of Myself" to "act as the tongue of you"; thanks to bakers and brewers, that tongue can be put to good use this Bicentennial year. Whitman once confessed to Horace Traubel his hankering for a late-night snack:

"I was up, it was near midnight: I felt a gnawing something here—a void"—indicating his stomach and laughing— "so I took some of the cakes and ate them alone, in the dark, in the dead silence" (1:121).

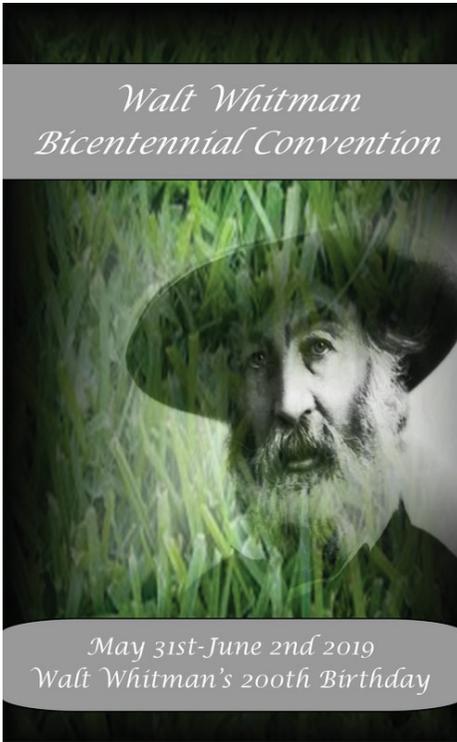
By contrast, Whitman's bicentennial birthday cakes were at the center of noisy parties and cut around the world. Cake is so ubiquitous in birthday celebrations that a February event in Philadelphia was devoted entirely to finding the perfect one for the city's May 31st birthday party. Needless to say, all the entries were enticing and the winner is

truly an amazing confection. “How much (perhaps all) the value of a thing—your joy, satisfaction, with it—consists in having it just at the right time,” Whitman continues in his snacking confession. “That’s the way it was with the cakes.” The 2019 birthday cakes, coming in every shape, size, and flavor, made timely and joyous homage to a poet who would have gleefully joined in their disappearance. Though Whitman was fond of washing sweets down with a bottle of champagne, as Jerome Loving’s talk on Whitman’s seventieth birthday relates (see page 233), this year he could substitute a “Song of Myself” themed German-inspired American IPA.

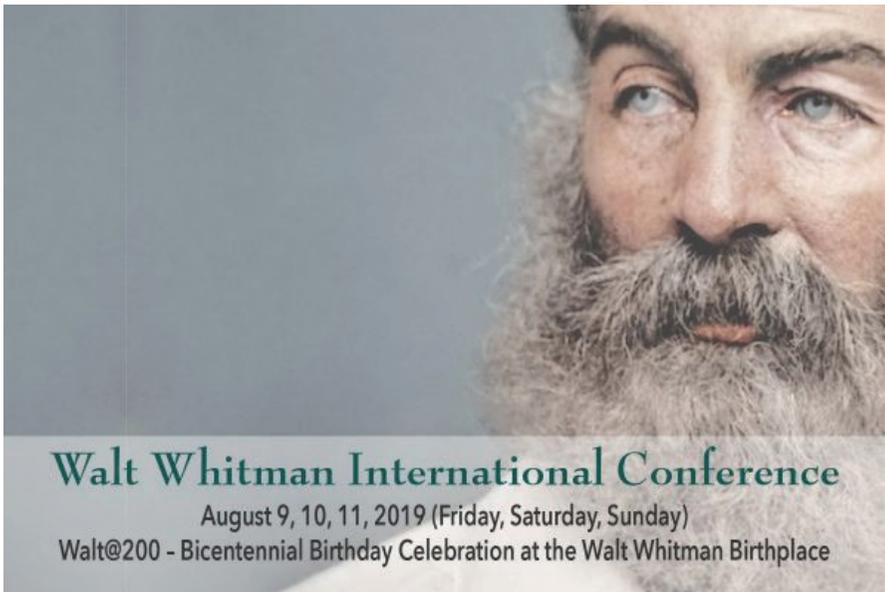
Ever one to take command of promotion, Whitman directs his future readers exactly how best to honor him: “Publish my name and hang up my picture as that of the tenderest lover” (“Recorders Ages Hence”). Many of the entries in our Bicentennial Album feature Whitman’s portrait—particularly the 1855 Hollyer frontispiece—proving that publishing his name seems nearly inseparable from hanging up his picture. Through icing and fondant, his image even looks out prominently from several of the cakes and cookies. The constant presence of Whitman’s picture acts as an invitation into the bicentennial procession from celebrators of 2019 to the poet born in 1819. Together, we have made the empyrean ring, and continue to invoke his presence as many of our celebrations continue. Milton’s angels stood beside the Creator to “behold Creation and the wonders of His might.” We stand with our poet, the “tenderest lover,” to commemorate his wondrous gift, *Leaves of Grass*, and to affirm that 1819-2019 is a span of uninterrupted procession.

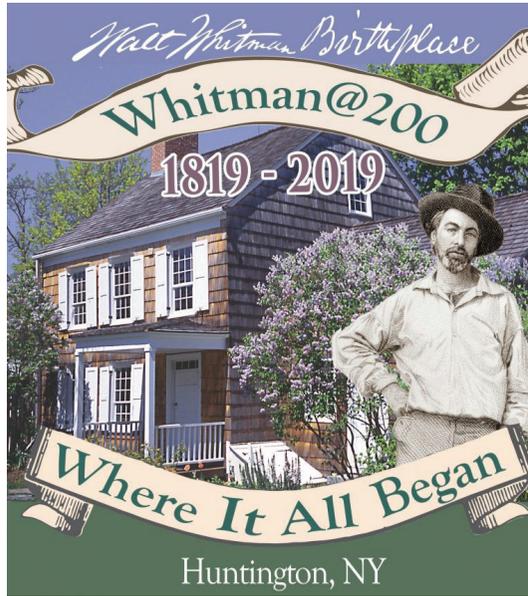
The University of Iowa

BRANDON JAMES O’NEIL



Figures 1 & 2: *Walt Whitman Bicentennial Convention*, May 31st to June 2nd in Hauppauge, NY (left). The convention featured readings from two new anthologies, *Poets to Come* and *Whitman's Apprentices*, as well as the poetry projects *Bards Against Hunger*, *No Distance Between Us*, and the *Performance Poets Association*. *Walt Whitman International Conference*, August 9th to 11th at the Whitman birthplace on Long Island (below). The conference featured keynote speaker Ed Folsom, and presentations from other well-known Whitman scholars and authors.





Figures 3 & 4: Promotional graphics from the Walt Whitman Birthplace, a state historic site and interpretive center in Huntington Station, New York. Birthday events included talks from celebrated Whitman scholars as well as music, theatre, and art performances. See page 278 for the birthday cake shared at this site on May 31st.

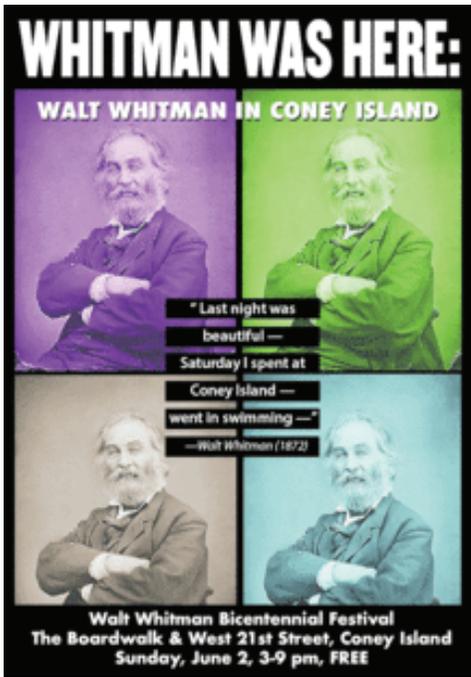


Figure 5: *Whitman was Here: Walt Whitman in Coney Island*, by Parachute Literary Arts featuring original music in response to *Leaves of Grass* by Bushwick Books Club and readings by Marina Blitshteyn, Cliff Fyman, Stephanie Gray, Barbara Henry, Patricia Spears Jones, Tracie Morris, Urayoán Noel, and Anna Vitale. Singer/songwriter, Carol Lipnik read from Whitman's letters, followed by a Multilingual reading of "Crossing Brooklyn Ferry."

Figure 6: *What is it then between us?* reading event organized by Brooklyn Poets, featuring Brooklyn Poet Laureate Tina Chang, Mark Doty, Rowan Ricardo Phillips, and the nine winners of the 2019 Whitman Bicentennial Poetry Contest.

Brooklyn Poets
What is it then between us?
Celebrating 200 Years
of Walt Whitman

Tina Chang, Mark Doty, Rowan Ricardo Phillips
and the winners of our
Whitman Bicentennial Poetry Contest

5.31.19 7:30 PM
Smack Mellon, 92 Plymouth St, Brooklyn, NY

GAY NEW YORK

Walt Whitman to the Present

sculptures and paintings by **NICHOLAS BUFFON**



JUNE 20
to
NOV 30
2019
at
POETS
HOUSE

Figure 7: *Gay New York: Walt Whitman to the Present*, an exhibit at Poets House featuring sculptures and paintings by New York artist Nicholas Buffon. Described as a "poetic survey of LGBTQ landmarks, venues, and bars—sculptures and paintings depicting sites where community is built, paying tribute to LGBTQ contributions to poetry and the arts along the way." Sites depicted include Pfaff's beer cellar, the New York City bar frequented by Whitman in the late 1850's.

poetshouse.org



Figure 8: Leaflet for International Whitman Week 2019, organized by Karen Karbiener (New York University), and featuring instructors Eric Conrad (Columbia Grammar and Preparatory School, NY), Sascha Pöhlmann (University of Konstanz, Germany), Lindsay Tuggle (Western Sydney University, Australia), and Edward Whitley (Lehigh University, PA). The week explored *Leaves of Grass* 1855 and 1860, Whitman's journalism, and Whitman's New York. Promotional materials designed by Megan Lee of Brooklyn, NY.

waltwhitmaninitiative.org/international-whitman-week-2019



POET of the BODY
NEW YORK'S WALT WHITMAN

POET of the BODY
NEW YORK'S WALT WHITMAN

POET of the BODY
NEW YORK'S WALT WHITMAN

Grolier Club, 47 E. 60th Street, NYC

Exhibition free and open to the public May 15 - July 27

Full color exhibition catalog available onsite and from Oak Knoll Books

Figure 9: *Poet of the Body: New York's Walt Whitman*, exhibition at the Grolier Club, New York City, May 15 - July 27, 2019. This exhibition was curated by Susan Jaffe Tane and Karen Karbiener, with Julie Carlsen and Gabriel McKee. Advertisement and catalogue featuring whimsical design by Allen Crawford, illustrator of *Whitman Illuminated: Song of Myself* (Tin House Books, 2014).

www.poetofthebody.org



JOIN US
For the 16th Annual

**“SONG OF MYSELF”
MARATHON**

STONEWALT EDITION!

Sunday, June 2, 4:00-6:30pm
The Granite Prospect at Brooklyn Bridge Park

Info: www.waltwhitmaninitiative.org
Contact: songofmyselfmarathon@gmail.com

 **BROOKLYN BRIDGE
PARK
CONSERVANCY**

 **WALT
WHITMAN
INITIATIVE**

Image from *Live Oak, with Moss* (Abrams, 2019), a new edition of Whitman's secret horde of poems illustrated by Brian Selznick and introduced by Karen Karbiener. Poster design by Stefan Killen.

Figure 10: Advertisement for a New York marathon reading of "Song of Myself" hosted by The Walt Whitman Initiative, June 2, 2019. Designed by Stefan Killen of Brooklyn, featuring artwork by Brian Selznick from *Live Oak, with Moss* (Abrams, 2019).

• GREGORY PARDLO • • VIEVE FRANCIS • • MARVIN BELL •



WHITMAN 200

FEATURED READERS

JOIN AWARD-WINNING POETS AS THEY READ THEIR OWN POEMS
IN HONOR OF WHITMAN'S LIFE AND LEGACY!



SUNDAY MAY 19

5:00PM - 6:00PM
BROOKLYN PUBLIC LIBRARY, CENTRAL BRANCH
DWECK CENTER



Figures 13,14, 15: Promotional material from the Brooklyn Public Library, including *Whitman at 200: Featured Readers*, an evening of readings by Gregory Pardlo, Vieve Francis, and Marvin Bell.

www.bklynlibrary.org/event-series/whitman-200



**WALT
WHITMAN
AMERICA'S
POET**

Stephen A. Schwarzman Building
Sue and Edgar Wachenheim III Gallery,
First Floor
March 29 - July 22, 2019

New York
Public
Library

Figure 16: *Walt Whitman, America's Poet* at the New York Public Library. The exhibit featured original manuscripts, photographs, and an assortment of books by authors influenced by Whitman.

www.nypl.org/waltwhitman

Figures 17 & 18: *Walt Whitman: Bard of Democracy* at The J. P. Morgan Library and Museum. On display were items from the Morgan's collection as well as loans from the Morgan's collection as well as loans from the Library of Congress, including Whitman's notebooks and rare editions of his books, as well as documents from Ralph Waldo Emerson, Oscar Wilde, Hart Crane, Federico García Lorca and Allen Ginsberg.

themorgan.org/exhibitions/walt-whitman

EXHIBITIONS

Walt Whitman
Bard of Democracy

June 7 through September 15, 2019
Morgan Stanley Gallery East

"Comrades! I am the bard of Democracy," Walt Whitman announced in a notebook in 1859. Over his seventy-three years (1819–1892), he essentially made good on that claim. From humble origins in Long Island and Brooklyn, he earned a global audience that never stops growing. On the two-hundredth anniversary of his birth, he continues to speak to new generations. The exhibition explores Whitman's process of self-invention, from his early years as a journalist, through the early 1850s when Whitman began to write more privately and poetically, to his final years.

Whitman not only sounded a "barbaric yawp" over the rooftops of the world, but he also helped his country to reconcile its famous contradictions through his inclusivity and his extraordinary body of work. Several of Whitman's notebooks will be on display, as well as his portraitist's copy of *Leaves of Grass* (1855) and the famous letter written to Whitman by Ralph Waldo Emerson commending that book. The exhibition will establish Whitman's unblinking witness to the Civil War and display the great poems that he wrote in honor of the martyred president including "O Captain! My Captain!" Also on view are documents from Oscar Wilde, Hart Crane, Federico García Lorca and Allen Ginsberg, that trace the writer's influence on the twentieth century. The exhibition draws on the Morgan's own holdings as well as generous loans from the great Whitman collections at the Library of Congress.

Concert: *Whitman in Music and Words* (June 20, pg. 16)
Lecture: *Walt Whitman's World* (June 26, pg. 10)
Reading: *Poets On Walt Whitman*: Susan Howe and Shane McCrae (July 11, pg. 10)
Gallery Talks: (June 14, July 26, pg. 12)

Lead sponsor



Walt Whitman: Bard of Democracy is also made possible with generous support from the Glider Foundation, the Charina Endowment Fund, Joshua W. Sommer, and the Themis Anastasia Brown Memorial Fund, and assistance from The Gladys Kriebel Delmas Foundation, Susan Jaffe Tane, and Christian Keese.

Source: Moore, P. Rice and Sons'; 1848; albumen and his sister Jessie Fred. Lee Dagh, 1851; photograph albumen print on card mount. Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division.



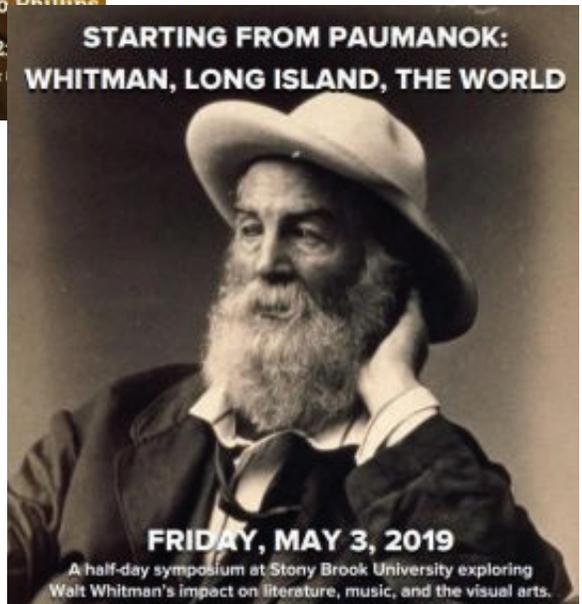
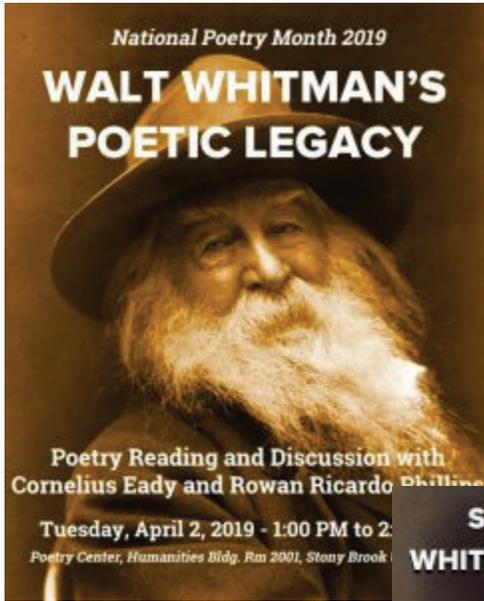
Phillips & Taylor. Photograph of Walt Whitman. 1851. Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division.



May to August 2019 Calendar of Events 5



The
Morgan
Library &
Museum



Figures 19 & 20: An April 2nd reading by Cornelius Eady and Rowan Ricardo Phillips, *Walt Whitman's Poetic Legacy*, and a May 3rd symposium, *Starting from Paumanok: Whitman, Long Island, The World*, at Stony Brook University "exploring Walt Whitman's impact on literature, music, and the visual arts." With a lecture and performance by Matthew Aucoin, composer and writer of the opera *Crossing*, based on Whitman's Civil War writing.



Figure 21: The Cecilia Chorus of New York presents *Sing Me the Universal - A Walt Whitman Bicentennial*, Mark Shapiro, Conductor. Composed by Vincent Persichetti and Jorge Martín with excerpts from the Mass in D minor (1860) of John Knowles Paine.

Nicole Joy Mitchell, Contralto
Michael St. Peter, Tenor
Jorge Martín, Composer
James Kennerley, Organist

Figure 22: *Walt Whitman, A Bicentennial Celebration*, hosted by The School of Practical Philosophy, Manhattan. Featuring a reading of selections from *Leaves of Grass*, two study sessions, and a light brunch, followed by a live performance of music set to sections of “Song of Myself,” composed by Joseph Blunt, a student in the School of Practical Philosophy.

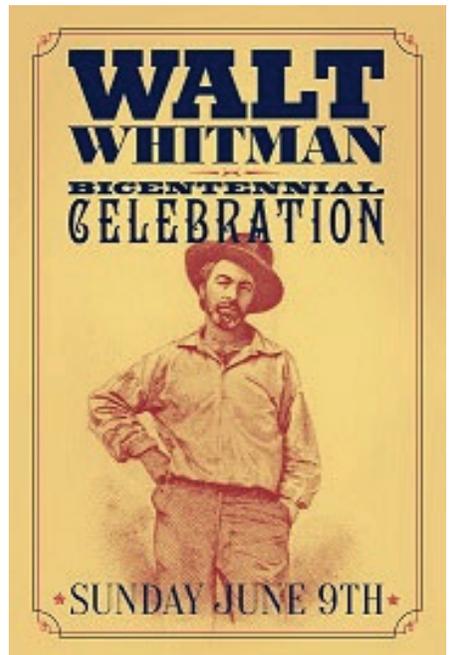


Figure 23: *Walt Whitman & Long Island*, a viewing of the Hempstead (NY) Public Library's collection and the 2008 PBS Documentary, "American Experience: Walt Whitman."

THE HEMPSTEAD HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS:

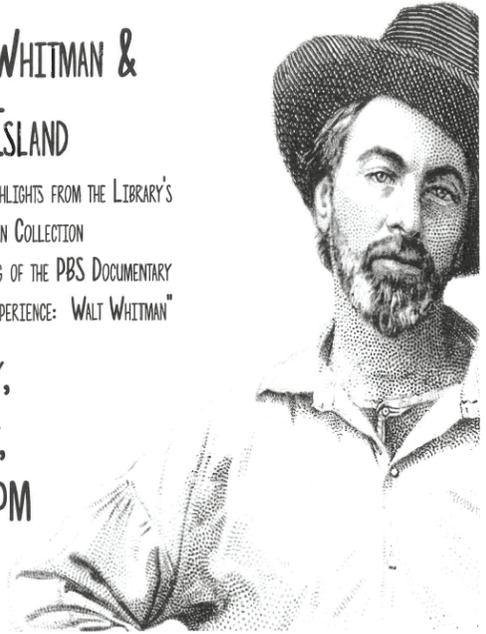
WALT WHITMAN & LONG ISLAND

FEATURING HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LIBRARY'S
WALT WHITMAN COLLECTION
AND A VIEWING OF THE PBS DOCUMENTARY
"AMERICAN EXPERIENCE: WALT WHITMAN"

SATURDAY,
JUNE 1ST,
AT 1:00PM

HEMPSTEAD PUBLIC
LIBRARY
COMMUNITY ROOM

HEMPSTEAD PUBLIC LIBRARY / HEMPSTEAD, NY / 11550
516-481-6990 / WWW.HEMPSTEADLIBRARY.INFO



The Bowery Boys Podcast and Brooklyn Podcast Festival presents...

WHITMANIA

Celebrating Walt Whitman's New York and Brooklyn

Live at the Bell House / January 11, 2019

Figure 24: *Whitmania*, a live podcast recording at Brooklyn's Bell House, as part of the Brooklyn Podcast Festival presented by Pandora, "celebrating one of the greatest writers in American history." Presented by Tom Meyers and Greg Young of *The Bowery Boys: New York City History* podcast, joined by special guests and performances by acclaimed Brooklyn poets.

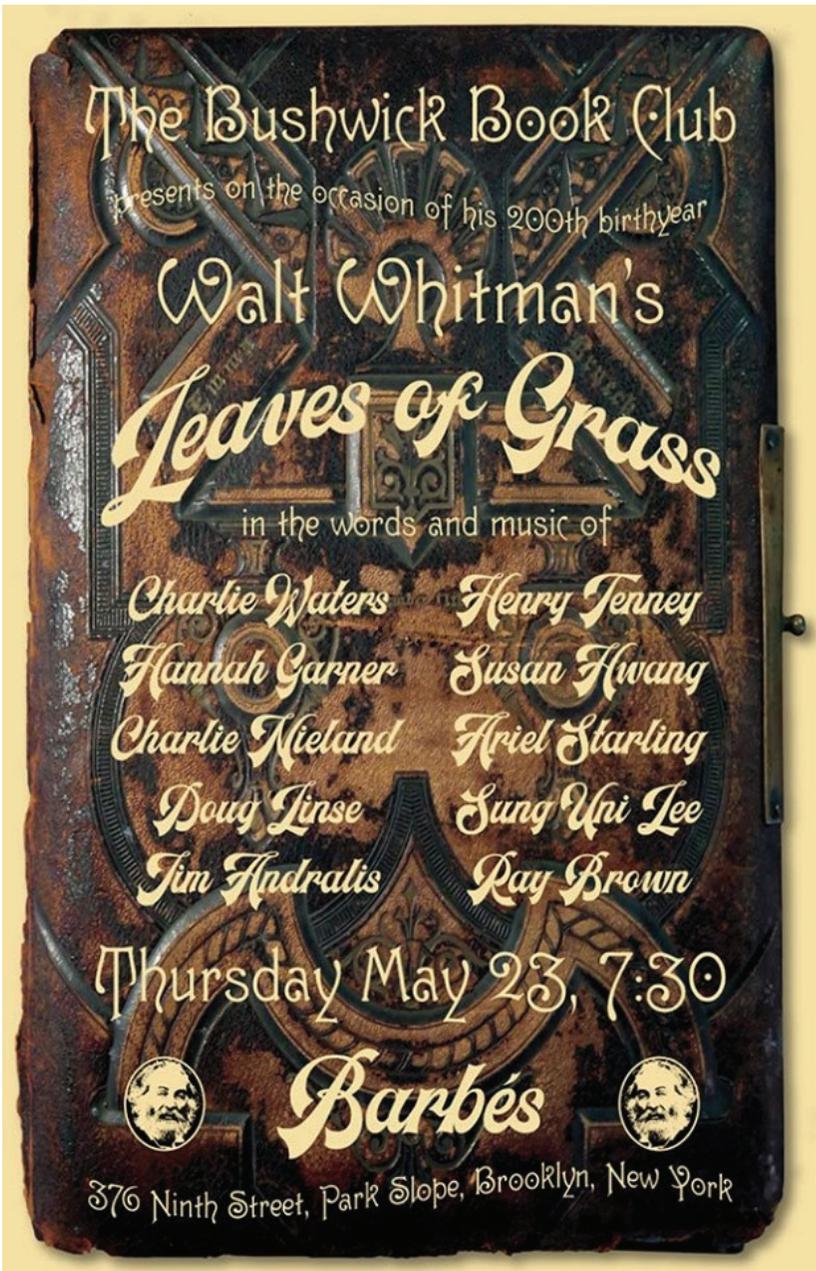


Figure 25: *Walt Whitman's Leaves of Grass*, a musical performance by the Bushwick Book Club, May 23rd at Barbès in New York City. "Come hear new work from Brooklyn/NYC songwriters and artists in celebration of this beloved Brooklyn poet."

WOODCHUCK LODGE
PRESENTS

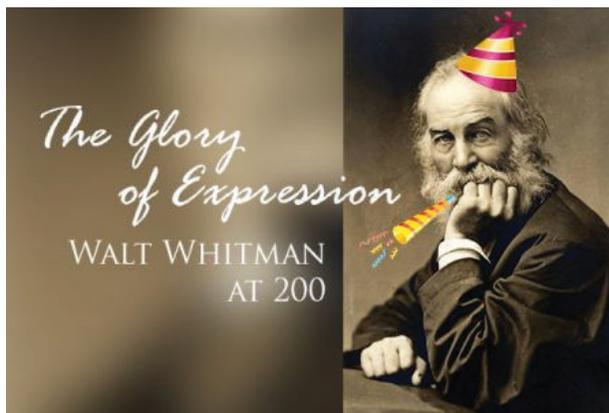


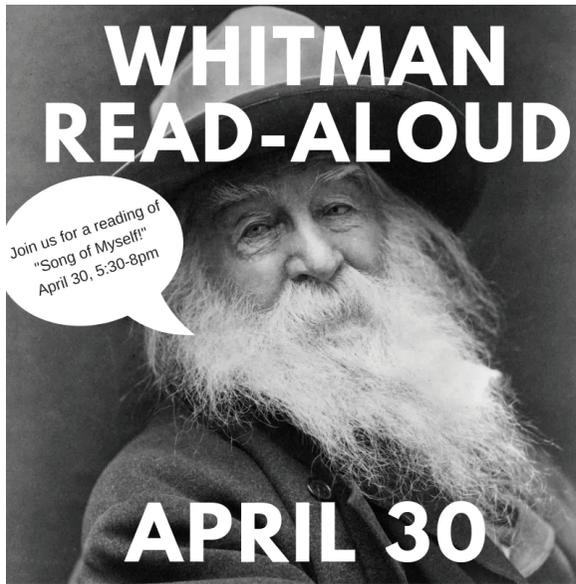
**Celebration of Walt Whitman's
200th Birthday**
America's poet and John Burroughs' great friend!

Friday, May 31 Birthday Party & serial reading of "Song of Myself" 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Union Grove Distillery Rt. 28, Arkville	Saturday, June 1 Talk from the Porch Professor Jim Warren "The Nature of Two Writers" 1:00 p.m. at Woodchuck Lodge Burroughs Memorial Road, Roxbury
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jbwoodchucklodge.org
1633 Burroughs Memorial Road, Roxbury, NY 12474

Figures 26 & 27: A talk, "The Nature of Two Writers," at John Burroughs's Woodchuck Lodge by James Perrin Warren (Washington & Lee) and a Whitman birthday party and reading at Union Grove Distillery in Arkville, NY (above). *The Glory of Expression*, an "intimate evening" with selections by Walt Whitman read by poet Tom Daley at Boston Center for Adult Education.





Figures 28 & 29: *Walt Whitman Read-Aloud* at Bethlehem Area (PA) Public Library in partnership with Lehigh University's English department, April 30th (above). Led by Lehigh professor Ed Whitley. "From leaning and loafing and observing a spear of summer grass, to sounding barbaric yawps over the roof of the world, we will sing it all." An Afternoon with Walt Whitman, with actor Stephen Collins at The Left Bank in North Bennington, V.T. (below).

**An Afternoon
with
Walt Whitman**

SATURDAY, JULY 20, 2:00PM
THE LEFT BANK

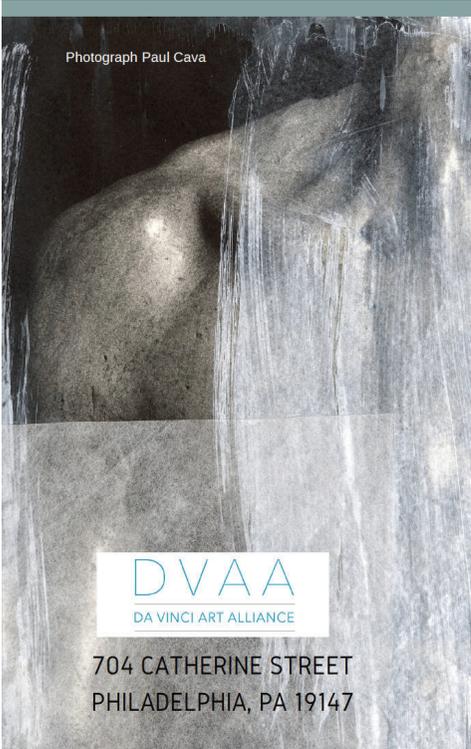
"By the end of the play, the audience comes away feeling as if they know Whitman, feeling as if they have just had a conversation with the poet."
--Rebecca Lamet - York County Coast Star

New Songs Of The Open Road
WALKIN' & SINGIN'
Songs of Affirmation
Celebrating Poet Walt Whitman
Honoring The Civil Rights Movement



Figure 30: Advertisement for *Walkin' and Singin': Songs of Affirmation*, organized by Homer Jackson, director of the Philadelphia Jazz Project. The event was open to the public and consisted of choir members leading four “singing” walks through different Philadelphia neighborhoods. Jackson cites Whitman's poem "Song of the Open Road" and the freedom songs of the Civil Rights movement as inspiration for the project that ran over four consecutive Saturdays, from May 18th to July 6th 2019. The creative team was Homer Jackson, Waverly Alston, Jr. (University of Valley Forge), pianist/vocalist V. Shayne Frederick, singer/lyricist Toby VEnT Martin, and producer/songwriter James Solomon.

<http://www.philajazzproject.org>



ENCOUNTERS WITH WHITMAN

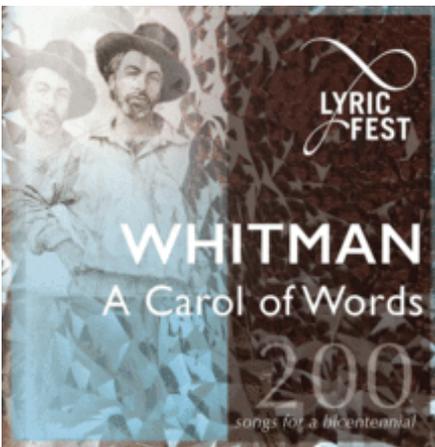
A photography and video juried exhibition in celebration of the Whitman Bicentennial.

Photography Jurors Stuart Rome & Paul Cava, Video jurors Stiofan O'Ceallaigh (UK) & Jose Luis Cortez (Puerto Rico).

June 7th-17th, 2019
Opening reception
Friday, June 7th, 2019
6 to 8 PM

Gallery Hours
Thu-Sunday 12-5 PM

Philly Poets Respond to Whitman
Thursday, June 13th 7-8:30 PM.



Figures 31 & 32: *Encounters with Whitman*, photography and video exhibition, Philadelphia (above). *Whitman: A Carol of Words*, Concert Artist Series at Haverford (PA) College (left). Featuring eleven new works by eleven composers with commentary by Greg Trupiano, poetry recitation by actor Jim Bergwall, and a preconcert talk by the composers.



Figures 33 & 34: Recto of *Whitman at 200* postcard (right); bookmarks advertising the *Whitman at 200: Art and Democracy* series (above).

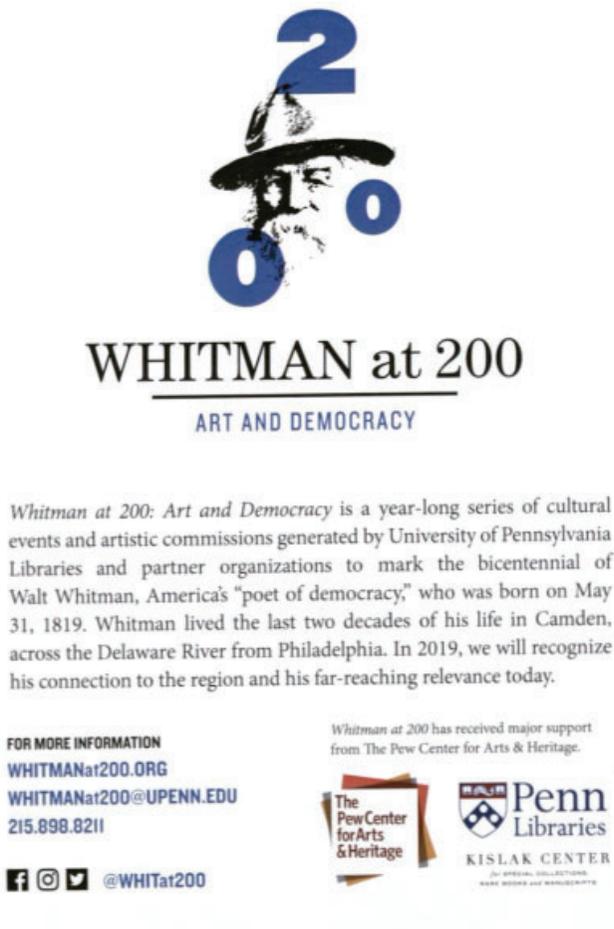
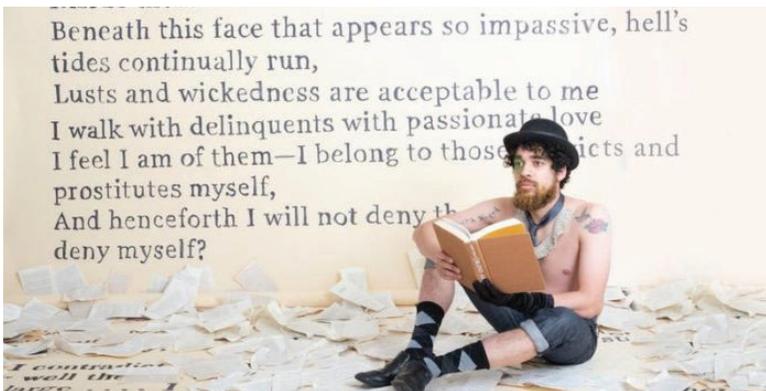


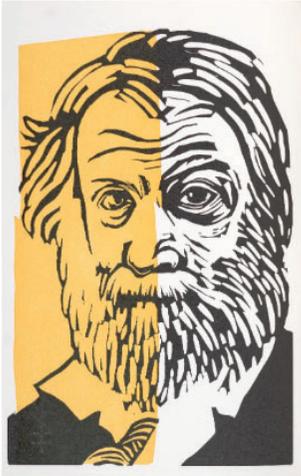
Figure 35: Verso of postcard for *Whitman at 200: Art and Democracy*, a full year of bicentennial celebrations that included performances, tours, exhibitions, and workshops. Highlights included a "Birthday Cake Off" (February 26), "Shades of Whitman: A 'Look-Alike' Contest" (April 13), and a birthday party at Philadelphia City Hall (May 31) featuring Patti Smith, Jesse Paris Smith, and Philadelphia Mayor Jim Kenney.



Figures 36-39: Promotional images for The Bearded Ladies Cabaret performance of *Contradict This! A Birthday Funeral for Heroes*, described as "cake, coffin, gavel, choir, composers, live musical trolling." John Jarboe, director, written by John Jarboe and the Ensemble with Mary Tuomanen. Performers: Anthony Martinez Briggs, Daniel de Jesús, Elah Perelman, Emily Bate, Jackie Soro, Pax Ressler, and Veronica Chapman-Smith. Featuring the Whitman Choir, under the direction of Elizabeth Braden, with choreography by Jumatatu Poe

This May 31st to June 2nd performance was commissioned by the University of Pennsylvania Libraries for *Whitman at 200: Art & Democracy* with major support from The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage.





WE CONTAIN MULTITUDES:

CELEBRATING WALT WHITMAN'S

200th BIRTHDAY with POETRY, SONG, and CAKE

Friday, May 31, 11 am-2 pm

Philadelphia City Hall, Interior Courtyard

This Community poetry reading, focusing on diversity, will mark the 200th birthday of Walt Whitman, America's "poet of democracy." At this lively celebration, Whitman's poetry will be interspersed with music and guest appearances,* and conclude with the eating of his 200th birthday cake provided by The Fancy Crumb.

***Special guests include: Patti Smith, Jesse Paris Smith, and Mayor Jim Kenney, among others.**

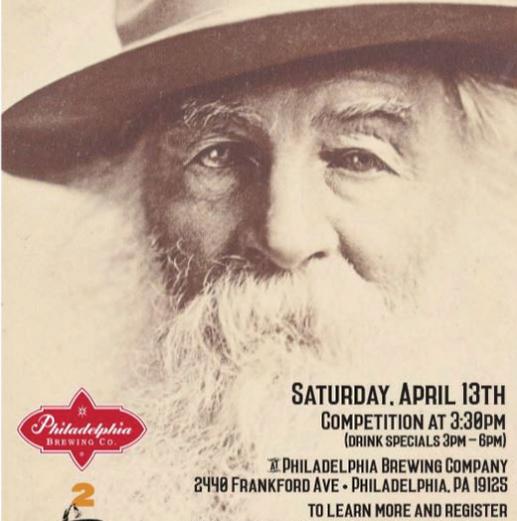
[For more Whitman related events visit Whitman at 200](#)

Major support for *Whitman at 200: Art and Democracy* artistic commissions has been provided to the University of Pennsylvania Libraries by the Pew Center for Arts & Heritage.

Shades of Whitman

A "LOOK-ALIKE" CONTEST

DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO CAPTURE WHITMAN IN BODY AND SPIRIT?



SATURDAY, APRIL 13TH
COMPETITION AT 3:30PM
 (DRINK SPECIALS 3PM - 6PM)

PHILADELPHIA BREWING COMPANY
 2440 FRANKFORD AVE • PHILADELPHIA, PA 19125

TO LEARN MORE AND REGISTER
 VISIT: WWW.WHITMANAT200.ORG/PENNPROMPTS




WHITMAN at 200
 ART AND DEMOCRACY

Join Whitman at 200 Art and Democracy and Philadelphia Brewing Co. for a nontraditional Walt Whitman "look-alike" contest in celebration of "America's poet of democracy" turning 200 years old in 2019! All are encouraged to participate regardless of age, race, sex, or gender identity

Whitman at 200 is a region-wide series of cultural events organized by the University of Pennsylvania Libraries

Figures 40 & 41: Whitman 200th birthday celebration (above) at Philadelphia City Hall, featuring a linoleum cut by Barbara Henry from *Walt Whitman's Faces* (Harsimus Press, 2012). Advertisement (left) for "Shades of Whitman: A 'Look-Alike' Contest," held at the Philadelphia Brewing Company. The contest was judged by Whitman at 200 Director Lynne Farrington (University of Pennsylvania), Tyler Hoffman (Rutgers University - Camden), and Whitman impersonator David S. Taylor. The winner was Camden poet Rocky Wilson.

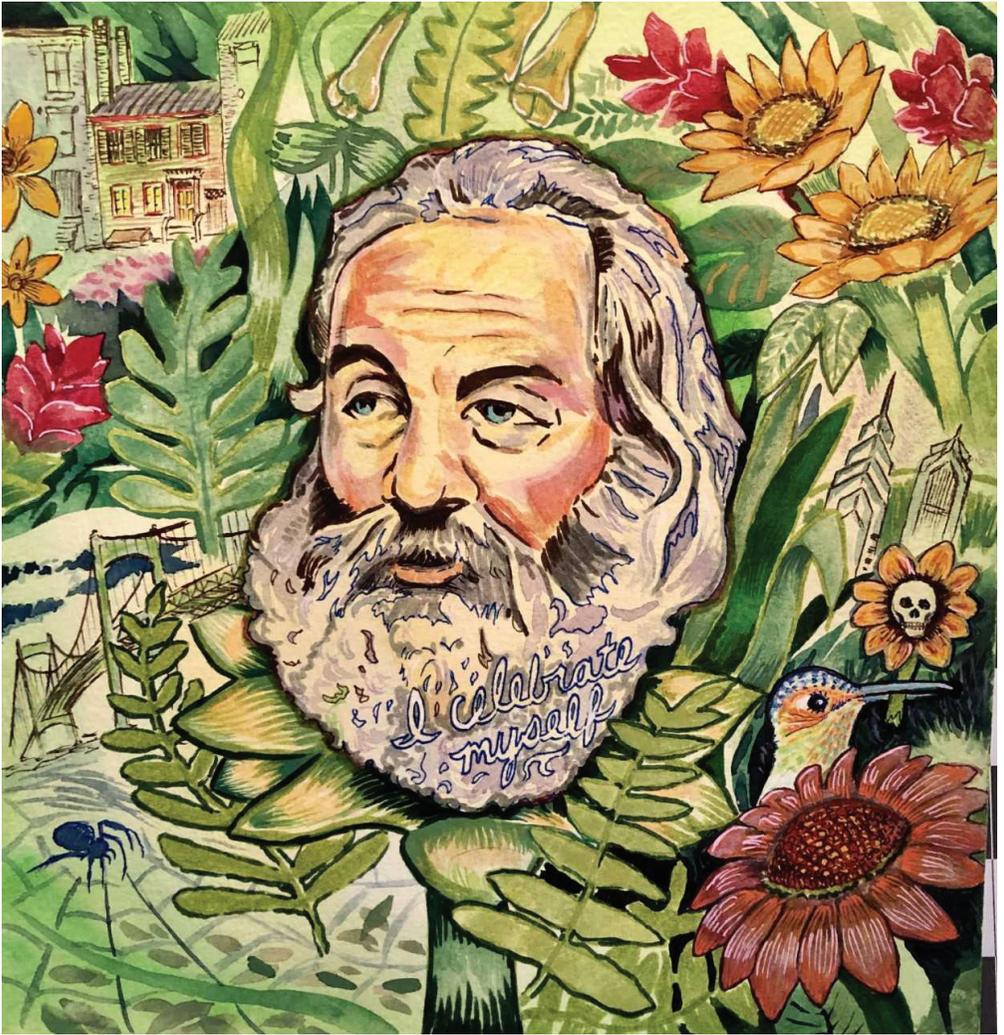
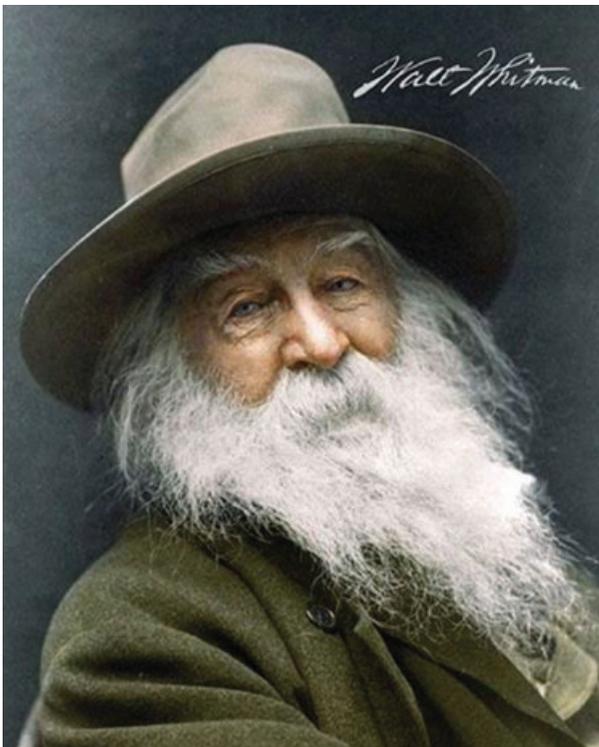


Figure 42: Original artwork by Kelly McQuain for *Voyages by Road and Sea*, at Philadelphia's Parkway Central Library. "This exhibition, organized in honor of the bicentennials of both Whitman and Herman Melville, explores the idea of voyaging as a pathway to self-discovery. Highlighting collections held at the Free Library of Philadelphia and partner institutions, pairing rare books, photographs, and historical artifacts with artworks by modern-day Philadelphia-area residents who find inspiration in Whitman's and Melville's writings."



Figures 43 & 44: *Poet of the Future*, exhibiting rare books and manuscripts from Rutgers University Libraries' collections at Alexander Library (left). Invitation from Camden Mayor Francisco Moran to birthday celebration on May 31st at the Walt Whitman House in Camden, N.J. (below).



CITY OF CAMDEN
&
MAYOR FRANCISCO "FRANK" MORAN

Invite you to join us as we celebrate America's "Poet of Democracy", Walt Whitman, with poetry readings, music and a proclamation recognizing the 200th anniversary of his birth.

Friday, May 31, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.
at the Walt Whitman House

Located at
328 Martin Luther King Jr. / Mickie Boulevard
Camden, NJ 08103



WHITMAN at 200
ART AND DEMOCRACY

RUTGERS
UNIVERSITY | CAMDEN

 **Penn Libraries**
UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

Whitman at 200: Art and Democracy
on the web at whitmanat200.org
or on social media at [#whitmat200](https://twitter.com/whitmat200)



LAUREL SPRINGS' "Walt FEST" ART & POETRY FESTIVAL

CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF WALT WHITMAN

SATURDAY, JUNE 1ST

11AM - 3PM

RAIN DATE: SAT, JUNE 8TH

AT THE HISTORIC SITES:

- WHITMAN STAFFORD FARMHOUSE,
(CORNER OF STONE RD & E. MAPLE AVENUE)
- CRYSTAL SPRINGS PARK - LAUREL LAKE
(CORNER OF W. ELMA & LAKEVIEW AVENUES)

- VISUAL ARTS - POETRY
- TROLLEYS - FOOD

* MINUTES AWAY FROM LINDENWOLD PATCO STOP!

LAUREL SPRINGS, NJ
WWW.LAURELSPRINGS-NJ.COM
 FACEBOOK.COM/LAURELSPRINGSWALTFEST

Figure 45: *Walt Fest*, a festival celebrating Whitman's birthday in Laurel Springs, NJ. The festival featured guided tours of the area, a Walt Whitman impersonator, and a reading by Pennsylvania poet and chaplain, Tom Johnson-Medland.

A Civil War Presentation



Walt Whitman in the Civil War

In the midst of the American Civil War, a man stepped into the fray armed only with a loving heart and a deep well of compassion.

Walt Whitman spent three years visiting Washington's hospitals caring for the thousands of badly wounded soldiers. His enormous contribution to the war came without ever firing a shot.

Although never in combat, Whitman witnessed firsthand the gruesome and bloody aftermath of a battle.

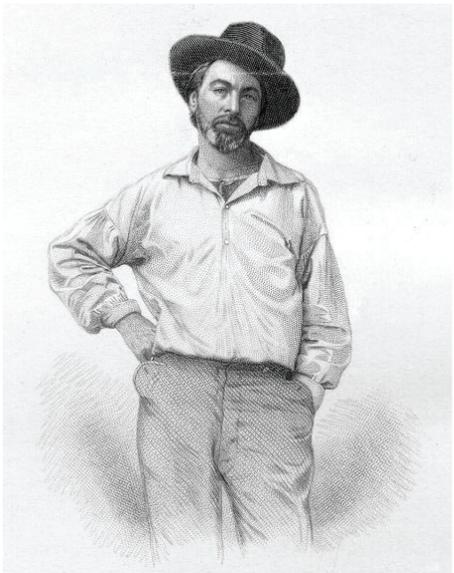
Powerpoint presentation by Joseph F. Wilson
joef21@aol.com



WALT WHITMAN IN THE CIVIL WAR
Monday, April 1, 2019, 7:00 p.m. • Free
CIVIC HALL • THE CENTER AT CAMDEN COUNTY COLLEGE • BLACKWOOD, N.J.

Figure 46: *Walt Whitman in the Civil War*, a presentation by Old Baldy Civil War Round Table member Joseph F. Wilson.

Figures 47 & 48:
Items on display for
*Walt Whitman at
200: The
Commercialization of
his Name, Image, and
Poetry in Modern
Society* at the
Camden County
Historical Society
(right). *Walt
Whitman: In His
Time and Ours*,
exhibition at Morris
Library, University
of Delaware (below).



Walt
Whitman
in His Time and Ours
February 12 - June 14, 2019
Special Collections Gallery, 2nd Floor

Engraved portrait of Walt Whitman,
Brooklyn, Lower of Cities,
Brooklyn, New York: Wm. Whitman, 1855.
Library/nd.edu/special

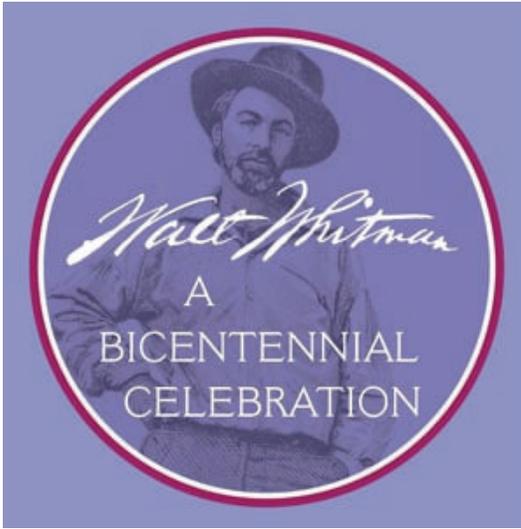
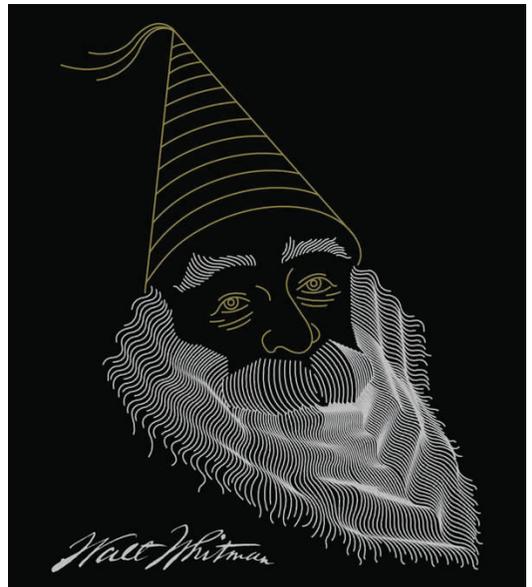


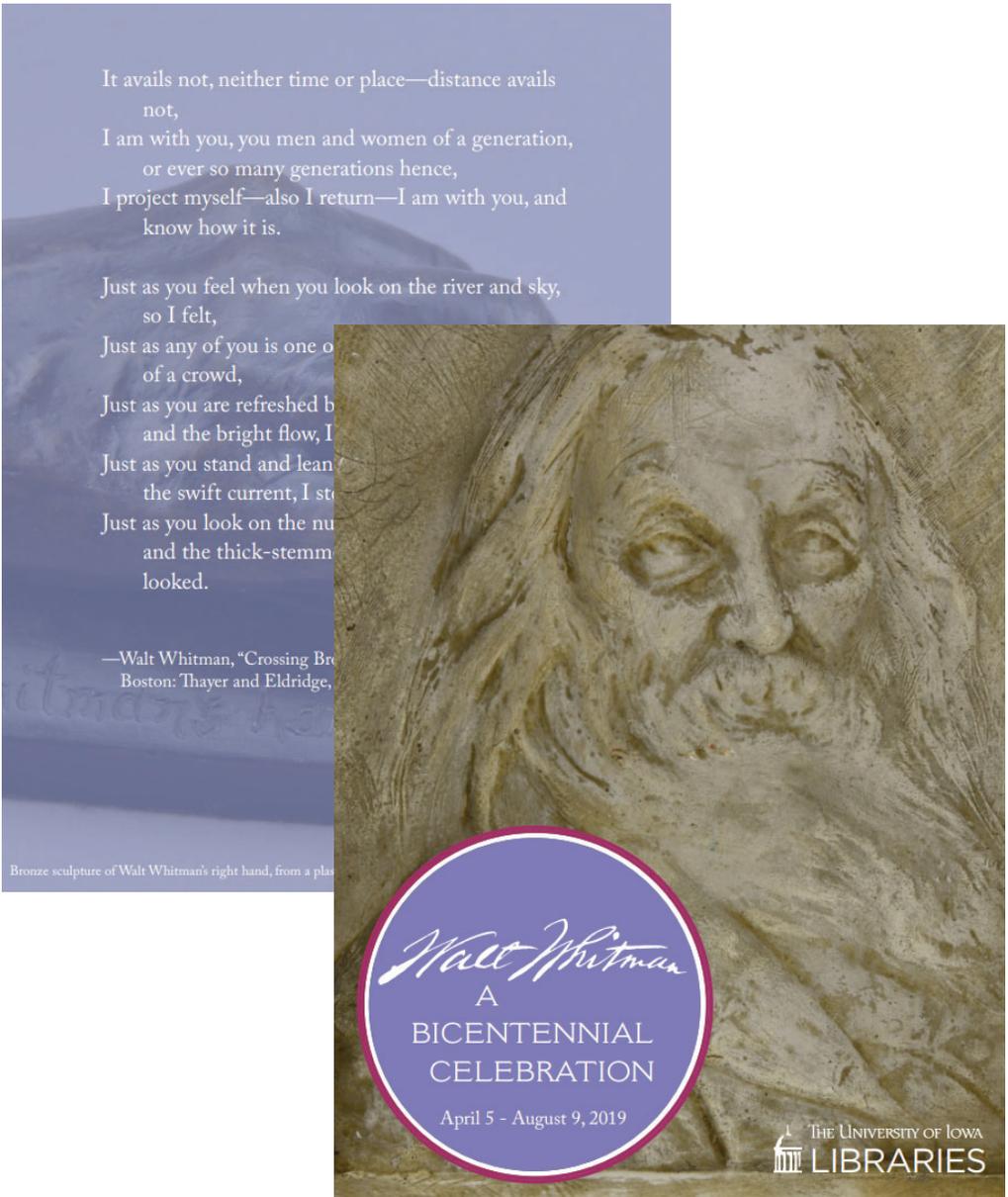
Figure 49: Logo for *Walt Whitman: A Bicentennial Celebration*, at the University of Iowa Main Library curated by Stephanie M. Blalock, Ed Folsom, and Brandon James O'Neil. The exhibit featured items from the University of Iowa Libraries Special Collections that chronicled Whitman's early journalism and fiction, the many editions of *Leaves of Grass*, and other works by and about Whitman.

Design by Kalmia Strong (Creative Coordinator, University of Iowa Libraries).

www.lib.uiowa.edu/gallery/

Figure 50: Special line art design by Alyssa Varner (Creative Coordinator, University of Iowa Libraries Digital Scholarship and Publishing Studio) for *Walt Whitman: A Birthday Celebration*, held at the University of Iowa Main Library on May 31, 2019. See page 342 for the birthday cake shared on this occasion.





It avails not, neither time or place—distance avails
not,
I am with you, you men and women of a generation,
or ever so many generations hence,
I project myself—also I return—I am with you, and
know how it is.

Just as you feel when you look on the river and sky,
so I felt,
Just as any of you is one of
of a crowd,
Just as you are refreshed by
and the bright flow, I
Just as you stand and lean
the swift current, I stand
Just as you look on the numbers
and the thick-stemmed
looked.

—Walt Whitman, "Crossing the Brooklyn Ferry"
Boston: Thayer and Eldridge,

Bronze sculpture of Walt Whitman's right hand, from a plaster

Walt Whitman

A
BICENTENNIAL
CELEBRATION

April 5 - August 9, 2019

THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
LIBRARIES

Figures 51 & 52: Front and back covers of the exhibition guide for *Walt Whitman: A Bicentennial Celebration* at the University of Iowa. Highlights the major pieces on display and gives an inside look into the curation of the exhibit. A "Whitman at 200" floating symposium also took place in the exhibition gallery, with talks from Betsy Erkkila, Ivy Wilson, Zachary Turpin, Lindsay Tuggle, Matt Cohen, and Kenneth M. Price.



Community Connections
Thursday, May 16th, 1:30 pm.

Walt Whitman Live!

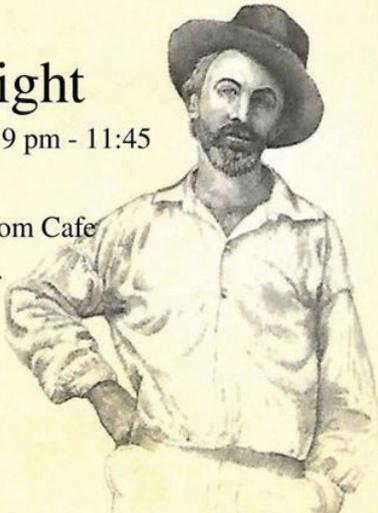
Walt Whitman, portrayed by Dr. Bill Koch, will highlight major poems from his poetry collection, *Leaves of Grass*.

This program is funded by Humanities Iowa and the National Endowment for the Humanities with additional support from the Friends of the Bettendorf Public Library.



The advertisement has a yellow background with a logo of three hands in red, yellow, and blue. Below the logo, the text is in a black serif font. The event title 'Walt Whitman Live!' is in a large, bold, white sans-serif font on a black background. The bottom section has a background of tall grass and a black and white portrait of Walt Whitman wearing a hat and a dark coat, resting his chin on his hand.

Figures 53 & 54: Advertisements for other Iowa events, including a Whitman birthday picnic in Iowa City (above) and *Walt Whitman Live!* at the Bettendorf Public Library, featuring a Whitman portrayal by Bill Koch (University of Northern Iowa).



Walt Night
May 31, 2019, 9 pm - 11:45

Trumpet Blossom Cafe
310 E. Prentiss St.
Iowa City, Iowa

poetry, music,
booze, wine,
food—
a celebration
of all things

Walt Whitman
with a musical
performance by special
guest Dave Zollo
& other friends of Walt

Join us as we
lean
and loaf,

and invite
Walt's soul,



CHARLES PEAFF
RESTAURANT
PROMISE TO PAY IN REFRESHMENTS
AND MEALS
TWENTY FIVE CENTS
at No. 67 Broadway, N.Y.


HISTORY
AT THE
GROVE

SALOON OR SALON?
WALT WHITMAN AT PFAFF'S BEER CELLAR
Wednesday June 19 | 5:30PM - 7:00PM

Figures 55 & 56: Local Iowa City Whitman events included "Walt Night" at the Trumpet Blossom Cafe (above) and an informative presentation at Big Grove Brewery by Stephanie M. Blalock (University of Iowa, below).

Walt Walt Walt Walt Walt
*Walt Walt Walt **Walt** Walt Walt*
Walt Walt Walt Walt Walt

SONGS OF OURSELVES
CELEBRATING THE BICENTENNIAL
OF WALT WHITMAN'S BIRTH
AND HIS INFLUENCE ON ART
IN THE MARGINS OF AMERICA

Tuesday, May 14	Sunday, May 26
6:00 pm	10:15 am
Kennedy Center	(in worship)
Millennium Stage	All Souls Church Unitarian

PRESENTED AS PART OF THE WHITMAN 200 FESTIVAL



Figure 57: *Songs of Ourselves: Celebrating the Bicentennial of Walt Whitman's Birth and his Influence on Art in the Margins of America*, featuring the sixty-voice All Souls Church Unitarian Choir of DC with poets and spoken word artists in "stories and songs of revolution, resistance, and radical self-love."

Featuring the premiere of an original work by composer William Kenlon set to Whitman text, with musical support from crossover cellist Devree Lewis and local jazz favorites Rochelle Rice (vocals), Todd Simon (piano), Corey Null (bass) and Dante Pope (drums and vocals).

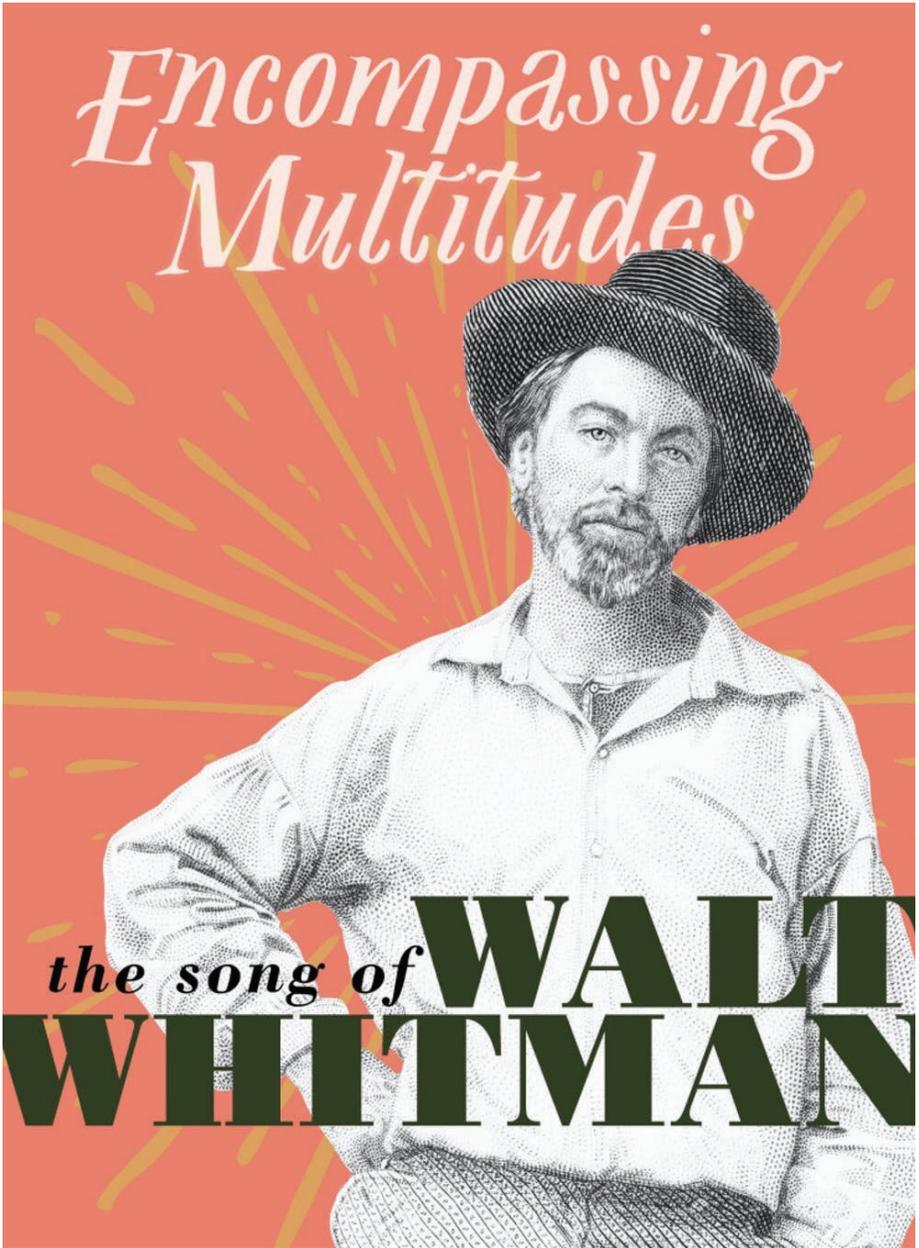


Figure 58: *Encompassing Multitudes* exhibition at the University of Virginia Library that "pays tribute to the incalculable cultural influence of America's great poet." The display included editions of *Leaves of Grass*, early drafts and manuscripts, and other rare materials from the Clifton Waller Barrett Library of American Literature. Curated by Charlotte Hennessy, George Riser, Lisa Russ Spaar, and Steve Cushman in coordination with the *Whitman Consortium*.

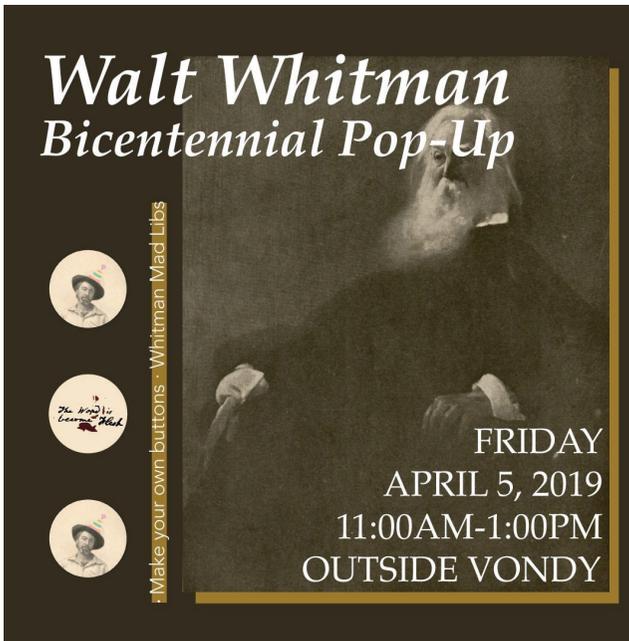


Figure 59: *Walt Whitman Pop-Up*, special event at Duke University Perkins Library, allowing participants to make Whitman-themed buttons and fill in Whitman Mad Libs.



Figure 60: Logo for *Whitman 200 Festival* in Washington, D.C., sponsored by HumanitiesDC. "Over the course of twelve days, this city-wide celebration will emphasize the poet's continuing influence on American culture and the city's culture, and showcase the themes closest to the poet's heart: unity, democracy, and healing."

THE DUKE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES PRESENTS

A **Whitman** SAMPLER

A Bicentennial Celebration

Join us as we celebrate Walt Whitman's 200th birthday with readings and remarks by Duke's ninth president on why he loves the "Good Gray Poet" and you should, too. View original Whitman manuscripts and materials from one of the most significant Whitman collections in the world, right here in Duke's Rubenstein Library.



with Richard H. Brodhead
President Emeritus and William
Preston Foe Professor of English,
Duke University

Thursday, April 25, 4:00 p.m.
Korman Assembly Room (Perkins 217)

Figures 61 & 62: *A Whitman Sampler*, featuring readings and remarks by Richard H. Brodhead, former Duke University president (2004-2017), "on why he loves the Good Gray Poet and you should, too."

A **Whitman** SAMPLER

A Bicentennial Celebration

FREE & OPEN to the PUBLIC

Michigan Writers Presents:
A Public Reading of

Walt Whitman's
Song of Myself



at the
State Theater
Traverse City
October 6
at 1 pm

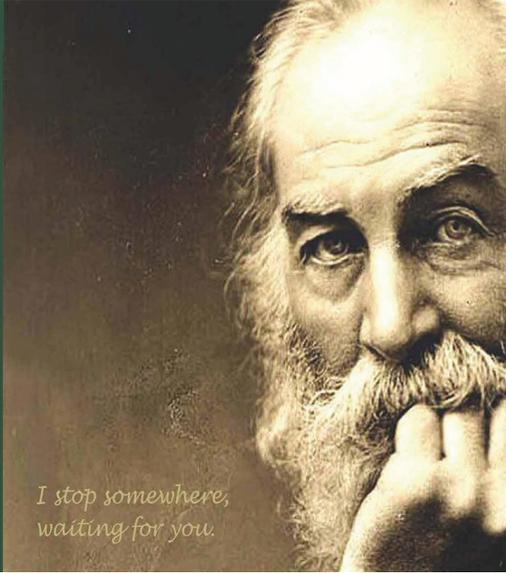
For more information, contact Christina Mantecón at 916.743.5337

Figure 63: A community reading of Walt Whitman's "Song of Myself," presented by Michigan Writers at the State Theatre in Traverse City, with music by Jim Crocket.

WALT WHITMAN 200TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION
APRIL 25, 2019 4:00-6:00 P.M.
AXE LIBRARY - BASEMENT LEVEL

CAKE - SNACKS - BEVERAGES
READING OF "SONG OF MYSELF"
(DROP IN ANYTIME, STAY AS LONG AS YOU LIKE)

Walt Whitman



*I stop somewhere,
waiting for you.*

Figures 64 & 65: Advertisement for a birthday party at the Axe Library of Pittsburg State (KS) University (above, see page 343 for a photo of the cake served at this event). "The goal is to gather together a group representative of the nation of which Whitman wrote and sang." *Walt Whitman's New Orleans Foray*, lecture by Brad Vogel (Walt Whitman Initiative, NY Preservation Archive Project), as part of the Louisiana Landmarks Society lecture series (below).



***Walt Whitman at 200:
Whitman's New Orleans Foray***

Sunday, February 17, 2019
5:00 p.m.
6330 St. Charles Avenue
New Orleans



Brad Vogel

THE BUSHWICK BOOK CLUB SEATTLE PRESENTS
ORIGINAL MUSIC INSPIRED BY WALT WHITMAN'S

LEAVES OF
GRASS

HUGO HOUSE | MAY 18
TICKETS AT THEBUSHWICKBOOKCLUBSEATTLE.COM

The poster features a stylized illustration of Walt Whitman, a man with a long white beard and a wide-brimmed hat, looking slightly to the left. The background is a solid green color. To the left of the illustration is a stylized green leaf. The text is in white and green, with 'GRASS' in large, bold, green letters.

Figure 66: Original Music inspired by Walt Whitman's *Leaves of Grass*, Saturday, May 18th at Hugo House in Seattle, WA.

SPEED READING
Walt Whitman

Friday, June 28, 2019 / 6pm sign up / 6:30pm start

ARE YOU THE FASTEST READER IN HOUSTON?

PROVE IT! BRAZOS BOOKSTORE AND THE POCKET INVITE YOU TO BURN THROUGH THE SPRAWLING VERSE OF THE OLD BARBARIC YAWPER WITH AN IN-STORE SPEED READING COMPETITION! IN IRREVERENT REVERENCE TO THE LOAFER, COME GATHER EN-MASSE AT BRAZOS BOOKSTORE. IN THE SPIRIT OF DEMOCRACY, THE CROWD WILL BE THE JUDGES. IN CATEGORIES OF VOLUME, SPEED, CLARITY, AND WHITMANISM (HOW EVER YOU DEFINE IT), CHAMPION WILL BE AWARDED A TROPHY!

DM @thepocket_htx on instagram or email Thepockethtx@gmail.com for more info

Figures 67 and 68: *Speed Reading Walt Whitman*, a contest held on June 28th at Brozos Bookstore in Houston, Texas (above). The winner was Christopher Crawford. Walt Whitman birthday party at Brozos, June 1st (below).

WALT WHITMAN'S

WHEN:
Saturday, June 1
6:30 - 8:00pm

WHERE:
Brazos Bookstore
2421 Bissonnet St.
Houston, TX

Join us in celebrating the 200th Anniversary of Walt Whitman's Birthday with an in-store party!

Complete with champagne, crafts, and a durational reading of *Leaves of Grass*.

BRAZOS
BOOKSTORE

BIRTHDAY PARTY!

Join us for the 200th Birthday of

Walt Whitman



Tuesday, May 28th - 7:30pm
 Historic Cason Cottage, 3 NE 1st Street, Delray Beach

Guest presentations by
 John Cutrone, Director of the Jaffe Center for Book Arts at FAU
 & Adam Bradford, Director PhD Program in Comparative Studies at FAU

Readings, Open Mic, Refreshments
\$20; members free. Call to reserve: 561.274.9578

Figure 69: Flier for a Whitman Birthday Party in Delray Beach, F.L., featuring presentations by John Curtone and Adam Bradford of Florida Atlantic University.

Figure 70: *Multitudes*, an original one-man play about Walt Whitman by Valerie and Kim Nuzzo of Zephyr Stage in Fruita, C.O. Performed by Kim Nuzzo, resident actor with Zephyr Stage, President and Co-founder of the Aspen Poet's Society, and a visual artist and published poet.

THEATER PERFORMANCE

38 *Leaves of Grass*

Speeding with tailed meteors falls like the rest,
 Carrying the crescent child that eats its all mother in its belly;
 Storming enjoying planning loving
 Flacking and filling, appearing and appearing
 I tread day and night such roads



I visit the orchards of fruit, I look at the product,
 And look at quantities of goods as at a sea of green.

I fly the flight of the
 My course runs below

I help myself to material and
 No guard can shut me off, no

I anchor my sleep for a little ...
 My ...

"MULTITUDES"

AN ORIGINAL ONE-MAN PLAY ABOUT WALT WHITMAN

Join us for a special performance of "Multitudes," an original one-man play about the father of American poetry, Walt Whitman. The play was authored by Valerie and Kim Nuzzo of the Zephyr Stage in Fruita, America is celebrating the bicentennial of Whitman's birth this year.

6 - 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, April 24
Central Library Community Room



Mesa County LIBRARIES

visit mesacountylibraries.org



Please join us to celebrate the
200th Birthday
of that quintessential, American poet,

Walt Whitman

with **Poetry**, and **Music**, and **Cake!**
and the **unveiling of a new painting**

by
Brogan Joe Murphy

"Walt Whitman in Camden"
Acrylic on Linen

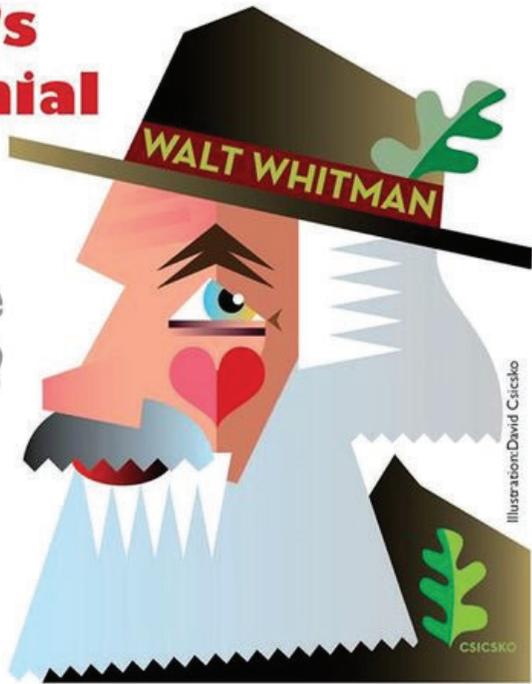
The walls are covered with elegant, Victorian wallpaper. A wolf-pelt covers the back of Walt's chair and warms him on a cold winter day in Camden. The cane in his hand reminds us of his struggle with paralysis. This is not the Whitman we know from the many, iconic photos taken in his time. Here you will see the 'Good Grey Poet' in living color! It's 1889, and you are invited to sit with him in the front room of his house on Mickle Street.

May 31st, 2019
from 7-9pm

at
First Parish Church
Presented by 'The Gallery@ First Parish'
75 Great Road, Bedford(Elm St. Entrance)
(781) 275-7994

Figure 71: Walt Whitman birthday party hosted by First Parish Church of Bedford, MA.

**Walt
Whitman's
Bicentennial
Birthday
Bash**
Party like
it's 1855!
May 29
6:30 pm
at the
Hideout



**America's greatest poet turns 200 this
spring—Let's celebrate and sing him!**

What: A collaborative birthday reading of "Song of Myself" from *Leaves of Grass* (1892)

Where: The Hideout Inn, 1354 W. Wabansia, Chicago

When: Wednesday, May 29, 6:30-10 pm (doors open at 6:30 pm, the reading starts at 7 pm).

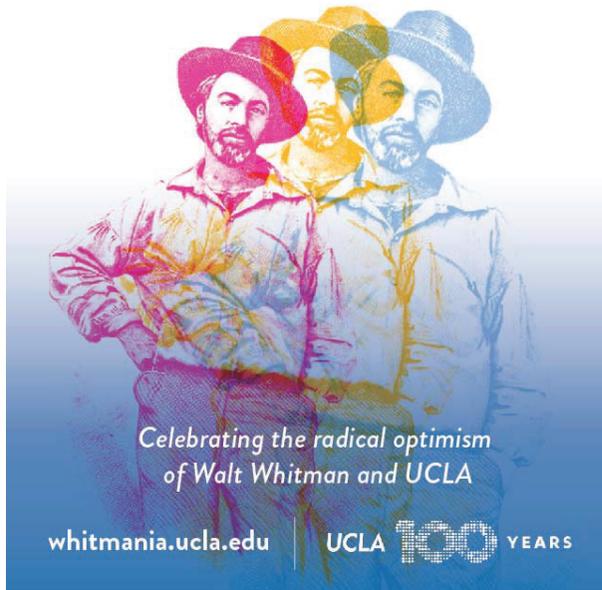
How: Want to read a selection of the poem? Show up when the doors open to get on list.
On-site sign up strictly first come, first served. No guarantees!

Cost: Free to get in, but you'll be buying your own drinks

Special added attraction: A conjuration of Walt himself!

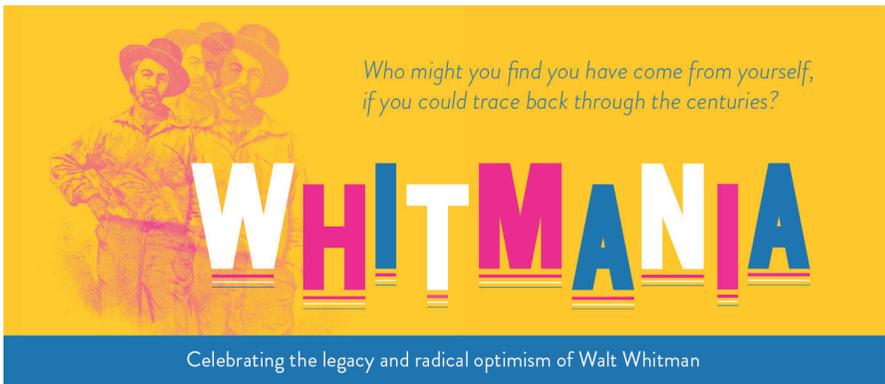
Figure 72: *Walt Whitman's Bicentennial Birthday Bash*, held at Chicago's Hideout Inn. The event featured a "collaborative reading" of Whitman's "Song of Myself," read by attendees.

**California...I travel toward you,
to remain, to teach
robust American love**



Celebrating the radical optimism
of Walt Whitman and UCLA

whitmania.ucla.edu | UCLA 100 YEARS



Who might you find you have come from yourself,
if you could trace back through the centuries?

WHITMANIA

Celebrating the legacy and radical optimism of Walt Whitman

Figures 73 & 74: Advertising designs from the University of California Los Angeles *Whitmania: Celebrating the Radical Optimism of Walt Whitman and UCLA*. The series of events included talks, workshops, a "Song of Myself" marathon reading, and birthday party. Directed by Amber West (UCLA) and produced by Susannah Rodriguez Drissi (UCLA).



LITFEST
PASADENA

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, WALT WHITMAN!

Sunday, May 19, 3pm-4pm, The Stand



Amber West



Dominiqua Dickey

Join UCLA Writing Programs for a reading celebrating the bicentennial and radical optimism of America's first bard of democracy. Bring your favorite poem, excerpt, or quote by Whitman to share on the open mic (5 minutes max per open mic reader). We'll have copies of "Song of Myself" available. Featuring poet **Amber West**, fiction writer **Dominiqua Dickey**, and special guests.

LitFest Pasadena • Pasadena Playhouse District • www.litfestpasadena.org

Songs of Ourselves: Whitmanic Explorations of Self and Community

Friday, May 24
10 AM - 12 PM | POWELL LIBRARY ROTUNDA

For Undergraduate Research Week, Writing Programs students from diverse majors present original scholarship on issues related to the expression of self and community.

Free! Refreshments served!

Co-sponsored by UCLA Writing Programs, UCLA Library, Interdisciplinary & Cross Campus Affairs, and the UCLA Arts Initiative as part of Whitmania, the west coast's largest celebration of Walt Whitman's bicentennial.

Learn more and RSVP: whitmania.ucla.edu



WHITMANIA UCLA 100 YEARS
UCLA LIBRARY RESEARCH WEEK
MAY 22-25, 2019

Figures 75-79: Five of the "constellation of cultural events exploring the legacy of a foundational figure in American culture" organized by UCLA Writing Programs.

Friday, May 31

Ecos del Gran Viejo: Latin American Poets Sing Walt Whitman

2-4 PM | UCLA POWELL LIBRARY ROTUNDA

A bilingual reading of works by Latin American writers influenced by America's first poet of democracy, on the occasion of his 200th birthday. Reception with birthday cake will follow performance. Co-sponsored by UCLA Writing Programs, UCLA Library, and the Latin American Institute as part of Whitmania, the west coast's largest celebration of Whitman's bicentennial.

Learn more at whitmania.ucla.edu.

SPONSORS

WHITMANIA | UCLA 100 YEARS | UCLA Latin American INSTITUTE

Happy (200th) birthday, Walt Whitman!

free stuff try a typewriter

poetry on demand

marionette improv

Th 5/30 & Fri 5/31
1-5pm
Janss Terrace
(in front of Powell Library)

#Whitmania2019
#radicaloptimism

whitmania.ucla.edu

Daughters of Whitman

Womxn literary and performing artists explore the legacy of the father of American poetry. This free performance will include poetry, puppetry, music and more, followed by a reception with cake in honor of Walt's 200th birthday.

Beyond Baroque
681 N. Venice Blvd.
Sunday, June 2, 5-8pm
RSVP recommended: whitmania.ucla.edu

Co-sponsored by UCLA Writing Programs, UCLA Arts Initiative, Interdisciplinary & Cross Campus Affairs, and the Center for the Study of Women as part of Whitmania, the west coast's largest celebration of Walt Whitman's bicentennial in 2019.

 bridgette bianca	 Audrey Densmore	 Dominique Dickey	 Susannah Rodriguez Drissi
 Cecilia Fairchild	 Heather Nagami	 Vickie Vertiz	 Amber West

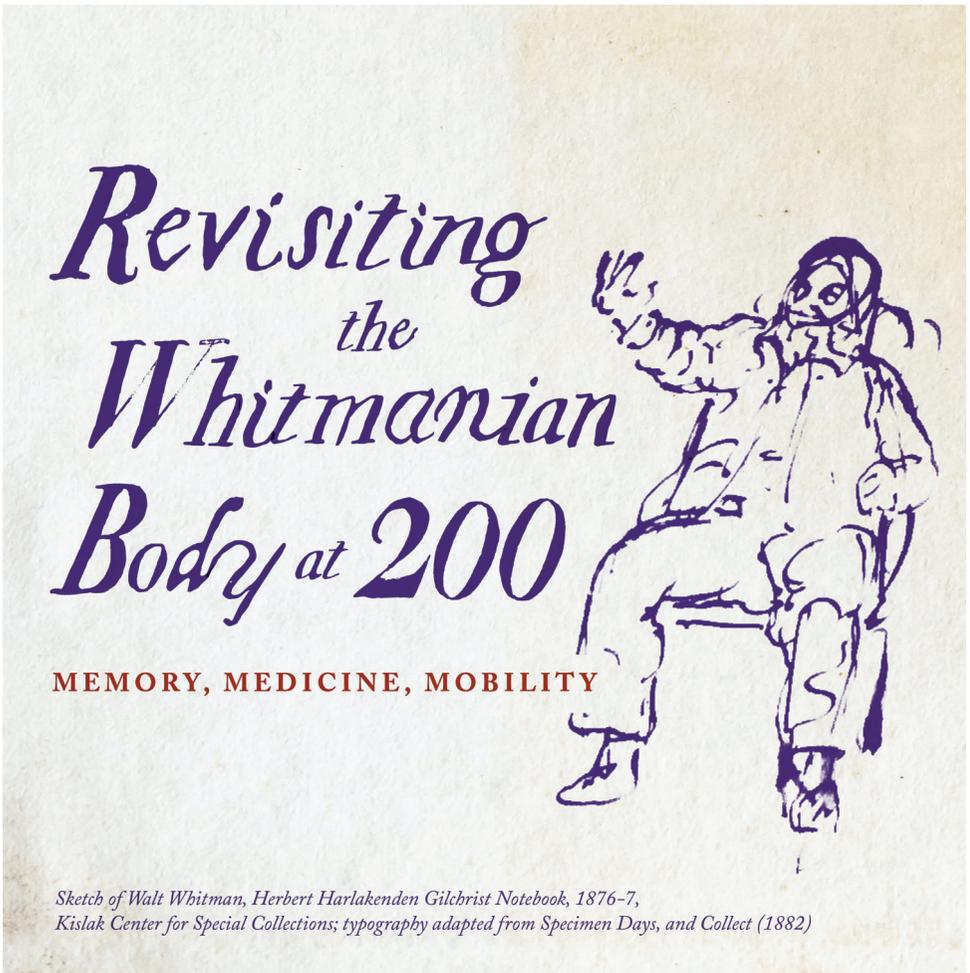
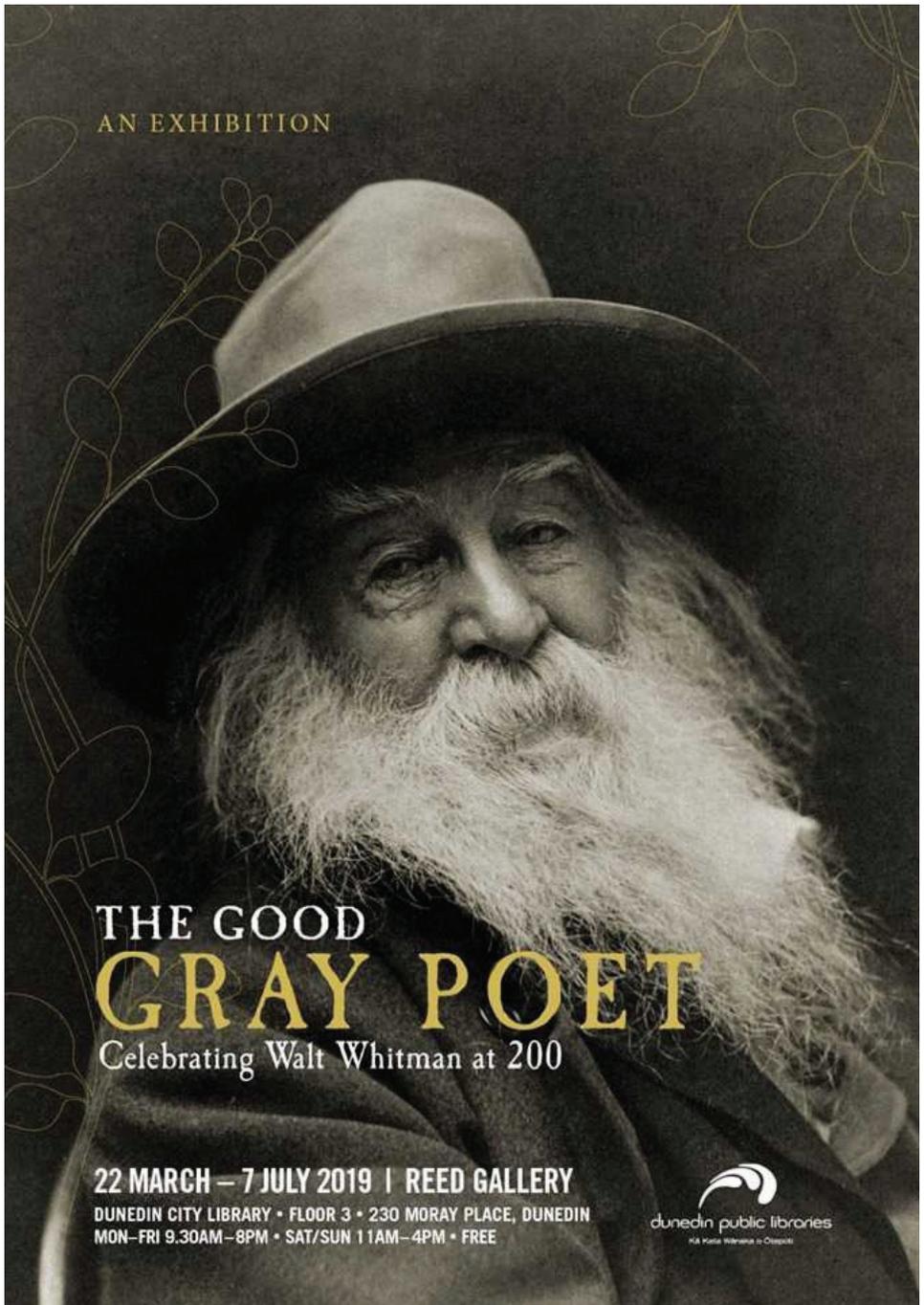


Figure 80: Graphic design for American Antiquarian Society's *Common-Place*, vol. 19 no. 1 (Spring 2019), devoted to "Whitman and Disability." Featuring an introduction by Don James McLaughlin (University of Tulsa) and Clare Mullaney (Hamilton College), essays and notes by Jess Libow (Emory University), Bethany Schneider (Bryn Mawr College), Christopher Hanlon (Arizona State University), Robert J. Scholnick (College of William and Mary), and Sari Edelstein (University of Massachusetts), as well as original poetry by Lindsay Tuggle and reviews for *Manly Health and Training* (Regan Arts, 2017) and *The Afterlives of Specimens* (University of Iowa Press, 2017).

common-place.org/book/issue/vol-19-no-1/

The poster features a central relief-block print portrait of Walt Whitman by Stephen Alcorn. The portrait is a detailed, textured work in shades of blue, green, and brown, showing Whitman with his characteristic long hair and beard. The title 'Whitman@200' is at the top in a red, hand-drawn font. To the right, the event title 'Experiment Demokratie' is written vertically in a similar red font. Below the portrait, a hexagonal badge contains the text: 'Feier zum 200. Geburtstag des US-amerikanischen "Dichters der Demokratie" Walt Whitman (1819-1892)'. To the right of the portrait, text describes the event: 'Whitman-Gedichte in 13 Dortmunder Sprachen Gelesen von Kammerschauspielerin Barbara Blümel und Studierenden der TU Dortmund Whitman-Musik. Whitman-Film. Whitman-Kunst.' At the bottom, a banner provides the date and time: 'Freitag, 31. Mai 2019 | Rathaus Dortmund | 18 Uhr' and the location: 'Friedensplatz 1'. Logos for 'tu technische universität dortmund', 'Amerika-Haus', 'Fakultät Kulturwissenschaften Amerikanistik', and the 'Stadt Dortmund' logo are at the bottom. A small copyright notice at the very bottom reads: 'Portrait of Walt Whitman by Stephen Alcorn © 2019 • Relief-block print, 13 in. x 10 in. • All rights reserved • www.alcorngallery.com'.

Figure 81: *Whitman@200: Experiment Demokratie*, an evening of music, film, art, and poetry at TU Dortmund University, with an original portrait by Stephen Alcorn (alcorngallery.com). Whitman's poetry was read in German by actress Barbara Blümel, as well as in twelve other languages by Dortmund students.

The poster features a close-up portrait of Walt Whitman, an elderly man with a long, flowing white beard and a wide-brimmed hat. The background is dark with faint, light-colored floral or leaf patterns. Text is overlaid on the image in various colors and fonts.

AN EXHIBITION

**THE GOOD
GRAY POET**
Celebrating Walt Whitman at 200

22 MARCH – 7 JULY 2019 | REED GALLERY
DUNEDIN CITY LIBRARY • FLOOR 3 • 230 MORAY PLACE, DUNEDIN
MON-FRI 9.30AM-8PM • SAT/SUN 11AM-4PM • FREE


dunedin public libraries
Māori Kaitiaki Takekōwhiri

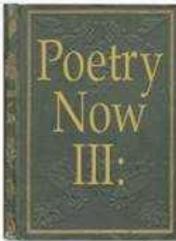
Figure 82: *The Good Gray Poet*, exhibition in the Reed Gallery, Dunedin City Library in New Zealand, 22nd March 22nd to July 7th.



The Lester and Sally Entin
Faculty of Humanities
Tel Aviv University

•••
The Shirley and Leslie Porter
School of Cultural Studies

•••
The Department of English
and American Studies
American Studies Program



Poetry and Democracy at the Whitman Bicentennial

May 13th, 2019 | Gilman Building, Room 496
Tel Aviv University

9:45 Gathering and refreshments

13:00-14:15 Lunch

10:00 **Greetings**

Milette Shamir (Tel Aviv University)
Roi Tartakovsky (Tel Aviv University)

14:15-15:45 **Round Table II:
Poetry and Democracy**

Chair: Noam Reisner (Tel Aviv University)

10:15-11:15 **Keynote Lecture**

Chair: Dara Barnat (Tel Aviv University)
Ed Folsom (University of Iowa)
"This is the city...and I am one of the citizens":
Walt Whitman and the Urban Democratic
Body

Tamar Gerstenhaber (Tel Aviv University)
The Poetic Social Link

Yosefa Raz (University of Haifa)
Women's Visionary Poetry

Noam Reisner (Tel Aviv University)
Milton's Poetic Meritocracy

11:15-11:30 **Refreshments**

Shirley Sharon-Zisser (Tel Aviv University)
Paris 1968: Psychoanalysis and Poetry

11:30-13:00 **Round Table I:
Whitman at the Bicentennial**

Chair: Nir Evron (Tel Aviv University)

Karen Alkalay-Gut (Tel Aviv University)
Intensified Democracy: Crossing Brooklyn Ferry

Nir Evron (Tel Aviv University)
*Richard Rorty on Whitman's Significance for
Liberal Politics*

Maeera Shreiber (University of Utah)
*Whitman/Levertov - The Possibilities and
Limitations of the Political*

15:45-16:00 **Refreshments**

Chanita Goodblatt (Ben-Gurion University)
*Translating Whitman in Israel: Arise, the
Hebrew Walt Whitman, Arise!*

Jenn Lewin (University of Haifa)
*Whitman and the Democratizing Impulse in
Postcolonial Lyric Form*

Roi Tartakovsky (Tel Aviv University)
Poetic Form for Freedom

16:00-17:00 **Songs of Myself:
Students Respond to Walt Whitman**

Chair: Dara Barnat (Tel Aviv University)

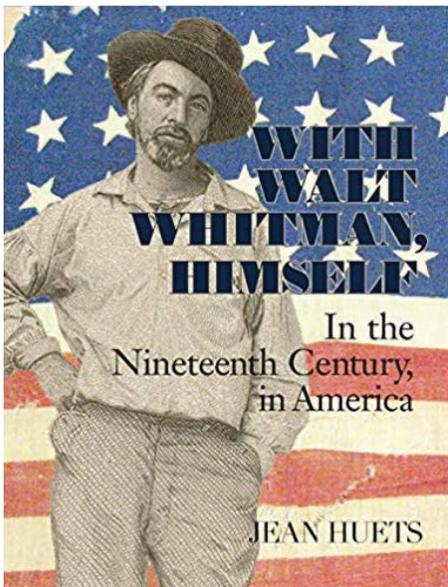
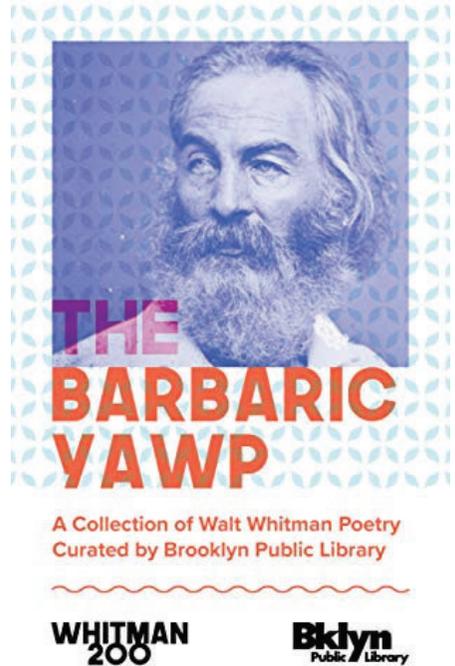


We gratefully acknowledge
the support of The Shirley and Leslie Porter
School of Cultural Studies

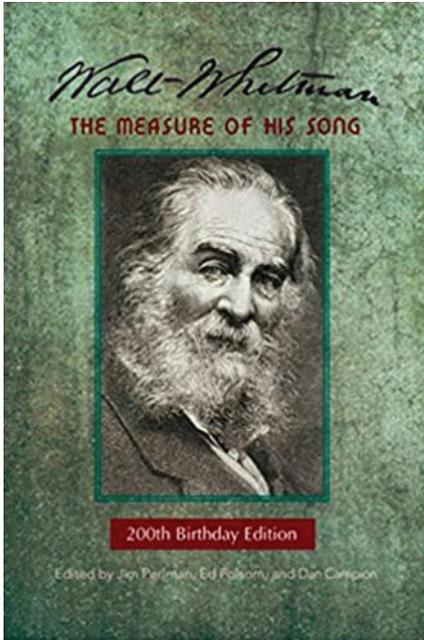
Figure 83: *Poetry Now III: Poetry and Democracy at the Whitman Bicentennial*, May 13th at Tel Aviv University. See page 347 for cookies served at the event.

Whitman Birthday Publications

The Barbaric Yawp: A Collection of Walt Whitman poetry Curated by Brooklyn Public Library (New York: Brooklyn Public Library, 2019).

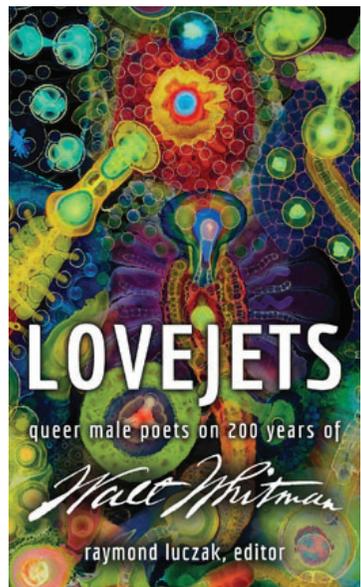


Jean Huets. *With Walt Whitman, Himself in the Nineteenth Century, in America* (Richmond, VA: Circling Rivers Press, 2018).

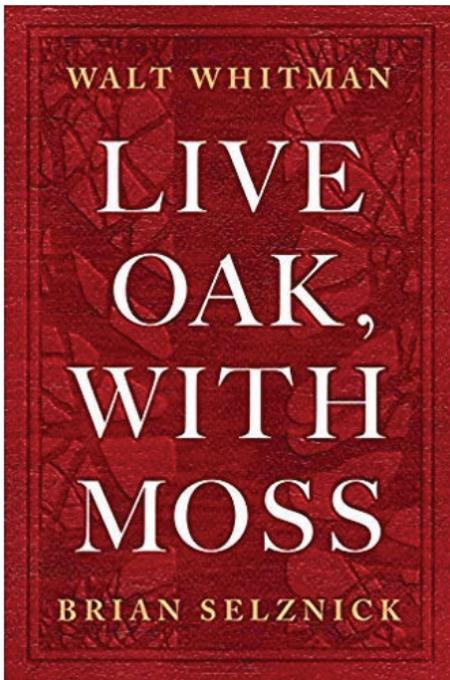
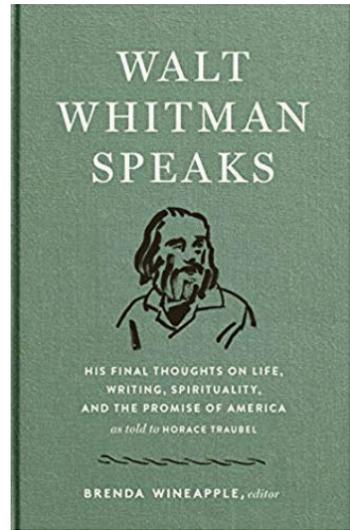


Walt Whitman, the Measure of his Song: 200th Birthday Edition. Jim Perlman, Ed Folsom, Dan Campion eds. (Duluth, MN: Holy Cow! Press, 2019).

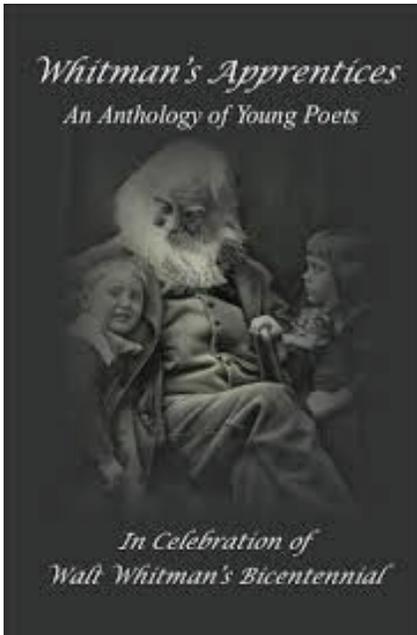
Lovejets: Queer Male Poets on 200 Years of Walt Whitman. Raymond Luczak, ed. (Squares & Rebels, 2019).



Walt Whitman Speaks: His Final Thoughts on Life, Writing, Spirituality, and the Promise of America: as told to Horace Traubel. Brenda Wineapple, ed. (New York: Library of America, 2019).

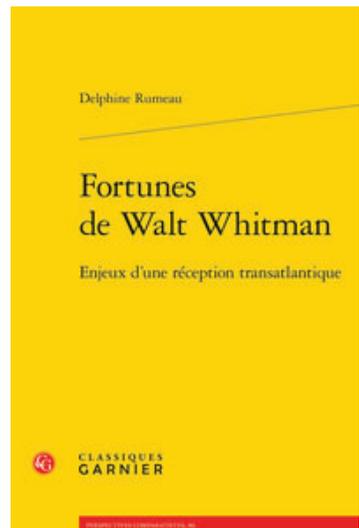


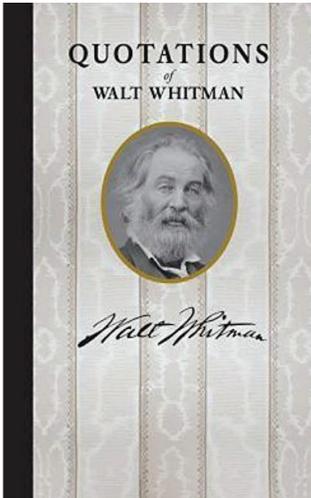
Live Oak, with Moss. Illustrated by Brian Selznick with an afterword by Karen Karbiener. (New York: Abrams ComicArts, 2019).



Whitman's Apprentices: An Anthology of Young Poets. (New York: Local Gems Press, 2019).

Delphine Rumeau,
*Fortunes de Walt Whitman.
Enjeux d'une réception
transatlantique.* (Paris: Classiques
s Garnier, 2019).



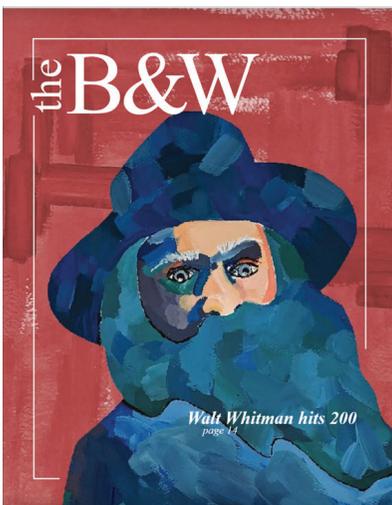


Quotations of Walt Whitman. Eric Conrad, ed. (Bedford, MA: Applewood Books, 2019).

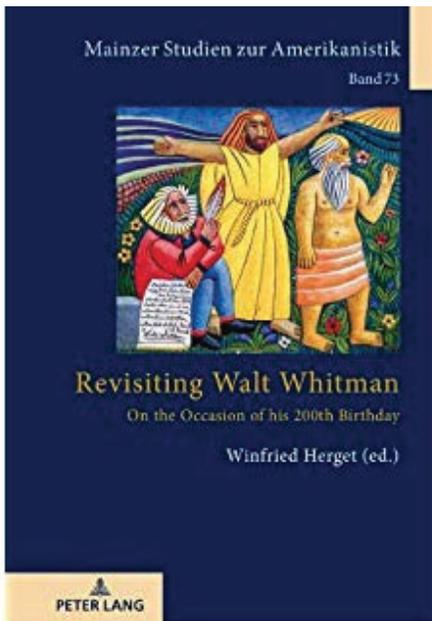
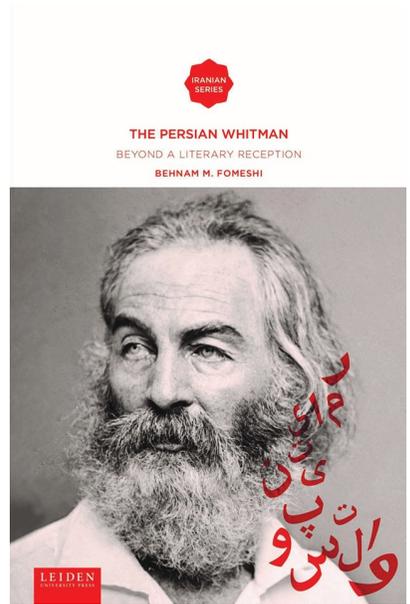
Kate Coombs, with illustrations by Carme Lemniscates. *Little Poet Walt Whitman: Miracles Everywhere* (Layon, UT: Gibbs Smith, 2019).



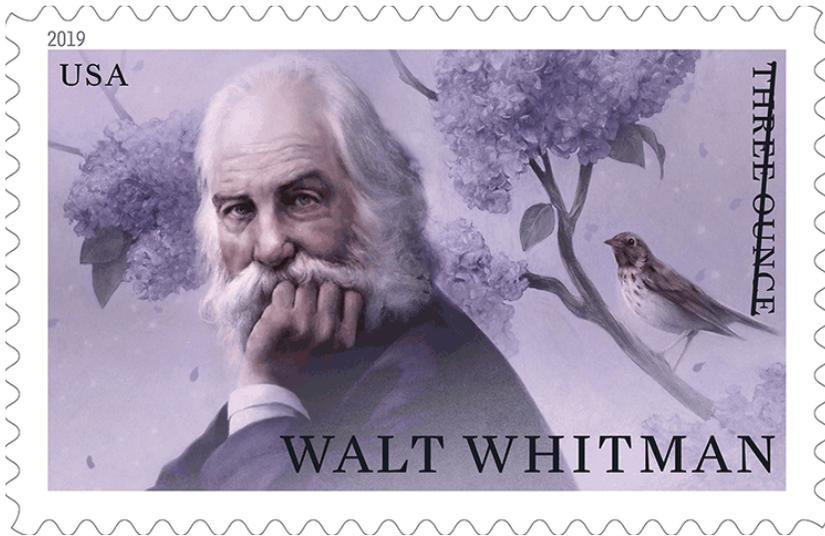
The Black & White. Vol. 57, Issue 6. Published by the students of Walt Whitman High School in Bethesda, MD. Cover artwork by Julia Rubin.



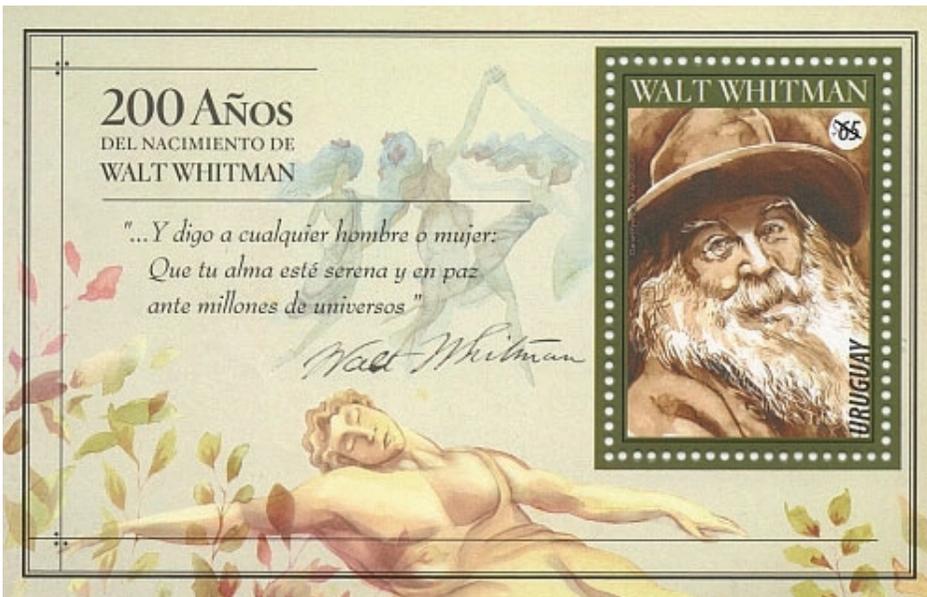
Behnam M Fomeshi. *The Persian Whitman: Beyond a Literary Reception* (Leiden, Netherlands: Leiden University Press, 2019).



Revisiting Walt Whitman on the Occasion of his 200th Birthday. Winfried Herget, ed. (New York: Peter Lang Publishing, 2019).



Figures 84 & 85: Three ounce postage stamp from the United States Postal service, the 32nd stamp in the Literary Arts series, with art by Sam Weber and design by Greg Breeding (above). Sixty-five pesos Walt Whitman stamp from Uruguay with portrait by Daniel Pereyra (below).



Whitman Birthday Cakes and Treats

"Our people
want their cake
—their sugared
cake—
with all the
delicate tracteries
of the
confectioner's
art."

*With Walt
Whitman in
Camden, vol. 6
p.194.*

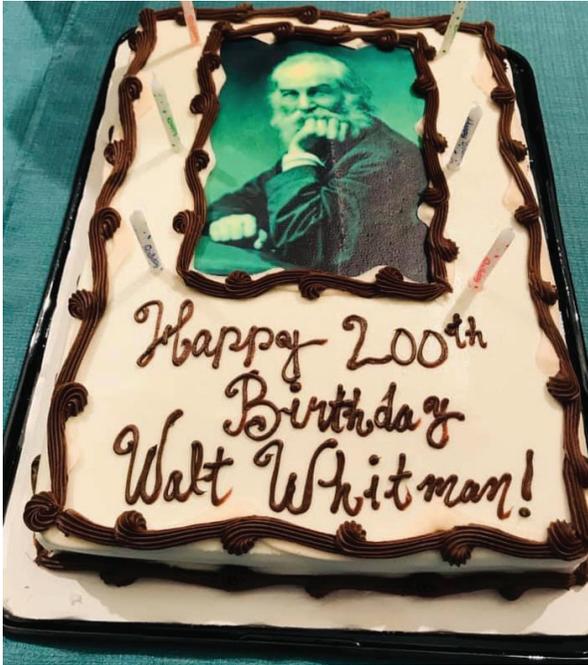


Advertisement for *Walt Whitman 200th Birthday Cake Bake-Off*, held at Parkway Central Library in Philadelphia on February 26th.



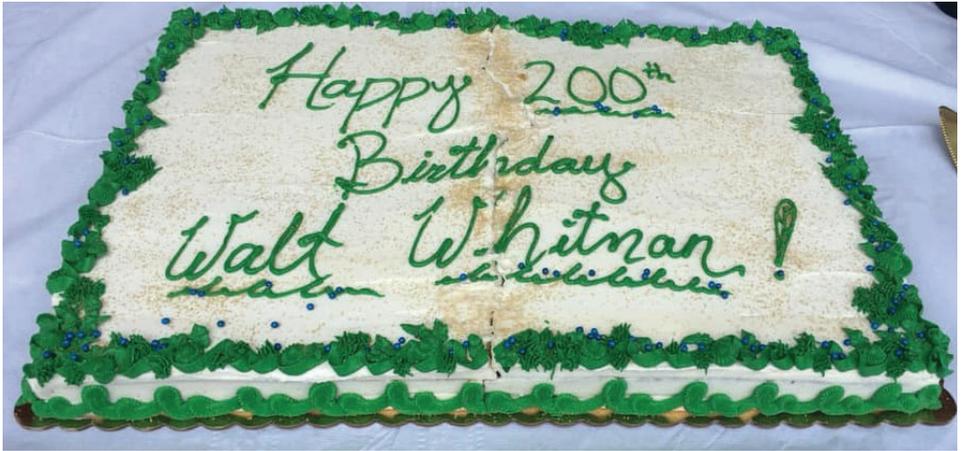
Figures 86 & 87: Cakes served at the Walt Whitman Birthplace on May 31 (above) and at Rutgers University - Camden on May 29 (below).





Figures 88 & 89 Cake from a party hosted by the Transcendentalism Council of First Parish in Concord, MA (left). Cake served at BookExpo 2019 by publisher Applewood Books, featuring a modified image of the 1855 frontispiece and copies of their book *Quotations of Walt Whitman* (Eric Conrad, ed., 2019). Designed by Jennifer Delaney.





Figures 90 & 91: Cake from the Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library, University of Virginia (above). Advertisement for the event (below).

HAPPY
200th
BIRTHDAY,
WALT

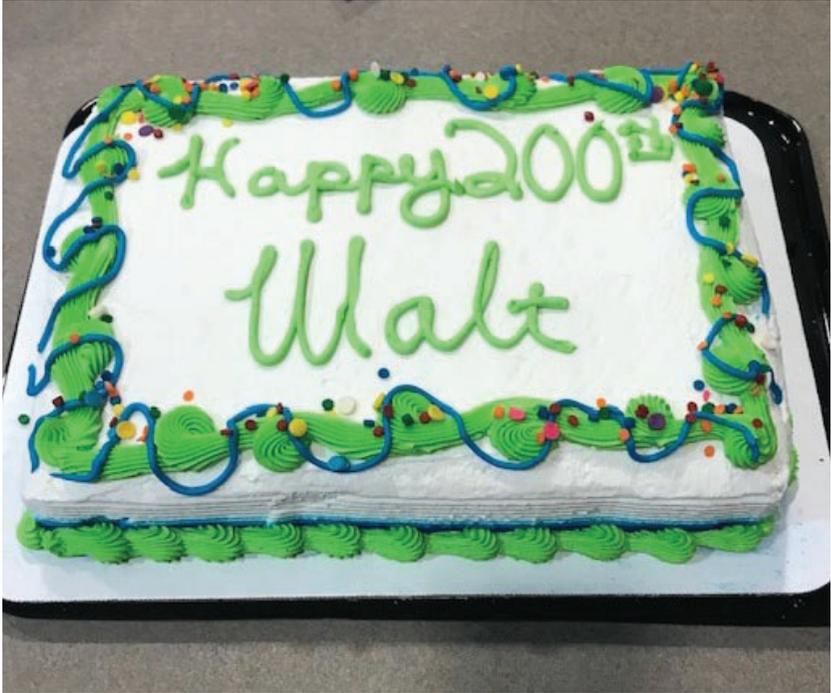
Let us eat cake in honor of Walt Whitman's 200th birthday!

Join us in front of Harrison/Small from 3-5 pm for a sweet treat.



Figures 92 & 93: Cake from Au Claire, WI, photo by former WI poet laureate Max Garland (above). Cake served at *Walt Whitman: A Bicentennial Celebration*, hosted by the American Literature and Culture Interest Group at The American Center, Kolkata, West Bengal, India (below). The event featured Chidananda Bhattacharya (Rabindra Bharati University) and Patti Hoffman, U.S. Consul General.





Figures 94 & 95: Cake from Morris Library, Southern Illinois University. Photo by SIU Press (above). Cake from the University of Iowa (below).

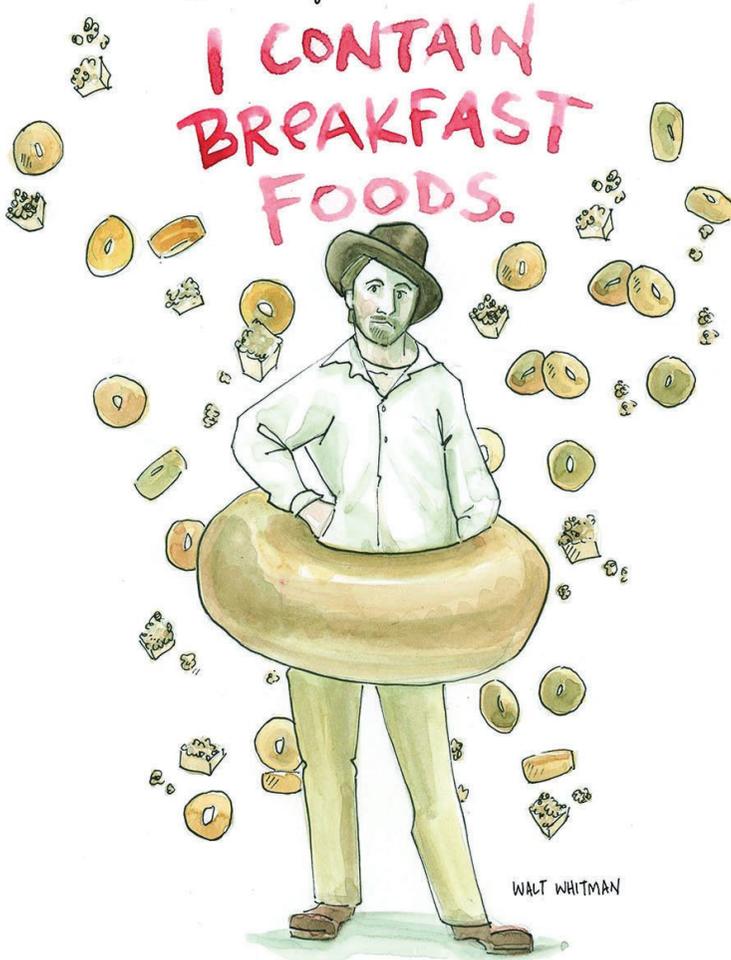




Figures 96 & 97: Cake served on April 25th for a birthday party at the Axe Library of Pittsburg State University, courtesy of Dr. Christopher Anderson (above). Cake from "A Dose of Poetry," a workshop/reading series at Georgian Court University in Lakewood, NJ. Made by event creator and host Christine Marie Attardo, a writer of young adult literature and confessional poetry (below).



Do I contradict myself?
Very well then I contradict myself,
(I am large, I ~~contain~~ multitudes.)



SWEET CREAM ICE CREAM WITH A TOUCH OF CINNAMON,
PIECES OF CHOCOLATE DONUTS AND COFFEE CAKE CRUMBLÉ

Figure 98: "I Contain Breakfast Foods," limited edition flavor from Brooklyn-based Ample Hills Creamery. Churned originally for the April opening of the New York Public Library's Walt Whitman exhibition and given wider distribution during May and June 2019. Ten per cent of sales were donated to the Brooklyn Public Library.



Figures 99 & 100: Cake served at a Whitman-inspired service at the Unitarian Chapel in Rivington, Bolton UK, featuring a photograph of the Eagle Street College birthday gathering, ca. 1894 (above). Cake served to hikers on the Pacific Crest Trail near Anza, California, by "Trail Angel Mary," a trail crew volunteer and hiker. Served with champagne and fresh fruit, the hikers who stopped to celebrate joined in reading "Crossing Brooklyn Ferry" and singing "Happy Birthday to You" (below, pct145trailangelmary.com).





Figures 101 & 102: Series of seven beers from Bell's Brewery of Comstock, Michigan. The first beer, a German-inspired American IPA titled "Song of Myself," was released May 2019. New entries in the Poetry-themed series debuted every two months, concluding May 2020. "We've drawn inspiration from a variety of different sources from music to literature to the Great Lakes," writes President and Founder Larry Bell. "This series is just the latest example of how the arts have inspired us to create new and innovative recipes."





Figures 103 & 104: Cake from Four Seasons Books at Shepherdstown, WV, organized by Shepherd University professor of English, Heidi Hanrahan and featuring readings from Shepherdstown Poet Laureate Ed Zahniser and Tom Donlon of West Virginia Writer's Incorporated (above). Cookies from *Poetry Now III: Poetry and Democracy at the Whitman Bicentennial* at Tel Aviv University (below).





Figure 105: Cake by Philadelphia-based Milk + Sugar Cakes, People's Choice winner at the "Cake Bake- Off," February 26, 2019. Photo from *Whitman at 200*.



Figure 106: Winner of the Walt Whitman 200th Birthday Cake Bake-Off in Philadelphia (February 26). Cake designed and produced by The Fancy Crumb, a Philadelphia bakery under the direction of Briana Green. Photo from *Whitman at 200*.