

ORALITY IN & LITERACY

INTRODUCTION.--Not a "movement" nor a set of theories (Russian Formalism, Structuralism, New Criticism) but an awareness. No "school," no canon. Not reductionism, but relationism.

I. THE ORALITY OF LANGUAGE

1. The Literate Mind and the Oral Past
2. Natural Speech and the Technology of Writing

II. THE MODERN DISCOVERY OF ORAL CULTURES (PRIMARY ORALITY)

1. Early Awareness of Oral Tradition
2. The Homeric Question
3. Milman Parry's Discovery
4. Consequent and Related Work

III. SOME PSYCHODYNAMICS OF ORALITY

1. Sound Exists Only When It Is Going Out of Existence
2. You Know What You Can Recall: The Mnemonic Problem
3. Some Characteristics of Orally Based Thought and Expression
 - a. Additive rather than subordinative
 - b. Aggregative rather than analytic
 - c. Conservative or traditionalist
 - d. Highly reliant on narrative for permanence of noetic store
 - e. Close to the human lifeworld
 - f. Empathetic and participatory rather than objectively distanced
 - g. Homeostatic
 - h. Situational rather than abstract
4. Oral Memory
5. Verse and Prose
6. Copia
7. Classification of Oral Genres
8. Noetic Functions of Oral Art Forms
9. The Agonistic Frame of Knowledge
10. The Praise Motif
11. Socialization
12. Knowledge as Performance
13. The Verbomotor Lifestyle
14. The Noetic Role of "Heavy" or Heroic Figures and of the Bizarre
15. The Interiority of Sound
16. Words Are Not Signs

IV. WRITING RESTRUCTURES CONSCIOUSNESS

1. The New World of Autonomous Discourse
2. Plato, Writing, and Computers
3. Writing Is a Technology
4. Many Scripts but Only One Alphabet
 - Prewriting. Pictograph, ideograph, rebus (phonogram).
 - Syllabaries: Japanese, Cherokee, Vai (Liberia).
 - The Hebrew Alphabet: all consonants. The Greek alphabet.
5. Scribes and True Authors: Interiorizing Technology
6. Textuality Compared to Orality
7. Writing Makes Possible Tight Plot and Subtle Dialogue
8. Interactions: Rhetoric and Learned Languages
9. Tenacious of Orality
10. Chirographic Languages
11. Print Totalizes Writing
12. Electronics: Greater Visual Space and Secondary Orality
13. Effects of Writing and Print on Language
14. ~~Dialects and Grapholects~~

V. FROM MEMORY TO AUTHORIAL CONTROL

1. Plot as Memory
2. Orality-to-Literacy Theorems
3. Consequences for scholarship in various fields: poli sci, psych., philols., lang. lit., etc.

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Gisaden
29 Dec 10:15

61
Paradigms @
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F 28 Dec 2:45

58
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Lang, Truth, Fict.
Levin 54 → 72
Th 27 Dec 7:00