

# 2007 Conference

## Time and the Victorian Press

Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, 14-16 September , 2007

The 2007 Conference covered various aspects of research into nineteenth century periodicals and serials addressing the broad topic 'Time and the Victorian Press.' Applicants were invited to propose papers on such topics as: periodical rhythms; local, national, and global time; technologies and time; memory; historical pasts and projected futures; signs of the times; visual culture and time; nostalgia; time and reading; leisure and work time.

### Conference Program

#### Thursday, September 13

7:00 – 10:00: Pre-Conference Activities

Board Meeting and Dinner (Alumni House Boardroom)

#### Friday, September 14

8:30 – 2:00: Book and database display: Library and Dining Room

9:30 – 11:00

#### 1. Time in the Dust

Chair: James Mussell (University of Birmingham)

- Michelle Allen (Naval Academy), "Through this link of pen and paper": The Immortal and Ephemeral in the Periodical Publication of Rider Haggard's She.'
- Virginia Zimmerman (Bucknell Univ), 'Times Traces: Material Epistemologies of Past, Present and Future in the Nineteenth Century.'
- Andrew M. Stauffer (Boston Univ), 'Dickens, Egypt and the Curse of Paper.'

#### 2. Rituals of Time

Chair: Mark Turner (King's College London)

- Melisa Klimaszewski (De Pauw Univ), 'A Forgotten Genre: The Christmas Number.'
- Melissa Valiska Gregory (Univ of Toledo), 'Doctor Marigold's Prescriptions and Charles Dickens's "Other" Christmas Tales.'
- Kathryn Henderson (Univ of Iowa), 'Speaking of the Past in "Memory at Cranford": Elizabeth Gaskell and the Readers of Household Words.'

11:15 – 12:45

#### 3. Women and Time I

Chair: Alexis Easley (Univ of St Thomas)

- Andrea Broomfield (Johnson County Community College), ‘Getting Dinner to the Table: Isabella Beeton and the Englishwoman’s Domestic Magazine Confront New Cooking Technologies and Changing Times.’
- Sarah McNeely (Texas State Univ), “‘To Carry on a Conversation’”: Reading the Reader in the Englishwoman’s Domestic Magazine.’
- Kim Duong (Univ of Saskatchewan), ‘Selling Beauty: Illustrated Soap Advertisements in Myra’s Journal of Dress and Fashion, 1875-1912.’

#### **4. Histories in Time**

Chair: Jennifer Phegley (Univ of Missouri–Kansas City)

- Sally Mitchell (Temple Univ), “‘Our Special Correspondent’” in Richmond, April 1865.”
- David H. Stam (Syracuse Univ) and Deirdre C. Stam (Long Island Univ), ‘Polar Shipping News: Periodical on Polar Expeditionary Ships, 1818-1914.’
- Robert P. McParland (Felician College), ‘The Rush of the Stage Coach, The Turn of the Page: American Readers’ Responses to A Tale of Two Cities in All the Year Round.’

1:00 – 2:30

Lunch, followed by Business Meeting

2:45 – 4:15

#### **5. Poetic Time**

Chair: Herbert F. Tucker (Univ of Virginia)

- Robert Patten (Rice Univ), ‘Taking Tennyson’s Serial Poem Serially.’
- Kathryn Ledbetter (Texas State Univ), ‘Magazine Poetesses: Creating a Safe Space for the “Young Lady Who Writes.”’
- William H. Scheuerle (Univ of South Florida), ‘The Interweaving of Poetry and Engravings in the Pictorial Album.’

#### **6. Fashions of Time**

Chair: Katherine Saunders Nash (Virginia Commonwealth Univ)

- Cheryl A. Wilson (Indiana Univ of Pennsylvania), ‘Here and Now: Fashionable Novels in the Periodical Press.’
- Emily Gerhold (Virginia Commonwealth Univ), ‘Fashion, Morality, and Nostalgia in Early 19th Century Periodicals.’
- Cathleen Rhodes (Old Dominion Univ), ‘Shapeshifters: Refiguring the Nineteenth-Century Female Body.’

#### **7. Children’s Time**

Chair: Sally Mitchell (Temple Univ)

- Kristine Moruzi (Univ of Melbourne), 'A Sign of the Times: The Decline and Fall of Atalanta and the Monthly Packet.'
- Elizabeth Harlan (George Washington Univ), 'Childhood Nostalgia in Aunt Judy's Magazine.'

4:30 – 6:00

**Michael Wolff Lecture:** Joel Wiener (Professor Emeritus of History, City Univ of New York), "If there's no news, I'll go out and bite a dog": Some Reflections on Transatlantic Journalism in the Nineteenth Century.'

6:00 Reception

## Saturday, September 15

8:30 – 9:30

Continental Breakfast  
Book and Database Display

9:30 – 11:00

### 8. Women and Time II

Chair: Deborah Morse (College of William and Mary)

- Alexis Easley (Univ of St Thomas), 'Women Writers and Celebrity News at the Fin de Siècle.'
- Jennifer Phegley (Univ of Missouri-Kansas City), "I Not Only Worshipped Her, She Was a Necessity to Me": Nostalgia, Feeling, and Professionalism in Sons' Memoirs of the Lives of Ellen Price Wood and Mary Elizabeth Braddon.'
- Alison McMonagle (George Washington Univ), "Shall we remain magazine-ing?": Florence Nightingale, Religious Reform and the Readership of Fraser's Magazine.'

### 9. Political and Cultural Formations

Chair: Nicholas Frankel (Virginia Commonwealth Univ)

- Russell Mark Wyland (NEH), 'Reading Habits of the Oxford Literary Club.'
- Edward H. Jacobs (Old Dominion Univ), 'The Politicization of Everyday Life in Cleave's Weekly Police Gazette (1834-36).'
- Deborah Mutch, 'Re-Righting the Past: Periodical Fiction, Socialist Historiography, and the Road to the New Life.'

11:15 – 12:30

**Plenary Roundtable Discussion:** “The Digital Future (Is Now).” A discussion on the impact of digital technologies in periodicals research, chaired by Patrick Leary.

2:00 – 3:30

## **10. Periodicity and Ephemera**

Chair: Linda K. Hughes (Texas Christian Univ)

- Laurel Brake (Birkbeck College), ‘Ephemera? Time-management and Serial Publication.’
- Maria Frawley (George Washington Univ), ‘Days of Our Lives: Periodicity, Ephemerality, and the Almanac.’
- James Mussell (King’s College London and NCSE), ‘Writing the “Great Proteus of Disease”: Periodical “Literature” and the 1890 Influenza Pandemic.’

## **11. Heritage and Tradition**

Chair: Elizabeth Harlan (George Washington Univ)

- Manuela Mourão (Old Dominion Univ), ‘Remembrance of Things Past: Literary Annuals’ Self-Historicization.’
- Winnie Chan (Virginia Commonwealth Univ), ‘The Empire Bites Back: the Thanksgiving Menu’s Post-Colonial Rhetoric.’

3:45 – 5:15

## **12. Images of Time**

Chair: Laurel Brake (Birkbeck College)

- Kay Heath (Virginia State Univ), ‘Tempus Edax Rerum: Midlife Anxiety in the Victorian Periodical Press.’
- April Austin (Univ of Missouri-Kansas City), ‘A Sign of the Times: Animals and the Great Exhibition of 1851.’
- Molly C. Youngkin (Loyola Marymount Univ), ‘Time as Narrative Progression in Art Reviews from the Athenaeum, 1844-54.’

## **13. Novelists, Critics, Periodicals**

Chair: Maria Frawley (George Washington Univ)

- Deborah A. Logan (Western Kentucky Univ), ‘“I am, my dear Slanderer, your faithful Malignant Demon”: Harriet Martineau, John Chapman and the Westminster Review.’
- Katherine Malone (Temple Univ), ‘Ann Mozley’s Sympathetic Criticism; or, “something in the process.”’

- Brett C. Kolles (Univ of St. Thomas), 'Wilde Times and Bewildering Moves: Oscar Wilde's Complex Media Aversion and Attraction.'

#### **14. Roundtable Discussion on Teaching Periodicals**

Chair: Robert Patten (Rice University)

- Matthew Stovall (Univ of St Thomas), 'A High-School Teacher's Introduction to Victorian Periodicals.'
- Jim Mussell (Univ of Birmingham), 'Teaching with the NCSE.'

5:30 – 6:30:

**Plenary Lecture: Colby Prize Winner.** David Finkelstein (Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh), 'Re-evaluating Blackwood and its Magazine.'

#### **Sunday, September 16**

9:30 – 10:30

**Post-Conference Activity:** Walking tour of notable Richmond buildings by architectural historian Charles Brownell.