VPFA International Study Day
Programme

Women & the East: Gendered Narratives of Encounter in Victorian Popular Writing

10th-11th June 2022

CONVENORS
Claudia Capancioni
Mariaconcetta Costantini
Mara Mattoscio

Women & the East: Gendered Narratives of Encounter in Victorian Popular Writing

VENUE
Room 31
Dipartimento di Lingue, Letterature e Culture Moderne
Viale Pindaro, 42
Pescara (Italy)

ORGANIZED BY
G. d’Annunzio University
(Chieti-Pescara, Italy)
in collaboration with
Bishop Grosseteste University
(Lincoln, UK)

TEAMS: https://tinyurl.com/womeneast
Women & the East: Gendered Narratives of Encounter in Victorian Popular Writing

Friday, 10th June 2022

9:30 – 10:00 Welcome
• Carlo Martinez
  Head, Dipartimento di Lingue, Letterature e Culture Moderne, G. d'Annunzio University, Italy
• Julia Kuehn
  VPFA President

10:00 – 11:30 Panel 1: Egypt (1)  Chair: Mariaconcetta Costantini
• Claudia Capancioni
  - Bishop Grosseteste University, Lincoln, UK
  “A ‘dragoman’ of all the languages in the world”: Lucie Duff Gordon’s Transnational Literacy
• Muireann O’Cinneide
  - National University of Ireland, Galway, Ireland
  “East and West is the difference”: Epistemological Encounters in Lucie Duff Gordon’s Letters from Egypt, 1863-1865
• Ross Conway
  - University of Birmingham, UK
  Harriet Martineau: Hair, Heads and Keepsakes in Eastern Life: Present and Past

11:30 – 12:30 Keynote Speech  Chairs: Mariaconcetta Costantini & Claudia Capancioni
• Julia Kuehn
  - The University of Hong Kong, China
  “A Vision for an Artist – a female artist”: Elisabeth Jerichau-Baumann and the Traditions of Middle Eastern Travels and Popular Representations of the Harem

12:30– 14:00 Lunch Break

14:00 – 15:00 Panel 2: Ottoman Empire/Middle East  Chair: Elvira Diana
• Selin Tuzlan Mead
  - Durham University, UK/Bogazici University, Turkey
  A Feminine Experience of the Ottoman Empire: The Ottoman Woman in Nineteenth-Century British Women’s Travel Literature
• Giulia Nonno
  - C. d’Annunzio University, Italy
  European Women Travellers to the Middle East, the Persian Gulf and the Arabian Peninsula

15:00 – 17:00 Panel 3: India  Chair: Mara Mattoscio
• Grazziella Stringos and Mireille Vila
  - University of Malta
  Marriage and Female Self-Abnegation and Heroism in Flora Annie Steel’s “Uma Himāvatēe” (1898)
• Rebecca Nesvet
  - University of Wisconsin, US
  C.W.M. Reynolds’s Women in India: The Case of THE SEPOYS, OR HIGHLAND JESSIE (1858)
• Lalit Kumar
  - University of Delhi, India
  Dilemma of Private vs. Public, and Feminism vs. Femininity: Gendered Roles of a “Helpmeet” in Isabella Fane’s Miss Fane in India
• Greta Perletti
  - University of Trento, Italy
  “Be Still and Listen”: Encountering and Understanding the East in Margaret Harkness’s Writings

17:00-17:30 Coffee Break

17:30 – 19:00 Panel 4: Egypt (2)  Chair: Claudia Capancioni
• Kristine Swenson
  - Missouri University of Science and Technology, US
  Cheap Trippers and Unprotected Females at the Pyramids
• Kathleen Sheppard
  - Missouri University of Science and Technology, US
  From Taking the Airs to Taking the Artifacts: Egypt as a Health Resort and the History of Egyptology
• Claudia Zilletti
  - University of Naples “L’Orientale”, Italy
  “Transported bodily into the Arabian Nights”: The Egyptian Fascination in Janet Ann Ross’s The Fourth Generation: Reminiscences (1912)

20:00 Conference dinner

Saturday, 11th June 2022

09:30 – 11:00 Panel 5: Eastern Europe  Chair: Mara Mattoscio
• Efterpi Mitsi
  - National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece
  Women Writers and the Marketing of Modern Greece in Victorian Periodicals
• Serena Volpi
  - LdM Florence/University of Roma Tre, Italy
  Narrative of the Life and Travels of Mrs. Nancy Prince (1850); An African-American Woman at the Court of Alexander the First
• Agnes Strickland-Pajtok
  - Eszterházy Károly Catholic University, Eger, Hungary
  The Orientalist View of Eastern Europe at the End of the Long Nineteenth Century: Baroness Orczy’s Symbolic Geography of Hungary

11:00 – 11:30 Coffee Break

11:30 – 13:00 Panel 6: The Far East  Chair: Luca Stirpe
• Silvia Granata
  - University of Pavia, Italy
  Dangerous Encounters: Women Travellers and Unwanted Proximity in Late Nineteenth-Century China
• Laurence Talairach
  - Alexandre Koyré Center for the History of Science and Technology/University of Toulouse Jean Jaurès, France
  “I am beginning to enter the joys of a naturalist”: Anna Forbes’s Explorations of the Malay Archipelago
• Helena Esser
  - Independent Scholar, Germany
  Weirdly Beautiful: Mary Crawford Fraser’s Japan

*All the timings in the programme are indicated in Central European Time (CET).