The Beginning of the Avant Garde; Spring 2010

This class will focus on some of the precursors and early exponents of revolutionary approaches to the making of art that have defined the last century.

Our reading will be in this order

Wordsworth and Coleridge, *Lyrical Ballads*.
Whitman, "Song of Myself"
Rimbaud, *A Season in Hell* (Donald Revell’s translation) +
Apollinaire, *The Self-Dismembered Man* +

Futurism—handouts
Dada
Tzara, Anti-Manifestos +
Surrealism
Breton, *Manifestos of Surrealism*
Lorca, *Post in New York* +
OULIPO—handouts

Additional readings will be from *The Random House Book of Twentieth Century French Poetry* as well as handouts.

Writing Requirements

3 creative works (of prose, poetry or whatever) that show an interaction with any of the particular aspects of the avant garde that emerge in our discussions and readings. At least two of these are due before spring break (March 15.) 20%

13 to 5 page position/manifesto statement. This may be approached with great sincerity, great mockery or somewhere in between. 20%

Final project. 12-15 page paper. This may be an in-dept study of a single poet associated with the avant garde or a consideration of a particular idea that emerges and morphs through the work of more than one artist. 40%

Class Presentation based on your final project. These presentations will occur in the last week of the semester. 10%

Participation. 10%

Attendance is required.

My office hours are Wednesday 2-4, 321 Calhoun or by appointment.