



Seminar and Conference Programme 2018

Lunchtime Work-in-Progress Seminar Series

This takes place in ArtsTwo, 2.18 at QMUL Mile End Campus, 12.30 – 1.30pm

- 24 January** Tessa Whitehouse (QMUL, English), 'Friendship across denominations: Editing the letters of Sally Wesley and Mercy Doddridge'
- 31 January** Emma Salgard-Cunha (Cambridge, Divinity), 'Bad Feelings: Disowning the Affections in the Early Methodist Hymn'
- 7 February** Peter Howarth (QMUL, English), reading group on festivals
- 7 March** Ceri Law (Cambridge/QMUL History), 'Sermons, Autobiography and Memory in early modern England'
- 14 March** Revd. Richard Harries (KCL, Theology), 'Emily Dickinson: A Smouldering Volcano'

Seminar in Religion and Literature

This takes place in ArtsTwo, 2.17 at QMUL Mile End Campus, 5.15 – 6.45pm

Professor Erik Tønning (Bergen), "European Paideuma": Ezra Pound's Poetic and Political Faith in the 1930s'

In 'European Paideuma', an unpublished essay from 1939 intended for the propaganda journal *Germany and You*, Ezra Pound summarized his religious vision for a Europe at the cusp of war. The paper examines Pound's construction of an authentically 'European' faith focused around polytheism, fertility rites and survivals of the Eleusinian mysteries, presented as a sharp contrast to the monotheism and asceticism of the 'Semitic'. Surrounding correspondences with Leo Frobenius' Institute of Cultural Morphology in Frankfurt, and with the editors of *Germany and You*, demonstrate that Pound's essay must be understood as part of a larger propaganda effort, exploring the possibility of an

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| <p>The Queen Mary Centre for QMCRLE Religion and Literature in English</p> |  |
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Italian-German cultural collaboration that might strengthen the axis between these fascist regimes and give them a common purpose beyond their military pact of steel.

Date: Wednesday 9 May, 5.15-6.45pm **Place:** ArtsTwo 2.17, QMUL Mile End Campus

Professor Miri Rubin (QMUL), 'Ecclesia and synagoga'

Church and synagogue are known as the carved female figures which were placed on the facades of several European cathedrals. They are taken to represent the triumph of Christianity over Judaism. This paper will present a current research project, which seeks to embed the images in regional and historical contexts, and which shows the imagery to have a dynamic history, one of images with very few words attached.

Date: Wednesday 30 May, 5.15-6.45pm **Place:** ArtsTwo 2.17, QMUL Mile End Campus

QMCRLE conference: Religion and the Life-Cycle, 1500–1800

This takes place on Friday 6 July 2018 at QMUL, Graduate Centre room 6.01

The keynote papers are:

Professor Elaine Hobby (Loughborough): 'We have an example in Scripture' (*The Midwives Book*): Women, Religion, and the Early-Modern Life Cycle'

Dr Adam Sutcliffe (King's College London): 'The Children of Israel and the Passage to Adulthood in Early Modern Europe'

This one-day conference will interpret the term 'Life Cycle' broadly, to include biological transition points such as birth and death, social transition points such as coming of age ritual, marital and employment status, life-stages such as childhood or adolescence, and indeed the passage of time and the process of aging. The conference seeks to explore institutional religious ceremonies and prescriptions relating to the life-cycle, as well as more personal and informal religious beliefs and responses.