

American Modernism 의 두 시인 T. S. Eliot과 Wallace Stevens: Tradition/Impersonal vs. the Real/Imagination

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1. Two poets have “the transformative power of the poetic imagination” in perceiving the real world.

2. T. S. Eliot:

*In *The Waste Land*, he re-articulates the meaning of “tradition,” by generating the definition of “dying” which indicates the mutual cooperation of past and present.

*Eliot equates time with an open whole which echoes continuous crystallization of structure. In *The Waste Land*, time is the ever-changing adventure between garden of the past and wasteland of the present.

*In the first stanza of “The Burial of the Dead,” the unborn life is described as if it lived on the benefits of the dead:

April is the crullest month, breeding
Lilacs out of the dead land, mixing
Memory and desire, stirring
Dull roots with spring rain.
Winter kept us warm, covering
Earth in forgetful snow, feeding
A little life with dried tubers.

*In the last stanza of “The Burial of the Dead,” the poet emphasizes “the brown fog” of Unreal City in winter. Winter reminds us of memory of the past. The speaker encounters an unexpected person he knows at “a winter dawn.” And then he cries:

“Stetson!”
“You who were with me in the ships at Mylae!”
“That corpse you planted last year in your garden,
“Has it begun to sprout? Will it bloom this year?
“Or has the sudden frost disturbed its bed?
“Oh keep the Dog far hence, that’s friend to men,
“Or with his nails he’ll dig it up again!

*Making use of allegory to prove out the dynamics of the whirlpool in “Death by