

Addenda

A monthly e-mail newsletter from **MARS HILL AUDIO**

September 15, 2005 v Number 19

"[M]usic, the fine arts, poetry--anything that festively raises up human
experience and
thereby constitutes its true riches--all derive their life from a hidden root, and
this root is a
contemplation which is turned toward God and the world so as to affirm them."

— Josef Pieper, *Only the Lover Sings: Art and Contemplation*

To: [%\$%MF1]
[%\$%MF2]

New on our desks

Ken Myers on the NEA

"A few weeks ago, I received a note from a high school student at a Christian school who had read my book, *All God's Children and Blue Suede Shoes: Christians and Popular Culture*, and who was writing a senior thesis about the question of whether or not Christians should support the idea of federal funding for the arts. It's a more complicated question than is often recognized, on both sides. In the interest of stimulating further discussion, here's what I wrote to her:" [\[Read more\]](#)

MARS HILL AUDIO *Journal* Update

[Volume 75, July/August 2005](#) is in process and will be sent out beginning next week. This means that it should arrive within two to four weeks in most parts of the country (the class of mail we use is rather slow compared to first class). A preview of this issue's guests is available [online](#).

The bonus track (available on the CD version but not the cassette version), with Eugene Peterson, is available [online](#) (scroll down to the bottom of the page).

Extended Interview with Eugene Peterson MP3 Available Online

Each interview on the **MARS HILL AUDIO** *Journal* begins as a 45 to 60 minute interview, of which we usually work 10 to 20 minutes into a segment on the *Journal*. This means there is usually a lot of good content left out, some of which ends up as a CD bonus track (see above), or is developed into a separate *Conversation* (such as on Flannery O'Connor, below).

One Volume 75 Ken Myers spoke with Eugene Peterson for over an hour on a variety of topics, and, as is the case with many interviews, it's all quite edifying and worth listening to. So, we thought we'd experiment and put the entire thing [online](#) (left-click to stream, right-click to save) for free. Tell all your friends. Let us know

what you think.

Baptists and Baylor

The interview on Volume 74 with [Russell Moore](#) on "soul competency," Baptist autonomy, and recent struggles at Baylor University has elicited many thoughtful responses so far, some rather spirited, from all sides of the Baylor controversy. Without getting into the substance of the issues raised by both the interview and responses to it, the reason we looked at the Baylor controversy is that it is a useful case study on how American Christian institutions have been shaped by American cultural influences. For that reason we think that what is happening at Baylor is instructive for all people concerned about whether Christian institutions can sustain orthodoxy.

We plan to follow up on this issue, possibly with a related interview on an upcoming issue of the *Journal*, and we will post some listener comments (along with responses to them) on our webpages. In the meantime, you may be interested in reading the article from [The Baptist Standard](#) that set Ken Myers off down this path, which concerns a speech given at Wheaton College in 2004 by Baylor Provost David Lyle Jeffrey. It is available online at www.baptiststandard.com.

Hillbilly Thomist: Flannery O'Connor & the Truth of Things

In a new **MARS HILL AUDIO** *Conversation*, Ken Myers talks with **Susan Srigley** about how Flannery O'Connor's perception of reality suffuses her fiction in ways that fit the views of how art works developed by Thomas Aquinas, views often summarized as "sacramental" or "incarnational." **Ralph Wood** discusses O'Connor's acceptance of the limits placed in our lives by Providence, how limits may be a source of wisdom rather than frustration. Wood also talks about the place of Southern culture and history in O'Connor's work as well as her sympathies with backwoods religion.

Hillbilly Thomist is available on either CD or cassette for \$7 each plus shipping and handling. To order, call us at **1.880.331.6407**, or use our online [secure order form](#). If you would prefer to order by mail, download this [PDF order form](#). You may also fax your order (with a credit card number) to **434.990.9090**.

The Tennessee-Texas Axis

Ken Myers will be speaking at the Belmont Church (not, we hasten to point out, "Belmont Baptist Church," as we referred to it in an earlier posting) in Nashville on the evening of Friday, September 30. He will give a lecture entitled "Word Made Flesh, Flesh Made Whole: The Embodied Character of Salvation and the Basis of Bioethics" at 7:30pm. This lecture is free of charge and open to the general public. It is sponsored by The Humanitas Project: A Center for Bioethics Education (see www.humanitas.org). For further information you may contact Mike Poore of the Humanitas Project at 931.528.2048 or via e-mail at mpoore@humanitas.org. For directions to Belmont Church see their [website](#).

On Friday, October 14 Ken will give a lecture for the Covenant Classical School of Fort Worth. Entitled "Christian Education, the Renewing of the Mind, and Counter-Cultural Discipleship," it will be held at the Scott Theater, 3505 W. Lancaster Ave., Fort Worth. This event is free of charge and open to the public, though you are requested to RSVP to the Covenant Classical School at 817.820.0884. For further details see <http://www.covenantfw.org/lecture.html>.

Narnia on Tour: Wheaton and Beyond

The first stop of [Narnia on Tour](#) will be the "Faith and Fiction: C.S. Lewis and his Chronicles and Narnia Conference," on September 29 and 30 at Wheaton College. Featured speakers include Walter Hooper and Peter Schakel, and a Saturday panel discussion will include [Alan Jacobs](#) and [Leland Ryken](#). See the [Marion](#)

[Wade Center](#) website for further details.

Narnia on Tour stops in the first part of October include Holland, Grand Rapids, Detroit, MI, Atlanta, GA (featuring [Don King](#)), Austin, TX, Minneapolis, MN (featuring [Dan Ritchie](#)), and Saint Louis, MO. For further details view the complete [tour schedule](#) online.

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