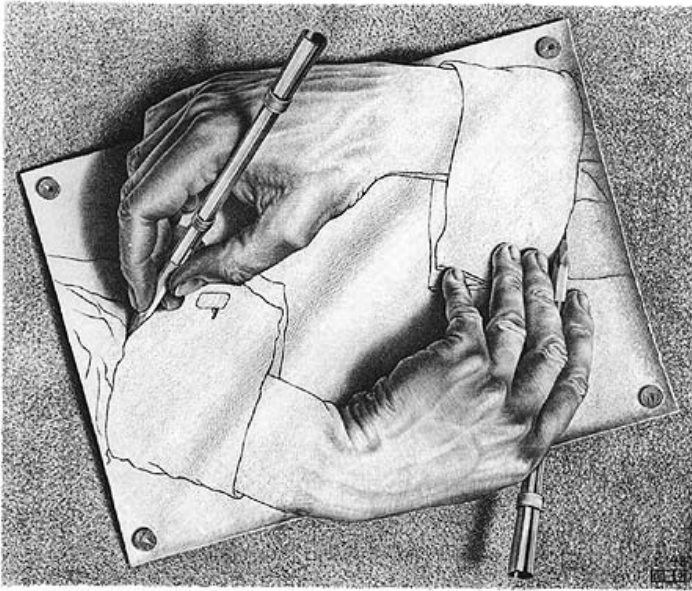


DOUBLES IN LITERATURE, DRAMA AND THE VISUAL ARTS

Instructor: Moshe Lazar, 740-0103, THH 156T

COLT 312 (#22011R): Heroes, Myths and Legends in Literature and the Arts
Spring 2009, Mondays and Wednesdays, 2-3:20, THH 214



This course is dedicated to a series of inquiries in the interrelationships between a number of literary genres and themes (such as biblical and modern parables, daymare and nightmare journeys to inner and outer worlds, etc.), and visualized translations and recreations in one or more visual media. The major literary and visual works to be discussed will cut across historical and national boundaries, with a major focus on Classical Antiquity and the late Middle Ages and the 19th and 20th centuries. **Requirements:** Active participation: 25%; Mid-term paper: 25%; Final paper: 50%.

General Outline:

Week 1:

General introduction and survey of studies on the interrelationship of literature and the visual arts. Survey of topics and works to be discussed.

Weeks 2-3:

The *Tower of Babel* in art from **Breughel** to **Dürrenmatt** [with slides]; the biblical parable in medieval and modern literature (**Kafka**, **Borges**, and others); the question of language: unity and dispersion, language and translation (sample translations; critical texts by Steiner, Foucault, Eco, Derrida).

Weeks 4-7:

Comic and tragic doubles in (1) **Plays**: **Plautus**, *Amphitryo*, *Menaechmi*; **Molière**, *Amphitryon*; **Goldoni**, *Servant of Two Masters*; **Pirandello**, *Henri IV*; **Ghelderode**, *Escorial*, *Faust*; **Cocteau**, *Wedding on the Eiffel Tower*; (2) **Short Stories**: **Hoffmann**, *The Sandman*; **Poe**, *Fall of the House of Usher*; **Gogol**, *The Overcoat*; **Pirandello**, *The Wheelbarrow*; **Kafka**, *The Judgment*; **Buzzati**, *The Gnawing Worm*; **Camus**: *Jonas* or *The Artist at Work*; (3) **Films**: by **Ingmar Bergman** and **Woody Allen**.

Weeks 8-11:

Journeys to other worlds in literature and the visual arts: Middle Ages to modern period: *Vision of Tundale*; **Bosch**, *Triptychs*; **Quevedo**, *Sueños*; science fiction: **Watson**, *The Gardens of Delight*; **Ingmar Bergman**, *The Seventh Seal*; **Ionesco**, *Voyages to the Dead*.

Weeks 12-15:

Literary and Dramatic Parables: **Maimonides**, *The King's Palace*; **Breughel** and **Hofmann**, *Parable of the Blind*; **Nachman of Bratzlav's** kabbalistic parables (*The Lost Princess*, *The Seven Beggars*); **Kafka**, *Before the Law*, *The Great Wall of China*, *Parables*; **Borges**, *The Parable of Cervantes*; **Buzzati**, *The Tartar Steppe*; **Camus**, *The Myth of Sisyphus*; **Beckett**, *Waiting for Godot*; **Frisch**, *The Chinese Wall*.

COLT L/M/CT Track: This is a Literature Concentration Course.