

cultural

Folklore and Literature: Historical and ~~comparative~~ approach to thematic, structural and stylistic relations

I Conceptual Framework

Concept

- a) ~~Parameters~~ of ORAL TRANSMISSION ~~in contrast to writing and print~~ as opposed to WRITING and PRINT
 - i. Parry-Lord 'oral formulaic composition' thesis which makes ~~writing and oral~~ writing and oral tradition mutually exclusive categories
 - ii. Birger Gerhardsson, Memory and Manuscript: Oral Tradition and Written Transmission in Rabbinic Judaism and Early Christianity which analyzes the respective roles and domains of writing and oral transmission in a culture where both modes of transmission are used
 - iii. Father Walter Ong's work on Tudor style and Marshall McLuhan's The Gutenberg Galaxy which differentiate between oral, manuscript and print cultures, thus recognizing a transitional stage between oral and print cultures in which the concept of 'rhetoric' as expressed in rhetoric handbooks plays a very important role
- b) Concept of AUTHORSHIP in folklore and literature
 - i. Anonymity, impersonality, collective authorship, communal creation, communal recreation theories of folklore genesis
 - ii. Conception of artist-writer in antiquity, middle ages, ~~Renaissance and Restoration~~ Renaissance and Restoration with emphasis upon ~~tradition~~ a literary tradition
 - iii. conception of artist-writer in Romantic and Modern Periods with emphasis upon individuality, originality, iconoclasm
- c) Concept of TRADITION in folklore and literature
 - i. Genre, decorum and the rhetoric handbook in antiquity, middle ages, Renaissance and Restoration
 - ii. Romantic nationalism and idealization of 'folk poetry': a revivalistic or revitalistic impulse
 - iii. a) Collective censorship and conservatism of oral tradition in relation to ~~individual~~ culturally accepted range of individual creativity and innovation

b. Concept of 'appropriateness' / ~~genre~~ in folklore with respect to genre and performance

II Historical Framework

- a) Theories regarding the evolution of literature
- b) Evolutionary and devolutionary theories of the place of folklore in the development of literature - *ballad, epic, maecher, romance*
- c) Concept of popular culture in developmental scheme: prose collection of folktales, chapbooks, broadsides etc.