

Second Historical Fictions Research Conference (London, 24–25 Feb 17)

National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London, United Kingdom., Feb 24–25, 2017

Deadline: Sep 1, 2016

historicalfictionsresearch.org/conference-2017/

Nina Lübbren, Anglia Ruskin University

Conference Cultural Collaborator: National Maritime Museum.

We aim to create a disciplinary core, where researchers can engage in issues of philosophy and methodology and generate a collective discourse around historical fictions in a range of media and across period specialities.

Paper proposals consisting of a title and abstract of no more than 250 words should be submitted to historicalfictionsresearch@gmail.com

Keynote speakers:

Michael Twitty

Explorer of the Culinary Traditions of Africa, African America and the African Diaspora @Kosher-Soul and <http://afroculinaria.com/>

Virginia Preston

Kings College, London, is deputy director of the Institute of British History and a specialist in the social history of the navy. She has also written on the fictional naval family, the Marlows.

Inshore Squadron: a re-eneactment group who specialise in recreating the movements of historic naval battles from the Age of Sail and presenting them using computers and models of the ships at conferences and public events.

Historical fictions can be understood as an expanded mode of historiography. Scholars in literary, visual, historical and museum/re-creation studies have long been interested in the construction of the fictive past, understanding it as a locus for ideological expression. However, this is a key moment for the study of historical fictions as critical recognition of these texts and their convergence with lines of theory is expanding into new areas such as the philosophy of history, narratology, popular literature, historical narratives of national and cultural identity, and cross-disciplinary approaches to narrative constructions of the past.

Historical fictions measure the gap between the pasts we are permitted to know and those we wish to know: the interaction of the meaning-making narrative drive with the narrative-resistant nature of the past. They constitute a powerful discursive system for the production of cognitive and ideological representations of identity, agency, and social function, and for the negotiation of

conceptual relationships and charged tensions between the complexity of societies in time and the teleology of lived experience. The licences of fiction, especially in mass culture, define a space of thought in which the pursuit of narrative forms of meaning is permitted to slip the chains of sanctioned historical truths to explore the deep desires and dreams that lie beneath all constructions of the past.

We welcome paper proposals from Archaeology, Architecture, Literature, Media, Art History, Musicology, Reception Studies, Museum Studies, Recreation, Gaming, Transformative Works and others. We welcome paper proposals across historical periods, with ambitious, high-quality, interdisciplinary approaches and new methodologies that will support research into larger trends and which will lead to more theoretically informed understandings of the mode across historical periods, cultures and languages.

Registration Fee: £60

Students/Unemployed: £10

You can find a list of last year's papers here:
<https://historicalfictionsresearch.org/conference/programme-for-2016-conference/>

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Facebook Group: Historical Fictions Research Network

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