

# MSN

## Medieval Studies Newsletter

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## ANONYMOUS 4 COMES TO BLOOMINGTON

This December 1st, the early music group Anonymous 4 will perform at noon at the First Christian Church, 205 East Kirkwood. Presented by Gamma-UT and sponsored by the Medieval Studies Institute, CASI, the Early Music Institute, the Department of English and the Bloomington Early Music Festival, the concert and lecture are free and open to the public.

The all-female group has performed all over the world, as well as on nationally recognized programs, such as Garrison Keillor's "A Prairie Home Companion," "CBS Sunday Morning," and A&E's "Breakfast With the Arts."

Founded in 1986, Anonymous 4 was one of the first female groups to perform Gregorian chant and early polyphony. Each of the group's members makes a unique contribution of voice and scholarship.

Marsha Genensky holds a B.A. in music and folklore at Scripps College, and an M.A. in folklore and folklife at the University of Pennsylvania.

Johanna Maria Rose earned a degree in voice from the Manhattan School of Music, where she also studied acting. She went on to obtain her



Photo By Ron Smith from [www.anonymous4.com](http://www.anonymous4.com)

M.F.A. in the Performance of Medieval and Renaissance Music from Sarah Lawrence College.

Ms. Genensky and Ms. Rose share the task of language pronunciation research and adapting readings for the concert programs.

Susan Hellauer earned a B.A. in music from Queens College as a trumpet player. She then went on to pursue degrees in musicology from Queens College and Columbia University. Ms. Hellauer handles Anonymous 4's medieval music research, and teaches voice at the Rockland Conservatory of Music.

Jacqueline Horner received a Joint Honors degree in Music and English from Queens University Belfast. A native of Ireland, she moved to New York after winning a Green Card in the U.S. lottery. Ms. Horner also teaches singing and ensemble vocal technique as well as sharing with Ms. Rose the responsibility of new music commissions.

One of the world's premier early music ensembles, Anonymous 4 has risen to the top of Billboard's classical chart, and sold over a million albums. Known for its blend of scholarship and musical talent, A4 is sure to bring a performance to Bloomington which shouldn't be missed.

## PROF. ROSENBERG TO LECTURE

Professor Samuel Rosenberg (French and Italian) will lecture February 10th at 4 p.m. in the Lilly Library. Prof. Rosenberg's talk is entitled, "Galehaut (Galeotto): The Emergence and Eclipse of a Remarkable Arthurian Hero."

The lecture will consider Galehaut, Lord of the Distant Isles, who emerges for the first time in Arthurian literature in the French Prose *Lancelot* of the early 13th century. He is one of the most remarkably original characters in the vast Arthurian world and the only one of tragic stature. This paper traces the

evolution and eventual eclipse of Galehaut as his story was told and retold through several centuries and in several languages. Particular attention will be given to French, English, and Italian works.

Professor Rosenberg is an Emeritus Professor of French. He earned his Ph.D. at the Johns Hopkins University in 1965. Prof. Rosenberg's interests include medieval language and literature, and historical and modern syntax. Recently his work has focused on Old French Lyric poetry and Arthurian prose romances.

### MEDIEVAL FILM SERIES

The Medieval Film Series will continue with *Andrei Rublev*, on November 19, Jordan Hall A100, at 7:00 p.m.

Representing *Pride*, the epic is based on the life of the fifteenth-century Russian monk and icon painter. Andrei Rublev leaves his monastery to paint the interior of the Vladimir cathedral. During his travels, he meets a boy named Boriska who claims to know the secret of bell-making, and who takes on an army of followers to build a magnificent silver bell.

## NINTH ANNUAL MEETING OF PIGSTII CONVENES AT UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

The ninth annual meeting of PIGSTII (Philologists in Germanic Studies at Illinois and Indiana) took place at the University of Illinois on October 18.

IU's Lesley Jacobs (English), delivered a paper entitled, "Cynewulf's Runic Signatures: A Confluence of Traditions." Dorian Roehrs (Germanic Studies) and Christopher Sapp (Germanic Studies), co-delivered, "The Germanic Noun Phrase: Old and New." Harold Zimmerman (English), delivered "Poetics, Politics, and the Middle English Alliterative Revival."

University of Illinois' Shawn Boyd (Germanic Studies) spoke on "Heiden and Christian Salvation in Wolfram's *Parzival*." Stephanie Clark (English) gave a paper entitled, "The Desert Fathers and the Early English Mystical

Tradition." Karen Lurkbur, (Comparative Literature) delivered a paper entitled, "Manheit and minne in Wolfram's *Parzival*."

After the talks, students and professors attended a reception hosted by Illinois Prof. Claudia Bornholdt, who earned her Ph.D. from IU's Germanic Studies Department.

Held yearly in alternating locations between Indiana and the University of Illinois, the symposium affords graduate students from the two universities the opportunity to present their work in a formal setting and receive feedback on their work.

PIGSTII features three papers from each university. Paper topics consider Germanic literature, philology, or linguistics and cover the late classical period to the High Middle Ages.

## PROF. PETER SCHÄFER LECTURES ON JEWISH MYSTICISM

On Thurs., Oct. 16th, Prof. Peter Schäfer (Princeton University) spoke on "The Femininity of God in Jewish Mysticism and in Christianity." Prof. Schäfer's lecture discussed the *Sefer Bahir*, which appeared in Provence in the late 12th century, in the light of the region's Christian context.

According to Prof. Schäfer, the Kaballah posits a God composed of ten potencies, nine of which are male, and one of which is female. The role of this feminine potency is to serve as a mediator and intercessor between God and his people.

Though this idea first appears codified in the *Sefer Bahir*, its origins are open to significant scholarly debate. One theory locates the origins of this tenth feminine potency to a Jewish wisdom tradition with repressed feminine tendencies that breaks off with Philo, while another theory links it to the Gnostic traditions of the first century.

Prof. Schäfer proposed that we also consider the emergence of the feminine potency in the *Sefer Bahir* in light of the veneration of the Virgin Mary, which itself emerged in twelfth century France, due in no small part to the efforts of Cistercian monks.

Prof. Schäfer noted that the two traditions share many of the same tropes, but he was reluctant to speculate on the cultural mechanisms that might have enabled the similarities in the two traditions.

Prof. Schäfer is the Ronald O. Perelan Professor of Jewish Studies and Professor of Religion at Princeton and the 1994 recipient of Germany's coveted Leibniz prize.

His many publications include *Mirror of His Beauty: Feminine Images of God from the Bible to the Early Kabbalah*, *History of the Jews in the Greco-Roman World: The Jews of Palestine from Alexander the Great to the Arab Conquest*, and *Judeophobia: Attitudes Towards the Jews in the Ancient World*.

## PROF. MCGERR OFFERS M502/C523: THE MIRROR IMAGE

This Fall, Prof. Rosemarie McGerr is teaching M502/C523 The Mirror Image: Reading, Writing, and Speculation in Medieval European Texts.

Joint-offered by Medieval Studies and Comparative Literature, M502/C523 explores the significance of the mirror as an image in medieval literature, especially as the image relates to the depiction of text as mirror and the reading/writing process as an act of philosophical speculation or reflection.

The class also considers the extent to which the material world is represented as the mirror image of God, language is represented as the mirror image of nature, and women are represented as the mirror images of

their male counterparts.

The course reading includes Dhuoda's *Manual For William*, Allain de Lille's *Complaint of Nature*, Wolfram von Eschenbach's *Parzival*, Heldris of Cornwall's *Romance of Silence*, and all of Dante's *Divine Comedy*.

Students also examine critical and theoretical authors such as Luce Irigaray, Jaques Lacan, and Clarie Nouvet. Students also examine the works of Plato in order to gain a background for understanding representation and form.

Students in the course will be conducting research projects that are comparative or multi-disciplinary in their approach.



## FACULTY NEWS

**Christopher Atwood (Central Eurasian Studies)** gave a paper entitled, "Titles, Appanages, Marriages, and Officials: A Comparison of Political Forms in the Zunghar and Thirteenth-Century Mongol Empires." It was given at the Symposium on Inner Asian Statecraft and Technologies of Governance, organized by David Sneath of the Anthropology Department of Cambridge University, Cambridge, U.K. The symposium was held on October 2-3, 2003. Participants included anthropologists, historians, and folklorists from Britain, France, Denmark, Inner Mongolia, and the USA.

**Christopher Beckwith (Central Eurasian Studies)** gave a paper, "Old Tibetan Syllable Margins," in the second Medieval Tibeto-Burman Languages Symposium. Prof. Beckwith also organized the symposium, which was held at the International Association for Tibetan Studies conference in Oxford, England, Sept. 6-12, 2003.

**Consuelo López-Morillas (Spanish and Portuguese)** read a paper, "Now you see it, now you don't: Following the textual trail of *Mudejar* and *Morisco* Islam," at the conference "Arabic, Hebrew, and Spanish Literature in the Iberian Peninsula: A Symposium in Memory of Américo Castro," at the University of California-Berkeley, May 2-3, 2003.

**Samuel Rosenberg (French and Italian)** participated in a colloquium on October 25 at the University of Massachusetts/Amherst on the great 14th-century corpus of *Miracles de Notre Dame par personnages*. Six invited scholars spent the day discussing different aspects of the collection. Professor Rosenberg's contribution was a discussion of the twenty-five lyric pieces, called *serventois*, which are appended to a number of the plays. The title of the presentation was "The *Serventois* in the *Miracles de Notre Dame par personnages*: The Ways of Imitation."

**H. Wayne Storey (French and Italian)** published in October 2003 *Dante for the New Millennium*, co-edited by Storey

and T. Barolini (Fordham University Press), in which appears also his essay "Early Editorial Forms of Dante's Lyrics" (pp. 16-43). Also published in October was Volume 1 of Francesco Petrarca's *Rerum vulgarium fragmenta, codice Vaticano Latino 3195* (Antenore Editrice with the Vatican Library), with commentary and essays (vol. 2; 2004) by Gino Belloni, Furio Brugnolo, H. Wayne Storey, and Stefano Zamponi. At the end of October his essay "Wilkins nella formazione del canzoniere di Petrarca," co-authored with Dario Del Puppo, was published in *Italica* 80, n. 3 (2003), pp. 295-312.

Also in late October, Prof. Storey delivered "Modalità di ordinamento materiale tra Guittone e Petrarca" with co-author Roberta Capelli (University of Padua) at the conference "*Liber, fragmenta, libellus* prima e dopo Petrarca" in Bergamo, Italy (October 24).

## STUDENT NEWS

**Gina Brandolino (English)** is presenting a paper at the MMLA convention in November. The conference theme is "The University," and she is presenting in a session entitled, "What's the MA Degree for?" Her paper is titled, "What a Difference an MA Makes."

**Lesley Jacobs (English)** delivered a paper at the Ninth Annual Meeting of PIGSTII (Philologists in Germanic Studies at Illinois and Indiana) entitled, "Cynewulf's Runic Signatures: A Confluence of Traditions."

**Dorian Roehrs (Germanic Studies)** delivered a paper with Christopher Sapp (Germanic Studies) at the Ninth Annual Meeting of PIGSTII (Philologists in Germanic Studies at Illinois and Indiana) entitled, "The Germanic Noun Phrase: Old and New."

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**Jim Wilson (History)** gave a paper on October 2 at the Historical Museum of Budapest. The conference was entitled "*Apácák a középkori Magyarországon*" [Nuns in medieval Hungary]. The paper title was, "*Competentis distantie spatio distinguantur*": The Nuns of the *Insula Leporum* and their Friars."

**Harold Zimmerman (English)** delivered a paper at the Ninth Annual Meeting of PIGSTII (Philologists in Germanic Studies at Illinois and Indiana) entitled, "Poetics, Politics, and the Middle English Alliterative Revival."

## ALUMNI NEWS

**Robert Clark (French and Italian)** participated in the colloquium at the University of Massachusetts/Amherst on October 25. The colloquium was on the 14th century corpus of *Miracles de Notre Dame par personnages*. Prof. Clark completed his Ph.D. in French at IU in 1994 with a dissertation on the miracle plays under discussion.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SPRING SYMPOSIUM

Planning for the 16th Annual Medieval Symposium has begun. The event, which is organized by graduate students to showcase the work of faculty and students in Medieval Studies here at IU, is tentatively scheduled for Fri. and Sat., March 5th & 6th. The event will feature papers by IU faculty and graduate students, a potluck dinner and a concert by the Early Music Institute.

If you are interested in helping out with this year's symposium, please contact David Marshall ([dwmarscha@indiana.edu](mailto:dwmarscha@indiana.edu)) or Harold Zimmerman ([hczmmer@indiana.edu](mailto:hczmmer@indiana.edu)).

## MIDDLE HIGH GERMAN READING GROUP

Thursdays, 12:15 - 1:15 p.m.  
Ballantine 664

# REMEMBERING SIDNEY JOHNSON

## WHO WAS SID JOHNSON

Sid Johnson's dissertation concerned the long narrative poem *Willehalm* by Germany's greatest medieval storyteller, Wolfram von Eschenbach, and he maintained this research interest in Wolfram throughout his life. Devoted to the subtleties of German syntax and semantics, he produced (with his English colleague Marion Gibbs) authoritative and readable translations of major medieval works, among them *Willehalm* and *Kudrun*. Well after he retired, he and Gibbs published their *Medieval German Literature: A Companion*, which is the first place for general readers to turn for information and orientation.

In 1971 the IU German department's search committee for a new chair urged Sid to become a candidate and, shortly thereafter, to visit the campus—requests to which he, with characteristic modesty and consideration for the repercussions on his wife, Lora, and their three sons, somewhat reluctantly agreed. The department, which at that time was considerably larger than it is now, had no difficulty deciding that Sid should be hired to head it. Sid joined the Indiana University faculty as professor and chair of German in 1972.

Sid's six years as chair were some of the most difficult the department has experienced, a period of contraction in which permanent positions were dissolved when the incumbents exited and younger people had to be hired as visitors with no hope of tenure. The programmatic and personal trials of this period addicted all members of the department, but, of course, placed the greatest burden upon the chair. Sid's sense of responsibility and his very unusual humanity and courtesy in professional business were sorely tested, and found to excel.

Sid's chairing of departments at two universities is one mark of his willingness to serve. To rehearse the list of service activities he has carried out for Indiana University is hardly necessary; less well known may be the fact of that he has been a member of

the board of directors of the American Council on German Studies, a member of the national committee for the National Campaign for the Yale Graduate School, and a member of the board of directors and a committee chair for the Center for University Ministry in Bloomington.

-- compiled with the help of  
Prof. Stephen Wailes

## COLLEAGUE, FRIEND, AND SCHOLAR

I believe that Sidney Johnson and I team-taught three times together concerning Tristan and Chretien works in Europe. He was a great colleague, generous with his time, enthusiastic about the literature, a good mentor for students, and a person who wanted to be sure that the text was being read in a manner consistent with Old French or Middle High German meaning and syntactic usage. His criticism was always firm but gentle and encouraging. I regret his passing and his absence in the halls of Ballantine. The humanities have lost a great advocate, the students a good teacher, the faculty a wonderful friend and scholar.

--Prof. Emanuel Mickel

## AT KALAMAZOO

The "many years of further association" with Sid [after his retirement] were continuing gifts of joy, scholarly insight, and kindness to us all, especially to those aspiring to a career in our profession — graduate students and new Ph.Ds. Many colleagues like myself will always be grateful to Sid for his belief in our abilities, and his unwavering congeniality and humanity.

When one thinks of Sidney Johnson, one thinks of Kalamazoo and the International Congress on Medieval Studies — the conference that was nearest and dearest to Sid's heart. Even after becoming emeritus in 1992, he continued attending as a "regular." In 1995, Sid recognized that colleagues could benefit from a learned society to organize medieval German sessions. At a well-attended meeting following a session, Sid offered, with customary humility, a possible name: "The Society

for Medieval German Studies," and with delight, noted the acronym would be SMGS — pronounced "as in [smug]!"

In the years that followed, Sid continued to contribute to our profession. Sid never wavered in promoting medieval German studies.

The lessons he taught us, above all, about professional and personal service to others, will continue to celebrate his memory.

--Prof. Ernst Ralf Hintz  
(Fort Hays State University)

## DISSERTATION ADVISOR

I chose Professor Johnson as my dissertation advisor. I'm writing on Gottfried von Strassburg's *Tristan*. For the uninitiated, I need to add that Professor Johnson was a Wolfram scholar. There is supposed to have been a "literary feud" between Wolfram and Gottfried in which they embedded in their own works critiques of each other's literary style. Professor Johnson did let me know gently that he much preferred Wolfram over Gottfried. Still, he accepted every task with a positive attitude and was most helpful whenever I approached him.

Ironically, the last article he published was on Gottfried, about interpreting the love potion in *Tristan*. After he had sent it off for publication, he handed me his manuscript, a thorough annotated bibliography, and all the notes he had taken on the topic. Accompanying this mass of paper was a note that began, "Sharon-- I had forgotten until now how much work went into my paper!" And with those words he handed all that work on to me. As Ph.D. students have sometimes been known to do, I put off looking at these things for quite a while. After his death I took out his notes and began the process of deciphering them. Amidst the overwhelming amount of material, I found several items that were crucial to what I am working on and have used them in my own research.

And so, even after his passing, Professor Sidney Johnson still continues to advise me.

--Sharon Wailes

## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

**A Good Start:** The first MEST lecture of the year was held October 14, in the Lilly Library in conjunction with the faculty series in Germanic Studies. Two of MEST's finest, Rob Fulk and Kari Gade went far beyond a presentation of their print and on-line editions of Skaldic poetry, both *in fieri*, offering a lively discussion of many aspects of Old Norse culture and literary expression as well as the pragmatics of textual editing. Kari Gade presented the project's textual history and parameters, including details of previous problems in translation and textual preparation, while Rob Fulk demonstrated numerous features of the website and electronic edition and its links. At the end of the lecture, an undergraduate computer science major remarked on the quality of the construction of the website and how much he enjoyed the talks, that had amazingly linked eighth- and ninth-century poetry with site construction and communication.

The talks were followed by the annual MEST party held this year in the Lincoln Room of the Lilly. On behalf of

all of us in Medieval Studies, I want to thank again Breon Mitchell, Director of the Lilly Library, Bill Rasch and Germanic Studies, and especially Rob Fulk and Kari Gade for a wonderful inauguration of this year's activities.

**Photographic Services:** Over the summer, the University's photographic services moved from its rather cramped offices and labs in Franklin Hall to new, spacious quarters in Eigenmann Hall at 10th and Union. This is an important move for this division that works in unison with many University divisions. For many of us in Medieval Studies who depend on the reproduction of images of all sorts for our research and teaching, the possibility of improved services is essential for negotiating the evermore complicated demands of publishers in the retrieval and submission of photographic and digital plates for publication. For example, some journals now require submission of reproductions exclusively in scanned and digitalized formats. Photographic services is expanding to include this

kind of technological help. However, what we have gained we might have paid for with a unique loss.

When Photographic Services was moved, all equipment for making internegatives, an essential step in the printing of photographs from microfilm, for example, was abandoned. While some of this work can be outsourced to Indianapolis, timeliness is sometimes an issue. I have begun discussions with the director of Photographic Services as well as technicians and specialists to assess ways to address the research needs of the faculty in MEST. While all in Photographic Services are eager to work with us to resolve these problems, it would be helpful for me to hear from all of you on the ways you utilize images and photographic reproductions in your research and publication so that we can ask for realistic acquisitions that will continue to serve the faculty. Please contact me via email at mestdir@indiana.edu, and I'll be better prepared in my discussions with Photographic Services.

-Wayne Storey

## Prof. Ed Watts Offers "From Biography to Hagiography"

This spring, Professor Ed Watts (History) will be offering H705/H780 From Biography to Hagiography: Virtue through Texts. The course will look at the presentation of virtue in biographic literature and the ways in which the evolving religious and cultural attitudes of the later Roman world changed the literary presentation of exemplary figures and led to, among other things, Christian hagiography. Students will handle a chronological range of materials (in translation) that begins with third-century texts and ends with examples from the late-fifth and early-sixth century. Although each will work from the same basic organizational template, these texts will emphasize a diverse set of characteristics in their descriptions of ideal rhetoricians, philosophers, and Christian ascetics.

Among the other themes the course will explore are: 1) the sources used by ancient biographers (with attention being paid to the role of oral materials

in the texts); 2) the nature of the individual in biographic literature (with emphasis upon the question of how much change an ideal character is permitted to undergo in various biographic traditions); and 3) the manner in which external indications of virtue in one biographic tradition (like the ability to speak freely to emperors or resolve local disputes) impact other such traditions.

This course is by its nature interdisciplinary and is designed to take advantage of the diverse skills of cultural historians, classicists, medievalists, scholars of religion, scholars of literature, and philosophers to produce a nuanced understanding of these often under-appreciated documents. For this reason, All interested graduate students are welcome and are encouraged to use the course as an opportunity to examine themes related to their own interests in a new historical or literary context.

The course readings will include Philostratus, *Life of Apollonius of Tyana* and his *Lives of the Sophists*, Eusebius, *Life of Origen*, Porphyry's *Life of Plotinus*, Athanasius, *Life of Antony*, Eunapius, *Lives of the Philosophers and Sophists*, Theodore's *Religious History*, and Marinus, *Life of Proclus* (many of which will be read on reserve). The course will also consider A. Momigliano's *Development of Greek Biography* and T. Hagg and P. Rousseau, *Greek Biography and Panegyric in Late Antiquity*.

Students will have a great deal of freedom in choosing the topic of the final paper. Some possible avenues for the final paper could be a close reading of a text, an exploration of the historical utility of biographic materials, or some larger issue like the idea of the individual in this literature.

Please contact Prof. Watts for more information about the course (ejwatts@indiana.edu).

## MEST CONTACT INFORMATION

The members of the administrative staff of MEST are: Brent Moberly, H. Wayne Storey, and Deborah Strickland. If you have communications you would like to have distributed as a general announcement in Medieval Studies, please contact Brent Moberly at [mest@indiana.edu](mailto:mest@indiana.edu)

**[mest@indiana.edu](mailto:mest@indiana.edu)**: for general correspondence with the Institute, or for administrative matters with Brent Moberly, or newsletter items with Deborah Strickland.

**[mestdir@indiana.edu](mailto:mestdir@indiana.edu)**: for direct and confidential communications with the Director; this is a new administrative account we have established that will transfer from director to director. Please note that [dirmest@indiana.edu](mailto:dirmest@indiana.edu) is a personal account of another faculty member.

In addition to these two e-mail accounts, we also maintain three distribution lists: [mest\\_students](mailto:mest_students), [mest\\_faculty](mailto:mest_faculty), and [mest\\_instruct](mailto:mest_instruct), which are used to communicate with students, general faculty, and medieval studies faculty respectively.

--H. Wayne Storey  
[mestdir@indiana.edu](mailto:mestdir@indiana.edu)

## THE SIDNEY M. JOHNSON AWARD

The Society for Medieval German Studies is pleased to announce the inception of a new award designed to honor the memory of Sidney M. Johnson. The award for the best paper from a graduate student is twofold:

- 1) Payment of the recipient's registration fee for the International Congress on Medieval Studies in the following year.
- 2) Inclusion of the award-winning paper among the SMGS sessions at Kalamazoo in the following year.

Submissions are to be made by March 31, 2004. Papers designed for a 20-minute presentation are to be no less than seven and no more than nine pages in length, and double-spaced. You may submit your paper to either of the following SMGS colleagues:

Alexandra Sterling-Hellenbrand  
Department of Foreign Languages  
and Literatures  
PO Box 32063  
Boone, NC 28608  
Tel.: 828 262-3095  
Fax: 828 262-7079  
Or electronically:  
[hellenbranda@appstate.edu](mailto:hellenbranda@appstate.edu)

Ernst Ralf Hintz  
Department of Modern Languages  
Fort Hays State University  
311 Rarick Hall  
600 Park Street  
Hays, Kansas 67601-4099  
Tel.: 785 628-4244  
Fax: 785 628-5693  
Or electronically: [ehintz@fhsu.edu](mailto:ehintz@fhsu.edu)

SMGS encourages ALL GRADUATE STUDENTS in the area of medieval German Literature to apply.

The Society for Medieval German Studies requests donations: all members who wish to make a monetary, tax-deductible donation — from \$5 to \$25 — to the Sidney M. Johnson Award may forward their contribution to Alexandra Sterling-Hellenbrand or Ernst Ralf Hintz.

*The MEST Newsletter is now available on-line:  
<http://www.indiana.edu/~medieval>*

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