

Romantic Interactions

Kraków, 4 - 6 April 2019

Keynote speakers confirmed so far are Fred Burwick (UCLA) and Juliette Wells (Goucher College)

Organisers: Institute of English Studies, Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Polish Society for the Study of European Romanticism



Adam Mickiewicz i Antoni E. Odyńiec, podczas wycieczki na Wesołusz, d. 29 Maja, r. 1830 r. (5862)

‘Great spirits now on earth are sojourning’, wrote Keats in 1816. While his sonnet celebrates the originality of his contemporaries and the historical significance of his times, it also points to deep interest in ‘the hum of mighty works’ in all the fields of human activity– to which “the nations” ought to listen. In her book *Romantic Interactions*, Susan Wolfson defines ‘interaction’ as the way in which writers define themselves as ‘authors’ in relation to other authors. Although Romantic writers tend to assert their individuality, this assertion often takes the form of positioning themselves in connection to other authors and literary texts. Keats’s poem suggests not only interactions between poets, artists and social thinkers in the same language, but also the idea of international appreciation and interaction.

Our conference builds on Wolfson’s idea by broadening the subject to explore the interactions of Romantic authors within the wider scope of European and American culture. We are interested in exploring Romantic writers’ interactions with their contemporaries, the culture of the past, and their interactions across the arts and sciences.

Submissions: We welcome papers on various forms of interactions which involve the production and reception of literary texts in the Romantic period. Papers may explore topics including, but not limited to:

- literary ‘interactions’ among Romantic writers; interactions between poetry and fiction
- interactions with the culture of the past
- intercultural interactions
- transatlantic interactions
- intertextuality, influence, anxiety of influence
- interactions across the arts, and across the arts and sciences
- Romantic afterlives

We invite submissions in the following formats:

- Proposals for 20-minute individual papers (250 - 300 words) by 7 January 2019. Applicants should include a brief biographical note of up to 150 words.
- Proposals for complete sessions of three 20-minute papers (250-300 word abstracts for each paper with a brief rationale for the session) by 7 January 2019.
- Proposals for open-call sessions (300 words) by 2 December 2018.

Submissions should be sent to romantic.interactions@gmail.com. Notifications of acceptance will be sent out by 4 February 2019.

The conference is organized in **Kraków**, a UNESCO city of literature, which truly celebrates 'the great spirits' of the Romantic Age with the statue of Adam Mickiewicz in the centre of the medieval Market Place and the mound built in honour of Tadeusz Kościuszko on the outskirts of the city. With its historic monuments, vibrant cafés and lively academic and literary communities, Kraków attracts visitors from all over the world, and was recently home to Nobel Prize winning poets Czesław Miłosz and Wisława Szymborska.

The language of the conference is English.

Conference fee: PLN 430 (100 Euro)

Organising Committee: dr Monika Coghen monika.coghen@uj.edu.pl, dr Anna Paluchowska-Messing a.paluchowska-messing@uj.edu.pl, dr hab. Władysław Witalisz