

Dream, Imagination and Reality in Literature

South Bohemian Anglo-American Studies No. 1

Reviewer: Prof. PhDr. Martin Procházka, CSc.

This volume is dedicated to
Professor Zdeněk Stříbrný on
the occasion of his 85th birthday.

Cover drawing taken from Sir John Tenniel's collection
of illustrations to Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland* (1866).
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From the Editors:

This publication is the first volume of a planned series entitled *South Bohemian Anglo-American Studies* dedicated to the publication of scholarly studies in Anglo-American literature, linguistics, and cultural studies, as well as English language teaching methodology. The first volume consists of papers delivered at an international literary conference called *Dream, Imagination and Reality in Literature* which was held between June 30th and July 2nd, 2006, at the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice. (Volume Two forthcoming in the series is dedicated to studies in English linguistics, and will be called *The Dynamics of the Language System*.) We anticipate archiving each volume on the department's Internet web page (<http://www.pf.jcu.cz/stru/katedry/aj/>) in the near future.

This literature conference, organized by the English Department of the Faculty of Education, hosted 25 participants from all over the Czech Republic as well as scholars from Canada, France, Great Britain, Hungary, India, Ireland, Iran, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain and the U.S.A. This volume is dedicated to a narrow thematic area of literary studies. Articles have been arranged by topic, to wit, "Imagination and Fantasy," "Imaginary Worlds," "Dreams in Literature," "Imagining Gender, Otherness and Children," "Dreams/Imagining and Place," "Dream and Reality" and finally "Imagination and Reality in Film and Theatre."

With regard to the format of this collection, indenting, column justification, references, quotations and some language usage have been standardized. Some obvious typos have been corrected. Endnotes have been converted to footnotes. Otherwise, the language of the contributions remains the expression of the authors, who retain copyright.

The conference was held under the auspices of Professor Miroslav Papáček, former Dean of the College of Education, and Lucie Betáková, Head of the English Department. Our distinguished guest was Professor Martin Procházka, Head of the Institute of English and American Studies at the Faculty of Arts at Charles University in Prague, who was also the conference's keynote speaker and proceedings reviewer. His essay introduces this volume.

We would also like to express our thanks to all participants for their contributions, to the chairs of the sessions who helped introduce speakers (B. Mánek, M. Procházka, A. Sukdolová, H. Tampierová), to the secretary of the English Department, Mrs. Jitka Pečlová, for her organizational skills, as well as to those students of the English Department who helped us with preparing and catering the event. Without their invaluable and efficient help, the conference would not have been such an enjoyable experience.

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