Literary London Conference
Programme

‘Fashioning London:
Streets, Styles and Storytelling’

6-7 July 2023
Northeastern University London

Twitter: @LiteraryLondon #litlon23
Instagram: londonliterarysociety
Schedule

Wednesday 5 July

16:15-17.30: Walking tour of West Norwood Cemetery led by Jane Jordan

Thursday 6 July

09.00-09.30: Registration

09.30-10.00: Welcome Address (Room 121)

10.00-11.30: Panels

Thrifting: The London Rag Trade and History’s Hand-me-downs (Room 121)

Chair: Bethan Bide (University of Leeds)

- Danielle Dove (University of Surrey) – Sartorial Circulations and Sustainable Consumption in Victorian London’s Second-Hand Clothes Markets
- Jörg Ole Munch (German Historical Institute, London) – Picking Rags in Early Victorian London, or: The Importance of Being Jewish
- Peter Jones (Open University) – Old Clothes, Books, and Historical Time in Victorian London

Digital Cities: Mapping London’s Literary and Cultural Past (Room 122)

Chair: Martin Dines (Kingstone, University of London)

- Peter Maber (Northeastern University London) – The Origins of West End Theatre
- Uta Staiger (University College London) – European Literary Map of London
- Oliver Ayres (Northeastern University London) – Mapping Black London

11.30-11.45: Refreshments break (Room 123)
11.45-13.00: Panels

Regency Styles: Fashion and Fashionability in Early Nineteenth-century Magazines (Room 121)

Chair: Alistair Robinson (Northeastern University London)

- Natasha Bharucha (University of Oxford)– ‘Follies of Fashion’– satirising fashion in the women’s magazine La Belle Assemblée (1806-32)

- Dan Wall (University of Aberdeen)– Rugged and Uneven Narrations: Street Styles and the London Magazine

Queer London: Style and Sexuality in Literature and Culture, 1950-2000 (Room 122)

Chair: Susan Alice Fischer (Medgar Evers College)


- Sian Loxston (Kingstone, University of London)– The hopeful promise of new materialist touch in Sarah Waters’s Tipping the Velvet (1998)

13.00-14.00: Lunch (Room 123)

14.00-16.00: Panels

Authority, Self-Styling, and Feminist Visions of London (Room 121)

Chair: Chloe Pinto (Northeastern University London)

- Rebecca Newby (Northeastern University London)– Weaving as Writing? The Significance of Women’s Work in Arthurian Literature

- Rebecca Steinberger (Misericordia University)– ‘Britanias Atlas, Star of England’s globe’: Refashioning Elizabeth I on the 21st Century London Stage

- Lisa C. Robertson (University of New Brunswick)– ‘More Efficient, Cleanly, and Convenient’: City Planning and Eugenics in Elizabeth Burgoyne Corbett’s A New Amazonia (1889)
Elena Nistor (University of Bucharest)– On Fashion as Identity in Bernardine Evaristo’s *Girl, Woman, Other* (2019)

**Dressing the Part: Self-Presentation and Performance, 1800 to the Present (Room 122)**

Chair: Charlotte Grant (Northeastern University London)

- Peter Maber (Northeastern University London)– “Worthless rainbows”? Power and Performance in the Costume Tropes of Sam Selvon and Mustapha Matura
- Susan Alice Fischer (Medgar Evers College, City University of New York)– ‘You’re wearing *that*?’ Recreating Self and Culture through Fashion in Contemporary London Fiction

16.15-17.45: Annual Lecture (Room 121)

Lucie Whitmore (Museum of London) and Bethan Bide (University of Leeds)- ‘Fashion City: How Jewish Londoners shaped global style’

17.45-19.15: Drinks Reception (Room 123)

19.30: Conference Dinner at the Dickens Inn

**Friday 7 July**

10.00-10.30 Registration

10.30-11.30: Panels

**Stitching the Shattered City: Literary Reflections of World War I and II (Room 122)**

Chair: Lucie Glasheen (Queen Mary, University of London)

- Alexandra Pantsou (Independent)– Mapping the Vestimentary motifs in T. S. Eliot’s *The Waste Land*: A dystopian and apocalyptic fashion style reflecting the ‘signs of the time’
• Simon W. Goulding (Independent)– That Changed and Mutable City: London, Autumn 1940

Shimmering Silks, Jewelled words: Faces of Fashion in Literary Culture (Room 121)

Chair: Flora Lisica (Northeastern University London)

• Emma Felin (University of Oxford)– Gemstones, Jewellery, and Mina Loy’s *Songs to Joannes*

• Tyne Daile Sumner (University of Melbourne)– Façade, Fashion, Flâneur: Virginia Woolf’s London Faces

11.30-11.45: Refreshments break (Room 123)

11.45-13.15: Student Forum (Room 122)

Fashioning Ignatius Sancho’s London: An Exploration of Race, Location and the Eighteenth Century Gentleman

Oliver Ayres, Ellen Scout Valente, Libby Collard and Odile Jordan (Northeastern University London) (Northeastern University London)

London’s Marginal Minds and Bodies

Chair: Flora Lisica (Northeastern University London)

• Anna Langston (Northeastern University London)– Bedlam: A Portrait of London and Literature

• Miriam Cruz (Northeastern University London)– Virginia Woolf’s Explorations of Space and Bodies in the City

13.15-14.15: Lunch (Room 123)

14.15-15.15: Plenary (Room 121)

Charlotte Grant (Northeastern University London)– Self-fashioning in Eighteenth-Century London: Geography, Masquerade, and Identity in *Roxana* and *Fantomina*

15.15-16.45: Panels
Architectural Alchemy: Fabricating Transparent and Liminal Spaces, 1600-2020 (Room 121)

Chair: Peter Jones (Open University)

- Allen Loomis (Binghamton University)– Transparent Connections: Exploring the Social and Architectural Implications of Transparent Glass in Early Modern London
- Lara Taylor (Northeastern University London)– ‘This Thirsty Retinue’: Pub Culture and the Fashioning of London in The London Spy
- Lucie Glasheen (QMUL)– Self-build, spectacle and urban-rural transgression: refashioning the home in the cartoon ‘Casey Court’
- Andrea Thorpe (University of Johannesburg)– ‘It was concrete that called me proof of light’: Porous spaces in Jay Bernard and Caleb Femi’s London poetry

Clothing the Streets: Fashion’s Paradoxes in Nineteenth-century London (Room 121)

Chair: TBC

- Eloise Scott (Northumbria University)– ‘An odd jumble of […] sympathies and antipathies’: William Hazlitt and the Paradox of Fashion
- Flora Lisica (Northeastern University London)– Byron’s Albanian Dress and the Performance of Foreignness
- Alistair Robinson (Northeastern University London)– ‘Clothing, Pauperism, and Power in the Metropolitan Workhouse’

16.45-17.00: Closing Remarks (Room 121)

17:00: Informal Drinks at the Town of Ramsgate

This conference was originally planned for 2020, but was postponed because of Covid-19. The original conference was organised by Eliza Cubitt, Hadas Elber-Aviram, Lucie Glasheen, and Nicolas Tredell. The organising team this year are: Peter Jones, Flora Lisica, Alistair Robinson, Lara Taylor and Miriam Cruz. For any conference queries please contact: literarylondonconference@gmail.com
New Book Releases

*Cultures of London: Legacies of Migration*, edited by Charlotte Grant and Alistair Robinson (Bloomsbury, Jan. 2024). pp. 352. £17.99 (Paperback)

From its origin as the Roman city of Londinium through to its latest incarnation as a super-diverse World City in the twenty-first century, London’s history and culture has been shaped by migration. Through thirty-three short essays written by academics, artists, broadcasters and curators, this book expresses and celebrates the plurality of the capital’s cultures and affirms the importance of migration in the making of the modern city. Together, they form a vivid and vital collection of snapshots that create a kaleidoscopic vision of the city, and provide new insights into the successive migrant communities that have come to London and made it their own.

Conference delegates can get 20% off by visiting [Bloomsbury.com](http://Bloomsbury.com) and using the discount code: **GLR BD8UK**
In and around London…

The following exhibitions intersect with our conference theme and may be of interest to delegates.

**Barbican:** [Square Mile Photo Walk](#): Photography tour, contrasting London’s newest modern architecture within the historic Square Mile

**Foundling Museum:** [Finding Family](#): from the 17th Century to present day, exhibition explores new perspectives on what family is and can be

**London Metropolitan Archives:** [Unforgotten Lives](#): presents the stories of Londoners of African, Caribbean, Asian and Indigenous heritage who lived and worked in the city between 1560 and 1860

**Pigott Galleries:** [Crown to Couture](#): exhibition draws fascinating parallels between the world of today’s red carpet and the Georgian Royal Court in the 18th century

**Queen’s Gallery:** [Style & Society](#): Dressing the Georgians: Discover what fashion can tell us about life in 18th-century Britain, a revolutionary period of trade, travel and technology which fuelled fashion trends across all levels of society

**Victorian & Albert Museum:** [Diva](#): exhibition celebrates the power and creativity of iconic performers, exploring and redefining the role of 'diva' and how this has been subverted or embraced over time across opera, stage, popular music, and film
The Literary London Conference will take place in this block of rooms.