

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GERMAN WHITMAN SYMPOSIUM

The Deutsch-Amerikanisches Institut of Heidelberg sponsored a centennial "Walt Whitman Symposium" on December 10-11, 1992, featuring a reading by Andreas Rasp and papers by Helga Essmann, Walter Grünzweig, Dietmar Schloss, Frederick Wright, Nicolas de Warren, and Dieter Shulz. This was the sixth Whitman centennial conference to take place in Europe this year; others were held in England, Italy, Portugal, and Spain (twice).

WALT'S DREAM

"Walt's Dream," an original one-man show written by Dan Osterman, was performed by Ed Beckman at the Bradley theater in Putnam, Connecticut, on November 15, 1992. The script is based on the life and works of Whitman.

PREMIERE PERFORMANCES OF LEAVES OF GRASS SYMPHONY

"Leaves of Grass," a choral symphony by Robert Strassburg, inspired by Whitman's poetry, was given its American premiere on November 10, 1992, by the California State L.A. Symphony Orchestra, the Cal State L.A. Concert Choir, and the Pasadena City College Chamber Chorale, conducted by Thomas Miyake. Ron Hussman was the narrator, Renee Sousa the mezzo soprano, and Donald Brinegar the tenor. Earlier this fall (September 20), Strassburg's symphony was performed by musicians at the Toho Gakuen University of Music in Japan, where Strassburg himself conducted the world premiere; the performance was recorded and broadcast on the NHK radio network in Japan. Strassburg—whose work on Whitman was recently commended in official resolutions by Sacramento, the County of Los Angeles, and the City of Los Angeles—is currently at work on an opera about Whitman in New Orleans.

AMERICAN LITERATURE ASSOCIATION MEETING

The American Literature Association, a coalition of the societies devoted to the study of American authors, will hold its fourth annual conference at the Stouffer Harborplace Hotel in Baltimore on May 28-30, 1993. Preregistration conference fees will be \$35 (with a special rate of \$10 for independent scholars, retired individuals, and students). The hotel is offering a conference rate of \$70 a night (single) or \$80 a night (double). There will be sessions on Whitman. For more information, write to Professor James Nagel, ALA Conference Program Director, English Department, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602. To be placed on the ALA mailing list, send a check for \$5 made out to the

American Literature Association to Professor Alfred Bendixen, English Department, California State University, Los Angeles, CA 90032-8110.