ACORN Workshop, 2008: Jane Austen in the Media and Popular Culture

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I. “Harlequinizations” and Fictional Biographies:

Aiden, Pamela. An Assembly Such as This: A Novel of Fitzwilliam Darcy, Gentleman (Touchstone, 2006): "Fitzwilliam George Alexander Darcy rose from his seat in the Bingley carriage and reluctantly descended to earth before the assembly hall above the only inn..."


Grange, Amanda. Mr. Darcy’s Diary (Sourcebooks Landmark 2007).

Halstead, Helen. Mr. Darcy Presents his Bride: A Sequel to Jane Austen’s Pride and Prejudice (Ulysses Press, 2007).

“Novelist Jill Pitkeathley imagines the intimate, intriguing, controversial conversations the Austen sisters shared in their lost letters. Blending known facts about the pair and their world with utterly believable fiction, she provides a glimpse into the beliefs, regrets and passions of one of the greatest writers of all time.”

Reynolds, Abagail. The Last Man in the World: A Pride & Prejudice Variation (Intertidal 2007): “Two of the most beloved characters in English literature explore the meaning of true love on a tumultuous journey to make a success of their marriage. THE PEMBERLEY VARIATIONS by Abigail Reynolds is a series of novels exploring the roads not taken in Pride & Prejudice.”

II. Mystery Series:


Levine, Laura. This Pen for Hire: A Jane Austen Mystery (Kensington 2003).

III. Finishing, Re-writing, or Re-reading Austen:


Fielding, Helen. The Diary of Bridget Jones, aka Bridget Jones’s Diary (Penguin 1998)


IV. Scholarship on Austen in the Media and Popular Culture (My Sources):


UWSP Call Number: PR437.W54 2001eb [Electronic Book]
V. Films Available at UWSP, IMC Circulation Desk (3rd floor of the library)
Anyone may view these films in the library, using the equipment or screening rooms in the IMC. They may be checked out with a UWSP student or faculty I.D.

**Persuasion**, directed by Roger Miller (BBC 1995), DVD. Personal Copy.
*Jane Austen's Persuasion*, produced by David Snodin; dir. Adrian Shergold (BBC 2007), DVD.
**Sense and Sensibility** (BBC/WBGH 2008), DVD
*Sense and Sensibility*, produced by Barry Letts; dir. Rodney Bennett (BBC Video 1987),
2 VHS videocassettes (174 min.).
*Emma* (A&E 1999): DVD
*Mansfield Park*, produced by Betty Willingale; dir. David Giles (BBC-TV 1987)
2 VHS videocassettes (263 min.).
*Northanger Abbey* produced by Louis Marks; dir. Giles Foster (BBC-TV 1992), VHS
*Bride & Prejudice* dir. Gurinder Chadha (Miramax 2004), DVD. “In Amritsar the determined Mrs. Bakshi sets out to find matches for her four daughters.” In English.
*Jane Austen's Pride and Prejudice* dir. Simon Langton; produced by Sue Birtwistle (A&E Home Video, 1995), 6 VHS videocassettes (300 min.).
*Pride and Prejudice, or, First Impressions*, produced by Jonathan Powell; dir. Cyril Coke (BBC Video 1990), 2 VHS videocassettes (229 min.).
*Pride and Prejudice*, produced by Hunt Stromberg; dir. Robert Z. Leonard (Metro Goldwyn Mayer, 1940), VHS.

VI. Films Available at the Portage County Public Library
*Becoming Jane* (2008): DVD
**Sense & Sensibility** (Columbia, directed by Ang Lee, with Kate Winslett): VHS and DVD
*Pride & Prejudice* (BBC 1996): VHS and DVD
*Emma* (BBC 1996): VHS
*Emma* (Miramax, with Gweneth Paltrow, 1997): VHS and DVD
*Emma* (A&E 1999): DVD
*Mansfield Park* (BBC 2000): VHS
*Jane Austen's Works* and *Jane Austen’s Life*: VHS

VII. Other Films and Shows
*Clueless* (Paramount, directed by Amy Heckerling, 1999): A brilliant comic revision of *Emma.*
*Pride and Prejudice: Latter Day* (Excel Entertainment, directed by Andrew Black, 2003):
A less successful (though periodically hilarious) attempt to translate Austen’s plot and characters into a contemporary American setting.
*Jane Austen in Manhattan* (Merchant Ivory, 1980; screenplay by Ruth Prawer Jhabvala). Two theater companies try to best each other in producing Jane Austen’s play, an adaptation of Samuel Richardson’s 18th c. novel *Sir Charles Grandison* for the stage.
**Regency House Party** (PBS Home Video, 2004): A reality show: 10 modern men and women live in a re-created Regency-era country estate, following the social rules of the time. In unexpected ways, the show reveals the inequalities, constrictions, physical inconveniences and psychological hardships of Regency life (especially for women).