

BARS 2019: Romantic Facts and Fantasies

Proposal for an open-call early-career workshop

Proposer: Prof. Nicola J Watson, Open University, UK (nicola.watson@open.ac.uk)

Dreaming Romantic Europe: a workshop

The organisers invite up to 6 early-career colleagues to take part in an innovative early-career workshop led by Professor Nicola J. Watson. The workshop will be based on the AHRC-funded network *Dreaming Romantic Europe*. This is developing a virtual exhibition called REVE (Romantic Europe: The Virtual Exhibition). For further details see below.

Prospective participants are invited to showcase their research in the form of an 'exhibit' for RÊVE. In the workshop itself they will be asked to speak to a single powerpoint image of their chosen object in a presentation of no more than 1000 words plus a very short title. Discussion will focus both on the research content and on how best to communicate it to a general audience.

To express interest, please write to Watson at nicola.watson@open.ac.uk with a proposal of a title, image and 100 words. Strong propositions will explicitly address the conference preoccupation with the relations between Romantic fact and fantasy as they play out around iconic objects. The best submissions will be featured within RÊVE as a part of a new collection within RÊVE to be entitled 'Romantic Fact and Fantasy.'

The organisers also extend a warm welcome to auditors interested in learning more about the project and the possibilities that it presents.

Further details:

The core research output of the AHRC-funded project *Dreaming Romantic Europe* is RÊVE (Romantic Europe: The Virtual Exhibition). Addressing both an academic and a general audience, RÊVE is an interdisciplinary online project showcasing and sharing Romantic texts, objects, and places through a panEuropean collaboration between academic researchers, museums, galleries and other cultural groupings. It aims to examine and compare the ways European Romanticisms constructed foundational ideas of cultural consumption, authorship, and medium. To do this, it explores and describes how these ideas were expressed and experienced through iconic objects (conceived in the broadest sense as comprising buildings, landscapes, and artefacts). RÊVE is designed to organise, curate, and make publicly accessible up to 100 microbiographies of the most compelling of these objects. Taking the interim form of a monthly blog-post, RÊVE launched in 2017 with 'exhibits' including Teresa Guccioli's lock of Byron's hair, Rousseau's trapdoor, and a previously unknown oil-painting referred to in Madame de Staël's *Corinne*. For further information and posts see <http://www.euromanticism.org/>