

@poetics

The UB Poetics Discussion Group

Archive of Electronic Correspondence

January 1994

1 messages · Wed 5 Jan 1994 – Wed 5 Jan 1994

An electronic mailing-list archive

University at Buffalo, State University of New York

A reading edition. For each post the author's name, the subject, and the message are foregrounded, and the date is kept but subdued. Machine headers, encoded attachments, and the repeated listserv routing that once framed every message have been cleared away; email addresses, telephone and fax numbers, and similar personal contact details have been redacted.

Editor's Introduction

Kristen M. Fabians

January 1994 keeps only a single letter in the archive, and a comic one. Charles Bernstein, twice thwarted in the simple act of forwarding, at last lands on the list a message relayed by Linda Reinfeld and originating with Sander Gilman of Cornell — nominally a note on race and object relations, in the event mostly an enormous slab of festival ASCII art wishing the world a happy new year in some forty tongues at once. The machinery, not the argument, becomes the story: Bernstein reports he has learned his lesson, having discovered the hard way that one must *“do not violate boundary codes invisible or visible”*.

It is a slight thing to stand for a whole month, and yet oddly prophetic of everything to come. Here already is the list's abiding double life — the high seriousness of its subject-lines set against the low farce of the medium that must carry them, the poets forever tripping over the very wires that let them speak at all. One letter; file it, for now, under the comedy of transmission.

— *K. M. F.*

Contents

Every entry links to its message. 1 in all.

5 JAN 1994

1. Charles Bernstein — sander gilman's tree live and in person

```

> * . *
> * .|. *
> * _*_ *
> * Athbhliain Faoi Mhaise! '|` _ Happy New Year! *
> * Frohliche Weihnachten! *:* ("D Chag Sameach! *
> * Sarbatori Fericite! * . * ~ (=r Boas Festas! *
> * Joyous Solstice! ** ** ../_ \ Gut Yontif! *
> * Mele Kurisumasu! *** o *** [ SM ] Iyi Yillar! *
> * Mele Kalikimaka! *\ O * Wesolych Swiat! *
> * Merry Christmas! ** \ ** Vevelykh Svyat! *
> * Happy Hanukkah! *** \ *** Stastny Novy Rok! *
> * Pari Dzounount! * o \ * Kelemes Unnepekhet! *
> * Happy Holidays! ** O \ ** Season's Greetings! *
> * Veseli Vanoce! ***\ o \ *** Gung Hay Fat Choy! *
> * Feliz Navidad! * \ o * Felican Jarfinon! *
> * Joyeux Noel! ** o \ O ** Joy to the World *
> * Bom Natal! **** \ o **** - And to All a *
> * God Jul! ** o o \ o ** Good Night! *
> * Cheers! *** O \ *** *
> * *:D o_ *****
e@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@
> * _ <' )~ _ ##### _v_ @@@
> * /<~ ["""] V o [ _ ] _@_ ##### _|~|_ A @" _
> * %'= @| | [ ~ ] U \ | / ^ ^ ^ \ ## [ { } { } { } { } ( " ) ! II _ [ w ] | [ i ] [ z ] |
> * %' ) /%| | $ | \ ^ | XXX | ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ # [ { } { } { } { } ] ( : ) < * > { ===== |
~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ |

```

```
> * %(_6 |==D____|$\\^|/\\|=====##[{}{}{}{}{:}) V /oO--000""'-OO---OO-'
> ****
```

Sander L. Gilman
193 Goldwin Smith Hall
Cornell University
Ithaca, New York 14853
e-mail: XXXXXXXXXX

--Boundary (ID cW989PpHuTQYJLg6i7KhrA)--

[↑ Contents](#)