

Narratives of Romanticism

The 16th international conference of the *Gesellschaft für englische Romantik* (GER) will be hosted by the English department and the *Center for Narrative Research* of the University of Wuppertal, October 8-11, 2015.

Plenary Speakers: Claire Connolly (University College Cork), David Duff (University of Aberdeen), Saree Makdisi (UCLA), Michael O'Neill (Durham University)

Call for Papers

The theme of the conference is "Narratives of Romanticism". During the last two or three decades, the two key terms "narrative" and "Romanticism" have undergone major re-definitions. It seems quite a long time since the lyric dominated the "Period Formerly Known as Romanticism" as *the* Romantic mode and since narrative fiction had to be (re-)discovered as a major genre which significantly contributed to shape various major discourses between 1770 and 1830. Recent publications, while inevitably participating in the construction of new canons, continue to explore Romantic-era fiction and confirm the ongoing topicality of research projects that explore Romantic narrative genres in their various relevant contexts.

'Narrativity' and 'narration' are equally productive concepts, which are, of course, fruitfully applied across the genres. They invite us to discuss poetry, drama and non-fictional prose as well as fiction and enable us to discover ever new aspects of English Romanticism. The analytical concepts of 'narrativity' and 'narration' are no longer the exclusive territory of (post-)structuralist narratologists. They have travelled widely across the disciplines – from philosophy to sociology, from psychoanalytical trauma theory to the theory of history, from cultural studies to political theory and neuroscience.

Topics could include, but are not limited to:

- Narrativity across genre boundaries: narrative poetry, drama, fiction and prose
- Narrativity and oral tradition
- Romantic epistemologies and innovative narrative strategies (e.g. narrative embedding, metanarrativity, multiperspectivity)
- Narrative coherence and fragmentation
- Romantic ontologies and narration
- Romantic narratives and cognition
- Romantic narratives and affect
- Narratives and/of Romantic bodies
- Romantic theories of narrative and narration
- Narrative constructions of 'Romanticisms'
- Setting Romantic narratives and narratives of Romanticism in space and time (historical fictions, narrating literary histories, regional and global Romanticism)
- Romantic narratives and identity, memory and/or community
- Public and private narratives of Romanticism
- Narrative institutions and institutionalising narration

If you would like to present a paper addressing these or related matters, please send in an **abstract** of no more than 500 words, accompanied by a short biographical sketch. The **deadline** for proposals is **January 10, 2015**. You will be notified within three weeks.

Presentations are limited to **20 minutes**. As usual, the conference will be held in English throughout.

Note: By special agreement, members of NASSR, BARS, JAER, and NARS do not have to become members of the German Society for English Romanticism to take part in this conference – they only pay the regular **conference fee** of 40 Euros (10 Euros for students).

Detailed information about accommodation, travel, registration, a ride in the Emperor's Car of Wuppertal's famous suspension railway as well as a provisional conference programme will be provided on our **website**: www.romanticism2015.uni-wuppertal.de.

Please send your abstracts to the local organizers:
Prof. Dr. Sandra Heinen and Prof. Dr. Katharina Rennhak
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