



# The Literary London Society

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## LLS Newsletter – Spring 2016

### Contents

1. [2016 LLS Conference](#)
  2. [CFP: Literary London Journal](#)
  3. [Reading Group Schedule](#)
  4. [Publications of Interest to Members](#)
  5. [Events of Interest to LLS Members](#)
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1. [2016 LLS Conference](#)

Registration for the Literary London Conference 2016 '**London and the Globe**' is now open! Largely due to room costs the fees have changed slightly this year:

- Standard speakers rate – £100
- Concessionary rate (students/unwaged/retired) – £75
- Optional dinner at Antalya Restaurant – £25

We would kindly ask that you register by **1st June** at the following link:  
<http://www.ies.sas.ac.uk/London-and-the-Globe>

If you have any problems completing the electronic registration process you can also download a form and submit this manually to [IESEvents@sas.ac.uk](mailto:IESEvents@sas.ac.uk).

Details of the draft programme will be released by the end of May. In addition to a fantastic line-up of plenary speakers, including Brian Chikwava (author of *Harare North*) and Dr Rachael Gilmour (QMUL), the Literary London Society is pleased to announce that events scheduled for Friday 8 July now include a performance of Shakespearean and London-themed songs by [Illumination Chamber Choir](#) and a screening of Robert Stagg's new documentary 'Shoreditch: Shakespeare's Hidden London' followed by a discussion from a panel of respondents including Chris Smith, Baron Smith of Finsbury and Dr Sarah Dustagheer.

The conference will begin on Wednesday 6th July with our Annual General Meeting at midday followed by the President's welcome address commencing at 2pm. Our annual lecture finishes at 8pm. There are then two full days on Thursday 7th and Friday 8th.

For more information, please visit <http://www.literarylondon.org/conference/> or contact the Conference Organiser, Dr Peter Jones.

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<https://twitter.com/PTAJones>



# The Literary London Society

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## 2. [CFP: Literary London Journal](#)

### CFP: 'Shakespeare's Londons/London's Shakespeares'

To tie in with the forthcoming Literary London Conference (6 - 8 July 2016) on the theme of 'London and the Globe', [The Literary London Journal](#) invites contributions for a special issue on '**Shakespeare's Londons/London's Shakespeares**'.

The deadline for submissions is **31 August 2016** and articles (between 5,000 - 7,000 words) might broadly address one or more of the following topics or questions:

- How are 'Londoners' (*Henry VIII*, 1.2.155) constructed in Shakespeare's plays?
- What role did – or do – London audiences play in constructing Shakespeare?
- In what ways can we rethink Shakespeare's anapopism, ie. his staging of London as other cities?
- Can we see evidence of 'Global Shakespeares' in the refracted Londons he represented?
- What urban locations – in London or beyond – matter in Shakespeare's plays, and our current understanding of them?
- What contributions can contemporary spatial theory make to understanding Shakespeare's staging of cities such as London?
- Do Shakespeare's staged cities cultivate or curtail the ambiguities (linguistic, spatial, sexual and social) of urban life?
- In what ways can we see The Globe Theatre – past and present – as a microcosm of a changing and conflicted London?
- How does the reconstructed Globe Theatre offer a venue for staging modern urban experience?
- What role does the reconstructed Globe Theatre play in (re)conceptualising Shakespeare's relationship with London?

All submissions should be sent to Adam Hansen ([adam.hansen@northumbria.ac.uk](mailto:adam.hansen@northumbria.ac.uk)) or Adele Lee ([a.lee@gre.ac.uk](mailto:a.lee@gre.ac.uk))

*The Literary London Journal* is fully peer-reviewed. It is published twice a year, and is indexed by the MLA International Bibliography and the Directory of Open Access Journals.

For further details, including the style guide, please visit <http://www.literarylondon.org/london-journal/submission.html>



# The Literary London Society

### 3. [Reading Group Schedule](#)

The Literary London Reading Group will host its final session of the academic year on **Tuesday, 14 June**. On this date we'll be pleased to welcome Dr. Rebecca K. Hahn (Tubingen), who will introduce a session on Sylvia Townsend Warner's 'The Green Torso'. The session will be held at 6-7pm in Senate House, Room 103.

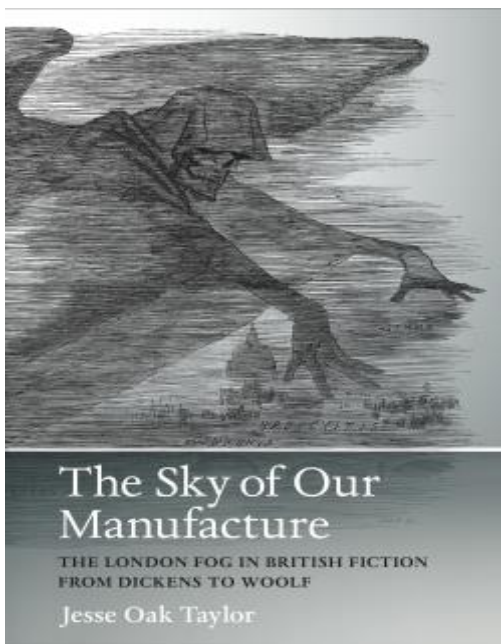
We're also very excited to announce that we're planning a special summer session of the Reading Group, which will take place at this year's Literary London Society conference, 'London and the Globe'. This session will be **a round table discussion dedicated to Virginia Woolf's *Orlando* (1928)**, and will feature four scholars who will comment on each of the novel's eras. Guest speakers are soon to be announced, so keep an eye on [our blog](#) for many exciting updates!

The group is public and open to anyone with an interest in Literary London. As it's a reading group, however, we encourage attendants to read the materials (available on the [blog](#)) in advance of the session — but otherwise there are no stipulations or requirements.

Visit [our website](#) for more details or [contact](#) the organisers, Lisa Robertson and Eliza Cubitt.

### 4. [Publications of Interest](#)

- Jesse Oak Taylor, [Sky of Our Manufacture: The London Fog in British Fiction from Dickens to Woolf](#) (University of Virginia Press, 2016)

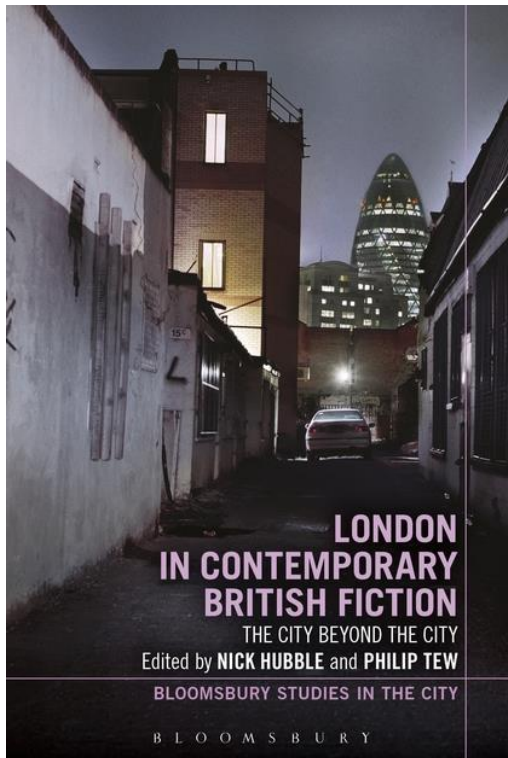


“The smoke-laden fog of London is one of the most vivid elements in English literature, richly suggestive and blurring boundaries between nature and society in compelling ways. In *The Sky of Our Manufacture*, Jesse Oak Taylor uses the many depictions of the London fog in the late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century novel to explore the emergence of anthropogenic climate change. In the process, Taylor argues for the importance of fiction in understanding climatic shifts, environmental pollution, and ecological collapse” (Blurb)



# The Literary London Society

- Ben Judah, [\*This is London: Life and Death in the World City\*](#) (Pan Macmillan, 2016).
- Nick Hubble and Philip Tew, eds, [\*London in Contemporary British Fiction The City Beyond the City\*](#) – forthcoming in 2016



“Contemporary writers such as Peter Ackroyd, J.G. Ballard, John King, Ian McEwan, Will Self, Iain Sinclair and Zadie Smith have been registering the changes to the social and cultural London landscape for years. This volume brings together their vivid representations of the capital. Uniting the readings are themes such as relationship between the country and the city; the capacity of satirical forms to encompass the 'real London'; spatio-temporal transformations and emergences; the relationship between multiculturalism and universalism; the underground as the spatial equivalent of London's unconsciousness and the suburbs as the frontier of the future. The volume creates a framework for new approaches to the representation of London required by the unprecedented social uncertainties of recent years: an invaluable contribution to studies of contemporary writing about London” (Blurb)

## 5. [Events of Interest](#)

- **Cities After Hours Colloquium, UCL, 25 May 2016**

CITIES AFTER HOURS

Colloquium  
UCL  
13th May 2015

Bringing together researchers from across UCL who are considering the city "after hours" from a variety of disciplinary perspectives.

11:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.  
Gustave Tuck Lecture Theatre, UCL  
Free but booking required  
citiesafterhours@ucl.ac.uk

Contributors

- Sabina Andron (Bartlett)
- Mara Arts (CMIL)
- Ruth Austin (French)
- Matthew Beaumont (English)
- Max Colsan (Urban Lab)
- James Kneale (Geography)
- Roland-François Lack (French)
- Sam Nightingale (CaH)
- Chris O'Rourke (CHIRP)
- Margarita Saad (French)
- Rafael Schacter (Anthropology)
- Huda Tayob (Bartlett)
- Emma Whipday (English)

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# The Literary London Society

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Keynote lectures will be delivered by Professor William Sharpe (Barnard College, Columbia University) and Professor Joachim Schlör (University of Southampton). The film director Barnaby Southcombe will present his feature film *I, Anna* (2012), a noir thriller set in London, followed by a question and answer session with the audience.

Admission to the colloquium will be free thanks to the generous support of UCL JFIGS, UCL SELCS, UCL Urban Lab. The colloquium will be part of UCL's week-long Festival of Culture.

Further information about the colloquium is available from the Colloquium Organiser, [Ruth Austin](#).

- **Shakespeare the Londoner, Footprints of London Festival of Walks**

William Shakespeare's heart was always in Stratford upon Avon where he was born and also where he died 400 years ago on 23rd April 1616. But his head, figuratively speaking, was always in London where he found fame and fortune as both an actor and playwright. This April we are celebrating Shakespeare the Londoner in a month-long Footprints of London festival of walks which look at Shakespeare's life in London, the background to some of his plays and the events that occurred in his lifetime.

Details of all our walks can be found on [our website](#).

- **The London Library's 175th anniversary**

To celebrate this milestone in our history, the London Library is hosting a very special weekend of events (**WORDS IN THE SQUARE: Celebrating 175 Years Of Inspiration at The London Library 5 – 8 May 2016**).

Across the weekend, there will be 17 events and 50 of the biggest names in literature and the arts, for a weekend of talks and debates covering subjects as diverse as literature and writing, history, science, art, comedy, the creative process, cricket and much more.

Visit our [website](#) for further details.

- **Polite and Impolite Pleasures: Entertaining the Georgian city, 21 October 2016**

The Georgian era saw a great increase in the variety of entertainments available to an expanding and urbanising population, and it was in towns and cities that eighteenth-century cultures of recreation and leisure, both 'high' and 'low', were most



# The Literary London Society

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developed. From theatrical performances and musical recitals, assemblies and dances, to race meetings, boxing matches, cock fights and hangings, Georgian urban life offered a dazzling and constantly changing kaleidoscope of polite and impolite pleasures.

In Georgian cities the lowest and the highest forms of entertainment were catered for along with everything in between, from the cultivated recreations of the nobility through the gentility of middle-class leisure to the earthier enjoyments of the 'common folk'. New cultures of entertainment reflected changing patterns of work, mobility and social relations, and reflected developments in class, gender and the dynamics of personal and collective identity. The urban environment itself was affected by these changing cultures of entertainment. From London to provincial centres, industrial cities to market towns, new promenades, parks, streets and squares were developed, new theatres, assembly rooms and concert halls were built and embellished. And paralleling this brightly-lit and orderly world of polite pleasure was another, darker urban realm of more dubious diversions: prostitution and prize fights, the gambling stew and the drinking den.

This symposium, the fourth **Fairfax House Symposium in Georgian Studies**, aims to explore the theme of entertainment with particular reference to the concept of 'polite and impolite pleasures' in an urban context during the long eighteenth century (c.1680-c.1830). Contributions in the form of papers not exceeding 20 minutes in length are invited addressing relevant topics which may include, but are certainly not limited to:

- The city as a focus for polite and impolite entertainments Entertainment shaped by, and a shaper of, the Georgian city
- Urban/rural interaction in Georgian entertainments
- High and low in eighteenth-century urban entertainments
- Selling entertainments: publicity, advertising, industries of pleasure
- Questions of class, gender and identity in entertainment

Please send proposals of around 200 words, accompanied by a brief one-paragraph biography, to [fairfaxhousesymposium@gmail.com](mailto:fairfaxhousesymposium@gmail.com) by **Friday 29 July 2016**.

Any queries about the symposium should be sent to the same email address.