

# Center for British and Irish Studies

University of Colorado at Boulder,  
Fall 2004

## UPDATE FROM THE DIRECTOR: CHARLOTTE SUSSMAN



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I am delighted to be resuming my post as Director of the Center for British and Irish Studies, after a productive fellowship year at the National Humanities Center in North Carolina. I want to thank Elizabeth Robertson for taking charge of CBIS, and putting on such great programming while I was away.

CBIS helped to support some wonderful events this summer and early fall. Last summer, a traveling exhibition on Elizabeth I, organized by the Newberry Library in Chicago, came to Norlin Library, where it was housed in the British Studies Room. Four lectures by members of the CBIS board who are experts in this field—Marjorie McIntosh, James Symons, Katherine Eggert and Jeremy Smith—accompanied the exhibit. We were also involved in the North American Society for the Study of Romanticism (NASSR) conference, held in Boulder Sept. 8-12, 2004. This national conference drew upwards of 300 people to participate in workshops and talks on the Romantic Era in Britain and elsewhere.

CBIS helped fund a workshop on editing Romantic Era texts for print and electronic media that was attended by over 30 people. CBIS also helped to fund the Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association Conference, held in Boulder Sept. 30-Oct. 2, 2004.

We are looking forward to more exciting events in 2004-05. On October 8, we will be hosting the second annual symposium in Celtic Representations, organized once again by Monica Emerich. (<http://www.colorado.edu/ArtsSciences/british/cfpceltic.htm>). The symposium will feature Dr. Garry Tregidga of the University of Exeter, Dr. Marion Bowman of the Open University, and another of our board members, Dr. David O'Hara.

We are very pleased to be offering our interdisciplinary undergraduate course on "Elizabeth I and her Times," again this spring. This course, taught by professors McIntosh, Symons, Eggert and Smith, was a huge success last year, and we will be expanding enrollment in the spring. We hope that this will be the first of a number of interdisciplinary undergraduate courses offered by CBIS.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our Fall Reception, November 5.

— Charlotte Sussman



## ELIZABETH ROBERTSON'S INTERIM REPORT

It was a pleasure to act as interim director for the academic year 2003-2004 as the Center inaugurated its new name and new focus as the Center for British and Irish Studies. In the spirit of embracing Celtic as well as English themes, the Center sought to present events that represented Britain and Ireland, as broadly conceived as possible, from the perspective of a variety of disciplines and periods.

The year's events began with a lecture by James Lyons, instrumental in the Good Friday peace negotiations in Northern Ireland under Clinton. Mr. Lyons generously donated his talk, "Making Peace Meet the Streets in Northern Ireland," to the Center. In addition, in the fall, with the Institute of Cornish Studies, United Kingdom, the Center co-sponsored a graduate student organized and run conference, "Celtic Representations," capably handled by Monica Emerich and Sharon Curtis. This highly successful conference attracted nearly 100 scholars from around the world and papers were presented from a cultural studies perspective on a variety of topics ranging from the Shanty Irish of nineteenth-century Colorado to the Neo-Pagan Druids of the 21st-Century Internet. Keynote addresses were given by the art historian, Karen Overbey from the University of Wisconsin and the political economist Garry Tregidga from the Institute of Cornish Studies. In the Spring, the Center sponsored a talk with Welsh as its topic, "Performing Penance and Poetic Performance in Medieval Wales," by Catherine McKenna, now of Harvard University, who also described the history of Celtic Studies in the United States based on her long-time experience as head of the Center for Irish studies at CUNY. In the Spring we returned to England—well, not just England—also Australia—and turned from the humanities to the arts with a special multi-media (dance, film, photography, theater) performance on the great prima ballerina, Margot Fonteyn, by the Australian former Royal Ballet dancer, Robin Haig.

In the Spring, the Center also celebrated the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Queen Elizabeth I's death with an interdisciplinary team taught seminar organized by Katherine Eggert (English) and taught by her with Marjorie McIntosh (history), Jeremy Smith (music) and Jim Symons (theater), "Elizabeth I and Her Times." The upper level undergraduate course delved into the history, literature, drama music and political culture of England during the reign of its most famous monarch. After an initial series of lectures by Professor McIntosh that set the stage for the history of the period, the course focused on three themes: representations of queen and country; violence, punishment, and the public sphere; and sex, gender, and marriage. The class studied historians' assessments of the queen an her reign, plays by Shakespeare and others, poetry and prose by authors including Edmund Spenser, Sir Walter Raleigh and Thomas Nashe, and music by William Byrd, John Dowland, and John Wilbye. The 54 students of the class were also treated to a guest lecture on Renaissance art by Claire Farago (Art and Art History) and participated in demonstration of Elizabethan dance led by Penny Cole (Theater and Dance). The course proved so popular that it will be offered again, with an expanded enrollment, next spring 2005. Finally, within this context, the Center sponsored the Elizabeth I traveling exhibit developed by the Newberry Library and the American Library Association's Public Program Office.

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*The Center would like to thank Elizabeth Robertson for her work as Interim Director last year!*

The Center continued throughout the year to sponsor lectures by visiting speakers organized by individuals within a variety of departments. A. C. Spearing spoke about the medieval mystic, Margery Kemp (English), Nancy van Deusen spoke about "The body as Instrument (Music), William Kuskin spoke about fifteenth-century books (English), Peter Woodman on excavations on the Dingle peninsula in Ireland (Anthropology), Steven Mullaney about the Elizabethan Stage (English), David Mateer on the early history of theater in shoreditch (Music), and David Benson on Piers Plowman (English).

Finally, this year the Center participated in Colorado History Day both by providing judges for the event and by contributing a prize for the winner. On April 24<sup>th</sup> nearly 600 Colorado young people attended the 24<sup>th</sup> annual state competition and from this event emerged 58 students who represented Colorado at the National History Day contest at the University of Maryland in June.

The Center enjoyed its visiting scholar, the early modern historian, Jennifer McNabb, and welcomes this year's visitor, John Beech who is studying Scottish emigration to the Western United States.

— Elizabeth Robertson

**Please join us at our Fall Reception and Celebrate the Center for British and Irish Studies**

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5,  
BRITISH STUDIES ROOM, NORLIN  
LIBRARY,  
FIFTH FLOOR  
4—6PM

## SPRING COURSE: THE REIGN OF ELIZABETH I

ENGL 4583/HIST 4134/THTR 4091

In Spring 2004, CBIS sponsored its first-ever, team taught undergraduate course, "Elizabeth I and Her Times." Taught by faculty from four departments — Katherine Eggert of English; Marjorie McIntosh of History; James Symons of Theatre and Dance; and Jeremy Smith of Music — this upper-level undergraduate course delved into the history, literature, drama, music and political culture of England during the reign of its most famous monarch. After an initial series of lectures by Professor McIntosh that set the stage for the history of the period, the course focused on three themes: representation of queen and country; sex, gender and marriage; and violence, punishment and the public sphere. The 54 students in the class were also treated to a guest lecture on Renaissance Art by Claire Farago (Art and Art History), and participated in a demonstration of Elizabethan dance led by Penny Cole (Theater and Dance). The course proved so popular that it will be offered again, with an expanded

enrollment, in Spring 2005.  
- Katherine Eggert

*Elizabeth I, the Virgin Queen, was the first English monarch to give her name to an age. She remains one of English history's most enduring images and icons. But the Elizabethan period in England, 1558-1603, was an age not only of queenship, but also of religious and social change, of warfare and exploration, and of an explosion of innovation in the arts, including drama, music, and literature. This course will explore both the life and the mythology of Queen Elizabeth, and the history, literature, theater, and music of her times. We will pay special attention to three topics that seem to have obsessed both the queen and her people: representations of queen and country; violence, punishment, and the public sphere; and sex, gender, and marriage. We will study historians' assessments of the queen and her reign, plays by*

*Shakespeare and others, nondramatic poetry and prose, and music, art, and dance. We will, most of all, think about all of these topics in an multidisciplinary context: what did it mean to produce art, theater, music, and literature in this age, and during the reign of this queen? Paper topics will both allow students to demonstrate and develop their expertise in their individual majors -- whether English, History, Humanities, Music, or Theatre and Dance -- and encourage multidisciplinary exploration.*



Course will be offered:  
M/W/F 11-11:50

Center for British & Irish  
Studies Rm, Norlin Library  
For More Information:  
Please Contact Katherine  
Eggert, Department of  
English  
Katherine.Eggert@colorado.  
edu

## OLGIVY GRADUATE TRAVEL FELLOWSHIPS: 2003-2004 RECIPIENT REPORTS

The J.D.A. Olgivy Travel Grants are available to graduate students of any British studies field who will be traveling to Great Britain to do research for their dissertation or M.A. theses.

The Center for British and Irish Studies was happy to award 2004 Olgivy grants to:

- Susan Crabtree, Dept of Theatre & Dance, *The Scenographic Developments of Charles Kean's Productions: 1850-1858* (for travel Summer 2004)

"Since my return I have had an article published on the subject of the Grieve Family, "Connecting with the Scene Painters of Our Past," in *The Painter's Journal*, volume 2, number 2. This article was based to great extent on the research done and on sources found on this trip." (Susan Crabtree)

- Susan Guinn-Chipman, Dept of History, *Religious*

*Space and the Construction of Identity in Early Modern England* (for travel Summer 2004).

- Sharon K. Curtis, Dept of History, *Is the Welsh Blood Up?: Images of the Welsh in the British Civil Wars* (for travel Summer 2004)
- Jochen Manning Lebek, Dept of History, *Religion, Field, and Strategy at the Universities of Cambridge and Heidelberg during the 16th and early 17th Centuries* (for travel Spring 2005)
- Dana Van Kooy, Dept English, *History and Dramatic Form: Shelley's Radical Stages* (for travel Summer 2004)

## OLGIVY GRADUATE TRAVEL FELLOWSHIPS: 2003-2004 RECEIPT REPORTS, CT.

In 2003, the Olgivy grants were awarded to the following projects:

Penelope Cole, Theatre & Dance, "Defining National Identity Through the Female Voice: Three Scottish Women Playwrights," received March 2003 for travel in May and June 2003.

Jonathan David Harris, "Thomas Weelkes' Ayers and Phantastic Spirits of 1608 and City Culture," received March 2003 for travel in summer 2003

Elizabeth Patterson, Theatre and Dance, "Punk Rock Performance and the Avant-Garde Canon," received March 2003 for travel in October 2003

Patrick Pritchett, English, "Basil Bunting and the Spiritual Topography of Northumbria," received April 2002 for travel in March 2003

Diana Shull, History, "Influenza Epidemic's Impact on the Moral, Political and Socio-Economic Legitimacy of the British Empire," received March 2003 for travel in summer 2003

I received the Olgivy Fellowship in the summer of 2003 in order to fund a research trip to London. The research I did there at the PRO, the Wellcome Library for the History of Medicine, and the British Library helped me fine-tune my dissertation topic on the influenza epidemic of 1918-19 and its impact on the British colonies of Jamaica, Belize, Nigeria, and India. (Diana Shull)

Anne Vonhof, History, exploring English civil court jury trials and the ways in which they reflect larger issues in early modern English cultural identity, received April 2002 for travel in January 2003



**Deadline for 2004-2005 application:**  
1 March 2005

*For Application, please see CBIS website.*

## FUNDING AND SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES.

The Center for British and Irish Studies seeks to support speakers and events related to British and Irish culture and society. The Center may contribute up to \$500 to such events and/or the use of the British Studies room in Norlin library. Those interested in funding for 2004-05 should submit 1) a brief description of the event 2) a budget and 3) contact information to Charlotte Sussman, Department of English, UCB 226. Or email your proposal to [Charlotte.Sussman@colorado.edu](mailto:Charlotte.Sussman@colorado.edu).



**Submit Applications to:**  
Charlotte Sussman

Phone: 303-545-0209

Email: [charlotte.sussman@colorado.edu](mailto:charlotte.sussman@colorado.edu).

## CELTIC SYMPOSIUM: 8 OCTOBER 2004: BRITISH STUDIES ROOM, NORLIN LIBRARY, FIFTH FLOOR

*The Rebellion of the Celts: From Goddess to Government—The 2004 Celtic Representations Symposium Takes on Spirituality, Identity and Media Manipulation*

Move over, King Arthur, the Goddess wants some stage time. This year's Celtic Representations Symposium, to be held Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>, 2004, at the University of Colorado's Center for British and Irish Studies (CBIS) at the University of Colorado-Boulder, will feature a keynote presentation on Celtic spirituality, particularly as experienced in popular culture in the United Kingdom.

For the second year, CBIS teams up with the Institute for Cornish Studies, University of Exeter, United Kingdom, to host the Celtic Representations symposium. And, for the second year, this annual Celtic symposium brings a unique multidisciplinary approach to the world of Celtic culture. The event kicks off at 2 p.m. with a welcome from Dr. Charlotte Sussman, executive director of the Center. Following Sussman will be Dr. Garry Tregidga, director of the Cornish Audio Visual Archive (CAVA) unit at the Institute of Cornish Studies. Under the guidance of Tregidga, a team of ethnographers at the Institute of Cornish Studies in Truro, Cornwall, captures the 'living culture' of Cornwall and its unique communities through recording the memories of individuals from all generations. Tregidga's presentation will address issues of kinship and cultural memory in a Cornish context.

Changing geographical focus to Ireland, Dr. David O'Hara, associate professor of History at the University of Colorado, will examine the ways in which the British and Irish civil wars of the mid-seventeenth century triggered a revolution in the English news market. His presentation will explore the manner in which factions of the press employed the 'barbarism' of the Irish not only to denigrate their opponents but also to further sharpen public opinion closer to home.

At 5 p.m., the event's keynote speaker Dr. Marion Bowman of the Open University in the United Kingdom, takes the podium. An ethnologist of religion, Bowman addresses the present day as experienced in the famous village of Glastonbury in England, a renowned site of Celtic spirituality from the ancients to the New Age. But something new is afoot in this center of Arthurian legend—the King is having to make room for a goddess.

"A decade or more ago when one visited Glastonbury, Arthuriana prevailed--Arthur was very much being claimed by the Alternative scene as the epitome of the New Age Quester," Bowman says. "Today, however, Glastonbury has gone very feminine – the first officially registered Goddess temple in the UK is there and the Annual Glastonbury Goddess Conference flourishes, becoming more 'territorial' in terms

of 'reclaiming' Glastonbury for the Goddess. Even much of the Christian clergy there is now female." One figure who is noticeably more prominent—though she has always been important—is Bridget, the ambiguous figure of "bridge builder" between paganism and Christianity.

Bowman researches the way in which the diversity and versatility of Celtic spirituality provides a 'common currency' between mainstream and alternative spirituality. In terms of vernacular religion, Glastonbury is a fine example of local spirituality and the extent to which 'folk' customs (such as well dressing) and vernacular Irish Catholic traditions (like Bridget crosses) are being absorbed into contemporary spirituality.

Last year's conference attracted nearly 100 people from the United States, the United Kingdom and Canada, over the course of the three-day event. Taking an unusual culturalist approach to Celtic Studies and opening the field to scholarly interests not thought of as traditional to the field, the conference attracted scholars from diverse disciplines including Media Studies, Linguistics, Anthropology, English Literature, Folklore, History, Geography, Political Science, and Women's Studies.

*Celtic Representations 2004 is free and open to the public. No registration is necessary.*

### CALENDAR OF CBIS SUPPORTED EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 8 October: The Celtic Symposium, British Studies Room, Norlin Library, 5th Floor.
- 21 February 2005: As Part of the musicology lecture series at the School of Music, Jessie Ann Owens will present a lecture entitled "Key in Early Modern England." [ 3-4:30, Music Building, Rm C-113]
- 4 November 2005: Tom Pickard, Poet: He will give a reading of his work in the British Studies Rm, 7pm.
- Spring 2005: The Spring Course: Elizabeth I & her times. For more info, see page 3.
- June 2005: Irene Ward, Dept of English, Kansas State University, has received the Big 12 Fellowship and will be coming to CU. Her topic is British Women and Political Periodicals of the 1920s.
- **Announcements:**
- The Center for British and Irish Studies would like to thank Mike Foster, for his donation of the Foster collection books. We would also like to thank Marjorie McIntosh, Department of History, for her help with this donation.
- The Center for British and Irish Studies offers a undergraduate certificate in British and Irish studies. Contact Charlotte Sussman for more information. Please see website for requirements and list of eligible courses: <http://www.colorado.edu/ArtSciences/british/>
- CBIS provided some financial support for the NASSR 04 & RMMLA conferences in September 2004.

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**University of Colorado at Boulder,**  
**Fall 2004**

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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<http://www.colorado.edu/ArtsSciences/british/>

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## DONATE TO THE CENTER FOR BRITISH AND IRISH STUDIES

### **The CENTER for BRITISH & IRISH STUDIES**



The institutional funding for the Center is quite modest and does not allow for completing the furnishing of the room and establishing the basic research collection. Funding for the latter is one of our top priorities right now. We have a long list of texts and other resources for which we will need upwards of \$15,000! We are dependent on the generous donations of our friends, who may contribute to these ends by sending donations to The Center for British and Irish Studies, Uni-

versity of Colorado, Center for Arts and Humanities, UCB 180, Boulder, CO 80309-0180. (Checks should be made out to "University of Colorado"). Please help make the Center truly a place where scholars may come to study and consult our reference resources.