

## Fourth International Shaw Society Conference

“Shaw Without Borders / Shaw sans frontières” is the title of the **Fourth International Shaw Society Conference**, scheduled for 25 to 29 July 2011 at the University of Guelph in Guelph, Ontario, Canada. The conference is sponsored by the International Shaw Society in collaboration with the University of Guelph and The Shaw Festival. Papers (for 20-minute talks maximum) may be on a wide range of topics and written from any critical perspective, but those who choose to speak on the conference topic should address Shaw’s broad international interests as expressed in his novels, plays, prefaces, speeches, and travels; productions of Shaw’s plays in different countries and languages; “boundary-free” internet Shaw; and “copyright-free” Shaw (in Canada since 2000, and in most other countries from 2020). Abstracts of 300 to 500 words should be submitted at the conference website at <http://conference.lib.uoguelph.ca/index.php/shaw/ISSC2011>, but please copy, with c.v. and letter of introduction, to Professor Leonard Conolly, preferably by email to [lconolly@trentu.ca](mailto:lconolly@trentu.ca) or by mail to him at Department of English, Trent University, Peterborough, Ontario, Canada K9J 7B8. **DEADLINE IS 15 APRIL 2011**. It would be helpful if papers were presented at the conference accompanied by a one-page outline of “talking points” and key quotations for distribution to the audience.

The conference will open at the University of Guelph with a reception on Monday night at the University Library, with a Keynote Address on Tuesday morning. Featured speakers will include Stanley Weintraub (Evan Pugh Professor Emeritus, Penn State University), speaking on “Shaw and the Dictators,” Christopher Newton (Artistic Director Emeritus, Shaw Festival) on “Shaw the Canadian,” and Michael Billington, theatre critic for the *Guardian*. The conference will include a major exhibit of materials from the important Shaw collections of the University of Guelph and a visit to the Shaw Festival at Niagara-on-the-Lake to see *On the Rocks* and *Heartbreak House*, with pre-play talks by Artistic Director Jackie Maxwell and Artistic Director Emeritus Christopher Newton.

The ISS provides travel grants to young scholars 40 and under for up to \$500 of unreimbursed expenses. For details and a form to fill out and send in, please go to [www.shawsociety.org](http://www.shawsociety.org) and click on “ISS Travel Grants.” Email [lconolly@trentu.ca](mailto:lconolly@trentu.ca) with questions and to send in the form along with your paper proposal. **DEADLINE IS 15 APRIL 2011**. Questions about papers and grants should be directed to Leonard Conolly, ISS President, at [lconolly@trentu.ca](mailto:lconolly@trentu.ca). For questions about conference details and logistics, contact Kathryn Harvey at [kaharvey@uoguelph.ca](mailto:kaharvey@uoguelph.ca). See also the link to the conference at [www.shawsociety.org](http://www.shawsociety.org). You can also write to the ISS Webmaster, Dick Dietrich, at [dietrich@usf.edu](mailto:dietrich@usf.edu).

The conference hotel is the Delta Hotel, just opposite the U of Guelph campus. Call (519) 780-3700 for reservations, and specify that you want the Shaw Conference rate. You will be able to register for the conference online with a credit card at <http://conference.lib.uoguelph.ca/index.php/shaw/ISSC2011/index>. See the conference link at [www.shawsociety.org](http://www.shawsociety.org) for other possibilities. Less expensive on-campus housing will also be available. Guelph is easily accessible by car from the Toronto (1 hr) and Buffalo (2 hrs) airports.

## ISS Grants, Scholarships, & Prizes

As one of the principal goals of the ISS is to encourage younger generations to experience the delights and enlightenment of reading and seeing Shaw’s works and participating in the discussion of them, the ISS offers a generous program of support in the form of scholarships, grants, and prizes, most of which are allied with particular events, such as symposia and conferences. To that end, five young scholars were awarded Best Paper Awards at the USF Sarasota Shaw Conference in 2004, eleven received ISS Hampton-Hussey Travel Grants to the Shaw Conference at Brown University in June 2006, four were awarded ISS Travel Grants (which supplemented Bryden Scholarships offered by the Shaw Festival) at the Shaw Festival’s Shaw Symposium in July 2005, four at the Symposium in August 2006, four at the Symposium in July 2007, five at the Symposium in July 2008, three at the Symposium in July 2009, thirteen at the Shaw Conference in Washington, D.C. in October 2009, two at the Summer Symposium in July 2010, and five at the Chicago Symposium in October 2010. To apply or find out more, follow the link at [www.shawsociety.org](http://www.shawsociety.org). To contribute to the fund for grants and scholarships, include this in your membership renewal and application (see the enclosed form). **If you give a minimum of \$500, the grant the ISS gives with that can carry your name, if you wish.**

The five winners of ISS Tunney Grants (in bold) at the 2010 Chicago Symposium: back row: R.F. Dietrich, Jay R. Tunney, **Matthew Yde**, **Christopher Wixson**, L.W. Conolly; front row: **Sonya Loftis**, **Sandra Russell**, **Charles Del Dotto**, Michael O’Hara.



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**Time to renew membership.  
Please return the enclosed  
form to:**

**ISS  
P.O. Box 728  
Odessa, FL 33556-0728**

This newsletter was produced  
by Michel Pharand.

Please send any queries to:  
[michelpharand@yahoo.com](mailto:michelpharand@yahoo.com)

## 2010 End-of-Year Newsletter

**INTERNATIONAL  
SHAW  
SOCIETY**



### Another Busy Year Ahead

You will read in this Newsletter of the several events and activities that kept many ISS members busy in 2010. There’s lots more to come in 2011. The highlight is the ISS conference to be held at the University of Guelph in July (details below). This is the first ISS conference to be held outside the United States, and its international theme is designed to attract speakers from many other parts of the world. I have already had several expressions of intent to participate, and would welcome more. Even though the deadline for proposals isn’t until mid-April I would REALLY appreciate early proposals, even if they are tentative at this point ([lconolly@trentu.ca](mailto:lconolly@trentu.ca)). The conference will include a visit to the Shaw Festival in Niagara-on-the-Lake to see *Heartbreak House* and—a rare opportunity—*On the Rocks*, and to meet directors and actors. Things are already buzzing at the Shaw Festival in preparation for the Festival’s 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Because of the July conference, there won’t be the usual Shaw Symposium in Niagara-on-the-Lake in 2011, but the Symposium will be up and running again in 2012.

Many thanks to all ISS members who made 2010 such a productive year, and equal thanks to those who are working on 2011 events. Many thanks also to outgoing Membership Secretary Lori Dietrich who has done such a terrific job for the last several years, and welcome to new Membership Secretary Ann Stewart. John McInerney has graciously agreed to serve another term as ISS Secretary, and the indefatigable Richard Dietrich sails on as Webmaster and Treasurer. No-one can match Professor Dietrich for indefatigability, but Michel Pharand comes mighty close as editor of this Newsletter and of *SHAW: The Annual of Bernard Shaw Studies*. Merci, Michel, et merci tout le monde de l’ISS.

L.W. Conolly, President

### Gene Tunney and GBS

Shaw was the co-star, along with my father, the boxer Gene Tunney, at launches of my new book, *The Prizefighter and the Playwright: Gene Tunney and Bernard Shaw* (2010), in New York, Chicago and Toronto, as well as at dozens of book signings and talks at libraries and to civic groups in Ireland, Canada and the United States. Audiences were amazed at Shaw’s interest in boxing, fascinated that the boxer liked books, and seemed especially touched by the humanity of both Shaw and Charlotte toward the Tunneys. Said one elderly woman at a retirement home: “I was an English teacher all my life, and I thought I’d learned all there was to know about GBS. If only I’d known sooner, I could have made him more human.”

Jay R. Tunney, Vice President

A fuller, color version of the Newsletter is available online  
at [www.shawsociety.org/2010-Newsletter.htm](http://www.shawsociety.org/2010-Newsletter.htm).

## SHAW IN THE THEATER IN 2010 AND 2011: A SAMPLER



**THE SHAW FESTIVAL:** The 2010 Shaw Festival featured *The Doctor's Dilemma*, directed by Morris Panych, and *John Bull's Other Island*, directed by Christopher Newton. The 2011 season, the Shaw Festival's fiftieth, will include *Heartbreak House* (25 May to 7 October), directed by Christopher Newton, *Candida* (28 May to 30 October), directed by Gina Wilkinson, and *On the Rocks* (8 July to 8 October), an adaptation by Canadian playwright Michael Healey directed by Joseph Zeigler. The playbill will also include *My Fair Lady*, directed by Molly Smith. For more information, go to [www.shawfest.com](http://www.shawfest.com).

**THE SHAW/CHICAGO THEATER COMPANY:** The Shaw plays performed by ShawChicago in 2010 were *The Philanderer* (6 February to 1 March 2010), *The Doctor's Dilemma* (17 April to 10 May 2010) and *Candida* (16 October to 8 November 2010). A special dramatization of Shaw's novel, *Cashel Byron's Profession*, was provided by ShawChicago for the ISS Chicago Shaw Symposium (see below). ShawChicago will



(l to r) Ric Reid as Matthew Haffigan, Thom Marriott as Father Dempsey, Guy Bannerman as Cornelius Doyle, Patrick McManus as Barney Doran and Benedict Campbell as Tom Broadbent in *John Bull's Other Island*. Photo by David Cooper.

stage *Arms and the Man* from 16 April to 15 May 2011. For more information, go to [www.shawchicago.org](http://www.shawchicago.org). The ISS has been invited to co-sponsor, with the ShawChicago Theater Company, a 2nd **Chicago Shaw Symposium** in October of 2012. The final decision is still pending and you will be notified. Deadline would be 1 JULY 2012 for abstracts via email attachment to Professor Michael O'Hara (Ball State U) at [mo-hara@bsu.edu](mailto:mo-hara@bsu.edu). See the link at [www.shawsociety.org](http://www.shawsociety.org) when it becomes available.

**PROJECT SHAW:** All presentations of Project Shaw are at the Players Club, New York, and are produced and directed by David Staller. In 2010 the plays presented included *Arms and the Man*, *The Philanderer*, *The Doctor's Dilemma*, *John Bull's Other Island*, *Major Barbara*, *Village Wooing* and *Interlude at the Playhouse*, *Man and Superman*, *Candida*, *Captain*



Standing left to right: Patrick Pacheco (Narrator), Cary Donaldson (Lexy), Nick Wyman (Burgess), Jason Zinoman (*NY Times* host), Richard Thomas (Morell); seated left to right: Bobby Steggert (Marchbanks), Amy Irving (Candida), Cassie Beck (Proserpine) in *Candida*.

*Brassbound's Conversion*, *How He Lied to Her Husband*, and *Heartbreak House*. Scheduled for 2011 are *Androcles and the Lion*, *Overruled*, *Great Catherine*, *Shaw & Shakespeare* (Shaw's plays involving the Bard), *You Never Can Tell*, *Getting Married*, *Fanny's First Play*, *The Millionairess*, *Super Shaw!* ("a lagniappe of miscast Shaw"), *Passion, Poison & Petrification*, and *The Shewing-Up of Blanco Posnet*. Plans for 2011 also include two fully mounted productions of *Man and Superman* and *Widowers' Houses* at an off-Broadway venue. For more information, contact [info@gingoldgroup.com](mailto:info@gingoldgroup.com) or go to [www.projectshaw.com](http://www.projectshaw.com).

**THE WASHINGTON STAGE GUILD** will present *The Apple Cart* (directed by Bill Largess) from 28 April to 22 May 2011 at its new home at the Undercroft Theatre at the Mount Vernon Place United Methodist Church. This will be the Stage Guild's twentieth Shaw play in twenty-five years of productions. For more information, go to [www.stageguild.org](http://www.stageguild.org).

**THE ABBEY THEATRE**, Dublin, Ireland, will be staging the Abbey Theatre premiere of *Pygmalion* from 27 April to 11 June 2011, directed by Annabelle Comyn and starring well-known Irish actor Risteárd Cooper as Henry Higgins. The play will feature full period costumes designed by Peter O'Brien. For more information, go to [www.abbeytheatre.ie](http://www.abbeytheatre.ie).

ISS Travel Grant/Bryden Scholarship winners at the 2010 Shaw Symposium: Sandra Russell (Central Michigan U) and Biljana Vlaskovic (U of Kragujevac, Serbia), with L.W. Conolly (left) and R.F. Dietrich.



**MICHAEL FRIEND PRODUCTIONS**, in association with The National Trust, staged two Shaw plays in 2010: *You Never Can Tell* in June and *Widowers' Houses* in July. *You Never Can Tell* was also seen at Pentameters Theatre, Hampstead, and *Widowers' Houses* at Broadstairs and Hampstead. Scheduled for 2011 are *Pygmalion* (24-26 June, with further dates still under discussion) and *"In Good King Charles's Golden Days"* (22-24 July), both at Shaw's Corner. For more information, contact Sue Morgan at [Sue.Morgan@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:Sue.Morgan@nationaltrust.org.uk) or go to [www.mfp.org.uk](http://www.mfp.org.uk).

## ISS EVENTS OF 2010

**THE COMPARATIVE DRAMA CONFERENCE:** The 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Comparative Drama Conference (26-28 March 2010), sponsored by Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, offered three Shaw sessions arranged by Tony Stafford of the University of Texas El Paso and co-sponsored by the ISS: "Shaw: Studies in Individual Plays," "Shaw and Female Characters," and "Shaw: Text and Idea." Papers were read by Tony Stafford (UTEP), Matthew Yde (Ohio State U), Jorie Licking (UTEP), Ellen Dolgin (Dominican College of Blauvert), Amanda Cuellar (UTEP), Sidney Albert (California State U, Los Angeles), Peter Gahan (Independent Scholar), and Satyarth Prakash Tripathi (San'a U, Yemen).

**THE 7<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL ISS SUMMER SHAW SYMPOSIUM**, co-sponsored by and meeting at the Shaw Festival in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, took place on 23-25 July. Papers were read by Margot Backus (U of Houston), Murray Biggs (Yale U), Brad Kent (Laval U), Kay Li (York U), Al Lyons (Grand Valley State U), John McInerney (U of Scranton), Sandra Russell (Central Michigan U), Tony Stafford (UTEP), David Staller (Artistic Director, Project Shaw), Larry Switzky (U Toronto), and Biljana Vlaskovic (U of Kragujevac, Serbia). Most of the papers were on the plays produced by the Shaw Festival, *The Doctor's Dilemma* and *John Bull's Other Island*. Featured were discussions of current productions by Festival actors and directors.

**THE 2010 CHICAGO SHAW SYMPOSIUM**, sponsored by ShawChicago and the ISS in association with the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs, was held on 22-23 October at the Chicago Cultural Center and Ruth Page Center for the Arts. The keynote speaker was ISS vice president Jay R. Tunney, author of *The Prizefighter and the Playwright: Gene Tunney and Bernard Shaw* (2010). For the full program of speakers and events, go to [www.shawchicago.org/ShawSymposium.pdf](http://www.shawchicago.org/ShawSymposium.pdf).

## ISS EVENTS in 2011 (in order of deadlines)

The 35<sup>th</sup> Annual **Comparative Drama Conference** (24-26 March 2011), sponsored by Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, will offer three Shaw sessions arranged by Tony Stafford of the University of Texas El Paso and co-sponsored by the ISS. Papers to be presented include "Private Enterprise: Shaw and Women's Decision-Making in *Mrs. Warren's Profession* and *Pygmalion*" by Ellen Dolgin (Dominican College of Blauvelt-Orangeburg), "*Heartbreak House: When the Public Comes Crashing into the Private*" by Christa Zorn (Indiana U Southeast), "Shakespearean Caesar in the Hands of G.B. Shaw" by Amjad Ali, (Islamia College), "Shaw's Modern Utopia: *Back to Methuselah*" by Matthew Yde, (Ohio State U), "Joan's Jihad: Shaw's Portrayal of Martyrdom" by Norma Jenckes (Union Institute and U), "Shaw's Use of Nature Imagery in *The Doctor's Dilemma*" by Tony J. Stafford (UTEP), and "Shaw's Language: Sounds and Noises Signifying Something?" by Peter Gahan (Independent Scholar). For information about papers to be presented at the Shaw Sessions, go to [www.shawsociety.org/2011-Shaw-at-CDC.htm](http://www.shawsociety.org/2011-Shaw-at-CDC.htm). In 2012 the Comparative Drama Conference will move to Baltimore, Maryland, and the host will be Stevenson University. Deadline is **10 DECEMBER 2011** for abstracts on any Shaw-related subject, to be sent via email attachment to Professor Tony Stafford (UTEP) at [tstaffor@utep.edu](mailto:tstaffor@utep.edu). See the link to this session at [www.shawsociety.org](http://www.shawsociety.org) when it becomes available.

"**Shaw in the 30s**" is the title of a special Shaw Session at the 2012 **Modern Language Association Convention** (in Seattle, WA, 5-8 January). In the 1930s, Shaw wrote six full-length plays, feted Einstein, paid court to Stalin and Mussolini, visited the USA for the first (and second) time, and won an Academy Award. This was a decade of artistic and political extremes for Shaw, and much of his subsequent reception has been tintured by both his humanitarianism and the discussions about his "darker side" during these years. This panel aims to re-evaluate this complex period in Shaw's career: as an artist (through any of the plays or prose writings); as political propagandist (a critic of democracy, a sincere or ironic advocate of Fascism, a Zionist and counter-Zionist, a champion of revolutionary socialism); as mass media celebrity (via radio broadcasts and appearances on newsreels); as world traveler and early post-colonialist; and as votary of the Life Force in the grip of old age. Panelists might also address Shaw through any of the modernisms that emerged in the 30s or through general formal and stylistic features of his later work. Please send a 250-word abstract and updated CV no later than **15 MARCH 15 2011** to Lawrence Switzky at [lawrence.switzky@utoronto.ca](mailto:lawrence.switzky@utoronto.ca). See the link to this session at [www.shawsociety.org](http://www.shawsociety.org).