

PROGRAMME

**University of Reading
Early Modern Studies Conference**

**Controversy, Protest, Ridicule, Laughter,
1500-1750**

Early Modern Research Centre,
University of Reading

9 - 11 July 2010

Friday 9 July

9.30-10.30 Registration

10.30 Welcome

10.45-1.00 Session 1

1.1 Fools and clowns

Chair: Stephen Longstaffe

Anu Korhonen, “Let a cracker flye”! Fools, Farts, and Physical Comedy in 16th- and 17th-Century England

Richard Hillman, (Im)politic Jest in its Time and Place: Representations of “Chicot”, Court-fool of Henri III of France

Maya Mathur, “Now such a murmuring to rise upon so trifling a thing”: Clowning and Popular Protest in *The Life and Death of Jack Straw*

Pauline Ruberry-Blanc, Ridicule Soothes the Savage Breast: The Cases of Orlando and Philaster

1.2 Medicine, melancholy and the body

Chair: tba

Helen King, “Comical and sickly organs”?: midwives on the penis

Ross Dandridge, Veiled protest in early Stuart medical literature

Kathleen Miller, “But I an’t dead though, am I?”: the piper, plague and print

Elizabeth Hunter, The spectacle of despair in early modern England: melancholy, ridicule and pathos in Puritan and anti-Puritan Literature

1.3 Policy, protest and punishment in Tudor England

Chair: Mary Morrissey

Neil Younger, Policy, protest and public opinion during the Elizabethan wars (1585-1603)

Sue Simpson, The Accession Day Tournament of November 1581 – the proper place to protest?

Janet Dickinson, Protest, conformity and the Elizabethan Catholic elite

Maria Hayward, Dressing for the block: The significance of clothing worn at royal and noble and executions in sixteenth century England

1.00 – 2.00 Lunch

2.00-3.30 Session 2

2.1 Toleration in context, 1680s-1730s

Chair: Stephen Taylor

Scott Sowerby, The Irish origins of the English Act of Toleration

William J. Bulman, Royal Priestcraft and the “Anglican Revolution”

Noah McCormack, What was Toleration?: the Whig Case for (Some) Freedom of Conscience, c. 1675-c. 1730

2.2 Jests and jest-books

Chair: tba

Adam Smyth, Taking Jokes Seriously: Why Renaissance Jests Often Don't Seem Funny

Filomena Calabrese, Interpreting Laughter in the Italian Renaissance Facetia

Tim Reinke-Williams, Xenophobia in seventeenth-century jest-books

2.3 Natural philosophy and philosophy

Chair: Alan Cromartie

Michael Choptiany, Petrus Ramus versus Jacobus Schegkius: a chapter in the early modern Aristotelian controversy

Philip Sanders, Rejection and ridicule: the fate of Kepler's polyhedral cosmology, 1600 to 1781

Ingrid Jendrzewski, "Exceedingly Ridiculous": A Century of Laughter and Astronomy

3.30-4.00 Tea

4.00-5.30 Session 3

3.1 Catholicism and the ridiculing of the English Reformation

Chair: tba

Michael Questier, In fear and praise of the Lord President: sermons and dynastic politics in late Elizabethan Yorkshire

Lucy Underwood, Pious delinquents: Catholicism, youth and the limits of authority

Simon Healy, Religion and Ridicule: Sir Thomas Hoby and the politics of the Hackness Incident

3.2 Forms of laughter

Chair: tba

Jayson Althofer, Sir Lionel Lindsay's aristocratic revolt to restore Rabelaisian laughter in modern Australia

Irina Nicolaeva, Laughter of rulers in early modern Europe: possibilities of historical and psychological analysis aimed to verification

Adriana Bontea, Innocence, laughter and the limits of reason

3.3 Travel satire

Chair: Chloë Houston

Johan Verberckmoes, Extinguishing the moon. Imaginary fires and urban satire in the Southern Netherlands, 1687-1765

Nicholas Seager, *The Life and Strange Surprizing Adventures of D--- de F--*: New Light on Charles Gildon's Lampoon of *Robinson Crusoe*

5.45-7.00

Plenary lecture 1: Ethan Shagan

Chair: Richard Hoyle

7.00 Drinks reception

8.00 Buffet dinner

(Senior Common Room bar open to midnight.)

Saturday 10 July

Coffee from 9.00

9.30-11.00 Session 4

4.1 Political and religious controversy in Scotland, 1660-1750

Chair: Stephen Taylor

Hiroyuki Furuya, The Pundlar Process and Eighteenth-Century Orkney

Alasdair Raffé, The Culture of Religious Controversy in Scotland, 1660–1714

4.2 Controversy and laughter in early modern cultural encounter

Chair: tba

Chloë Houston, The funny bone of ‘Abbās I: religious controversy in seventeenth-century Iran

Matthew Dimmock, Think you I squicht for that? Comic conversions on the early modern stage

Eva Johanna Holmberg, “Laughing in sleeves” in seventeenth-century Jerusalem

4.3 Seventeenth-century drama and gender

Chair: tba

Phuong Nguyen, “O Amazonian Impudence!”: The Emasculating Revelations of “Injurious Speech” in Ben Jonson’s *Epicene* and Elizabeth Cary’s *The Tragedy of Mariam*

Yvonne Oram, “...a piece of old beef...” Ridicule as a means of controlling old women on the early modern stage.

Leslie Drury, Amusing anxieties: old wives’ tales and dramatic parodies of chivalric romances as social critique

4.4 Laughter and irony: Sidney and Milton

Chair: tba

Rebecca Helfer, Fain in Prose: defenses of irony in Sidney’s *Apology* and Milton’s *Areopagitica*

Joseph Shub, Milton’s complete laughter: occasions & theory

11.00-11.30 Coffee

11.30-1.00 Session 5

5.1 Dramatic perspectives: comedy and tragedy

Chair: tba

Isaac Hui, Hamlet and the Gravedigger – Questioning the Boundary between Comedy and Tragedy

Philip Major, Contempt and ridicule in Marlowe’s *The Jew of Malta*

Andrew Gordon, “The Ghost of Pasquil”: The Uses of Purgatory in Early Modern Comedy

5.2 Politics and satire on the Tudor stage

Chair: tba

Rick Bowers, How to get from A to B: *Fulgens and Lucre*, Action Idiocy, and Metatheatrical Realization
Agnes Matuska, The Vice's Double Play: uneasy attitudes towards pleasure, humour and satire
Alexandra May, An Elizabethan "distorted mirror"; ridicule, alterity, and Edward I

5.3 Travel, ridicule and controversy

Chair: Chloë Houston

Colm MacCrossan, It's The Way He Tells 'Em: humorous forms, authentic experience, and historical irony in the travel narrative of "Miles Philips, Englishman"
Francisco J. Borge, "bare as Aesop's proude crowe": Richard Hakluyt's Fable of Spanish Ridicule
George M. Roue, New Jerusalem – what it meant to Spanish Explorers searching for the Great South Land

5.4 Seventeenth-century orders and sermons

Chair: Mary Morrissey

Ann Hughes, "Away with that doctrine of Popery and Arminianism": caution and controversy in polemical preaching in London 1625-30
Matthew Neufeld & Gary Rivett, "Controverted Times": Thanksgiving orders and sermons in Revolutionary and Restoration England

1.00-2.00 Lunch

2.00-3.30 Session 6

6.1 Jews and controversy in early modern England

Chair: Stephen Taylor

Ariel Hessayon, Ridiculing Jews in early modern England
Diego Lucci, The Controversy between William Whiston and Anthony Collins on the Jewish Corruption of the Scriptures

6.2 Humour and controversy: seventeenth-century visual image

Chair: tba

Kerry Gavaghan, Humour and Theatricality in Brothel Scenes of the Utrecht Caravaggisti
Adam Morton, Putting the Pope in the Pillory: The Printed Page & the Culture of Shame in Early Modern England
Helen Pierce, Playing for laughs? Cards, cartoons and controversy during the Exclusion Crisis

6.3 Religious controversy and humour

Chair: tba

James Doelman, The Bishop's Wife: Sir John Harington and Prelatical Marriage
Paul Quinn, "They called him Gammon-Shitter": the condemnation of English and Dutch Arminianism through the ridicule of Johan Van Oldenbarnavelt
Susan Wiseman, Controversy, Protest, Ridicule

6.4 Social identities in the sixteenth century

Chair: tba

Randall Albury, Fanning the Sparks of Folly in Castiglione's *Book of the Courtier* (1528)

Virginia Murphy, Foolish Controversy: Folly's Mediating Role in Lyndsay's *Ane Satyre of the Thrie Estaitis*

Daniel Donnelly, The Anti-Courtier: Music, Social Criticism, and the Academy in Antonfrancesco Doni's *Dialogo della musica*

3.30-4.00 Tea

4.00-5.30 Session 7

7.1 The New Oxford Edition of Gerrard Winstanley's Works: Implications for the Study of Controversy and Protest in Civil War England

David Loewenstein, Ann Hughes, Thomas Corns

7.2 Shakespeare: politics, polemic, protest

Chair: Stephen Longstaffe

Daniel Cattell, "I am a scribbled form": Shakespeare's *King John* and Catholic-Protestant polemic

Thomas Davies, A Machiavellian "Mirror for Princes" in William Shakespeare's *1 & 2 Henry IV*?

Conny Loder, Jack Cade's rebellion as pseudo-comical protest

7.3 Sixteenth- and seventeenth-century European religious controversy

Chair: tba

Liubou Dzihanau-Vnukousky, The Calendar as a reason of the controversy between Russian Orthodoxy and the Society of Jesus in the sixteenth – seventeenth centuries

Jeff Persels, Making the mass matter out of place (France, c. 1560)

Wojciech Ryczek, *Doctrina positiva et negativa*: on the controversy in early modern preaching

5.45-7.00

Plenary lecture 2: Mary Ellen Lamb

Chair: Michelle O'Callaghan

7.15 for 7.30, Conference Dinner

Senior Common room bar open to midnight.

Sunday 11 July

Coffee from 9.00

9.30-11.00 Session 8

8.1 Controversy, debate and ridicule in civil war London

Chair: Alan Cromartie

Elliot Vernon, Laity, locality and the structure of religious controversy in mid-seventeenth-century London

Jason Peacey, Protest and deride: the treatment of MPs in civil war and interregnum London

Philip Baker, Putney Projects: Levellers, London and the Franchise Debate

8.2 Clowning, on and off the stage

Chair: Stephen Longstaffe

Katherine Duncan-Jones, William Kemp's later career

Elizabeth Ford, "Newes, from heaven": William Kemp in *Titus Andronicus*

Roger Clegg, "Jigging veins of rhyming mother wits": controversy and ridicule in the early modern dramatic jig

8.3 Marprelate and other suspects

Chair: tba

Jane Pettegree, Marprelate and Farce: from *John a Kent* to *Hamlet*

Cathryn Enis, Will the real Martin please stand up? Job Throckmorton, agent provocateur

Nick Myers, Ridiculing Prelacy: Martin's Strategies

11.00-11.30 Coffee

11.30-1.00 Session 9

9.1 Stigmatizing the opponent in early modern England

Chair: tba

Thomas Corns, Insulting Milton: Changing Patterns of Abuse in Hostile Representations

Karen Edwards, "The Name of the Beast": Reformation Insults in the Seventeenth Century

David Loewenstein, Polemical Insult, Demonization, and Fear in Anti-Heretical Writing

9.2 1650s radicalism and politics

Chair: Rachel Foxley

Heather Falvey, An unfair election and a post-election smear campaign

Andrey Makarov, The townspeople of Coventry and Civil War religious radicalism: Case of Diary of Robert Beake Mayor of Coventry, 1655-1656

9.3 Wit, laughter and cultures of play

Chair: tba

Tom Buhler, “A college of wit-crackers”: The Inns of Court in the 1590s
Natália Pikli, Ambivalent laughter: strategies of carnival in Shakespearean Plays
Ian Munro, *Troilus and Cressida* and the matter of wit

1.00-2.00 Lunch

2.00-3.30 Session 10

10.1 Republican and interregnum controversy

Chair: Alan Cromartie

Rachel Foxley, Anti-populism in republican controversy

Bernard Capp, Godly Gladiators: public disputations in interregnum England

Kirsteen M. MacKenzie, The Awkward Neighbour: Scotland and the creation of the English Republic

10.2 Laughter and jokes in early modern drama

Chair: tba

Carolyn D. Williams, Performing Early Modern Jokes

Hannah Intezar, Shakespeare’s *Twelfth Night*: The “Battle of Carnival and Lent”

Kevin Laam, The Ethics of Laughter in Shakespeare’s *Troilus and Cressida*

10.3 Tudor protest and resistance

Chair: tba

Catherine Curtis, Making the case for European peace: the laughter of protest in the court of Henry VIII

Sophie Murray, Subversive humour and sites of resistance in the Henrician Reformation

Katy Gibbons, Ridiculing the Elizabethan regime on an international stage:

Leicester’s Commonwealth (1584) and its French translation, *Discours de la Vie* (1585)

3.00-3.30 Tea

3.30-5.00 Session 11

11.1 Immoral figures in print, 1570s-1620s

Chair: tba

Una McIlvenna, The Imaginary Library of the Duchesse de Montpensier and other Libels: Court Scandal and the Parlement de Paris

Nataliya Karnachuk, Laughter and aggression: reflections of gender crisis in English broadsides and pamphlets

Koji Yamamoto, Mocking monopolists and projectors in Elizabethan and Jacobean England

11.2 Politics, mockery and satire

Chair: tba

Jean-Christophe Van Thienen, “The wittie man laughs least”: George Herbert's seditious anagrams in *The Temple* (1633)

Christina M. Carlson, “Squint Ey’d Looks & Linsie-Wolsie Gowne[s]”:

Political Prints of the late 1620s and 30s and Ben Jonson’s *The Magnetic Lady* (1633)

Yi-Hsin Hsu, Jacobite Protest against the Glorious Revolution in Drama:

Distrust, Exclusion, and the Disintegrated World, 1688-1702

11.3 Criticism and critical methods

Chair: tba

Frederic Clark, Proof, Play, and Periodisation: Irony and Invective in Early Modern Higher Criticism

Min Wild, Writing yourself down and showing yourself up: the figure of the critic and comic criticism from Dryden to Warburton

5.00 Close of conference