

DISSERTAÇÕES DE MESTRADO - INGLES

Departamento de Letras Germânicas, Curso de Pós Graduação em  
Letras, FALE-UFMG, 1978-1982

1. Else Ribeiro Pires Vieira. Mr. Eliot's Fix-It-Shops. Advisor:  
James Seay Dean, Ph.D. 26/06/78.

Eliot's plays follow the basic pattern of sin - expiation - communion. *Murder in the Cathedral* and *The Family Reunion* are cast in a religious context and the characters hope for communion through suffering and in the after-life. *The Cocktail Party*, *The Confidential Clerk* and *The Elder Statesman* are cast in a secular context and the characters seek to integrate themselves through action, rather than through martyrdom.

From *The Cocktail Party* on, the dramatization of the characters' integration reveals Eliot's shift from transcendental to earthly concerns. That shift influences his choice of literary genre and approach to character, plot, diction and style. The distinction between comedy and tragedy is erased. Sin begins to be referred to also as an existential problem; priest and psychiatrist become one - in other words, Eliot gradually overlaps the languages of religion and psychology.

However, the secularization of his last plays does not mean that the experience is not religious. Religion becomes less a matter of Church ritual conceived in the ways of the world.

2. Júnia de Castro Magalhães Alves. Homesick for Everywhere but here: Character and place in the plays of Lillian Hellman. Advisor:  
James Seay Dean, Ph.D. 27/06/78.