

Crusoe at 300: *Adaptations, Afterlives, and Futures*

*Sixth Biennial Meeting of
The Defoe Society
10-12 July 2019*



*Hosted by the Centre for Eighteenth Century Studies,
University of York*



CENTRE FOR EIGHTEENTH CENTURY STUDIES



UNIVERSITY
of York

Wednesday, July 10
Humanities Research Centre

2:30-4:00pm: Open House at Thin Ice Press

(DJ/051, Derwent College); Meet in Foyer of Berrick Saul Building at 2:30pm

4:00pm: Registration Opens (Foyer, Berrick Saul Building)

4:30pm: Opening Plenary (Bowland Auditorium, Berrick Saul Building)

Chaired by Chloe Wigston Smith (University of York)

- Welcome from Helen Smith, Head of the Department of English and Related Literature (University of York)
- Nicholas Seager (Keele University), “Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe*, and Allegory”

Sponsored by the Eighteenth Century and Romantics Research School,
Department of English and Related Literature, University of York

5:45pm: Opening Reception (Treehouse, Berrick Saul Building),
with Thin Ice Press pop-up

Thursday, July 11
Humanities Research Centre

8:30am: Registration Opens (Foyer, Berrick Saul Building)

- Coffee & Tea

9:00-10:30am: Session I

1. Religion in the Age of Defoe (Bowland Auditorium, Berrick Saul Building)

Panel Chair: Penny Pritchard (University of Hertfordshire)

- “Defoe and The Book of Sports,” Roger D. Lund (Le Moyne College)
- “Defoe, Belief, and the Problem of Communication,” Jeffrey Galbraith (Wheaton College)
- “Crusoe’s Sublime Psalm 18,” Sarah Stein (Arkansas Tech University)
- “The Death of Friday: A Precursor to Crusoe’s Failure of Enlightenment in *Farther Adventures*,” Judy Stuchiner (Fordham University)

2. Female Robinsonades (Treehouse, Berrick Saul Building)

Panel Chair: Geoffrey Sill (Rutgers University-Camden)

- “Did Delarivier Manley Imitate Daniel Defoe in a 1719 Robinsonade?” Carole Sargent (Georgetown University)
- “Mapping Women’s International Travels: Penelope Aubin’s Adaptation and Development of Daniel Defoe’s Travel Narratives,” Yoojung Choi (Texas A&M University)
- “Prospero’s Robes and the Female Robinsonade, 1610-2012,” Rivka Swenson (Virginia Commonwealth University)

10:30-10:45am: Coffee & Tea Break (Foyer Berrick Saul Building)

10:45am-12:15pm: Session II

3. Passion and Power (Bowland Auditorium, Berrick Saul Building)

Panel Chair: Christopher Loar (Western Washington University)

- “Heterogenous Things: *Tamerlane* and the *True-Born Englishman*,” Brett D. Wilson (College of William & Mary)
- “Queer Power Dynamics in *Robinson Crusoe* and *Roxana*,” Ula Lukszo Klein (Texas A&M International University)
- “Defoe’s Consolidator and the View from Above,” Jason Pearl (Florida International University)

4. Dialogue and Speech in Defoe (Treehouse, Berrick Saul Building)

Panel Chair: Nicholas Seager (Keele University)

- “Reading Friday’s Voice: Race, Dialogue, and Text in *Robinson Crusoe*,” Olivia Carpenter (Harvard University)
- “Speech, Air, and the Fluctuations of Identity in Defoe’s Novels,” Denys W. Van Renen (University of Nebraska at Kearney)
- “Defoe and the Hypothetical,” Katherine Ellison (Illinois State University)

12:15-1:30pm: Lunch Break (Foyer, Berrick Saul Building)

- Defoe Society Executive Board business meeting (BS/007, Berrick Saul Building)

1:30-3:00pm Session III

5. **Crusoe, Then to Now** (Bowland Auditorium, Berrick Saul Building)

Panel Chair: Rivka Swenson (Virginia Commonwealth University)

- “Off the Island: Robinson Crusoe and the Construction of Celebrity,” Teri Doerksen (Mansfield University of Pennsylvania)
- “Robinson Crusoe in Italy: Robinson Crusoe and his/its 300 years,” Marialuisa Bignami (University of Milan)
- “Friday’s Afterlife in Papua New Guinea of the 1990s: William Takaku’s Performance in *Daniel Defoe’s Robinson Crusoe* (1997) and the ‘Battle of Bougainville,’” Lora E. Geriguis (La Sierra University)

6. **Circulations of Text** (Treehouse, Berrick Saul Building)

Panel Chair: Benjamin Pauley (Eastern Connecticut State University)

- “Mapping Defoe’s Fictional Dialogues,” Jennifer Buckley (University of York)
- “The English Book Auction Market in 1719,” Leah Orr (University of Louisiana, Lafayette)
- “Pirating Texts: Tracking the Publication of *Robinson Crusoe* from Abridgments to Adaptations,” Grant Glass (University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill)

3:00-3:15pm: **Coffee & Tea Break** (Foyer, Berrick Saul Building)

3:15-4:45pm: Session IV

7. Defoe's Animals and Literary History

(Bowland Auditorium, Berrick Saul Building)

Panel Chair: Helen Cowie (University of York)

- “Defoe’s *Mestizaje*,” Rajani Sudan (Southern Methodist University)
- “Defoe, Plague(d) Animals, and the Medical Posthumanities,” Lucinda Cole (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)
- “Racing to Rebellion: New Insights from Turf History into Defoe’s Early Radical Politics,” Richard Nash (Indiana University)

8. Fiction and History (Treehouse, Berrick Saul Building)

Panel Chair: Andreas Mueller (University of Northern Colorado)

- “The Representation of the Life of Roguery in Spanish and Defoe’s Picaresque Novels,” Joanna Maciulewicz (Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań)
- “1683: *Moll Flanders* and *Roxana*,” Melissa Mowry (St. John’s University)
- “Who is Robinson Crusoe? The Issue of Identity,” John Martin (Independent Scholar)

4:45-5:00pm: Comfort Break

5:00-6:00pm: A Contemporary Robinsonade (Bowland Auditorium,
Berrick Saul Building)

Chaired by JT Welsch (University of York)

- Peter Robinson (University of Reading) reads from *The Constitutionals: A Fiction* (2019) and discusses the praxis of adaptation.

Sponsored by Writers at York

<https://www.york.ac.uk/english/news-events/events/writers-at-york/>

Wine reception to follow

Friday, July 12
King's Manor

9:30-11:00am: Session IV

9. Science and Scale in the Age of Defoe (K/G 33, King's Manor)

Panel Chair: Lucinda Cole (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)

- “‘The Christian begins just where the Philosopher ends’: *The Storm* and The Limits of Scientific Enquiry,” Penny Pritchard (University of Hertfordshire)
- “The Eye of the Consolidator: Defoe’s Early Attacks on Deism and the New Sciences,” Christopher Loar (Western Washington University)
- “Astrology at Harvard: Charles Morton’s Dissenting Science,” Laura Miller (University of West Georgia)

10. Defoe’s Wider World (Huntingdon Room, King’s Manor)

Panel Chair: Regulus L. Allen (California Polytechnic State University)

- “Crusoe’s Porcelain House and its Aesthetic Afterlife,” Eugenia Zuroski (McMaster University)
- “Defoe and the Americas,” Gabriel Cervantes (University of Glasgow)
- “Africa, the Levant, and Daniel Defoe,” Manushag Powell (Purdue University) and Rebekah Mitsein (Boston College)

11:00-11:15am: Coffee & Tea Break (Huntingdon Anteroom, King’s Manor)

11:15am-12:45pm: President's Roundtable, "Going Farther with Crusoe"
(Huntingdon Room, King's Manor)

The President's Roundtable this meeting focuses on *The Farther Adventures of Robinson Crusoe* (1719). Parts one and two of Crusoe's narrative were re-printed together in most of the English editions as well as in European translations until the end of the nineteenth century. Almost from the first and for many years afterwards, Crusoe's story as encountered by generations of readers in English and in translations included both narratives; it was one text in two parts, the second a clear and substantial continuation of the protagonist's eventful life. Today some translations, for instance Spanish ones, continue to publish the two parts together. But in the English-speaking world, few readers have for quite a long time encountered *The Farther Adventures*.

Participants:

Moderator: John Richetti (University of Pennsylvania)

Chris Borsing (Trinity College, Dublin)

Maximillian Novak (UCLA)

Manushag Powell (Purdue University)

Rajani Sudan (Southern Methodist University)

Rivka Swenson (Virginia Commonwealth University)

12:45-2:00pm: Lunch Break (Huntingdon Anteroom, King's Manor)

2:00-3:30pm: Session V

11. Madness and Solitude (K/G 33, King's Manor)

Panel Chair: Denys Van Renen (University of Nebraska at Kearney)

- “The Last Person: Solitary Personhood in *A Journal of the Plague Year*,” Stephanie Hershinow (Baruch College-City University of New York)
- “*A Journal of the Plague Year* as a *Robinson Crusoe* Sequel,” Ala Alryyes (Queens College-City University of New York)
- “‘Upon the Wing Again’: Travel as Madness in Defoe’s *Robinson Crusoe* Trilogy,” Anne M. Thell (National University of Singapore)

12. Defoe, Robert Harley, and Letters (Huntingdon Room, King's Manor)

Panel Chair: Gabriel Cervantes (University of Glasgow)

- “‘None but God and your Lordship’: the Defoe-Harley Correspondence and Presbyterian Notions of Authority,” Andreas Mueller (University of Northern Colorado)
- “Harley, Political Narratives and Deceit in Defoe’s *Secret History of the Secret History of the White Staff*,” Alice Monter (Paris Diderot University and University of Liverpool)
- “Defoe’s Culture of Correspondence,” Marc Mierowsky (University of Melbourne)

3:30-3:45pm: Coffee & Tea Break (Huntingdon Anteroom, King's Manor)

3:45-5:15pm: Session VI

13. Attribution, Reputation, and Reception: Understanding the Shaping of Defoe's Legacy (K/G 133, King's Manor)

Panel Chair: Keith Byerman (Indiana State University)

- "Reputation, Reception, and the Shaping of Defoe's Treatment in the Canon," Kit Kincade (Indiana State University)
- "*Robinson Crusoe* and the Missing Genre: Discovering Contemporary Interpretations of the Book's Literary Classification and Purpose in Pre-Novel English Society," Jessica Leeper (University of York)
- "Opportunities and Challenges for Computer-Assisted Authorship Attribution in the Defoe Canon," Benjamin Pauley (Eastern Connecticut State University)
- "Defoe as Biographer; or, Re-attributing the Memoirs of the Duke of Shrewsbury," Geoffrey Sill (Rutgers University-Camden)

14. Defoe's Wars and Empires (Huntingdon Room, King's Manor)

Panel Chair: Laura Stevens (University of Tulsa)

- "Defoe and War," Sharon Alker (Whitman College) and Holly Faith Nelson (Trinity Western University)
- "Masterstroke or Mistake? Defoe's Slips and Nineteenth-Century Politics," Andrew McKendry (Nord University)
- "Robinson Crusoe's Afterlife in the Antipodes," Karen Downing (Australian National University)

5:15-5:30pm: Comfort break

5:30-6:30pm: Closing Plenary (Huntingdon Room, King's Manor)

Chaired by Catriona Kennedy (Director of the Centre for Eighteenth Century Studies, University of York)

- Barbara M. Benedict (Trinity College), “Collecting and Recollecting: Defoe’s Survival Guide to Exile”

Sponsored by the York Georgian Society, in Memory of Ian Small, Chairman of the York Georgian Society, 2016-18

7:00pm: Reception begins for conference dinner (Grange Hotel); pre-booking required

DEFINITIVE

Robinson Crusoe, an adventure tale that fascinated such thinkers as John-Jacques Rousseau, Karl Marx, Virginia Woolf, and J. M. Coetzee, has been an international bestseller for three hundred years. An adventure tale involving cannibals, pirates, and shipwrecks, it embodies economic, social, political, and philosophical themes that continue to be relevant today. Moreover, the notion of isolation on a deserted island and a fascination with survival continue to be central to countless popular cinema and television programs.

This edition of the novel with its introduction, line notes, and full bibliographical notes provides a uniquely scholarly presentation of the novel. There has been no other edition like it.

MAXIMILLIAN E. NOVAK is a professor emeritus in the department of English at the University of California, Los Angeles. He is the author of *Transformations, Ideology, and the Real in Defoe's Robinson Crusoe and Other Narratives: Finding the Thing Itself* and *Daniel Defoe: Master of Fictions*.

IRVING ROTHMAN was a professor of English at the University of Houston in Texas.

MANUEL SCHONHORN is the author of *Defoe's Politics: Parliament, Power, Kingship, and Robinson Crusoe*.



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