

Faculty of Humanities
artsmethods@manchester bulletin

February 2013



In this bulletin you will find information and events of interest to postgraduate researchers and academic staff within The School of Arts Languages & Cultures. This bulletin and other issues can also be downloaded from the [news](#) page of the artsmethods@manchester website.

For artsmethods@manchester updates please follow our [Twitter page](#) @ArtsMethodsManc.

**Useful links**

[artsmethods@manchester](#) [am@m events calendar](#) [am@m resources](#) [am@m blog](#)
[methods@manchester](#) [Researcher Development site](#) [eProg](#) [CIDRA](#)

News**eProg**

The look and feel of eProg has changed. The training calendar and catalogue now sit outside of eProg's functionality but can still be accessed from My Manchester. We would encourage you to check the status of any forthcoming training events that you are booked on to and inform us at artsmethods@manchester.ac.uk if anything is awry

Apps

The Researcher Development Team are planning on developing a mobile app for PGRs in the Faculty of Humanities. We value your input and would like to hear what kind of features you would like to see in an app. Please send your ideas to us [here](#).

Workshops

All workshops, unless otherwise stated, will take place on Mondays between 12-2pm in the Graduate School Training Room, Mansfield Cooper Building room 2.04. Please visit the [calendar](#) and [eProg](#) to book.

Forthcoming workshops:

[Research Methods in Book History](#) – 11/02/13

[Using Derrida](#) – 18/02/13

[Methods in Transcription & Conversation Analysis](#) – 21/02/13

[Methods for Using Newspapers in Research](#) – 25/02/13

[SALC GTA Series 5 Teaching relationships](#) – 04/03/13

[Using Cultural Studies](#) – 04/03/13

[Discourse Analysis](#) – 11/03/13

Arts Methods Resources:

Arts methods resources are now being added to the website. For more details please visit www.artsmethods.manchester.ac.uk/resources

A full list of workshops on the 2012-2013 programme can be found at
<http://www.artsmethods.manchester.ac.uk/events/workshops2012-13.html>.

Please **only** attend sessions when you have booked a place. We keep track of numbers to make sure classes are not too full, and attending without registering is also unfair to those who have booked or are on a waiting list. If you are unable to attend a workshop on which you have booked, you **MUST** cancel your place through eProg or notify artsmethods@manchester.ac.uk in advance of the session. Please also make sure you can arrive to the session on time and that you can attend the whole session: late arrivals and people leaving halfway through the session create disruption.

Publishing Workshops

The University of Manchester Library is offering two sessions on Publishing – booking is required as places are limited:

[Navigating the World of Publishing](#) 13/02/13, 2-4pm

[Writing for Publication: Emerald Publishing Group](#) 19/03/13, 1-3pm

Other Events

Drama Research Seminars – ALL WELCOME

Thursday 7th February, 5 - 7.30pm (SL01, Martin Harris Centre)

'Theatre, performance and activism: gestures towards an equitable world' (descriptions of moments of theatrical activism and protest gestures from Drama staff and postgraduate researchers, with special guests).

Thursday 21st February, 5 - 7.30pm (SL01, Martin Harris Centre)

Visiting speaker - Dr Sally Mackey, Central School of Speech and Drama (University of London) will give a talk on theatre, place and community.

Thursday 7th March, 5-7pm (SL01, Martin Harris Centre)

What is the significance of the term "Drama" in the 21st century drama/theatre/performance disciplines?' – several speakers .

Thursday 21st March, 5 – 7pm (place to be confirmed)

Visual Dialogues event - film screening/talk with invited speaker

Thursday 25th April, 5 – 7pm (place to be confirmed)

At First Sight event – film screening/talk with invited speaker

CIDRAL Open Lectures, Conversations and Events

Open Lecture Tuesday 12 February

Professor Ruth Wodak (Lancaster University)

The New Language of Politics? CIDRAL with LEL

5-7pm in John Casken Lecture Theatre, Martin Harris Arts Centre.

Followed by a wine reception.

Open Lecture - Wednesday 20 February

Professor Vijay Mishra (Oxford University and Murdoch University, Australia)

In the Salman Rushdie Archive CIDRAL with EAC and Drama
5.10-7.10pm in John Casken Lecture Theatre, Martin Harris Arts Centre.
Followed by a wine reception.

Open Lecture - Tuesday 26 February
Prof. Dieter Stein (Henrich Heine University, Düsseldorf)
On Open Access 4-5.30pm in 1.219, University Place
CIDRAL and LEL

Open Lecture - Tuesday 5 March
Professor Susan Bassnett FRSL (University of Warwick)
Translating Today's World 5-7pm in John Casken Lecture Theatre, Martin Harris Arts Centre.
Followed by a wine reception.

Theory Intensive- Wednesday 6 March
Professor Jeremy Tambling (EAC)
On Melanie Klein 2-4pm in Roscoe, 4.8

Calls for Papers

Rupert Thomson: a critical symposium

14th June 2013, International Anthony Burgess Foundation, Manchester

Keynote Speakers: John McAuliffe (Manchester) and Rupert Thomson

An academic conference supported by the University of Manchester @artsmethods and Gylphi's *Contemporary Writers: Critical Essays* series.

Proposals are invited for papers for the first academic symposium focusing on contemporary writer Rupert Thomson, whose work includes eight novels (with *Secrecy*, his ninth, due in March 20113) and a celebrated memoir (*This Party's Got to Stop*, 2010). Despite widespread critical acclaim, there has as yet been no sustained academic engagement with Thomson's writing.

Thomson's extraordinarily varied oeuvre offers a compelling case study in late twentieth and early twenty-first century literature: an experimental and innovative corpus without a dominant that engages with the legacies of – yet seeks to move beyond postmodernism. Each text represents an innovative engagement with form and subject matter, ranging from a dystopian alternative future (*Divided Kingdom*, 2005), to a meditation on crime and cultural memory (*Death of a Murderer*, 2007) and an unsettling exploration of gender violence (*The Book of Revelation*, 1999). Their settings vary from the distinctly British to the international (*Air and Fire*, 1993) and the mysteriously displaced (*The Insult*, 1996).

The organisers welcome papers ranging in discipline and on any topic related to Rupert Thomson's work. Suggested topics include but are not limited to:

- **Genre:** Considering Thomson's texts as engagements with or challenges to specific genres or theories of genre. Could include comparison with authors like David Peace, China Miéville and David Mitchell who receive scholarly attention for their own blurring of the literary/genre divide.
- **Britishness:** How far do the texts' transnational spaces – and Thomson's own status as an expat for most of his writing career – challenge the very category of 'British' writers and writing?
- **Reception:** What perspectives does the reception of Thomson's work raise when considering the crafting of the contemporary canon through literary review culture and/or academia.
- **Gender:** Considering the complex representations of gender in Thomson's work, including the relationships between masculinity, sexuality and masochism.
- **Violence:** How is violence figured in Thomson's work, especially sexual violence committed by female perpetrators and accomplices, and apparently random violent acts?

- **Memory texts:** How does Thomson figure the frailty and power of memory – both individual and collective? How does this presentation of memory shape his historical fictions?
- **Dystopias:** What are the politics of futurity and how does literary dystopia function in Thomson's work?
- **The contemporary memoir:** Does the memoir represent a break in Thomson's oeuvre (coinciding with his move to Granta)? How does it speak to other recent memoirs penned by contemporary writers (e.g. Maggie Gee, Jeanette Winterson)?
- **Style:** How does literary style operate as a distinctive element of Thomson's work?
- **Author function:** In what ways does Thomson's corpus challenge the notion of 'the author' as both a conceptual and a critical category, as well as a staple of the marketing and consumption of contemporary fiction?

An edited collection based on the proceedings of the conference is planned as part of Gylphi's Contemporary Writers: Critical Essays series.

Abstracts of no more than 300 words and a short bio should be sent to Rebecca Pohl and Chris Vardy at rupertthomsonsymposium@gmail.com by 15th February 2013.

For further information about attending the conference: www.gylphi.co.uk

'Siblings' conference day @ Manchester Art Gallery, Sat 23 March 2013

Art History & Visual Studies, The University of Manchester

[supported by artsmethods@manchester & methods@manchester]

The event examines the implications of Juliet Mitchell's psychoanalytical theories of "Siblings" for artistic and critical discourses, and poses the question 'how can a theory of siblings open up visual culture and the Manchester Art Gallery collections?'

Contributors include:

Juliet Mitchell, UCL, Mignon Nixon, Courtauld, Catherine Grant, Goldsmiths Carol Mavor, The University of Manchester, Jonny Briggs, Artist; New Sensations Winner, The Saatchi Gallery and C4 2011

A call for proposals from PGR students: 10min responses to areas of the Manchester Art Gallery collection with regard to any aspect of "siblings" {proposals can take the form of an academic or creatively written response and is open to all subject areas in the School of Arts, Languages and Cultures}

Suggested topics:

-Sisters, brothers {Sisterhood// Brotherhood} - Fairytales, - Literature, - Twins, - Familial narratives, - Psychoanalysis/ Anthropology/ Sociology - Seriality and repetition, - Reproduction – Doubling, - Photography; miniature painting; embroidery and textiles; doll houses, - Clothing, tokens, ephemera, - Sibling narratives- Mourning and death; birth, - Sexuality & violence

Please email jenna.ashton@manchester.ac.uk for details of the accompanying list of Gallery art works which may offer the basis for a 10 minute response.

Please send a 200 word abstract, name and department info to ahvsmanchesterresearch@gmail.com by 22 February.