

## ROBERT BOENIG

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### EDUCATION:

- 1973-78 Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ  
 PhD, October 1978; MA, January 1977  
 Specialization: Medieval English Literature  
 Dissertation Director: W. F. Bolton
- 1970-73 Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, NJ  
 MDiv, June 1973  
 Specialization: Biblical Studies  
 Thesis Director: Cullen I. K. Story
- 1966-70 Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ  
 BA, June 1970  
 Major: English  
 Thesis Director: Donald McGinn
- 1984 Columbia University, New York, NY  
 NEH Summer Seminar, "Women in Medieval Life and Literature,"  
 Joan M. Ferrante, Director

### ACADEMIC HONORS:

- 1985-86 Fellow, Rutgers College
- 1974 Walter Russell Graduate Scholarship, Rutgers
- 1973 Senior Fellow, Princeton Theological Seminary
- 1970 Graduated summa cum laude with high honors in English  
 (class rank 9 of 802), Rutgers
- 1969 Phi Beta Kappa (junior year)
- 1968-70 Lane Cooper Scholar
- 1966-70 Chubb Foundation Scholar

### LANGUAGES:

Old English, Middle English, Old Norse, Latin, Greek, Hebrew, Syriac, German

### DISSERTATION:

"*Andreas* and Doctrinal Controversy in the Early Middle Ages"  
 Director: W. F. Bolton; Readers: C. F. Main, Andrew Welsh

### ACADEMIC POSITIONS:

English Department, Texas A&M University, Professor (1998-present), Associate Professor (1991-98), Assistant Professor (1986-91)

English Department, Purdue University, Visiting Assistant Professor (1987-88)

English Department, Rutgers University, Associate Director of Writing Program (1983-6), Instructor (1979-80)

English Department, Penn State University Altoona, Assistant Professor (1981-83)

Editor, *Studia Mystica*, 1990-2004

Book Review Editor, *Medievalia et Humanistica*, 2002-present

President, Kappa Chapter of Texas (Texas A&M University), Phi Beta Kappa, 2006-7

**SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:****Books:**

- Richard Rolle: Biblical Commentaries #92:13* in Salzburg Studies in English Literature. Institut für Anglistik und Amerikanistik, 1984 [translations].
- Contemplations of the Dread and Love of God: A Facsimile Edition of the 1506 Printing*, Delmar. New York: Scholars' Facsimiles and Reprints, 1990.
- The Acts of Andrew in the Country of the Cannibals: Translations from the Greek, Latin, and Old English*. New York: Garland Publishing, 1991.
- Saint and Hero: Andreas and Medieval Doctrinal Controversy*. Lewisburg: Bucknell University Press, 1991.
- Chaucer and the Mystics: The Canterbury Tales and the Genre of Devotional Prose*. Lewisburg: Bucknell University Press, 1995.
- Mysticism and Spirituality in Medieval England*. Woodbridge: Boydell and Brewer, 1997. Edited volume with various contributors, William F. Pollard, co-editor.
- Manuscript, Narrative, and Lexicon: Essays on Cultural Transmissions in Honor of Whitney F. Bolton*. Lewisburg: Bucknell University Press, 2000. Edited Festschrift volume with various contributors, Kathleen Davis, co-editor.
- The Mystical Gesture: Essays in Medieval and Early Modern Spiritual Culture in Honor of Mary E. Giles*. Aldershot: Ashgate Publishing, 2000. Edited Festschrift volume with various contributors.
- Anglo-Saxon Spirituality*, New York: Paulist Press, 2000 (Classics of Western Spirituality Series). [translations of selected Old English poems and sermons, with a long critical introduction]
- Geoffrey Chaucer: The Canterbury Tales* (with co-editor Andrew Taylor), Calgary: Broadview Press, 2008; second edition, 2012.
- Geoffrey Chaucer: The Concise Canterbury Tales* (with co-editor Andrew Taylor), Calgary: Broadview Press, 2009 (an abridged version of the previous entry).
- William Morris: The Wood Beyond the World*, Calgary: Broadview Press, 2010 (a critical edition of Morris's 1894 prose romance).
- Gonzalo de Berceo and the Latin Miracles of the Virgin: A Translation and a Study* (with Patricia Timmons), Aldershot: Ashgate Publishing, 2012.
- C. S. Lewis and the Middle Ages*, Kent, Ohio: Kent State University Press, 2012.

**Contributing Editor:**

- The Broadview Anthology of British Literature*, (with co-editor Andrew Taylor) for selections from Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*: Volume I: *The Medieval Period*, Broadview Press, 2006, second edition 2009; also, *Concise Edition*, Volume A, Broadview Press, 2007, second edition 2011.

**Articles and Chapters in Books:**

- “‘There is no rose’: Mysticism and the Medieval English Carol,” *Studia Mystica* 2 (Winter, 1979): 52-59.
- Andreas*, the Eucharist, and Vercelli,” *JEGP* 79 (1980): 313-331.
- “[C.S.] Lewis's Time Machine and his Trip to the Moon,” *Mythlore* 6 (Summer, 1980): 6-9.
- “*Erce* and Dew,” *Names* 31 (June, 1983): 130-131. [Old English Charms]
- “C. S. Lewis's *The Great Divorce* and the Medieval Dream Vision,” *Mythlore* 9 (Summer, 1983): 31-35; reprinted in *The Journal of Faith and Thought* 3 (1985): 34-42.
- “The Miller's Bagpipe,” *English Language Notes* 21 (September, 1983): 1-6. [Chaucer's *General Prologue*].
- “The Raising of [George] Herbert's Consort: A Note on ‘Doomsday,’ 29-30,” *Notes and Queries* 31 (June, 1984): 239-241.
- “Listening to [George] Herbert's Lute,” *Renaissance and Reformation* 8 (November, 1984): 298-311.

- “The God-as-Mother Theme in Richard Rolle’s Biblical Commentaries,” *Mystics Quarterly* 10 (1984): 171-174.
- “Chaucer’s *House of Fame*, the Apocalypse, and Bede,” *The American Benedictine Review* 36 (1985): 263-277.
- “The *Engel Dryhtnes* and Mimesis in *The Dream of the Rood*,” *Neophilologische Mitteilungen* 86 (1985): 442-446.
- “Hopkins and Merton,” pp. 95-98 in Richard F. Giles, ed., *Hopkins among the Poets* (Hamilton, Ontario: International Hopkins Association, 1985).
- “The Middle English *Contemplations of the Dread and Love of God*,” *Studia Mystica* 9 (Summer, 1986): 27-36.
- “Music and Mysticism in Hildegard von Bingen’s *O ignis spiritus paracliti*,” *Studia Mystica* 9 (Fall, 1986): 60-70.
- “Tolkien and Old Germanic Ethics,” *Mythlore* 48 (Winter, 1986): 9-12.
- “Time Markers and Treachery: The Crux at *Beowulf* 1130,” *English Language Notes* 24 (June, 1987): 1-9.
- “Herbert’s Poor Reed: Musical Irony in ‘Employment (I)’,” *Notes and Queries* 35 #1 (March, 1988): 64-66.
- “The Drums of Doom: H. G. Wells’s *First Men in the Moon* and J. R. R. Tolkien’s *Lord of the Rings*,” *Mythlore* 53 (Spring, 1988): 57-58.
- “Critical and Fictional Pairings in C. S. Lewis,” pp. 138-148 in Bruce L. Edwards, ed., *The Taste of the Pineapple: Essays on C. S. Lewis as Rhetorician, Literary Critic, and Creative Writer* (Bowling Green, Ohio: The Popular Press at Bowling Green State University, 1988).
- “C. S. Lewis and the Martian Controversy,” *Science Fiction: A Review of Speculative Literature* 9 #2 (Fall, 1988): 52-59.
- “Taking Leave: Chaucer’s Retraction and the Ways of Affirmation and Negation,” *Studia Mystica* 12 #2-3 (1989): 21-34.
- “Renaissance Paranormal Phenomena,” *Seventeenth-Century News* 47 (1989): 53-55. [Review Article].
- “Musical Irony in the *Pardoner’s Tale*,” *The Chaucer Review* 24 (1990): 253-258.
- “*Contemplations of the Dread and Love of God*, Richard Rolle, and Aelred of Rievaulx,” *Mystics Quarterly* 16 (1990): 27-33.
- “George Herbert and John Climacus: A Note on ‘Prayer (I)’,” *Notes and Queries* 235 (1990): 209-211.
- “Absolon’s Musical Instruments” [Chaucer’s Miller’s Tale], *English Language Notes* 27 (September, 1990): 7-15.
- “Very Sharp/Unsharp, Unpeace/Firm Peace: Morphemic Ambiguity in *Beowulf*,” *Neophilologus* 76 (1992): 275-282.
- “January’s Trumpets,” [Chaucer’s Merchant’s Tale] *English Language Notes* 32 (September 1994): 19-23.
- “St. Augustine’s *jubilus* and Richard Rolle’s *canor*,” pp. 75-86 in Anne Clark Bartlett, Thomas Bestul, Janet Goebel, and William F. Pollard, eds., *Vox Mystica: Essays for Valerie Lagorio* (Woodbridge: Boydell and Brewer, 1995).
- “*The Abbey of the Holy Ghost* and *The Charter of the Abbey of the Holy Ghost*,” *Studia Mystica* 16 (1995): 133-163.
- “Chaucer’s *House of Fame* and the Fragmentation of Visionary Iconography,” pp. 181-199 in Anne Hurley and Kate Greenspan, eds., *So Rich a Tapestry: The Sister Arts and Cultural Studies* (Lewisburg: Bucknell University Press, 1995).
- “The Anglo-Saxon Harp,” *Speculum* 71 (1996): 290-320.
- “Is the Monk’s Tale a Fragment?,” *Notes and Queries* 241 (1996): 261-264.
- “The Importance of Morris’s *Beowulf*,” *The Journal of the William Morris Society* 12 #2 (1997): 7-13.
- “*Alma Redemptoris Mater*, *Gaude Maria*, and the Prioress’s Tale,” *Notes and Queries* 244 (1999): 321-326.

- “Chaucer and St. Kenelm,” *Neophilologus* 84 (2000): 157-164.
- “Is the Pardoner a Hypocrite?”. *ANQ: A Quarterly Journal of Short Articles, Notes, and Reviews* 13 #4 (2000): 9-15.
- “A Tribute to W. F. Bolton,” *The Kyushu Review* 5 (2000): 1-3.
- “Musical Instruments as Iconographical Artifacts in Medieval Poetry,” pp. 1-15 in Curtis Perry, ed., *Material Culture and Cultrual Materialisms in the Middle Ages and Renaissance* ASMAR 5 (Turnholt: Brepols, 2001).
- “Scyld’s Burial Mound,” *English Language Notes* 40 #1 (2002): 1-13 [*Beowulf*].
- “Music, Heat, and Richard Rolle’s Reification of Mystical Experience,” *Studies in Spirituality* 12 (2002): 217-226.
- “Lewis and Morris,” *Seven: An Anglo-American Literary Review* 21 (2004): 61-81.
- “*Prince Caspian and Child Christopher and Goldilind the Fair*” [C. S. Lewis and William Morris], *Mythlore* 25 #3/4 (2007): 105-116.
- “Julian of Norwich and the Art of Memory,” *Studies in Spirituality* 19 (2009): 25-34.
- “The Miracles of the Virgin and Medieval ‘Spin’: Gonzalo de Berceo and his Latin Sources,” *Journal of Medieval Latin* 17 (2007; appeared 2009): 226-237 (with co-author Patricia Timmons).
- “The Apocalypse and the Literature of Medieval England,” under contract for *The Brill Companion to the Apocalypse*, ed. Michael Ryan (Leiden: Brill, forthcoming, 2014).
- “Lloyd Alexander’s *Chronicles of Prydain*: Imaging the American Child through a British Lens,” in Claudia Nelson, ed., *Representing Children in Chinese and American Children’s Literature* (forthcoming, Aldershot: Ashgate Publishing, 2014).
- “Chaucer and the Art of Not Eating a Book,” invited submission for a Festschrift to honor Thomas Ohlgren, and edited by Alex Kaufman, Shaun F. D. Hughes, and Dorsey Armstrong. The editors are currently negotiating a contract with Western Michigan University’s Medieval Institute Publications with an anticipated publication date of 2014 or 2015.

### Digital Publications:

- “A Response to Emmanuele Burton’s to “Whose Lion Is It, Anyway?: Rescuing the Chronicles of Narnia from the Christian Academy”  
<http://divinity.uchicago.edu/martycenter/publications/webforum/122011/Boenig%20response%20to%20Burton%20Final.pdf> This was an invited response from Martin Marty Center for the Advanced Study of Religion, affiliated with the University of Chicago Divinity School, as part of its “Religion and Culture Web Forum.” Posted, December 2012.
- “Richard Poirier in 1973.” I was invited to contribute an essay to the 2010 online journal *College Hill Review* ([www.collegehillreview.com](http://www.collegehillreview.com)), for a special memorial issue devoted to the work and influence of Richard Poirier, who died in August of 2009. Poirier was one of my professors during graduate school. The url for my piece is <http://www.collegehillreview.com/005/0050501.html>
- “William Morris: Recommended Readings,” Litencyc.com, 2009:  
[http://www.litencyc.com/php/reading/recommended\\_reading.php?type=1&uid=3210](http://www.litencyc.com/php/reading/recommended_reading.php?type=1&uid=3210)
- “C. S. Lewis’s *Allegory of Love*,” Litencyc.com, 2008.  
<http://www.litencyc.com/php/sworks.php?rec=true&UID=12300>
- “Medieval Mysticism,” Litencyc.com, 2008:  
<http://www.litencyc.com/php/stopics.php?rec=true&UID=5537>
- Review of Mari Hughes-Edwards, *Reading Medieval Anchoritism: Ideology, and Spiritual Practices*. Cardiff: University of Wales Press, 2012. *Marginalia: A Review of Books in History, Theology, and Religion*. <http://themarginaliareview.com/archives/766>

(*Marginalia* is a new digital journal, edited by T. M. Law, Alexander von Humboldt Fellow, University of Göttingen.) I was one of eight scholars invited to contribute to its inaugural edition.

The following comprise my work for the William Morris section of LitEncyc.com:

“William Morris Timeline,”

[http://www.litencyc.com/php/lifelines\\_vert.php?Author1=3210&Author2=&Author3=&NewWindow=off&Resolution=12](http://www.litencyc.com/php/lifelines_vert.php?Author1=3210&Author2=&Author3=&NewWindow=off&Resolution=12)

“*The House of the Wolfings*,” <http://www.litencyc.com/php/sworks.php?rec=true&UID=528> [length 2370 words, 8 pages in manuscript]

“*Love Is Enough*,” <http://www.litencyc.com/php/sworks.php?rec=true&UID=3844> [1841 words, 6 pages in manuscript]

“*Chants for Socialists*,” <http://www.litencyc.com/php/sworks.php?rec=true&UID=6074> [1670 words, 6 pages in manuscript]

“*A Dream of John Ball*,” <http://www.litencyc.com/php/sworks.php?rec=true&UID=1027> [2028 words, 7 pages in manuscript]

“*The Sundering Flood*,” <http://www.litencyc.com/php/sworks.php?rec=true&UID=7858> [3101 words, 10 pages in manuscript]

“*Poems by the Way*,” <http://www.litencyc.com/php/sworks.php?rec=true&UID=2678> [2061 words, 8 pages in manuscript]

“*The Earthly Paradise*,” <http://www.litencyc.com/php/sworks.php?rec=true&UID=1011> [4138 words, 13 pages in manuscript]

“*The Life and Death of Jason*,” <http://www.litencyc.com/php/sworks.php?rec=true&UID=361> [2037 words, 8 pages in manuscript]

“*The Roots of the Mountains*,” <http://www.litencyc.com/php/sworks.php?rec=true&UID=7618> [2061 words, 7 pages in manuscript]

“*The Well at the World’s End*,”

<http://www.litencyc.com/php/sworks.php?rec=true&UID=21573> [4444 words, 13 pages in manuscript]

“*News from Nowhere*,” <http://www.litencyc.com/php/sworks.php?rec=true&UID=3275> [2901 words, 10 pages in manuscript]

“*Sigurd the Volsung*,” <http://www.litencyc.com/php/sworks.php?rec=true&UID=2084> [2700 words, 9 pages in manuscript]

“*The Story of the Glittering Plain*,” <http://litencyc.com/php/sworks.php?rec=true&UID=7841> [2,383 words, 8 pages in manuscript]

#### **Interview:**

With artist Jacob Landau, *Studia Mystica* 6 (Winter, 1983): 64-73.

#### **Bibliography:**

“A Bibliographical Index to *Studia Mystica*, Volumes 1-12, with Annotations,” *Studia Mystica* 12 #4 (1990): 1-32.

#### **Reviews:**

Various, in the following journals: *Studia Mystica*, *JEGP*, *Mystics Quarterly*, *Seventeenth-Century News*, *Envoi*, *South-Central Review*, *Speculum*, and *Medievalia et Humanistica*.

#### **Papers and Presentations:**

Various, at venues including the MLA Convention, the Kalamazoo Medieval Congress, NEMLA, SAMLA, New Chaucer Society, ACMRS, Skidmore College, Karlstadt University (Sweden), and Loyola University (Chicago)

**GRANTS:**

Participant, NEH Summer Seminar, \$3000 (1984).

A&M Honors Curriculum Development Grants, \$2000 each (1991, 1994, 2003, 2005)

A&M Religious Studies Curriculum Development Grant, \$300 (2003).

A&M Scholarly and Creative Activities Grants, \$7500 (1997), \$10,000 (2002, 2006, 2009).

English Department Subvention grant to support the publication of *C. S. Lewis and the Middle Ages* \$1400 (2011)