A TWO-DAY CONFERENCE
ON THE WORKS OF
PERCY BYSSHE SHELLEY &
MARY WOLLSTONECRAFT SHELLEY
LONDON
15-16 SEPTEMBER 2017

A collaboration involving academics from the Universities of York, Leeds, Sheffield, Newcastle and Liverpool, and generously supported by:

CONERENCE PROGRAMME
# Table of Contents

- **Our aim** .................................................................................................................. 3
- **Location(s)** .............................................................................................................. 4
- **Organisers** ............................................................................................................... 4
- **Advisory Board** ....................................................................................................... 4
- **Sponsors** .................................................................................................................. 4
- **Bursaries for postgraduates/Early Career Researchers** ........................................ 5
- **Information on the keynote speakers** .................................................................... 6
- **Conference Schedule** ............................................................................................ 7
- **Detailed Schedule with Panels** ................................................................................ 8
  - **Friday 15 September** ............................................................................................. 8
  - **Saturday 16 September** ........................................................................................ 12
- **Art exhibition** ......................................................................................................... 15
- **Contact** .................................................................................................................. 16
- **Acknowledgements** ............................................................................................... 16
OUR AIM

This two-day conference, supported by the Centre for Eighteenth Century Studies, University of York, celebrates the writings of two major authors from the Romantic Period: Percy Bysshe Shelley (PBS) and Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley (MWS).

A continuing scholarly fascination with all things 'Shelley' is due in part to the unprecedented access we now have to their texts (in annotated scholarly editions) and manuscripts (presented in facsimile and transcript). The Shelleys' works are more readily available than ever before. Similarly, the lack of an annual or even frequent conference dedicated to PBS (comparable to those that exist for other Romantic writers) has prompted the decision to organise this event for 2017. Excitingly it is now, in the first part of the 21st century, that the most detailed comprehensive editions of PBS's works are in production (*The Complete Poetry of Percy Bysshe Shelley* ed. Donald Reiman, Neil Fraistat and Nora Crook is already well advanced, with Vol II published soon, and *The Poems of Shelley* ed. Kelvin Everest, G.M. Matthews, Michael Rossington and Jack Donovan is nearing completion).

Previous conferences at Gregynog in 1978, 1980, and 1992 and the Percy Shelley Bicentennial Conference in New York in 1992 have provided a wonderful legacy for future Shelleyan academics, and it is in the spirit of these events that we will present The Shelley Conference 2017. We include MWS in this new conference, as she also does not have her own regular academic event. However, the recent conference 'Beyond Frankenstein's Shadow' (Nancy, France, 2016) focused specifically on MWS, and the emphasis placed on her work at the 'Summer of 1816' conference (Sheffield, 2016) indicated that her role on the main stage of Romanticism is increasingly appreciated.

It is for these reasons that the 'Shelley' of the conference title is left ambiguous. The Shelleys are increasingly seen as a collaborative literary partnership, and modern criticism reinforces the importance of reading their works in parallel. The nuances of this, however, are far from simple, and this statement does not imply there is anything like a sense of either consistent 'unity' or 'conflict' when considering the Shelleys' literary relationship. This is the kind of issue which will be explored at The Shelley Conference 2017.

Because of the significant interest in the conference we have extended the event to two days. Multiple parallel panel sessions have allowed us to present a wide range of exciting papers delivered by researchers from the UK, Europe, and beyond, as well as three plenary talks by eminent Shelley scholars.
LOCATION(S)
All parallel panels and plenary talks will take place in Senate House:

The Institute of English Studies
School of Advanced Study
University of London
Senate House
Malet Street
London WC1E 7HU

The building is a short walk from both Euston and King’s Cross St Pancras Underground and National Rail train stations.

The nearest Underground station is Russell Square.

ORGANISERS
Dr. Anna Mercer (University of York)
Harrie Neal (University of York)

ADVISORY BOARD
Prof. Kelvin Everest (University of Liverpool)
Prof. Michael Rossington (Newcastle University)

SPONSORS

![White Rose College of the Arts & Humanities]

![ROMANTIC BICENTENNIALS]

![BARS British Association for Romantic Studies]

![CENTRE FOR EIGHTEENTH CENTURY STUDIES]
**Bursaries for Postgraduates/Early Career Researchers**

Postgraduates and Early Career Researchers from the White Rose College of the Arts and Humanities (WRoCAH) Universities – that is, the University of Leeds, the University of Sheffield, and the University of York – are eligible for a travel bursary to help them attend this event in London.

We have up to twenty student bursaries at £30 each.

ECRs should be within 5 years of their PhD award.

To apply: contact Harrie Neal (hn553@york.ac.uk) with a short bio and a statement about your research (300 words max). Winners of these bursaries will be announced at the conference. **Make sure to keep all your receipts.**

We regret that we cannot offer bursaries to students and ECRs from other universities, but we hope that the reduced registration fee for these individuals will be beneficial.
INFORMATION ON THE KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Prof. Nora Crook

Nora Crook is Emeritus Professor at Anglia Ruskin University in Cambridge. Her chief publications include the co-authored Shelley’s Venomed Melody (Cambridge University Press 1986), a monograph on Shelley and medicine, which was followed by Kipling’s Myths of Love and Death (Macmillan, 1990) and numerous journal articles and chapters. Her international reputation was established by her textual work on the Shelleys between 1991-2002. Editions of two of P.B. Shelley’s notebooks in the Bodleian Library alternated with her general editorship of twelve volumes of Mary Shelley’s works, which included her own editions of Frankenstein and Valperga. Currently she is co-general editor of the multi-volume Complete Poetry of Percy Bysshe Shelley (Johns Hopkins, 2000 onward), with special responsibility for poems edited by Mary Shelley after P. B. Shelley’s death.

Prof. Kelvin Everest

Kelvin Everest is Emeritus Bradley Professor of Modern Literature at the University of Liverpool, where he also served as Pro-Vice-Chancellor. He has published widely on English Romanticism, and has (with others) edited the Complete Poems of Shelley for the Longman Annotated English Poets series (5 volumes, 4 published and the fifth and final volume expected 2019).

Prof. Michael O’Neill

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Day 1: Friday 15 September

9:00 – 9:30 Registration
9:30 – 9:45 Introduction (Anna Mercer)
9:45 – 11:00 Plenary 1 (Nora Crook)
11:00 – 11:30 Coffee/tea
11:30 – 13:00 Parallel panels session A
13:00 – 14:00 Lunch

(13:30 optional informal panel by Michael Rossington and Nora Crook on current editions)

14:00 – 15:30 Parallel panels session B
15:30 – 16:00 Coffee/tea
16:00 – 17:15 Plenary 2 (Kelvin Everest)
17:15 – 18:30 Wine reception (all welcome)
19:00 to late Conference Dinner (must be pre-booked)

Day 2: Saturday 16 September

9:00 – 10:30 Parallel panels session C
10:30 – 11:00 Coffee/tea and light snack
11:00 – 12:30 Parallel panels session D
12:30 – 13:45 Plenary 3 (Michael O’Neill)
13:45 – 14:00 Closing remarks (Anna Mercer and Harrie Neal)
14:00 onwards Informal gathering and lunch near King’s Cross
DetaIed Schedule with Panels

Friday 15 September

Registration
9:00 – 9:30

Introduction
9:30 – 9:45, Anna Mercer

Court Room

Plenary 1
9:45 – 11:00, Nora Crook (Anglia Ruskin University)
‘Mary Shelley’s Editing of Percy Bysshe Shelley’

Introduced by Harrie Neal

Court Room

Parallel Panels Session A
11:30-13:00, various rooms

A1: ‘The Shelleys’ Philosophies in Prose’ (Chair: Carly Stevenson) Room G34
Catherine Redford (University of Oxford) ‘The Last Man: A Spectral Text’
Paul Stephens (University of Oxford) ‘P. B. Shelley and the Philosophy of Debt’
Molly Dwyer (Mendocino College) ‘Frankenstein and the Emergent Feminine’

A2: ‘Revisions and editing’ (Chair: Alan Weinberg) Room G3
Madeleine Callaghan (University of Sheffield) “Sweet visions in solitude”: P. B. Shelley’s Rejected Opening of Laon and Cythna
Bysshe Inigo Coffey (University of Exeter) ‘Verse Under Erasure: Shelley and the Energies of Cancellation’
Amanda Blake Davis (University of Sheffield) “That I may read his written soul”: Mary Shelley’s Editorial Framing of Prometheus Unbound
A3: ‘Influences and connections’ (Chair: Sharon Ruston) Room G4

Valentina Varinelli (Newcastle University) ‘New lights on the Shelleys’ Pisan circle’

Rieko Suzuki (Wasdea University) ‘Shelleys and Brownings’

Antonella Braidal Laplace (Université de Lorraine) ‘Mme de Staël’s Influence on Percy Bysshe Shelley and Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley: Empowering (Women’s) Politics through Literature’

A4: ‘Shelley’s later reception’ (Chair: Kelvin Everest) Room G7

Argyros I. Protopapas (University of Athens/Greek Ministry of Education) ‘Twenty-first Century Perspectives on P. B. Shelley and Mechanism’

Lawrence Masakazu Yoneta (Shirayuri University) ‘Beyond the Dialectics of Metaphysics and Historicity - (Re)constructing the “Physical” Shelley’

Marco Canani (Università degli Studi di Milano) ‘The Cenci and Its Many Italian Afterlives. A Litmus Test of Percy Bysshe Shelley and Cultural Memory in the Nineteenth Century’

LUNCH

13:00 – 14:00

Jessel Room

13:30 optional: informal panel by Michael Rossington and Nora Crook on current editions. Room G7

Prof. Michael Rossington is editing poems for, and coordinating, the fifth and final volume of the Longman Annotated English Poets edition of ‘The Poems of Shelley’ (Routledge) with Will Bowers, Jack Donovan, Kelvin Everest and Mathelinda Nabugodi.

PARALLEL PANELS SESSION B

14:00 – 15:30, various rooms

B1: ‘Creativity and change’ (Chair: Harrie Neal) Room G34
Jacqueline Mulhallen (Independent Scholar) ‘1817 - a Philosophical Year for Shelley?’
Petr Burkot (Palacký University Olomouc) ‘Mary Shelley – Listener, Reader and Day-dreamer’
Julie Botteron (University of Neuchâtel) ‘Mary Shelley and Fernán Caballero: Compared Experiences of Two Contemporary Women Writers’

B2: ‘Science, theory, religion’ (Chair: Bysshe Inigo Coffey) Room G3
Sharon Ruston (Lancaster University) ‘Chemistry and the Shelleys’
Alice Rhodes (University of York) ‘“The Spirit Which it Breathes”: Percy Shelley and the Science of Inspiration’
Robert Davis (University of Glasgow) ‘Shelley, Religion and Lure of the Gnostics Reconsidered’

B3: ‘Percy and Mary together’ (Chair: Nora Crook) Room G7
Anna Mercer (University of York) ‘“Mrs. S. is now transcribing [...] the best thing I ever wrote”: the Shelleys’ collective working as evidence of collaboration in Italy, 1818-22’
Joanna Harker Shaw (St. Mary’s University) ‘Shelleys as Advisors’
Elizabeth Denlinger (New York Public Library) ‘“Yet dearer for its mystery”: the Shelleys on Show’
Coffee/tea
15:30 – 16:00
Jessel Room

PLENARY 2
16:00 – 17:15, Kelvin Everest (University of Liverpool)
‘The Heart’s Echoes’
Introduced by Drummond Bone
Court Room

Wine reception (all welcome)
17:15 – 18:30

Conference Dinner (must be pre-booked)
19:00

Vasco & Piero’s Pavilion Restaurant
(P B Shelley’s home in 1811!)
15 Poland St, Soho, London W1F 8QE

Read about Shelley’s time in Poland street here:
https://wordsworth.org.uk/blog/2016/12/01/shelley-in-london-poland-street/
Saturday 16 September

Parallel Panels Session C

9:00 – 10:30, various rooms

C1: ‘Psychologies and personalities’ (Chair: Ellen Nicholls) Room G34

Ben Hewitt (University of St Andrews) ‘Percy Shelley and Psychoanalysis: Allegories of Liberation’

Kirstin Mills (Macquarie University) ‘Journeying through the Landscapes of the Mind: the Shelleys, Space, and the Psychological Sciences’

Anthony Howe (Birmingham City University) ‘Shelley’s Letters: Past, Present and Future’

C2: ‘Rethinking Shelley for later generations’ (Chair: Carl McKeating) Room G4

Graham Henderson (Music Canada & K-SAA Board) ‘Romantic Resistance: What was in PB Shelley’s radical toolbox that can help us today?’

Mark Summers (Independent Scholar) ‘Reclaiming the Radical Republicanism of P B Shelley’

Tom Mole (University of Edinburgh) ‘Shelley’s Long Poems in Victorian Anthologies’

C3: ‘P B Shelley: Aesthetics and Speculation’ (Chair: Anna Mercer) Room G5

Jonathan Quayle (Newcastle University) ‘Writing the Future: Percy Shelley and Utopia’

Alan M. Weinberg (University of South Africa) ‘Shelley’s “A Future State”: abiding concerns, precedents, and paradoxes’

Emma Suret (University of Sheffield) ‘“Attracts to crush, repels to make thee wither”: Shelley’s Aesthetics in Adonais’
C4: ‘Sympathies’ (Chair: Catherine Redford) Room G7

Harrie Neal (University of York) “Mary Shelley's ecofeminism beyond 
*Frankenstein*: mind, body, and animals in “The Heir of Mondolfo”

Fani Cettl (Central European University) “I gazed with a kind of wonder”: The
Making of Mary Shelley's Vegetarian, Animist Creature’

Merrilees Roberts (Queen Mary) 'The Problem of Sympathy in *A Defence of Poetry*

Coffee/tea and light snack

10:30 – 11:00

*Room 349/350 (third floor)*

PARALLEL SESSIONS D

11:00 - 12.30, various rooms

D1: ‘Texts composed in 1816’ (Chair: Graham Henderson) Room G34

Deborah Stiles (Dalhousie University) 'Geneva Summer, Dundee Winter: MWS, 
Seasonality, and Settings in *Frankenstein*

Carl McKeating (University of Leeds) “‘A City of Death”: The Shelleys and “Mont 
Blanc”’

Miriam Sette (University ‘G. d'Annunzio' Pescara) 'Poetry as Vision: “Mont Blanc” by Shelley'

D2: ‘Translation and transition’ (Chair: Michael Rossington) Room G4

Mathelinda Nabugodi (Newcastle University) ‘Germs in the crucible: translation 
and poetic creation in Shelley's late work’

Maria Schoina (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece) 'Mary Shelley's 
Greek Studies Revisited’

Paul Whickman (University of Derby) ‘*Laon and Cythna* and *The Revolt of Islam*: 
Revisions as Transition’
D3: *Rosalind and Helen* and other stories (Chair: Jack Donovan) *Room G7*

Daniel Westwood (University of Sheffield) ‘“A maze of light and life”: Artistry and Ideology in *Rosalind and Helen* and *Julian and Maddalo*’

Alessandra Monorchio (University of Bristol) ‘Sympathy and its Limits in P. B. Shelley’s *Rosalind and Helen*’

Lynn Shepherd (Independent Scholar) ‘Dead Poet’s Notoriety – Fictionalising the Shelleys’

**PLENARY 3**

12:30 – 13:45, Michael O’Neill (Durham University) “*Pictures*” and “*Signs*”: Creative Thinking in P. B. Shelley’s Prose’

*Introduced by Madeleine Callaghan*

*Room 349*

**Closing remarks**

13:45 – 14:00 Anna Mercer and Harrie Neal

*Room 349*

**Informal events**

14:00 onwards

*Lunch somewhere nearby for those who wish to join, followed by a walk to Old St Pancras Graveyard if it is fair*
Art Exhibition

Artwork by Louisa Albani – on display in Senate House

Mary Shelley – ‘Spirit of Place’

A collection of artworks commemorating the 200th anniversary of the publication of Frankenstein.

Mary Shelley was born on a day that saw a comet visible through London skies. She conceived of Frankenstein on a stormy night in Geneva, where the air was heavy with the after effects of a volcanic eruption. The elements seem a significant presence in her inner and outer life, as do ‘ghosts’.

The Italian landscape is both a place of literary inspiration and a site of deep sorrow. It is indeed a ‘landscapes of ghosts’ as is her early life in London, growing up without a mother.

This art project explores ways of making visible the emotionally and psychically charged nature of Mary Shelley’s engagement with ‘place’, as well as touching on themes of how we remember someone, and how we imaginatively ‘reclaim’ bonds.
CONTACT

Contact/questions: Anna Mercer and Harrie Neal
anna.mercer@york.ac.uk / hn553@york.ac.uk/
theshelleyconference@gmail.com

Twitter:@shelleyconf2017

Conference hashtag: #shelleyconf2017

https://theshelleyconference2017.wordpress.com
https://www.ies.sas.ac.uk/events/conferences/shelley-conference-2017

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The organisers offer our grateful thanks to:

Raluca Chereji and IES, the University of York and our other sponsors: WRoCAH, Romantic Bicentennials, and the British Association for Romantic Studies, Dr Catriona Kennedy, Dr Jim Watt and Dr Joanna Wharton at the Centre for Eighteenth Century Studies (York), the academic advisory board Prof Kelvin Everest and Prof Michael Rossington, our Sheffield and Leeds WRoCAH links Carl McKeating and Carly Stevenson, Vasco and Paul at Vasco & Piero’s Pavilion Restaurant, and our plenary speakers Prof Nora Crook and Prof Michael O’Neill. Many thanks also to all our chairs and to the delegates and speakers for their interest in this event.

Thank you to Graham Henderson for promoting this event online. Read Anna Mercer’s piece ‘Why the Shelley Conference?’ here:

Cover image credit: