

BARS 2019

Open Call Session: Housing Romanticism: Facts and Fantasy

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Houses in literature are not a mere assemblage of bricks, roofs, rooms, furniture; they are, in fact, lived experiences and the image of an episteme, the products of the experiencing of time, social and cultural forces, power relations, aesthetics. This open-call engages with the variety of approaches to the study of the house in the Romantic period and aims to demonstrate whether this tenet or fiction of firmness still holds true in a world in flow, continually challenged and rewritten, restructured or dismantled by diasporas, resettlements, border-crossings, and transformations in identity, society, and culture. We invite papers that examine the importance of the house (or other types of dwelling places) as signs reflecting the dynamic interplay of several diverse and contending forces: individual and collective, (trans)national and individual, artistic and theoretical, social, economic, cultural and psychological.

Interdisciplinary and comparative approaches are warmly encouraged. In particular, the convenors welcome proposals addressing the below topics from transatlantic, transnational and colonial perspectives. Topics that participants may wish to consider include: - society as reflected in the architecture of the house (with its inside and outside);

- the house and its networks: literary, political, and social encounters;
- academies and institutions;
- the house as a place of sociability and culture;
- House as a line;
- living the house/life in the house: the house and its furnishings, the inhabitants of the house;
 - the house and identity;
- the house and the nation(s); the discourses of the house in transcultural perspectives;
- gendered houses;
- Romantic accounts of the house;
- houses and domestic spaces on stage;
- Romantic critical theory and the house;

- famous houses/ the houses of the famous;
- authors' houses and the author house museums;
- discourses of the house in non-literary texts such as representations of the house in portraits, or landscape paintings.

