ñTemporality in Proust, Joyce, and Woolf: A Literary-Philosophical Studyò

to philosophy and secondary scholarship. As suggested by the title of my project, the key literary figures addressed were early 20th Century european modernists. As the summer went on, it became clear that focusing primarily on Virginia Woolf would allow me the greatest opportunity to do a serious study of [illegible], ***To the Lighthouse***, ***Orlando***, and ***The Waves***) as well as some of her letters, essays, and a wide range of secondary literature and contemporary scholarship. Beyond Woolf, I read Proust's seven volume epic novel, ***In Search of Lost Time***, and prepared for an upcoming seminar in the fall on James Joyce. The major philosophical works which occupied much of the summer on were Theodor Adorno's ***Minima Moralia*** and G.W.F. Hegel's ***The Phenomenology of Spirit***, each of [illegible] and Friedrich Nietzsche.

The culmination of my summer research was a 60-page paper entitled [illegible] resists, and how it represents a literary realization of a central theoretical conflict in ethical thought of the Modernist movement. This conflict, which centers around the importance of otherness (or "alterity"), lies at the heart of modern ethics (both academic and, more implicitly, non-academic). For Woolf, it underlies a whole host of questions, ranging from literature, to politics, to queer studies. In my paper, I explored her brilliant and innovative depiction of time as something strange, unreal, and ultimately and resolutely ***other***. Further, I examined the theoretical implications of her interest in the terrifying arrival of the present—an arrival which is closely tied to the alterity of the past, providing a doubled presence and otherness critical to an ethics seeking to acknowledge absolute difference while maintaining the arrival of the other as primitive experience. Finally, I turned to her presentation of futurity, which moves beyond traditional work on ethics and opens the possibility of redemption, reconciliation, and a powerful relation between the queer subject and its modern world.

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