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Editor's Notes

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SWOSUTM

Mythcon 51: The Mythic, the Fantastic, and the Alien

Albuquerque, New Mexico • Postponed to: July 30 – August 2, 2021



Additional Keywords

Sarah Beach

1968, p. 6. [A short favorable comment: the songs are really singable and the price is moderate at 30s.] +
RGE0 '68

Wagenknecht, Edward. "The Record Parade". News-Tribune (Waltham-Newton, Mass.) 6 Dec. 1967, p. ? [He mentions his high praise of Vol. I of LOTR and now welcomes Tolkien's popularity. SWM is an "enchanted wonder tale in the George MacDonald tradition, skirting the edge of allegory..." RGE0 is an "exceptionally rich and handsome volume." PSME is extremely charming and Tolkien reads his own poems well.]
RGE0 '67, PSME '67, SWM '67A

Wheen, Natalie. "Ring-a-Ding". Tablet (London) 222 (6 April 1968), 343. ["...only those who are familiar with Tolkien's books will really enjoy its contents." "Musically the songs are simple and pleasant.... [but] don't hold together to form a cycle, though Mr. Swann has tried to achieve unity by quoting the opening music in the middle and at the end of the work." She thinks that the effect of the middle one is a failure.] +
RGE0 '68

Wildstrom, Steve. "Tolkien Music: Complex, Cadenced". The Michigan Daily, 30 Nov. 1967, p. 2 [A substantial and thoughtful review. "... Swann has made a serious effort and has created a complex cycle which must be considered a contribution to the art of the song." "The Road Goes Ever On should have a future in the serious art-song repertoire." SWM illustrates Tolkien's theory of fairy stories better than LBN did. While Tolkien says nothing profound in Smith, he takes his reader on a magic voyage." +
RGE0 '67, PSME '67, SWM '67A

Woods, F[rederick]. "Poems and Songs of Middle Earth". The Gramophone 45 (May 1968), 607. [An urbane, well-informed comment. "... Mr. Swann's musical styles are not in themselves consistent.... To the Tolkien scholar... Mr. Swann's settings cannot be wholly satisfactory. Nevertheless... from a strictly musical point of view they are engaging and eminently hummable." Heads that the book is "most handsome." +
RGE0 '68, PSME '68

Each portfolio comes in a folder with Patrick Wynne's "Triskelion" (from ML35) printed on the cover. The artwork is reproduced on 9X12" sheets. Write the Art Editor (see page 2 for address) to reserve your portfolio (please specify whether you want a signed or unsigned portfolio). All profits are used to support Society activities. Suggestions for future portfolios are encouraged, as they are designed for members' enjoyment.



Editor's Notes

After reading the announcement about the 18th Mythopoeic Conference in this issue, I hope that you are as pleased and excited about it as I am. Now is the time to make definite plans to attend, especially if you have not as yet attended a Mythopoeic Conference. I regret that with the 17th Conference just recently held, more of you who I know by actual encounter, correspondence, or as a name I recognize from the mailing list, have not shared the pleasure, the intellectual stimulation, and the great variety of creativity found at a Mythopoeic Conference.

Probably the first thing that enters the mind is the perceived difficulty, both in time and funds, in attending. Those who attend could dissuade you of this initial mental block, if you could speak with them. So I am speaking now, and asking you to reconsider your initial reservation. I can hear you saying, "But I won't know anyone there." The actual situation is quite different. New people are quickly disabused of any such fear. The Conferences now attract people from all parts of the United States, and frequently from other nations. We come together to share our strongly mutual interests. Indeed, you would be surprised to find the number of people who are easily approachable ("ready-made" friends, as it were), many whose names you would recognize from reading Mythlore. Whether we are attendees of many Conferences, or coming for the first time, all are united during this very special, almost magical time. We step out of ordinary time, leaving television and newspapers behind, into a different mode of seeing and experiencing.

Next year's Mythopoeic Conference promises to be a very special occasion, and may be the largest Conference to date. There is the possibility that the housing facilities at Marquette (a former hotel, now part of the University, with hotel, rather than dormitory comfort) may be filled. At all costs, don't miss this. Make your plans and reservations early. I hope to see you there.

Mythlore Art Portfolio

Over the years Mythlore has published a large amount of highly praised fantasy artwork. Few people are inclined to cut up their issues of Mythlore in order to frame these pieces for their walls. Therefore Mythlore has begun a series of portfolios reproducing various pieces on quality paper suitable for framing. A limited number of portfolios are now being offered containing copies signed and numbered by the artists. The first portfolio was released at the time of the Mythopoeic Conference in August, 1986.

Signed portfolios are \$25.
Unsigned portfolios are \$15.

Included in the first portfolio are the following pieces:

- "Meditation of Mordred" (Williams) by Sarah Beach (from ML39)
- "Trothlight at Cerin Amroth" (Tolkien) by Paula DiSante (from ML45)
- "The Mistress of the Silver Moon" (MacDonald) by Nancy-Lou Patterson (from ML21)
- "Till We have Faces" (Lewis) by Patrick Wynne (from ML39)