1984

Founders' Day Convocation (1984 Program)

Illinois Wesleyan University
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Founders Day
February 15, 1984
ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

CONVOCATION

HONORING THE FOUNDERS

Westbrook Auditorium, Presser Hall
February 15, 1984 11:00 a.m.
President Robert S. Eckley, Presiding
Professor Emerita Dorothea Franzen, Mace Bearer

ORGAN PRELUDE .................................................. Professor David Gehrenbeck, Organist
Fantasia and Fugue in G minor, BWV 542 ...................... Johann Sebastian Bach

PROCессIONAL
Choral Song in C .................................................. Samuel Sebastian Wesley

INVOCATION ........................................................ Chaplain William L. White

ANTHEM ............................................................. The Collegiate Choir, Professor David Nott, Conductor
Jehovah, quam multi sunt hostes (Psalm 3) ...................... Henry Purcell
Professor R. Bedford Watkins, Harpsichord

PRESENTATION OF SPEAKER ..................................... President Robert S. Eckley
ADDRESS .................................................................. Perry Miller Adato

AWARDING OF HONORARY DEGREE

ALMA WESLEYANA
From hearts aflame, our love we pledge to thee
Where'er we wander, over land or sea;
Through time unending loyal we will be—
True to our Alma Mater, Wesleyan.

When college days are fully past and gone,
While life endures, from twilight dream till dawn
Grandly thy soul shall with us linger on—
Star-crowned, our Alma Mater, Wesleyan!

ORGAN POSTLUDE
Symphonie IV: Finale .............................................. Charles-Marie Widor
In the two decades since she became associated with public television, Perry Miller Adato has been collecting awards for her work as writer, producer and director. In 1968, only four years after she joined NET (later WNET) in New York, she won an Emmy for outstanding achievement in cultural documentary for "Dylan Thomas—The World I Breathe," her first film as producer and director.

Now the list of her films and the numerous awards and honors they have received fill many pages. Ms. Adato’s latest opus, currently in post-production, focuses on the life and work of Eugene O’Neill and will undoubtedly attract similar critical acclaim.

The first national television series to recognize American women artists was produced by Ms. Adato in 1977-78. Of the seven films in the series, she also directed three: "Mary Cassatt: Impressionist from Philadelphia," "Frankenthaler—Toward a New Climate," and "Georgia O’Keeffe." She was the writer of the latter two, as well.

The O’Keeffe portrait premiered at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., on the occasion of the artist’s 90th birthday. In the film, the only one she has permitted to be made, O’Keeffe talks about the origins of her often controversial paintings, shares some rare home movie footage, some of her favorite places in the New Mexico desert and many famous Alfred Steiglitz photographs from the period of her long marriage to the renowned photographer.

The O’Keeffe documentary won an Alfred I. Dupont—Columbia University citation for distinction in Broadcast Journalism, the Director’s Guild of America Award for documentary Achievement, the Women in Communications Clarion Award, the CINE Golden Eagle Award and other honors. It was selected for the London Film Festival in 1977.

Frankenthaler’s film profile had its premiere at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in 1978 and includes a remarkable sequence in which the camera follows the abstract artist as she creates a painting.

One of the most renowned of Ms. Adato’s documentaries and her personal favorite is "Gertrude Stein—When This You See, Remember Me." This 1970 film received two Emmy nominations and has been public television’s most-requested film for showing to libraries, museums, universities, and in film festivals.

"Picasso—A Painter’s Diary" was completed in 1980 and won an Emmy nomination, the Dupont-Columbia Award, the blue ribbon in the fine arts category at the American

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Film Festival in New York, the Director's Guild of American Award for directorial achievement in television, among many other honors.

This film portrait, which Ms. Adato produced and directed combines the artist's own words and paintings with interviews and comments by members of his family, close friends, and memoirs of companions of his youth. It was filmed on location in France and Spain at places where the artist lived and worked, and in the museums where major Picasso collections are held.

Ms. Adato's latest completed work is "Carl Sandburg—Echoes and Silences," which combines documentary and dramatic elements. Part of the American Playhouse series, it has also received a number of prestigious honors since its premiere in 1982.

Prior to joining NET, the film maker was associated with CBS, where she provided films and film clips for such programs as "Odyssey," "Adventure," and "Conquest."

In her youth, she studied acting, working briefly in the theatre until her interest was captured by documentary films. Realizing the potential for reaching more people—to teach them as well as to entertain—Perry Miller Adato created a field for herself. She worked with social organizations producing dramatizations of social issues for community groups and later, when the United Nations needed someone to coordinate an international catalog of social welfare films, she was ready to step into the job. She became film consultant to the UN Department of Social Affairs.

Aided by her many contacts in Europe, acquired while working for the UN, she formed the Film Advisory Center in New York to create increased awareness and interest in such films. It was through the Center that Ms. Adato introduced Jacques Cousteau's films to the United States in 1952.

A native of Yonkers, N.Y., Perry Miller Adato now lives in Westport, Conn., and is married to Neil Adato, a builder. Their two daughters are Laurie, 26, who works in video and the health fields, and Michelle, 23, a technical research assistant with the Union of Concerned Scientists in Washington, D.C.
Psalm 3

1. Lord, how many are mine enemies: Many rise up against me.

2. Many are saying of my soul: There is no help for him in his God.

3. But thou, O Lord, art my defender; thou art my glory and the lifter up of my head.

4. I cry aloud to the Lord, and He answers me from His holy mountain.

5. I lie down to sleep, and I rise up again, for the Lord sustains me.

6. I will not be afraid though ten thousand have set themselves against me.

7. Rise up, Lord, and help me. For Thou dost smite all mine enemies upon the cheek; Thou hast broken the teeth of the wicked.

8. It is Jehovah who brings salvation to His people and blessings to all forever.