

## Annual Report 2004-05

### Institute of Greece, Rome, and the Classical Tradition

#### Including the Faculty theme 'Reception'

The Institute was formed from a fusion of the Institute of Hellenic and Roman Studies and the Centre for the Classical Tradition. It provides the location for the Faculty Theme, 'Reception'. Its executive committee for this session was: Professor Stephen Bann (History of Art); Dr Katherine Harloe (Institute Fellow); Dr Tamar Hodos (Archaeology); Professor David Hopkins (English); Dr Miriam Leonard (Classics and AH); Professor Charles Martindale (Classics and AH, Director); Dr Neville Morley (Classics and AH); Dr Nicoletta Momigliano (Archaeology, Deputy Director); Dr James Thompson (History); Dr Vanda Zajko (Classics and AH).

Appointments etc:

Dr Katherine Harloe (PhD in Philosophy, Cambridge) started a 2-year fellowship, working on Nietzsche and the Greeks (in the event the fellowship was curtailed since she accepted a 5-year lectureship at Oxford).

Dr Ika Willis (PhD in Cultural Studies, Leeds) has been appointed Faculty Lecturer in Reception (assigned to Classics and AH and English).

Two MA students were awarded Rayne Scholarships, worth £7500 (Amber Standifer in Classics and AH, DeAnna Cardoza in Archaeology). This scheme has now come to an end.

Reports were received from Dr Stefano-Maria Evangelista and Dr Isobel Hurst, last year's fellows, which have been lodged in the Institute's files; both carried out a successful programme of research.

Fundraising:

This has been another successful year, thanks in particular to the efforts of Dr Momigliano and Professor Fowler. A dinner hosted by William Waldegrave raised £30K for another postdoctoral fellowship. £19K has been raised for the A. D. Momigliano fund towards the £50K required to start an endowment. Other donors include the Leventis Foundation (£26K for Leventis Fellowship); the VC; the Rayne Foundation (£15K for MA scholarships); the Onassis Foundation (£5K for Greek teaching); the Marks Foundation (£1.5K for conference); Rose Kenway; BIRTHA. The Hammond Appeal continues to raise money (£25K so far).

Publications:

The Institute has recently negotiated two publishing deals:

1. Blackwell is sponsoring a lecture series in Bristol, hosted by the Institute, 'The Bristol Blackwell Lectures in Greece, Rome, and the Classical Tradition', subsequently to be published as monographs, beginning in spring/summer 2007. The lecturers are chosen by a committee comprising: the Director of the Institute; the HoD of the Department of Classics and Ancient History; the Faculty Research Director; a representative of Blackwell; 3 other members of the Faculty of Arts. The following have already accepted invitations: Professor Ian Morris (Stanford), 2007; Professor Danielle Allen (University of Chicago), 2008, on philosophy and politics; Professor Greg Woolf (St Andrews), 2009; Professor Erika Fischer-Lichte (Berlin), 2010, on performativity and Greek drama.

2. I.B. Tauris has asked Professors Martindale and Kennedy to edit a series of monographs, 'New Directions in Classics', to be associated with the Institute. An editorial advisory committee has been set up: Dr George Boys-Stone (Durham); Dr Stuart Gillespie (Glasgow); Professor Robin Osborne (Cambridge); Professor Marilyn Skinner (Arizona); Professor Richard Thomas (Harvard); Professor Greg Woolf (St Andrews); and three members of the Institute Executive Committee, Dr Leonard, Dr Momigliano, Dr Morley.

Publications connected with Institute events and the Faculty theme appear regularly. Recent examples include:

Matt Potolsky (University of Utah), ed, *Forms and/of Decadence*, special issue of *New Literary History*, Autumn 2004 (collection of papers from the 3rd Marks conference, 'Decadence, Ancient and Modern', including essays by Neville Morley and Ellen O'Gorman)

Vanda Zajko, 'Homer and Ulysses', in Robert Fowler, ed, *The Cambridge Companion to Homer*, CUP 2004 (earlier version given at colloquium 'Homer, Ancient and Modern')

Charles Martindale, *Latin Poetry and the Judgement of Taste: An Essay in Aesthetics*, OUP 2005 (connected with events 'The Status of the Aesthetic' and 'Kant's Third Critique: Its Value in the Arts and Humanities Today')

Charles Martindale and A B. Taylor, eds, *Shakespeare and the Classics*, CUP 2005 (includes chapters by David Hopkins and Vanda Zajko)

Stephen Bann, ed., *The Reception of Walter Pater in Continental Europe*, Thoemmes Continuum 2005 (part of a massive projected, the reception of British authors in Europe, sponsored by the British Academy)

Events:

#### 1. Reception Seminars

A full series of seminars was given throughout the year (organisers, Professor Charles Martindale and Dr Pantelis Michelakis):

Charles Martindale (Bristol), 'Shakespeare the Philosopher: A Problem in Interdisciplinarity'

Jo Paul (Bristol), 'I'm Spartacus: Identifying a Cinematic Epic Hero'

Miriam Leonard (Bristol), 'Derrida and the Historical Imperative'

Katie Fleming (Mary and Westfield, London), 'The Philology of the Future: Adorno and Horkheimer's Dialectic of the Enlightenment'

Pantelis Michelakis (Bristol), 'Performance, Reception, and the Sacrifice of Iphigenia'

David Hopkins (Bristol), 'Creative Translation Revisited'

Katherine Harloe (Institute Fellow), 'Nietzsche's Birth of Tragedy'

Ahuvia Kahane, 'Reading the Illegible'

Tom Harrison (Liverpool), 'Vast but Obedient': Achaemenid Persia and the British Empire'

2. Commemoration for Jacques Derrida: Arts Faculty Building, October 28, 2004

Organiser: Dr Miriam Leonard

An event was organised to commemorate the life and work of Jacques Derrida with a small subvention from BIRTHA. This was an interdisciplinary occasion and participants were invited from across the Faculty. There were four speakers: Prof. Andrew Bennett from English, Dr Martin Calder from French, and Prof. Duncan Kennedy and Dr Miriam Leonard from Classics and Ancient History. The papers were followed by a screening of the film *Derrida* (directed by Kirby Dick and Amy Ziering Kofman; 2002). The papers ranged over a wide range of topics from Derrida's reconceptualisation of literature, to his role in discussions about science and 'negative theology', to his identity as an ethical thinker and political activist. All the contributions highlighted the breadth of Derrida's influence on the humanities and social sciences and also addressed the controversial nature of his work. The papers and film were followed by a lively discussion. The event was attended by about 100 people, and the audience included both students and members of staff from across the Faculties of Arts and Social and Sciences.

3. Relaunch of Institute under its new title: Institute of Greece, Rome, and the Classical Tradition: Arts Faculty, November 8, 2004.

Organiser: Professor Charles Martindale

The event began with a lecture, provocative in content and delivered with panache, by Dr Colin Burrow, entitled 'Greek Tragedy Today', which explored

the strengths and weaknesses of recent adaptations and translations of Greek plays by Tony Harrison, Seamus Heaney, and others. This was followed by a drinks reception. The event was well attended (with about 100 present), with good representation from outside the University, including two of the Institute's benefactors, Jeremy Morse and Stephen Egerton.

4. Crossing Cultures: Identities in the Material World: 43 Woodland Road, 7-9 January 2005.

Organisers: Dr Tamar Hodos and Dr Shelley Hales

Nineteen papers were presented by scholars from the UK, USA, Germany, Russia, Italy, Bulgaria, and Brazil. Thirty-seven people attended the conference, including academics from the UK, USA and Japan, as well as a number of postgraduate students from the UK and the USA. The papers covered a variety of topics related to issues of identity. Some were overtly theoretical, while others focused more on the practical application of theory to data sets as a means of elucidating identities in the past. Although papers were loosely grouped under headings such as external self-identity: generating perception in others; internal self-identity: mental processes; you are what you eat; community identities; and ritual identities; discussion after several sessions observed that individual papers would fit well under several categories, highlighting the multi-faceted nature of identity presentation and representation in the past. In general, the papers prompted questions and debate which continued during the various breaks.

External funding: small sums from Archaeopress, Cavendish Press and Routledge. Revenue from the conference fee generated nearly £1400 (left-over money has been used to support our contributors from Bulgaria, Russia and Brazil, whose institutions do not have the means to support their attendance).

Publication: the organisers plan to publish most of the papers from the conference (Archaeopress, Routledge, and Accordia have all expressed interest).

5. Visit of Professor Kenneth Haynes (Brown University): various venues in the Arts Faculty, 5-11 March 2005.

Organiser: Professor David Hopkins

Professor Kenneth Haynes of the Department of Comparative Literature, Brown University, Providence RI, visited Bristol as a Benjamin Meaker Visiting Professor. He was invited by the Institute for Greece, Rome, and the Classical Tradition, in consultation with the Departments of Classics and Ancient History and English, and his visit was made possible by the agency of the Institute for Advanced Studies. Professor Haynes's work is close in focus and emphasis to research currently being conducted in the Bristol Arts Faculty, and falls very much within the area covered by the Faculty Research Theme in Reception. He has visited Bristol before. He was a speaker at the

International Tercentenary Dryden Conference in 2000, and is currently working on two projects with a Bristol connection: as a contributor to a collaborative study of Classical reception co-edited by Professor Charles Martindale of the Department of Classics and Ancient History, and as a fellow volume-editor, with Professor David Hopkins of the Department of English, of the Oxford History of Literary Translation in English. His visit to Bristol was therefore both appropriate and timely.

During his visit, Professor Haynes gave two open lectures in the Faculty of Arts, and two seminars, one in the Department of Classics and Ancient History, and one in English (both these occasions were, of course, also open to all members of the Faculty). His lectures were on Johann Georg Hamann's critique of German Enlightenment philosophy (he is currently translating a selection of Hamann's writing for Cambridge University Press), and on Classical influences on English nineteenth-century literature (a lecture informed by his recent work on the nineteenth-century volume of the Oxford History of Literary Translation). His seminar in Classics (connected to his recent book *English Literature and Ancient Languages*) was on the impact of the Latin language in English poetry. In English he gave a detailed close-reading of a recent sequence of poems by Geoffrey Hill. All these (very diverse) topics were handled with considerable skill and learning: Professor Haynes is a scholar of immense range and expertise, and also has the capacity to communicate his ideas and enthusiasms with both clarity and passion. Feedback from students and colleagues indicate that his lectures and seminars were found both informative and inspiring. Professor Haynes, in turn, was clearly delighted to have been enabled to come to Bristol and work in the University sustainedly for a week.

During his visit, Professor Haynes also managed to establish and develop more informal contacts with a range of colleagues in the Faculty (including graduate and post-doctoral students). There are already active plans afoot to incorporate him in other Bristol-based scholarly ventures. His visit to Bristol therefore was all one could have hoped for. As a result, we can look forward to active collaboration between the Bristol Faculty of Arts, and one of the leading young American scholars in the field of literary reception.

Funding: £800 for short Meaker visit.

6. Panel of 12 speakers at the 31st Annual Conference of the Association of Art Historians, 'Art History and the Uses of Reception': Lecture Theatre 2, Faculty of Arts, 31 March - 2 April 2005.

Organisers: Professor Charles Martindale and Professor Elizabeth Prettejohn (Plymouth)

The purpose of the panel was to explore how ideas about reception might be applied in art history, which has been slower than the literary disciplines to take account of either reception histories or theories of reception. It began with a keynote address by Professor Mary Beard (Cambridge), 'The Triumph

of Reception`, which used the example of Mantegna's Triumphs of Julius Caesar (now in Hampton Court) to raise, expertly, a range of general issues relevant to the panel's concerns. This was followed by eleven papers, chosen from a strong field of submissions; although a number of the papers had an emphasis on classical art and its reception, the conveners had decided to include papers that ranged widely in historical period from antiquity to modernity in order to survey a number of possible approaches to reception. The papers were arranged in approximately chronological order, although with some flexibility to produce interesting pairs (the conference was organised into six academic sessions of two papers each). Thus Professor Beard's paper was followed by Elizabeth Prettejohn (Plymouth) on `Reception and Ancient Art: The Venus de Milo`. Subsequent pairs were as follows: Dr Shelley Hales (Bristol), `Recasting Antiquity in the Crystal Palace` with Dr Areti Adamopoulou (University of the Aegean), `European Modern Art and its Reception in Greece: The Case of the Panathenaia`; Professor Stephen Bann (Bristol), `Reproducing the Mona Lisa in 19th-century France` with Dr Kathy McLaughlan (independent scholar), `Responding to Antiquity: the French Academy in Rome during the 19th Century`; Dr Lene Ostermark-Johansen (Copenhagen), `From speaking marble to silent colour: Michelangelo's La Notte from Doni to Swinburne and Leighton` with Dr Bronwen Wilson (McGill), `Scepticism and Portraits of the Blind`; Dr Victoria C. Gardner Coates (Pennsylvania), `Raphael's Transfiguration: From crusade propaganda to 'opus ultima?'` with Dr Jenny Graham (Plymouth), `True or False? Aesthetics of the real and ideal in Van Eyck's 19th-century reception`; Dr Sophie Berrebi (Amsterdam), `Dubuffet as a Model` with Dr Piotr Juskiewick (Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznan), `From the Composition of Space to Houses of Glass: Remarks on the reception of the avant-garde in postwar Poland`. The conveners were particularly pleased that half of the speakers came from abroad (two from North America and four from continental Europe). All of the sessions were well-attended, some with audiences of over 40 (this was notable in a conference with 19 parallel sessions).

External funding: a small subvention was made by the Art History Group of the University of Plymouth.

Publications: several of the papers will be published, one in a collection on reception, others in referred journals.

7. 'Classics and the Uses of Reception': A debate between Charles Martindale and Christopher Rowe, at the Classical Association Conference 2005; University of Reading, April 4

Organisers: Professor Charles Martindale and Professor Christopher Rowe (Durham).

Reception in the UK is perhaps the most exciting and fastest expanding area of Classics as a discipline. Last year six departments - Bristol, Durham, Nottingham, Open, Oxford, Reading - formed a consortium, the Classical Reception Studies Network (CRSN), to promote the field, and address some of the institutional problems it faces. This event was designed to introduce the

Network, and start a debate about reception within the discipline. It was directed at all classicists (including opponents of reception), not just those who see themselves as working under this heading: the debate was partly about how a Classics for the 21st century ought to be configured. Although much significant work is now being done, there has been comparatively little discussion as to the value of reception for classicists or the validity of various methodologies that have been, or could be, employed by its practitioners. For some reception primarily denotes a distinct area (the classical tradition); on a more Jaussian model it becomes rather a necessary and inevitable part of the ascription of meaning to the works of antiquity, in contrast to the historical positivism that is still dominant within Classics. The event, though it came at the very end of the conference, was well attended by about 80 delegates, and provoked lively discussion.

8. Lecture by Professor Wolfgang Iser (Constance and Irvine): 'Culture: A Recursive Process': Lecture Theatre 1, 43 Woodland Road, May 9th.

Organisers: Professor Stephen Bann and Professor Charles Martindale

Wolfgang Iser is one of the major German literary theorists of the post-war period, and, along with Hans-Robert Jauss, one of the key figures in the development of reception theory. He spoke to a capacity audience, and the event was judged a considerable success.

Charles Martindale, Director

September 2005