1798 and its Implications

6-10 July 1998

St. Mary's University College, Strawberry Hill, England

Joint Conference of the North American Society for the Study of Romanticism and the British Association for Romantic Studies

1798 is the temporal locus for many diverse threads relevant to Romantic studies and it is hoped that the conference will reflect this diversity as well as reflect on its implications 200 years later. The year saw, among many other events, the Irish uprising, the Battle of the Nile and the XYZ Affair, the births of painter Eugene Delacroix and poet Adam Mickiewicz, the composition of Franz Joseph Haydn's The Creation, and the publication of such texts as William Wordsworth and Samuel Taylor Coleridge's Lyrical Ballads, Friedrich Schiller's Wallenstein, Edward Jenner's Inquiry into the Causes and Effects of the Variolae Vaccinae, and the final volume of Thomas Maurice's History of Hindostan, as well as new periodicals, including The Philosophical Magazine and Athenæum. The conference topic asks scholars to discuss the impact of this eventful period and its resonances in later generations from a wide range of disciplinary and national perspectives.

Plenary speakers include:

Ina Ferris  Winfried Menninghaus  Lucy Newlyn

Morton D. Paley  Nicholas Roe

The conference committee invites proposals for 20-minute papers. Proposals should be 400-500 words in length and should be submitted by November 15th, 1997. North American submissions should be sent to Julia M. Wright, Department of English, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, N2L 3G1 (jmwright@watarts.uwaterloo.ca); British submissions should be sent to David Worrall, St. Mary's University College, Waldegrave Road, Strawberry Hill, Twickenham, England, TW1 4SX (worrall@smuc.ac.uk). All other submissions may be directed to either address.

The conference will also include special sessions organized by scholars from a variety of disciplines; these sessions are listed on the reverse of this page. Submissions for special sessions should be sent directly to the session organizers.

The conference committee includes Angela Esterhammer (Western Ontario/Berlin), David Punter (Stirling), David Worrall (St. Mary's), and Julia M. Wright (Waterloo). Strawberry Hill is just a few minutes from Heathrow Airport, London, England; Walpole's "Gothick" villa is part of St. Mary's University College campus. Residential accommodation will be available at the conference site.
SPECIAL SESSIONS

The Athenaeum Project and Its Implications. Papers treating any aspect of the Athenaeum project and its implications for early German Romanticism and/or subsequent theory (philosophy and literature, aesthetic theory, linguistic theory, semiotics, gender studies, cultural studies). MARTHA B. HELFER, Dept. of Languages and Literature, 1400 LNCO, Univ. of Utah, Salt Lake City UT, U.S.A. 84112. E-mail: <martha.helfer@mcc.uta.edu>; fax: (801) 581-7581.

Coleridge (1798) and Freud (1898): Miracles and Dreams. Papers treating any aspect of the relationship between these two key moments of psychoanalytical discovery. DAVID PUNTER, Dept. of English Studies, Univ. of S\"{u}dland, FK4 9LA, Scotland. E-mail: <d.g.punter@stir.ac.uk>; fax: 01786 466210.

"Conservative" Women Writers and the Late 1790s. Papers examining the relations between women writers and political debate at this time, including, but not limited to, discussions of particular women writers who espoused "conservative" positions (in the context of religious as well as various secular discourses), analyses of texts by female or male writers (e.g. Polwhele's THE UNSEXED FEMALES [1798]) that opposed women's writing, and interrogations of the pertinence of present-day political terms (e.g. "conservative" or "liberal") to designate the subject-positions possible in the late 1790s. JEANNE MOSKAL, Dept. of English, Univ. of North Carolina, Chapel Hill NC, U.S.A. 27599-3520. E-mail: <jmoskal@gebs.olt.unc.edu>.

Drawing the Wordsworth Circle. KENNETH JOHNSTON, Dept. of English, Indiana Univ., Bloomington IN, U.S.A. 47405. E-mail: <johnstok@indiana.edu>; fax: (812) 855-9535.

The Enlightenment Twilight: Music In Transition. Any aspect of the way European art was music negotiating between the cultural practices of a residual enlightenment and emergent romanticism in years around 1798. Papers may address the work of individual composers (Haydn, Clement, Beethoven, Fled, Rossini), developments in or of musical genres, literary-musical relations, changes in the theory and/or practice of listening, or any cognate topic. LAWRENCE KRAMER, 138 Slate Quarry Road, Rhinebeck NY, U.S.A. 12572. E-mail: <leonard@bard.edu>.

The Haunting of LYRICAL BALLADS. Papers that take up the legacy of LYRICAL BALLADS--either from the perspective of their reception since first publication and on up to our current classroom ideology, or from the perspective of poetics praxis, i.e., has the prominence of LYRICAL BALLADS affected the history of poetic form? How is the hybrid genre used now? For instance, does it reflect the contemporary orthodoxy about the "literary experiment"? KAREN A. WEISMAN, Dept. of English, Univ. of Toronto, Erindale College, Mississauga, ON, Canada L5L 1C6. E-mail: <kwelman@credle.ern.utoronto.ca>.

Reforming the Stage: Romantic Drama In Theory and Practice. Joanna Balile's publication of A SERIES OF PLAYS in 1798 marks an important intervention in ongoing debates about the theory and practice of drama in the period we now know as "Romantic." This session invites papers which discuss any aspect of the drama in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries but particularly welcomes papers which address the issue of theatrical reform and innovation. Papers are welcome on both canonical and non-canonical writers. PHILIP COX, Dept. of English, School of Cultural Studies, Sheffield Hallam Univ., Collegiate Campus, Sheffield S10 2BP, UK. E-mail: <p.t.cox@shu.ac.uk>; fax: +44 0114 253 2344.

Romantic Hot Zones 2: The South Seas. In the wake of the three great voyages of discovery made by Captain James Cook, European society was confronted with and fascinated by exotic landscapes and racial others which it attempted to assimilate into a growing body of conflicting ethnological discourse. This session will focus on the impact made by voyages of discovery to the South Seas in Romantic period writing and on the representation of savage others and exotic topography in literature, travel accounts and visual arts. Papers are invited on any aspect of this subject, including Enlightenment ethnology, representations of Tahitian and Tahitian society, questions of race and of gender, the impact of the missionary ventures, the Bounty affair, South Seas cannibalism, discourses regarding to food and taste, narratives of exploration and discovery, etc. PETER J. KITSON, Dept. of English, Univ. of Wales, Bangor, Gwynedd LL57 2DG, UK. E-mail: <p.j.kitson@bangor.ac.uk>; fax: 01248 382102.

Romantic Pallimpsests. The occasion of this conference might be epochal, or simply commemorative, but because there can be nothing intrinsically remarkable about 1998, it is possible to read the relation of 1998 to 1978 in terms of the pallimpsest: we are writing our own presentness over the past, announcing yet again the implications of historicist self-awareness. That self-consciousness is taken as a starting-point for this session, but not as a point to be laboured. Papers are invited which will consider the figure of the pallimpsest to be an appropriate emblem of Romantic practice. Criticism as pallimpsest, the pallimpsest as the governing trope of Romantic psychology or model of the mind, manuscript revision and rewritings of all kinds, the usurpation of one text by another, the accumulation of writings within writings; all these are suitable areas for submissions. If the pallimpsest is a governing trope of Romantic practice, then it places the act of writing itself at the centre of Romantic production. Papers which emphasise writing as a material activity are therefore especially welcome. PHILIP W. MARTIN, Cheltenham and Gloucester College of Higher Education, P.O. Box 220, The Park, Cheltenham, GL50 2QF, UK.

"Who Fears to Speak of '98?": Ireland, Rebellion, and Romanticism. Papers examining political events surrounding Vinegar Hill, Ireland, In 1798, the general response to uprising, and the romantic treatment of the Irish rebellion in art and literature. TIM BURKE, St. Mary's University College, Strawberry Hill, UK, TW1 4SX. E-mail: <burke@smuc.ac.uk>; fax: 0181 240 4255.