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## Fakes and Forgeries / Durham Castle (UK) 8/9 July 2002

ID=128880

Location: United Kingdom

Call for Papers Deadline: 2002-01-01

Contributions are invited to an interdisciplinary conference on "Fakes and Forgeries, Conmen and Counterfeits," to be held at Durham Castle (UK) on 8th and 9th July 2002.

This conference seeks to bring together scholars from a variety of disciplines - cultural theory, literary studies, film studies, history, art history, cultural anthropology,economics -- in order to explore the historical, social and cultural significance of fakes, forgeries, hoaxes and counterfeits.

Recent cultural theory has called into question traditional notions of authenticity and originality. Despite critical pronouncements of the death of the author and the substitution of the simulacrum for the original, however, making a distinction between the genuine and the fake continues to play a major role in our everyday understanding and evaluation of culture, law and politics. Consider, for example, the fiasco surrounding the "forged" Hitler diaries, law suits against auction houses for failing to detect forgeries in the art market, or the problem of plagiarism at universities. It still seems to matter that we can spot the difference. But what are we to make of conspiracy theories that the moon landings were faked in a Hollywood studio; the Sokal hoax article in Social Text; or Fragments, Binjamin Wilkomirski's "fake" Holocaust memoir

Has the distinction between the

counterfeit and the real been undermined by the technological ability to make copies that are indistinguishable -- and sometimes better -- than the original

Has the notion of authenticity changed in recent times Do different cultures set the boundaries in alternative ways

Possible topics could include:-

fake memoirs

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film "mockumentaries" counterfeit currency branding, logos and ripoff goods frauds, scams, swindles and cons confidence tricksters P. T. Barnum and Boggs disguise and deception blackface and passing masquerades and ventriloquism forgery in the art world faked archaeological and scientific discoveries internet hoaxes and urban legends conspiracy theories about forged evidence and misinformation digital imaging and virtual reality detection and authentication plagiarism and copyright retro repro

Further details of the conference will be available later at: www.art.man.ac.uk/english/fakes.html

Publication of selected papers is planned for 2003/4.

Please email a 250-word abstract by 1st January 2002 to both organizers:

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## Reference:

CFP: Fakes and Forgeries / Durham Castle (UK) 8/9 July 2002. In: ArtHist.net, Nov 1, 2001 (accessed Oct 22, 2025), <a href="https://arthist.net/archive/24751">https://arthist.net/archive/24751</a>.