

**Instruction, Amusement and Spectacle: Popular Shows and Exhibitions 1800-1914**  
**University of Exeter**  
**16-18 April 2009**

**Thursday 16 April**

**11.00–1.00 REGISTRATION & COFFEE**

**1.00–2.30 PLENARY PANEL:**

- Martin Hewitt (Manchester Metropolitan University) *Beyond science: the spectacle of words in nineteenth-century popular lecturing*
- Ann Featherstone (University of Manchester) *Performing the popular: thoughts about nineteenth-century performers, performance and performances*
- Jon Burrows (University of Warwick) *West is best; or, what we can learn from Bournemouth*

**2.30–3.00 BREAK**

**3.00–4.30 PARALLEL PANELS**

**Panel A: Rational Recreation**

- Annemarie McAllister (University of Central Lancashire) *'You never went to the Band of Hope to sign the pledge, you went because it was a magic lantern show': representations of children and strong drink in the Victorian lantern slide*
- Karen Eifler (University of Trier) *Between attraction and instruction: magic lantern shows in British poor relief*
- Susan Ash (Edith Cowan University) *Panoramas and living pictures: Dr Barnardo's Annual General Meetings*

**Panel B: The Exotic on Display**

- Rikke Andreassen (Malmö University) *Exhibiting the other – while positioning one's place in the world order. Danish exhibitions of 'exotic' people from 1876-1909*
- Sadiyah Qureshi (University of Cambridge) *Performing race: displaying and studying 'exotic' humans in Victorian Britain*
- Stephanie Pratt (University of Plymouth) *George Catlin's Indian Gallery: the performance and display of American Indian culture in Victorian England*

**Panel C: Theatrical Spectacle**

- Hannah Kaufman (Royal College of Art) *English music hall ballet 1880-1914*
- Viv Gardner (University of Manchester) *Just what did they do in 'The Dairymaids'? : an exploration of song and dance in the performance of the musical comedy chorus 1900-1910*
- Marty Gould (University of South Florida) *Victorian pachydrama: elephants and the performance of empire*

**Panel D: Commodity Cultures**

- Jason Scott (Leeds Trinity & All Saints) *Merchandising popular culture 1870-1914*
- Paul Young (University of Exeter) *Geography made easy? Gaming and globalization in the nineteenth century*
- Roger Sabin (Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design) *Ally Sloper on stage*

**4.30–4.40 BREAK**

**4.40–6.10 PARALLEL PANELS**

**Panel A: Museums and Cultural Identity**

- Marie Bourke (National Gallery of Ireland) *Great exhibitions: the catalyst to found national museums, galleries and libraries*
- Anne-Solène Rolland (Paris-Sorbonne University) *Exhibiting the others: the making of German ethnological museums between popular shows and scientific exhibition*
- Helen Sutcliffe (University of Leeds) *'...in the midst of the darkness of provincial philistinism': exhibiting culture in nineteenth-century Leeds*

**Panel B: Spiritualism on Show**

- Martin Willis (University of Glamorgan) *Harry Houdini and Conan Doyle perform a séance*
- Richard Noakes (University of Exeter) *Spiritualism and its professors on trial: occult and popular sciences in Victorian lecture halls, stages, and periodicals*
- Victoria Irvine (University of Glasgow) *A relationship of power': Whistler, models and spiritualism*

**Panel C: Art and the theatre**

- Eva Greguski (The Long Island Museum) *Rustic refinements: the musical genre paintings and prints of American painter William Sidney Mount, 1830-1860*
- Ming-tseuy Ni (National Taipei University of Education) *The female child performer in the late Victorian music hall*
- Angelika Zirker (Eberhard Karls University) *'One of the most elaborate and extensive Scenes ever introduced on the English Stage': from picture to scene in mid-Victorian pantomime*

**Panel D: Early Film Reception**

- Deac Rossell (Goldsmith's College, University of London) *'...divers Personages running at the Ring...': The magic lantern and moving pictures*
- Elizabeth Carlson (Lawrence University) *The palace of illusions: from reflections to projections*
- Annemone Ligensa (University of Siegen) *Early cinema and sensationalism: a cross-cultural media commodity*

**6.10–7.00 WINE RECEPTION & BOOK LAUNCH**

**7.00–8.00 PERFORMANCE: 'Daguerre's Diorama' by Simon Warner**  
[www.simonwarner.co.uk/news](http://www.simonwarner.co.uk/news)

**8.00 DINNER**

## **Friday 17 April**

### **9.00–10.30 PARALLEL PANELS**

#### **Panel A: Evolution on Display**

- Ilja Nieuwland (Huygens Institute, Royal Netherlands Academy of Sciences) *A 'royal fuss'? Mr. Carnegie's gift, Mr. Holland's distribution and Mr. Benjamin's aura*
- Caroline Radcliffe (University of Birmingham) *The talking fish: Victorian entertainment and the evolutionary delusion*
- John Miller (University of Glasgow) *Exhibition, narration and the invention of the gorilla*

#### **Panel B: Exhibiting the Nation**

- Aleksandra Djajic-Horvath (European University Institute) *'How will the buds collected in our woods smell in a foreign country? The Musée Ethnographique Serbe at the Exposition Universelle de Paris 1900*
- Ellinoor Bergvelt (University of Amsterdam) *Folklore in the Netherlands and its colonies: exhibitions 1883-1898*
- Marta Filipová (Nottingham Trent University) *The peasant as a spectacle: the Czechoslovak Ethnographic Exhibition of 1895*

#### **Panel C: Literary Perspectives**

- Kirstyn Leuner (Miami University) *The imperial diorama and the novel: the power of remediation*
- Laurie Garrison (University of Lincoln) *Dark interpreters and comic heroes: the textual history of the theatre copyist in the 1850s*
- Charlotte Unsworth (University of Manchester) *'The height of their ambition is to be beside themselves': the Victorian actress in 'No Name' and 'The Christian'*

#### **Panel D: Modern Life in a Lens**

- George Panaghi (City University of New York) *Photography and the progressive gaze: Jacob Riis's lectures on 'the other half'*
- Matthew Potter (University of Leicester) *Herkomer's celluloid masquerade: projected identity, and location and the creation of space and time in early cinema*
- Maurizio Cinquegrani (King's College, University of London) *Early topical films and distant urban spaces in difficult times: from the Sepoy Mutiny in Delhi to the Boxer Rebellion in China and the Boer War in Cape Town*

### **10.30–11.00 BREAK**

### **11.00–12.30 PARALLEL PANELS**

#### **Panel A: Fighting Talk**

- Alice Barnaby (University of Exeter) *Urban illuminated entertainments and street violence 1800-1840*
- Máire ní Fhlathúin (University of Nottingham) *Exhibiting criminals and performing criminality in nineteenth-century British India*
- Janice Norwood (University of Hertfordshire) *Tom Sayers: bare-knuckle fighter, national hero and clown*

### **Panel B: Antiquity on Display**

- Sophie Thomas (University of Sussex) *Antiquity at the panorama: locating the past*
- Donato Esposito (University of Plymouth) *(Re-) imagining Assyria: archaeology and panoramas 1850-1860*
- Megan Price (Oxford University) *Presenting the past through Victorian lantern slides*

### **Panel C: Exhibiting Science**

- Iwan Morus (University of Aberystwyth) *The art of projection: material cultures of Victorian scientific illusion*
- Simon Naylor (University of Exeter) *Displaying regional knowledge: science and technology exhibitions in Victorian Cornwall*
- Oliver Gaycken (Temple University) *'A fine attack of the jim-jams': The popular science film at the Charles Urban Trading Company under F. Martin Duncan*

### **Panel D: Patriotism on Show**

- Karen Stanworth (York University, Toronto) *Staging a siege: the spectacular representation of citizenship*
- Simon Pople (University of Leeds) *A patriotic show: performing the Boer War*
- Paul Maloney (University of Glasgow) *'Why tarries Fairy Thistledown so long? Going abroad to find ourselves at home: William Lowe, unionism, imperialism and Scottish pantomime*

### **12.30–1.30 LUNCH**

### **1.30–2.30 KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

Bernard Lightman (York University, Toronto)  
*Spectacle in Leicester Square: James Wyld's Great Globe 1851-1861*

### **2.30–2.40 BREAK**

### **2.40–4.10 PARALLEL PANELS**

#### **Panel A: Viewing the World**

- Kostas Ioannis (University of Ioannina) and Eleni Mouzakiti (Independent Researcher) *Greece in Idaho: stereoscopic photographs of Greece used by American institutions*
- Darren Bevin (University of Exeter) *Mr. Albert Smith's ascent of Mont Blanc*
- Carol Adlam (University of Exeter) *Overlooked and overlooking: phantasmagorist-aeronaut Etienne Gaspard-Robert's six years in Russia 1803-1809*

#### **Panel B: Instruction and Spectacle**

- Leila Koivunen (University of Turku) *China and Africa on Tour in Finland: African Chinese Missionary Exhibition (1911-12) and the spectacle of the other*
- Taina Syrjämaa (University of Turku) *Experiencing progress: multisensory edutainment in the World's Fairs at the turn of the century*
- Kate Nichols (Birkbeck College, University of London) *Greek and Roman sculpture escapes the museum: classical culture at the shows of London*

### **Panel C: Exhibiting the Body (i)**

- Beverley Rogers (Swansea University) *Unwrapping the past: the exhibiting of Egyptian mummies in the nineteenth century*
- Frances Larson (Durham University) *Henry Wellcombe's historical medical museum: science or spectacle?*
- Patrik Sjöberg (Karlstad University) *Museum death cinema: taxidermy as proto-photographic meta-display*

### **Panel D: Urban Living**

- Stuart Evans (Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design) *How can art be introduced into the houses of those of limited income...?*
- Ben Highmore (University of Sussex) *Spectacular vernacular: distraction and display at the Ideal Home Exhibition*
- Frans Lundgren (Uppsala University) *Making civic observatories: visual pedagogy in Patrick Geddes' exhibitions*

### **4.10–4.30 BREAK**

### **4.30–5.45 PARALLEL PANELS**

#### **Panel A: All the Fun...**

- Josie Kane (Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design) *A whirl of wonders: British amusement parks and the architecture of pleasure 1900-1914*
- Barbara Fahs Charles (Independent Researcher) *'Parker's seal of cleanliness': a visit to the Parker Shows carnival midway*
- Mark Sloan (Halsey Institute of Contemporary Art) *Hoaxes, humbugs and spectacles: astonishing photographs of smelt wrestlers, human projectiles, giant hailstones, contortionists, elephant impersonators, and much, much more!*

#### **Panel B: Film in London**

- Luke McKernan (British Library) *Funland: motion pictures and amusement arcades in London, 1894-1910*
- Tony Fletcher (Independent Researcher) *A kinematograph journey through London 1907-08*

#### **Panel C: Physical Impressions**

- James Emmott (Birkbeck College, University of London) *Face-making, vocal impersonation and the construction of character in the nineteenth century*
- Kate Mattacks (University of the West of England) *'Natural pantomime': speech disability and inclusivity on the Victorian stage*

### **6.00–7.45 PERFORMANCE: 'Dan Leno: The King's Jester' by Tony Liddington**

[www.prom-prom.com](http://www.prom-prom.com)

### **8.00 CONFERENCE DINNER**

## **Saturday 18 April**

### **9.00–10.30 PARALLEL PANELS**

#### **Panel A: Questioning Perspective**

- Jennifer Plastow (University of Hertfordshire) *Playing with shadows: throwing light on 'the dark' in the late nineteenth century*
- Trish Pringle (RMIT University) *Why do ghosts float?*
- Ben Carver (University of Exeter) *De Quincey and the phantom organs of modern subjectivity*

#### **Panel B: America in Britain**

- Michael J. Davies (Birkbeck College, University of London) *'Eclipsed by the stars and flogged by the stripes of America': American showmanship arrives on the world stage at the 1851 Great Exhibition in London*
- Bridget Millmore (University of Brighton) *'To picture to the eye': consuming Buffalo Bill's Wild West in Lewes, Sussex at the beginning of the twentieth century*
- Robert Lewis (University of Birmingham) *Panoramic visions of the Mississippi Valley: American showmen in London 1848-52*

#### **Panel C: Exhibiting the Body (ii)**

- David Haldane Lawrence (Independent Researcher) *Heroes, warriors, strongmen: male posing on the stage and in the arena*
- Evelien Jonckheere (Ghent University) *Ethicalisation or aestheticisation of 'savage' women*
- Melissa Bellanta (University of Queensland) *Rorty Kate goes to the show: on Cockney acts and Larrikin girls*

#### **Panel D: Spectacle & Invention**

- Verity Hunt (University of Reading) *'The wizard of Menlo Park'. Thomas Edison: showman, magician, inventor*
- Brenda Weeden (Independent Researcher) *From magic lantern to cinema: the Polytechnic Theatre, Regent Street*
- Simon Werrett (University of Washington) *The arsenal as theatre*

### **10.30–11.30 KEYNOTE ADDRESS:**

Vanessa Toulmin (Research Director, National Fairground Archive, University of Sheffield)  
*Professor Vanessa's twenty performing wonders: the intermediality of early film and Edwardian popular entertainment*

### **11.30–12.00 BREAK**

### **12.00–1.30 PARALLEL PANELS**

#### **Panel A: The Role of the Lecturer**

- Gareth Cordery (University of Canterbury) *Exhibiting politics: Harry Furniss and the 'Humours of Parliament'*
- Diarmid Finnegan (Queen's University, Belfast) *Religious polemics and scientific speech: towards a rhetorical geography of science and religion in mid-Victorian Britain and Ireland*
- Anna Vaninskaya (University of Cambridge) *Cheers and jeers: lecturer-audience interaction in the fin de siècle socialist movement*

### **Panel B: Civic Spectacles**

- Victoria Garlick (University of Manchester) *A veritable arcadia: William Henry Broadhead and the Prince of Wales Baths, Blackpool*
- Julia Parker (Kingston University) *Hampton Court Palace in the nineteenth century: public art gallery or 'well-loved resort of Cockneydom'?*
- Deborah Sugg Ryan (University College, Falmouth) *Spectacle, the public and the crowd: Edwardian historical pageants*

### **Panel C: Freak Shows**

- Fiona Pettit (University of Exeter) *Barnum's bodies: extraordinary feats of the human form*
- Meredith Conti (University of Pittsburgh) *From the studio to the scrapbook: multivalent meanings of nineteenth century freak photography*
- Ellen Vincer (York University, Toronto) *Travelling shows, fairgrounds and freaks: 'The Man with the Rubber Head' in the archives*

### **Panel D: Exhibiting Perspective**

- Anders Ekström (Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm) *Seeing from above: spectacularising the elevated view at the Stockholm Exhibition of 1897*
- Isabelle Flour (Paris-Sorbonne University) *Exhibiting architecture in three dimensions: architectural cast collections and national pavilions at the World's Fairs*
- Susan Tenneriello (Baruch College) *Infinite horizons: a bird's eye view of nature, art and industry in the 1876 American Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia*

**1.30–2.15 LUNCH**

**2.15–3.45 PARALLEL PANELS**

### **Panel A: Race and Performance**

- Jeff Bowersox (University of Southern Mississippi) *Performing race: African and African-American entertainers in turn-of-the-twentieth-century Germany*
- Rachel Cowgill (University of Leeds) *The rise and fall of the Metropolitan Police Minstrels*
- Hazel Waters (*Race and Class*) *Jacks and diamonds: race, liberty and heroism*

### **Panel B: Public Reception**

- Claudia Hörster (University of Amsterdam) *Amusement and spectacle as magnet for an afternoon with art?: the visitors of the Rijksmuseum Amsterdam and the influence of the annual fair, 1844-1878*
- Lucinda Matthews-Jones (University of Manchester) *'Voting for your favourite picture': working-class taste at the Whitechapel Fine Art Exhibitions, 1889-1895*
- Ana Petrov (University of Belgrade) *'High' and 'low' entertainment: the nineteenth-century public concert and making the distinction*

### **Panel C: Regional Cultures**

- Ros Leveridge (University of Exeter) *'In these days of the wonderful': the arrival of cinema in South Devon resorts 1896-1914*
- Lucie Sutherland (University of Nottingham) *Industry, art, entertainment: the musical repertoire at the Nottingham and Midland Counties Art and Industrial Exhibition of 1865*
- Matthew McDowell (University of Glasgow) *Sport, fraternity and empire: the social gatherings of Scottish footballers, 1870-1902*

**Panel D: Celebrity**

- Jacob Smith (University of Nottingham) *The adventures of the bridge jumper*
- Whitney Helms (University of Nebraska-Lincoln) *Dickens commodifying, Dickens commodified: the reading tours*
- Anna Brown (Independent Researcher) *The gastronomic symposium of all nations*

**3.45**            **CLOSE**