

November 16, 2017

Alison Rice, Director
Institute for the Scholarship in the Liberal Arts
University of Notre Dame
247B O'Shaughnessy Hall
Notre Dame, IN 46556

Dear Alison:

I write with a report from the *Song & The City Conference*, which was held at the London Global Gateway on 27-28 October 2017, supported with funds from ISLA. This conference was funded primarily by King's College London's "Music in London, 1800-1851," a project supported by a large 5-year grant from the European Research Council, under the directorship of Roger Parker in the Department of Music. The King's project provided funds for accommodation and transportation of all 17 participants in the event, while ISLA provided \$5,000, which paid for expenses associated with holding the event at the London Global Gateway, including staff overtime hours, and lunch and refreshments throughout the two days of the conference, as well as paying for the conference dinner and the production of posters.

The presenters were drawn from a number of disciplinary backgrounds (literature, history, cultural studies, and musicology). They represented a broad range of academic profiles, from graduate students, post-doctoral scholars, and beginning lecturers, to senior and Emeritus Professors, who had travelled to the event from six countries (England, Scotland, Ireland, Canada, USA and Australia). Each had been invited because their work intersected in some important way with the conference theme: the way song simultaneously reflects and constitutes a sense of the city.

The format of the event was intensive workshop-style discussions of pre-circulated papers by 11 presenters. The papers were circulated two weeks in advance and all participants (both presenting and non-presenting) read the papers in order to engage in a robust discussion, with a view to improving their content in preparation for publication. This is a format that has been used frequently on the 5-year "Music in London" project (of which this was the penultimate event), and has proven to be extremely conducive for engaged and rigorous conversation.

The feedback that I received from the participants was uniformly complimentary, both about the facilities that Notre Dame were able to supply and about the quality of the discussion. I include a sampling of comments I received (unsolicited!) below:

“The conference was fantastic. Thanks go to you and the project team for shepherding us all... The formula of distributing the papers with a firm direction from you to read them worked extremely well, it’s obviously a well-honed machine”

“It was certainly a stimulating and inspiring experience...a big thanks to Ian and all involved in the organising and smooth running of this fantastic event - what a treat it was to flesh out this stuff! I very much hope that more similar discussion can happen in future.”

“It was a really enjoyable experience with some very absorbing discussions. One of the best sessions we've had” (from a Music in London regular)

“Many thanks once again for organizing such a brilliant conference! I thought the balance of papers and participants worked really well and fostered a great discussion. It was wonderful to have such a stimulating and convivial event in amongst the teaching and admin of this time of year.”

“Thanks for welcoming me to Song and the City. It was a fantastically stimulating couple of days... and convivial too.”

The next phase of the project is to consider what publication might arise out of the papers presented. As things currently stand the most likely scenario is a special issue of a peer-reviewed scholarly journal, and I’m currently working on a proposal for journal editors to see where we might place this work.

Finally, I want to say a huge thank you both to ISLA and all the team both at Notre Dame and in London. You always make it so easy to hold conferences, allowing faculty to focus on academic matters, but I know that under the smooth surface of these events there’s a great deal of furious kicking to power us along. I’m most grateful for all that hard work. As you’ll have no doubt noticed, several of the comments above mention particularly the convivial spirit of the event, something that really made frank, open and serious scholarly exchange possible, so I’m particularly grateful for ISLA’s generosity in providing for the refreshment of our participants. I said as much in the announcements at the beginning and end of the event and I wanted to repeat it here.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ian Newman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Ian Newman

Cc: Jessie Lander, Laurie Roberts, Charlotte Parkyn, Joanna Byrne

Song & The City Conference Budget

Expenses	Description	Exchange Rate	Amount in £	Amount in \$
Lodging	£178/night	1.31647	4,450.00	\$5,858.28
Travel & Subsistence		1.31647	3,549.99	\$4,673.45
Newman incidentals				\$354.00
London Global Gateway:				
Staff Overtime		1.27998	128.58	\$164.58
Catering		1.33204	833.04	\$1,109.64
Conference Dinner				
Roberts downpayment		1.34467	180.00	\$242.04
Beverages		1.31647	301.50	\$396.92
Food		1.31647	524.08	\$689.93
Printing:				
DCL table tents 10/23				\$17.16
DCL Posters (estimated)				\$20.00
Fed EX (estimated)				\$40.00
Total Expenses:				\$13,566.01
Income / Pledge:				
ISLA Henkels Mini-Conference Grant				\$5,000.00
KCL/ERC \Music in London Project		1.31647	7,999.99	\$10,531.73
Total Income				\$15,531.73

This was a conference that was run as part of a King's College London project "Music in London 1800-1851", funded by the European Research Council. This project paid for transport and accommodation costs for all 17 attendees. This was supplemented by a \$5000 Henkels Mini-conference grant, to cover expenses associated with using the London Global Gateway, catering during the conference, the conference dinner, and incidentals including poster printing, and name tags.

Assisted by a favorable (if wildly fluctuating) exchange rate, we came in under budget.



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Scholarship in the Liberal Arts

Song & the City, 1790-1840

27-28 October 2017

Conference schedule

FRIDAY OCTOBER 27

11am Registration and Coffee

11:30am Welcome and introduction

SESSION CHAIR: Jonathan Hicks (Newcastle University)

11:45pm James Grande (King's College London)
London Songs, Celtic Hymns: The Case of Iolo Morganwg

12:30pm Jane Moore, (University of Cardiff)
Thomas Moore's Songs, (Sacred Songs 1816 & 1824 and 'Legendary Ballads, 1830)

1:15-2:45pm Lunch

SESSION CHAIR: Oskar Cox Jensen (Queen Mary University of London)

2:45pm Isabel Corfe (National University of Ireland, Galway)
"Erin go Bragh" in London: Irish Nationalisms and the London-printed Street Ballad

3:30pm Leith Davis (Simon Fraser University)
Spectacles of Sound: Songs, Song Culture and the Early Circus

4:15pm Jonathan Hicks (Newcastle University)
In Search of "Home, Sweet Home"

5 pm End of day one

7:00pm Dinner at Brasserie Blanc, 119 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1PP

SATURDAY OCTOBER 28

9:30am Coffee

SESSION CHAIR: James Grande (King's College London)

10:00am Emma Pink, (University of British Columbia)
Song Culture and the Old Bailey Proceedings, 1790-1840

10:45am David Worrall (Nottingham Trent University/University of Roehampton)
'Locked up in a Prison, for singing a SONG:' Giles Linnett Barrett and The Destruction of the Bastile, 1790

11:30am Coffee

SESSION CHAIR: David Kennerley (Queen Mary University of London)

11:45am Gillian Russell (University of Melbourne)
Song and Ephemerality in Georgian London: the Case of "Plato's Advice"

12:30pm Ian Newman (University of Notre Dame)
Forgetting 'Sam Hall': Gallows Literature and Cultural Memory

1:15-2:15pm Lunch

SESSION CHAIR: Katherine Hambridge (University of Durham)

2:15pm Oskar Cox Jensen (Queen Mary University of London)
Joseph Johnson's Hat, or, The Storm on Tower Hill

3:00pm Susan Rutherford (University of Manchester)
John Braham, and "The Death of Nelson"

3:45 Closing Remarks

4pm End

NON-PRESENTING ATTENDEES

Kathy Fry (King's College London)
Katherine Hambridge (University of Durham)
David Kennerley (Queen Mary University of London)
Georgina Lock (Nottingham Trent University)
Kirsteen McCue (Glasgow University)
Roger Parker (King's College London)

Music in London, 1800 - 1851

Song & the City

27-28 October 2017 1790-1840

University of Notre Dame London Global Gateway

1-4 Suffolk Street, London

Conference organizer: Ian Newman (University of Notre Dame)



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College of Arts and Letters



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Isabel Corfe
Oskar Cox Jensen
Leith Davis
James Grande
Jonathan Hicks
Jane Moore
Ian Newman
Emma Pink
Gillian Russell
Susan Rutherford
David Worrall

KING'S
College
LONDON

