a Ship of Fools

The Narrenschiff, a collection of witty and erudite satirical-allegorical caricatures, is one of the first secular European "bestsellers" following the invention of the printing press. In Wesleyan University's Davison Rare Books room sits a copy of the book, which is an authorized Latin translation by Brant's favorite pupil, Jakob Locher and was printed in 1497 in Brant's native Strasbourg by the Catholic master printer Johann Grüninger. It is richly annotated, colored-in, and includes a handwritten list of French revolutionary figures in the first pages, presumably the product of a reader's desire to "update" Brant's encyclopedia of fools to his/her present day. In my thesis, I explore the kinds of questions this artifact evokes, and I do so with special attention to various theories of history.
that play a role in developing stories we tell about objects of the past. My inquiries revolve around the theoretical conditions of making an object of a past that is far gone and unreachable into an object with presence for our contemporary consideration and meaning making. I discuss Brant’s book as an example of allegory, and I discuss allegory as a means of writing and viewing history; I tell the story of the book’s printing in Strasbourg, and I investigate the implications of certain historiographic choices with regards to source material and evidence; I contextualize the book’s entrance into Wesleyan’s collection from the acquired library of past Wesleyan professor of Greek James Cook van Benschoten, and I examine the kind of enchantment, what I call archivation, we give to otherwise mundane objects by archiving them in special collections; finally, I talk about various uses of books, such as interpretation, adaptation, manipulation, annotation, and coloring-in, and I reflect on the conceptual difficulties of pinning down particular readers to particular times through their respective uses of the book. This thesis is a call to attention to readers and writers of history to be conscious of the philosophical significance of certain choices we make as historical beings. I propose we consider an allegorical perspective on the past that is dedicated to making meaning out of the past even in the face of the fact that the past always demands that those meanings are in some way deferred. The thesis is always grounded, one might even say anchored, by the artifact of the Ship of Fools in Wesleyan’s collection.

Details

[first lines] Glocken: [walks up to the ship's railing] My name is Karl Glocken, and this is a ship of fools. I'm a fool, and you'll meet more fools as we go along. This tub is packed with them: emancipated ladies, ball players, lovers, dog lovers, ladies of joy, tolerant Jews, dwarfs - all kinds. And who knows, if you look closely enough, you may even find yourself on board. See more ». Connections. Referenced in Cheers: Yacht of Fools (1988) See more ». Soundtracks. Party Favors Waltz (uncredited) Music by Ernest Gold See more ». User Reviews. Ship Of Fools. 8 December 2011 | The ship of fools is an allegory, originating from Book VI of Plato’s Republic, about a ship with a dysfunctional crew. The allegory is intended to represent the problems of governance prevailing in a political system not based on expert knowledge, such as democracies. The concept makes up the framework of the 15th-century book Ship of Fools (1494) by Sebastian Brant, which served as the inspiration for Hieronymus Bosch’s painting, Ship of Fools: a ship—an entire fleet at first—sets off from Basel Crazy on a ship of fools Crazy on a ship of fools Turn this boat around, back to my loving ground Oh, no, oh, no. Who claims that no man is an island? While I land up in jeopardy, more distant from you by degrees I walk this shore in isolation And at my feet eternity draws ever sweeter plans for me. I know why I know why. Crazy on a ship of fools Ah, crazy on a ship of fools Turn this boat around, back to my loving ground Oh, no, oh, no, ship of fools. [Guitar solo]. Turn this boat around, back to my loving ground Oh, no Crazy on a ship of fools Oh, crazy on a ship of fools Turn this boat arou "Ship of Fools" was not a classic cover song, like "Dancing in the Streets" or "Hallelujah". Rather, six different songs called "Ship of Fools" were written and performed between the 1960s and 1980s by the Doors, the Grateful Dead, John Cale, Bob Seger, World Party and Robert Plant. I knew that the concept of a ship of fools can be traced back to Book Six of Plato’s Republic. Socrates and Adeimantus are discussing the different models by which a government can rule wisely, and Socrates offers this analogy to Adeimantus: Imagine then a fleet or a ship in which there is a captain who is taller and stronger than any of the crew, but he is a little deaf and has a similar infirmity in sight, and his knowledge of navigation is not much better. We are fellow One Piece fans who strive for more of Oda's wonderful work but while we wait for him as he continues his hard work, we must do something else to ease our boredom. One of those ways, instead of committing crimes, is fan-fiction! And this is one of those places to do so! But even though we are pirates who make new pages which makes it harder for our Marines (those who maintain this wiki), we still have at least follow the basic rules in this wiki. Other than that, go crazy and give me meat.