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Opening Message

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Mythcon 52: The Mythic, the Fantastic, and the Alien

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Abstract

This booklet celebrates the lives and works of two notable figures of English literature and philosophy.

Keywords

C.S. Lewis; Owen Barfield; Souvenir

THIS BOOKLET celebrates the lives and works of two notable figures of English literature and philosophy, C.S. Lewis and Owen Barfield. It is published to honor their memory and to mark the occasion both of their shared centenary and of the twenty-ninth annual conference of the Mythopoeic Society.

C.S. Lewis was widely known in his day, and is still internationally renowned, as a scholar, a writer and speaker on Christian subjects, and the author of seven classic children's books, the *Chronicles of Narnia*. Owen Barfield in comparison is well known only to a few, though in his quiet way he was no less important a figure: in works such as *Poetic Diction* and *Saving the Appearances* he has influenced and inspired generations of readers, among them his friends and fellow "Inklings" C.S. Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkien. It is hoped that the essays, reminiscences, chronologies, and bibliographies in this booklet will help to introduce Lewis and Barfield to readers unfamiliar with their works, and to lead *cognoscenti* to new insights and fresh appreciations.

Wayne G. Hammond