

**THE SALTIRE SOCIETY OF NEW YORK AND BROOKLYN COLLEGE WILL  
PRESENT  
A SYMPOSIUM HONORING  
THE 200<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY OF HERMAN MELVILLE  
WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 18<sup>th</sup> AT 7:00 P.M.  
AT THE CENTER FOR WORKER EDUCATION  
25 BROADWAY, NYC**

Appearing on the program will be:

John Beatty, Professor Emeritus Brooklyn College

**"Herman Melville, Scot, New Yorker, writer and symbolist".**

A brief look at Herman Melville's Scottish ancestry, life in NY and his adventures on the whale ship *Acushnet*. His religious views and views on minorities are reflected in his classic work *Moby Dick*.

Bruce MacIntyre, Professor Emeritus of Music at Brooklyn College.

**"Billy Budd Transformed through the Operatic Lens: Reading Captain Vere as the 'Voice' of Melville"**

In his writings Herman Melville was many things – weird, attentive to minutia, erudite, recondite, pedantic, stratified, as well as enduringly cosmopolitan. This paper discusses ways in which Benjamin Britten's opera *Billy Budd* (with its libretto by E.M. Forster and Eric Crozier) strengthens and brings to life the mysterious, somewhat veiled character of Captain Vere, while concomitantly enhancing ways through which we might associate attributes of the captain with the aging author Melville himself. Examples from the original novella, the opera, and its libretto will illustrate the presentation.

Foster Hirsch, Professor of Film at Brooklyn College and the author of numerous books including *Acting Hollywood Style* and *The Dark Side of the Screen: FILM NOIR*. He is currently writing a history of Hollywood in the 1950s

**"Melville on Film: Moby Dick (1956) and Billy Budd (1962)"**

Melville has been translated into film on many occasions. Fifty nine films have used his works as the basis for their scripts. Nineteen of these are based on *Moby Dick*. Only one theatrically released film in English was based on his posthumously published work *Billy Budd*. The talk will discuss the 1956 version of *Moby Dick* with Gregory Peck and the 1962 version of *Billy Budd* with Peter Ustinov and Terence Stamp

**Free admission, but reservations are required. Please e-mail  
profbeatty@gmail.com**