

Ode to the Femme Mystique
by Lois Fine

Would that I could add those hours to my life
Spent pondering the femme mystique in all of its manifestations
For surely then I would live to be a ripe old butch.

Hear me now that this mystique casts its charms on many levels
From the sublime to the spirit
From the purest physical engagement to the deepest matter of
the heart.

For it is with a beckoning finger that my femme has called
And once so am I not but held fast to heed her
For though my mind may say what
Yet my body brings me forth.

To stand outside her door full of all smells sweet and heavy
And when asked the simplest question to lose sense of even
my name.
As when holding me with her potent eyes
Or smiling at me in the slowest of satisfaction
Can I be expected to know my own thoughts although what
would they be
But that there could be no place I would more like
to find myself.

And such is the fate of the butch perplexed
Left to wonder openly at how a resolve that seemed of steel
Can melt under her soft and summoning touch.
(For even those butches among us proud and protective of their
selves and their scars, still have they let their knowing femmes
touch them in places some would say had tuned to stone.)

For the femme mystique has prompted butches to perform
Unheard acts of ardor
Untold feats of physical accomplishment which the
bedroom walls
Have begged to divulge
Unrecorded tales of brave and daring courage
In manner of speaking and ways of dress.

So take heed ye butches out there
That you may know her when she calls.
Your femme will have this mystique in her favour
Yours but to surrender.

photograph by Ellen Flanders

SCIENCE *as* CULTURE

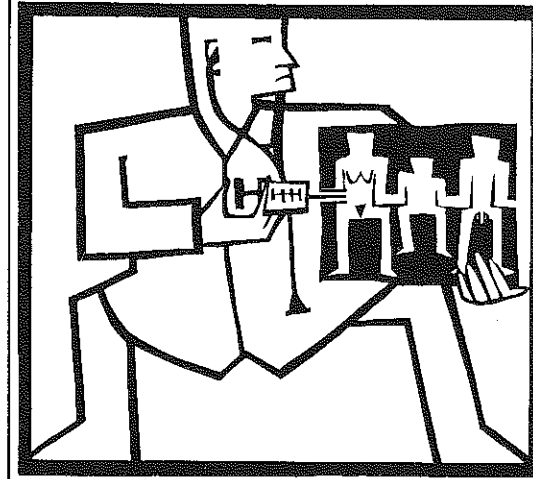
SaC 19 (1994) includes:

Family medicine in American culture (David Pingitore)
Evolution, ethics and the search for certainty (Martha McCaughey)
Thinking about the human genome project (Jon Turney)
Gravity's Rainbow and the Newton/Goethe colour controversy
(Megan Stern)

SaC 20 (1994) includes:

Academic research cultures in collision (Stephen Hill & Tim Turpin)
Modelling technologies of control (Chunglin Kwa)
De-reifying risk (Les Levidow)
Desmond and Moore's Darwin: a critique (Robert M. Young)

Subs: £25/\$30 individual, £50/\$65 institutional, from Bailey Management
Services, 127 Sandgate Road, Folkestone, Kent CT20 2BL, tel: 0303 850501;
North America: Guilford Pubs, 72 Spring St, NY, NY 10012, tel. 212-431 9800.
Editorial: Free Association Books Ltd, 26 Freegrove Road, London N7 9RQ.



hip
jazz
funkified
bhangra

friday,
april 29th
10 p.m.

DJs Amita & Vinita and Tony Barnes

- benefit party for *Border/Lines Magazine*
& *Queer Licks* launch
- 183 Bathurst Street 3rd floor
- \$5

presented by

BORDER/LINES **cbk8line**

PARAGRAPH

THE CANADIAN FICTION REVIEW

Timothy Findley, Carl Scott, Michael Ondaatje, M.C. Vasquez, Jonathan Armstrong, Mike Slick, Colleen Stevens, Stephen Mitchell, M. Hawthorne Phillips, Jane Urquhart,
Ken Gogannard, Patrick Roemer, Katy Chan, Gill Ainsworth, Carol Corbett, Ruby Shipjack, Russ Akhmedov, Margaret Atwood, Robert Kroetsch, Elaine
Schopferer, Matt Cohen, Sandra Bird, ... of African descent, Thomas King, Sarah Short, Kevin Galbraith, Lee Maracle, John Stebbins,
Stevett Highton, Jeffrey Cannon, Clint ... and Tobias, Cary Pagan, Janice Hillman, Sam Kaya, Margaret Atwood, Robert Kroetsch,
Arlene van der Meer, Susan Street, Richard ... page, Linda Motchka, George Bowering, Mitchell, Gary Shtrom, Patricia Sweeney, Debra
Barber, Sarah Atrophy, Daniel Jones, ... David WS, Ingrid Harris, Eric McCormack, Robt Quercus, Barbara Gandy, John Cowart Bell,
George Fyfe, Yvonne Vera, Audrey ... of Ross, Shaqir Ali, Ashraf Ali, Greg Evans, Lawrence Hill, Yusef Kamil, Lynn Spade,
Alice Paterson, Don Paterson, Suzanne Munn, Don DeLillo, Kellyn O'Hara, Jeffrey Cannon, Barbara Gandy, John Cowart Bell, Patricia Sweeney,
Simon Sebag Montefiore, Arlene van der Meer, Suzanne Hillman, Winston Graham, Ross MacKenzie, M.Y. Hally, Shaqir Ali, Barbara Gandy, Robert Kroetsch, Janice Hillman, Yusef Kamil, Ross MacKenzie,

TOPICAL

NYMPHOLEPTIC

PRESCIENT

REFRESHING

COAST TO COAST

PARAGRAPH

\$14 one year / \$26 two years

(GST included)

PARAGRAPH

137 Birmingham Street

Stratford, Ontario N5A 2T1