

Sixteenth International Robert Graves Conference

Robert Graves and the Popular Imagination

St John's College, Oxford, UK

15 – 18 September 2024

Organised by the Robert Graves Society

Programme

Sunday 15 September

- 2.00 – 4.00 pm: Registration (i) *Main Porters' Lodge* for room keys and checking into accommodation; (ii) *Garden Quad Reception Room and Auditorium Foyer*
- 4.45 – 5.00 pm: Welcome to Participants (*Garden Quad Auditorium*)
Charles Mundye, President of the Robert Graves Society
- 5.00 – 6.00 pm: Opening Address
Jean Moorcroft Wilson: 'When the Musing Had to Stop' (*Garden Quad Auditorium*)
- 6.00 pm: Welcome Reception, Book Launch and Reading (*Garden Quad Reception and Auditorium*)
Dunstan Ward, Gregory Leadbetter, Nicola Nathan, Paul O'Prey
- 7.30pm: Dinner (own arrangements)

Monday 16 September

- 8.00 – 9.00 am: Breakfast (*Dining Hall*)
- 9.15 – 10.15 am: Panel 1 (*Garden Quad Auditorium*)
Adrianna Marinelli: 'Popularising Classics: Robert Graves's Representation of Ancient Rome in *I, Claudius* between historical accuracy and fictional creativity'

Philip Ward: 'Robert Graves and the Music of the 1960s'
- 10.15 – 10.45 am: Refreshments
- 10.45 – 11.45 am: In Conversation (*Garden Quad Auditorium*)
Sean O'Brien with Patrick McGuinness

11.45 am – 12.00 pm: Break

12.00 – 1.00 pm: Panel 2 (*Garden Quad Auditorium*)
 Julia Simonne: “‘Troublesome Fame’”: a personal look at Graves and his friendships with other writers and artists from the late 1950s to mid-1970s’

Kirsten Norrie: ‘Robert Graves: Traveller of the Celtic Alphabet of Trees’

1.00 – 2.00 pm: Lunch (own arrangements)

2.00 – 3.00 pm: Panel 3 (*Garden Quad Auditorium*)
 Elena Theodorakopoulos: ‘Not (a)muse(d): misogyny and melodrama in *The Laureate*’

Mark Jacobs: ‘Laura Riding and Robert Graves – Literary Mayhem: Selected Letters 1971-1980’

3.00 – 3.15 pm: Break

3.15 – 4.15 pm: Performance (*Garden Quad Auditorium*)
 Alan Cox: ‘Graves’s Traces’

4.15 – 4.30 pm: Break

4.30 – 5.00 pm: Robert Graves Society Talk (*Garden Quad Auditorium*)
 Charles Mundye: ‘Olympic Graves’

6.00 pm: Reception, Reading and Book Launch: **(St Anne’s College, Woodstock Road. Please note, this is a 10-15-minute walk from St John’s College)**
 MacGillivray, Patrick McGuinness, Sean O’Brien

8:00 pm: Dinner (own arrangements)

Tuesday 17th September

8.00 – 9.00 am: Breakfast (*Dining Hall*)

9.15 – 10.45 am: Panel 4 (*Garden Quad Auditorium*): ‘Robert Graves for Children’

Neil Philip: ‘Children if You Dare’

Joseph T. Thomas Jr: ‘I found the strings were painted’: Poetry, Childhood, and *The Penny Fiddle*

Michael Joseph: ‘Robert Graves’s *The Big Green Book*’

10.45 – 11.15 am: Refreshments

- 11.15 am – 12.45 pm: Panel 5 (*Garden Quad Auditorium*)
 William Graves: 'Update on the letters project'
 Philip Graves: '...There is no olive harvest this year'
 Joseph Bailey: "'To Basil and Kathleen with Love on New Year 1945": Letters between Robert Graves and Basil and Kathleen Liddell-Hart near the End of World War Two'
- 12.45 – 1.45 pm: Lunch (own arrangements)
- 1.45 – 2.45 pm: Panel 6 (*Garden Quad Auditorium*)
 Tanja Cvetković: 'In the Eyes of His Readers: Robert Graves and the Critical Imagination'
 Joan Rodriguez-Amat: 'Graves in the News'
- 2.45 – 3.00 pm: Break
- 3.00 – 4.00 pm: Panel 7 (*Garden Quad Auditorium*)
 Susan Vincent: 'Robert Graves and T.E. Lawrence: friendship and personality'
 Richard A. Kaye: 'Robert Graves, Siegfried Sassoon, and the Hidden Anxieties of Post-War Homoerotic Public Revelation'
- 4.45 – 5.00 pm: Break
- 5.00 – 6.30 pm: Lecture-recital (*Garden Quad Auditorium*)
 "'Song-Enchanted Fellows": Robert Graves and Musical Imagination'
 April Fredrick (soprano)
 Eric McElroy (pianist and speaker)
- 7.30 pm: Conference Dinner (*Dining Hall*)
- Wednesday 18th September**
- 8.00 – 9.00 am: Breakfast (*Dining Hall*)
- 9.30 – 10.15 am: Robert Graves Society Talk (*Garden Quad Auditorium*)
 Patrick McGuinness: 'Robert Graves, and the Real Oxford'
- 10.15 – 10.45 am Refreshments
- 10.45 am – 11.45 am Closing Address (*Garden Quad Auditorium*)
 Gregory Leadbetter: 'Which Flowers to Choose? Robert Graves and the Dilemmas of Anthologising'
- 12.00 – 12.30 pm Biennial General Meeting of the Robert Graves Society (*Garden Quad Reception Room*)

End of conference