



Recycling Myths, Inventing Nations

Programme Overview

Wednesday 14 July 2010

10.00 – 12.00	Arrive & Registration		Reception
12.00 – 13.00	Lunch		Refectory
13.00 – 14.30	Welcome and Plenary	Murray Pittock	Music Room
14.30 – 16.00	Session 1	2 parallel panels	see panel programme
16.00 – 16.30	Tea		Blayney Room
16.30 – 18.00	Session 2	3 parallel panels	see panel programme
18.30 – 19.30	Dinner		Refectory
19.45 – 21.00	Plenary	Gillian Clarke	Music Room
21.00	Relax and unwind		Bar

Thursday 15 July 2010

07.30 – 08.45	Breakfast		Refectory
09.00 – 10.30	Plenary	Alastair Reynolds	Music Room
10.30 – 11.00	Coffee		Blayney Room
11.00 – 12.30	Session 3	3 parallel panels	see panel programme
12.30 – 13.15	Lunch		Refectory
13.15 – 14.45	Session 4	3 parallel panels	see panel programme
14.45 – 16.15	Session 5	2 parallel panels	see programme
16.15 – 16.45	Tea		Blayney Room
16.45 – 18.15	Session 6	3 parallel panels	see panel programme
18.30 - 20.00	Round Table	Researching myth	Music Room
20.30	Mythologies Banquet		Refectory & Bar

Friday 16 July 2010

07.30 – 08.45	Breakfast		Refectory
09.00 – 10.30	Session 7	3 parallel panels	see panel programme
10.45 – 12.15	Session 8	2 parallel panels	see panel programme
12.15 – 12.45	Closing remarks & coffee		Music Room / Blayney Room
12.45	Depart		



Wednesday 14 July 2010

13.00 – 14.30	Welcome & Opening Plenary	Murray Pittock	“What is a national culture?”
14.30 – 16.00 Session 1	Nation Building	Madwomen and matriarchs	
16.00 – 16.30	Tea		
16.30 – 18.00 Session 2	Scandinavian myths	Cultures in contact	Displacement & Identity
18.30 – 19.30	Dinner		
19.45 – 21.00	Plenary	Gillian Clarke	“The King of Britain's Daughter”

Thursday 15 July 2010

07.30 – 08.45	Breakfast		
09.00 – 10.30	Plenary	Alastair Reynolds	
10.30 – 11.00	Coffee		
11.00 – 12.30 Session 3	Myth, media & popular culture	Inventing nations	Identity politics
12.30 – 13.15	Lunch		
13.15 – 14.45 Session 4	Reused myths	Monarchs, pirates & forgers: “constructing” myth & identity	Myth & gender
14.45 – 16.15 Session 5	Dystopias / Utopias	Irish myth	
16.15 – 16.45	Tea		
16.45 – 18.15 Session 6	Fantasy & Myth	Graphic myths	South Africa
18.30 - 20.00	Round Table	Researching myth and writing identities	
20.30	Mythologies Banquet		

Friday 16 July 2010

07.30 – 08.45	Breakfast		
09.00 – 10.30 Session 7	Devolved identities and mythologised peripheries	Supernatural and spectral mythologies	Myths of self
10.45 – 12.15 Session 8	Identities in conflict	Myths of place	
12.15 – 12.45	Closing remarks & coffee		
12.45	Depart		



Session 1

Wednesday 14 July 14.30 – 16.00

Nation building

Room: Seminar 1

Chair: Katherine Terrell (Hamilton College)

Mandy Bloomfield (University of Southampton), “Kamau Braithwaite's visual mythopoetics”

Stina Teilmann (The Danish Design School, Copenhagen), “The myth of Danish design and the formation of national identity: from made in Denmark to designed in Denmark”

Lila Yawn (Cornell University in Rome / John Cabot University), “From *Caput Mundi* to *Culus Mundi*: medieval and early modern myths of the Roman Colosseum”

Madwomen and Matriarchs

Room: Music Room

Chair: Louise Marshall (Aberystwyth University)

Mary Economou Bailey (Ryerson University), tbc

Katarzyna Bronk (Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznan, Poland), ““Our land's an Eden”: A dramatic resurrection of Queen Elizabeth I in English Restoration”

Katherine Heavey (Durham University), “Don't Mention the War: Selectively commemorating Helen of Troy in John Trussell's *The First Rape of Faire Hellen* (1595)”

Claire Odeon Hershman, “Phaedra: classical mythology in modern cinema”

Scandinavian myths**Room: Music Room**

Chair: Luke Thurston (Aberystwyth University)

Charlotte Ashby (Birkbeck, University of London), "The land of heroes: the Kalevala myth and Finnish national identity"

Michael Papadopoulos (University of Leeds), "Neil Gaiman's *American Gods* and the mythologies of Snorri Sturluson"Sabine Strümper-Krobb (University College Dublin), "Bable, Pentecost and Rock 'n' Roll - exploring linguistic identity through myth in Mikael Niemi's *Populär Musik från Vittula*"

Cultures in contact**Room: Seminar 1**

Chair: Maria Daniela Oancea (University of Bucharest, Romania)

Laiz Chen (University of Nottingham) on behalf of Vanessa Andreotti & Garrick Cooper (University of Canterbury, Aotearoa/NZ), "Language as a metaphor for unrepresentable realities: when all we have are flexible 'myths'"

Rangimarie Hunia & Shane Edwards (Te Wananga o Aotearoa, New Zealand), "Accessing the Māori epistemological archive: myth as value added education"

Displacement & identity**Room: Seminar 2**

Chair: Kate Wright (Aberystwyth University)

Ben Grant (University of Kent), "Is the coloniser an ancestor?"

James Taylor (University of Adelaide), "National salvation history, crisis, and the modern nation-state: the myth and cult surrounding a sixteenth-century Thai princess"

Madhu Krishnan (University of Nottingham), "Mythologies of progress, mythologies of tradition: subversion and displacement in contemporary Nigerian identity"

Myth, media and popular culture**Room: Seminar 1**

Chair: Maria Daniela Oancea (University of Bucharest, Romania)

Helena Wu (University of Hong Kong), "Recycling Histories, Reinventing Stories: A look at Jin Yong's Wuxia Novels and the manifestations of Jianghu in Chinese Culture"

Ben Earl (University of Glamorgan), "Progressive Rock and the mythic naturalisation of a subcultural identity"

Farhad Khojraty (University of Mauritius), "Revisiting the courtesan: the persistent modern cinematic myth of the courtesan in Bollywood cinema as allegory for Mauritian Muslim identification with the Bollywood text"

Inventing nations**Room: Seminar 2**

Chair: Murray Pittock (University of Glasgow)

Mary Chadwick (Aberystwyth University), "Classics in Cambria - late eighteenth-century Anglophone Welsh poetry"

Alex Feldman (UT Austin), "Historiographic metatheatre: five nations, four plays, three centuries, two myths and a genre"

Anita Raghunath (Vrije Universiteit), "The 'great-est' invention of the Eighteenth Century"

Identity politics**Room: Music Room**

Chair: Kate Wright (Aberystwyth University)

Darren Kelsey (Cardiff University), "Mentioning the war: they myth of the Blitz spirit in British newspaper responses to the July 7th bombings"

Tim Leadbeater (Leeds Trinity University College), "World within a World: The Conspiracy Theory as Monomyth"

Gwilym Thear (Cardiff School of Journalism), "Uchronic myth in political rhetoric: the creation of national identity in BNP texts"

Reused myths**Room: Music Room**

Chair: Luke Thurston (Aberystwyth University)

Uwe Mayer (University of Giessen), "Transgressive national identity on the stage: the recycling of myth's otherness and the decentring of British past and present in Tony Harrison's *Phaedra Britannica* and Sarah Kane's *Phaedra's Love*"

Katherine Terrell (Hamilton College), "The Trojan War in the British Isles: Anglo-Scottish conflict and the invention of myth"

Siân Thomas (University of Sussex), "'My father left me nothing but the waters': A poet responds to Ovid's *Metamorphoses*"

Monarchs, pirates & forgers: "constructing" myth & identity**Room: Seminar 1**

Chair: Louise Marshall (Aberystwyth University)

Tom Davies (Aberystwyth University), "Making monarchs: myths and mirrors"

Elissa DeFalco (SUNY Maritime College), "'Coterminous with Mankind': Piracy and Dreams of Empire,"

Molly Zimmerman-Feeley (University of Chicago), "Václav Hanka's nationalist project: Czech scholarship and myth in the nineteenth century"

Myth & gender**Room: Seminar 2**

Chair: tba

Susan Joseph (Catholic University of America), "I have been wanting to mourn: solidarity and heroism in recent American and British poetry based on the myth of Demeter and Persephone"

Cornelis van der Haven (Freie Universität Berlin), "Patriotism, Bellicism and the mythical hero in Dutch and German epic around 1750"

Dystopias / Utopias

Chair: Christine Berberich (University of Portsmouth)

Jing-Huey Hwang (National Taiwan University), "Black Dwarf and Radical Satire: Interrogating Britishness from the Margin"

Katarina Labudová (Catholic University Slovakia), "In the Year 2525: (Re)constructions of Biblical myths in *Oryz and Crake* (2003) and *The Year of the Flood* (2009) by Margaret Atwood"

Maria Daniela Oancea (University of Bucharest, Romania), "The Ark in all its forms: revisiting the flood myth in Julian Barnes's *A History of the World in 10 1/2 Chapters*"

Irish myth

Music Room

Chair: Luke Thurston (Aberystwyth University)

Peter Brehny (University of Derby), "The recycling of myths through the literature of Northern Ireland"

Jonathan O'Neill (Australian National University), "Invoking Ireland - Aliu lath n-hErend"

John Poulter (Leeds Trinity University College), "The mythologizing of myth in the construction of the Irish nation: The Cu Chulainn Saga"

Fantasy & myth**Room: Seminar 1**

Chair: Luke Thurston (Aberystwyth University)

Sara-Patricia Wasson (Edinburgh Napier University), "Ghostly Authorities and Vampire Fangs: Myths of Englishness Revised in Anna Kavan's Fiction"

Christiana Flotmann (University of Paderborn), "*Harry Potter* - a return to myth?"

Andrew Rayment (Aberystwyth University), "(Anti-)mythography: the staging of the appearance of myth as its disappearance in Terry Pratchett's Discworld"

Landscaping mythology**Room: Music Room**

Chair: Ben Earl (University of Glamorgan)

Christine Berberich (University of Portsmouth), "'Every map is a fiction': reassessing English myths and (re)imagining the country in the contemporary English 'Home Tour'"

John Bollard & Margaret Lloyd (Springfield College, Massachusetts), "Arthurian Legend Then and Now"

South Africa**Room: Seminar 2**

Chair: Kate Wright (Aberystwyth University)

Gary Baines (Rhodes University), "A martyr in the foundation myth of the liberation struggle: South Africa's commemoration of Solomon Mahlangu"

Simone Kerseboom (Rhodes University), "Grandmother-martyr-heroine: placing Sara Baartman in South African post-apartheid foundational mythology"

Devolved identities and mythologised peripheries**Room: Music Room**

Chair: Maria Daniela Oancea (University of Bucharest, Romania)

Siriol McAvoy (Independent Scholar), “‘Through a glass, darkly’: Re-visions of myth and landscape in the poetry of Lynette Roberts”

Bill Welstead (Aberystwyth University), “Gillian Clarke's *Sabrina*: the role of myth in a bioregional sense of place”Claire Westall (University of Warwick), “*England, England* (1998): Caught between empire and devolution”

Supernatural and spectral mythologies**Room: Seminar 1**

Chair: Sara-Patricia Wasson (Edinburgh Napier University)

David Borthwick (University of Glasgow), “‘Boundaries of Ice and Bone’: liminality and spirituality in the poetry of John Burnside”

Enrique Ajuria Ibarra (Lancaster University), “Ghosts, trauma and national identity in Guillermo del Toro's *The Devil's Backbone*”

Kate Wright (Aberystwyth University), “Ibejis, iconoclasts and the spectre of the double in contemporary Nigerian British fiction”

Myths of self**Room: Seminar 2**

Chair: Claire Odeon Hershman

Hamish Dally (ANU College of Arts and Social Sciences), “Unreadable books: inscribable histories of Tasmania and Biafra in the novels of Richard Flanagan and Chris Abani”

Joanna Morrison (Murdoch University, Western Australia), “Narcissus the actor and the replicated self”

Luke Thurston (Aberystwyth University), “The Phantom Ear of Memory: May Sinclair's Ghostly Myth”

Identities in conflict

Room: Music Room

Chair: tba

Velichka Ivanova (IUFM d'Alsace-University of Strasbourg), "Orpheus in Hell: Jean Anouilh and Petar Neznakomov"

Juan Zarandona (Universidad de Valladolid), "The Arthurian short stories by Joseba Sarrionandia (1958 -): drawing on ancient myths and legends to (re)tell the conflicting story and identify of the Basque people"

Louise H. Marshall (Aberystwyth University), "Scanderbeg, myth, heroism and the eighteenth-century stage"

Myths of place

Room: Seminar 1

Chair: Kate Wright (Aberystwyth University)

Ceulemans Adelheid (University of Antwerp), "The origin myth of Antwerp 'recycled' into a political allegory"

Kelly Hignett (University of Hull), "Identity and myth-making in the bohemian borderlands: the curious case of the Chodové people"

Liz Jacobs (Aberystwyth University), "Myth and Protest in Cherrie Moraga's Theatre"
