

Alan HOWE

(Honorary Professor & Hon. Senior Fellow, University of Liverpool)

After gaining a First in French and carrying out postgraduate research at the University College of North Wales, Bangor, I joined the French Department at the University of Liverpool (where Klaus Mayer held the James Barrow Chair of French) in 1968 as Assistant Lecturer, and remained there until retiring in 2002, at which time I was Reader in French.

My research has been concerned primarily with French seventeenth-century dramatic literature and theatre history.

My published work – written mainly in French in order to be accessible to the intended specialist readership – consists of a number of books and critical editions, as well as numerous articles and reviews published in leading journals throughout the world. Among the articles, eleven (of which details are provided in Appendix III to the Lecture) are concerned with the publication and elucidation of previously unknown archival material.

Books include *En marge du classicisme : Essays on the French Theatre from the Renaissance to the Enlightenment*, co-edited with Richard Waller (Liverpool University Press, 1987), and two volumes in the Archives Nationales' collection of 'Documents du Minutier central des notaires de Paris' : *Le Théâtre professionnel à Paris, 1600-1649* (Paris : Centre historique des Archives nationales, 2000), and *Écrivains de théâtre, 1600-1649* (ibid., 2005)

My critical editions are of three early seventeenth-century tragedies : Alexandre Hardy's *Mariamne* (Textes littéraires LXIII, University of Exeter, 1989), Hardy's *Didon se sacrifiant* (Textes littéraires français 440, Geneva: Droz, 1994), and Jean Galaut's *Phalante* (Textes littéraires XCIV, University of Exeter Press, 1995).

For the Galaut volume, in 1966 I was awarded the Prix Fabien Artigue of the Académie des Jeux Floraux (historically the second literary academy in France, after the less colourfully named Académie Française). In 2006, I was honoured by the French government by being made an Officier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres, for services to French culture. Also in 2006, the Archives Nationales de France organized an international conference in Paris (attended by 250 people) to mark the publication of my two books on archival documents.

Work in progress includes a critical edition of Charles Bouter's tragedy *La Mort de Roger* for the Liverpool Online Series of Critical Editions of French Texts, and an article on the sixteenth-century comic actor Agnan Sarat, based on an unpublished archival document.

Online publications: two articles on Pierre Corneille for *The Literary Encyclopaedia*, an 'author profile' on his career (www/litencyc.com/php/speople.php?rec=true&UID=1020, Jan. 2007) and a study of *Le Cid* (www/litencyc.com/php/sworks.php?rec=true&UID=4092, June 2010).