

Call for Papers
15th Annual Robinson Jeffers Association Conference
February 13-15, 2009 (President's Day weekend)
University of Colorado, Boulder

Conference theme: The Alpine Jeffers

Jeffers is most frequently associated with the California coast and the ocean he so deeply loved. At the same time, his interest in the alpine world is everywhere evident in his work. Mountains appear throughout his poems, from the early poem "The Alpine Christ," to the ridge line that California rides at night in "Roan Stallion," all the way through to the setting of his last long poem, *Hungerfield*, at the foot of a "thin turfed mountain," and in countless lyrics. In Jeffers' journeys away from the ocean, he always turned to the mountains; his only poem set in New Mexico is "New Mexico Mountain," and his only poem set in Colorado is "Red Mountain." Wherever we turn in his work, mountains appear as manifestations of nature at the same time as they suggest the richest possible range of symbols, from Sinai to Olympus, Parnassus, Mt. Blanc, and all that such places represent in the history of art and culture.

For its fifteenth annual conference, the Association welcomes papers that explore any aspect of Jeffers' interest in and representation of the alpine environment, from geological fact to aesthetic or religious symbol, from setting to subject, from representation to interpretation.

As usual, serious papers on other subjects and on the relation of Jeffers to other writers, artists and thinkers are also welcome.

Proposals should be relatively brief and must be postmarked by December 15, 2008. The conference has a number of different formats and includes opportunities for standard academic talks (15-20 mins.), longer plenary presentations, responses to longer talks, panel chairs, participation in discussion sections, and poetry readings.

Please address all queries and proposals directly to Rob Kafka, Treasurer, at rkafka@unex.ucla.edu.

To learn more about the Robinson Jeffers Association, please visit www.jeffers.org.