

# **Small Things in the Eighteenth Century**

## **6-7 June, 2019**

Funded by the British Academy and the Centre for Eighteenth Century Studies  
University of York

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### **THURSDAY 6 JUNE**

**8:45 to 9:30am: Registration & Coffee, Huntington Ante-Room, King's Manor**

**Each panel will be held in the Huntington Room, King's Manor.**

**9:30-11:00am**

#### **Session One: Small Things in Literature**

Panel Chair: Beth Fowkes Tobin (University of Georgia)

- “Joineriana”: The Fragmentary Form across Eighteenth-Century Culture’, Freya Gowrley (University of Edinburgh)
- ‘Pins in Mock-Heroic Verse’, Henry Power (University of Exeter)
- ‘Measuring Metre: The Sociability of Versified Embroidered Tape Measures’, Ben Wilkinson-Turnbull (University of Oxford)

**11:00-11:30am: Coffee & Tea, Huntington Ante-Room**

**11:30am-1:00pm**

#### **Session Two: The Materiality of Print**

Panel Chair: Chloe Wigston Smith (University of York)

- ‘Little Lives: Eighteenth-Century Obituaries’, Rebecca Bullard (University of Reading)
- ‘Nuts, Flies, Thimbles and Thumbs: Eighteenth-Century Children’s Books and the Diminutive’, Katherine Wakely-Mulroney (Nanyang Technological University)
- ‘Homer in a nutshell: micrography, the miniature book and the nature of legibility’, Abigail Williams (University of Oxford)

**1:00-2:00pm: Lunch, Huntington Ante-Room**

**2:00-3:45pm**

### **Session Three: Masculinity & Small Things**

Panel Chair: Catriona Kennedy (University of York)

- ‘Men’s Trinkets: Fobs, Seals, and the Material Culture of Transatlantic Interracial Masculinity, 1760-1800’, Linzy Brekke-Aloise (Stonehill College)
- ‘A Fool’s Destruction?: Snuffboxes and Middling Masculinity in Eighteenth-Century England’, Benjamin Jackson (Queen Mary, University of London)
- ‘The Aesthetic of Smallness: Seal-Trinkets and Other Chelsea Porcelain Toys, 1750-1775’, Patricia Ferguson (British Museum)
- ‘Two Men’s Leather Letter Cases: Mercantile Pride versus Museum Prejudice’, Pauline Rushton (National Museums Liverpool)

**3:45-4pm: Coffee & Tea, Huntington Ante-Room**

**4:00-5:30pm**

### **Session Four: A Nation of Small Things**

Panel Chair: Gillian Russell (University of York)

- ‘Token Gestures: Thomas Spence’s Political Tokens as Propaganda Pieces, Personal Effects, and Collectors’ Items (c.1794-1814)’, Thomas Whitfield (Newcastle University)
- ‘“What Number?”: Reform, Authority, and Identity Through Military Buttons in the Late 18th Century’, Matthew Keagle (Fort Ticonderoga Museum and Bard Graduate Center for Studies in the Decorative Arts, Design, History, and Material Culture)
- ‘Material Nationhood: Britannia, Patriotism, and Small Things, 1707-1837’, Serena Dyer (University of Hertfordshire)

**7:00pm: Conference Dinner, Carluccio’s, St Helen’s Square**

## **FRIDAY 7 JUNE**

**9:15-11:00am**

### **Session Five: Women's Small Things**

Panel Chair: Chloe Wigston Smith (University of York)

- 'Elegant and Sharp: Handiwork Scissor in Eighteenth-Century Europe', Johanna Ilmakunnas (Åbo Akademi University, Finland)
- "'This little Book, your silent Friend": Pocket Memorandum Books and Women's Life Writing in Georgian Britain', Holly Day (University of York)
- 'Small Things Forgotten: Pockets, Scale and Historical Narrative', Ariane Fennetaux (Université Paris Diderot)
- 'Potty Propaganda or History in the Making?', Caroline McCaffrey-Howarth (V&A and Royal College of Art)

**11:00-11:30am Coffee & Tea, Huntington Ante-Room**

**11:30am-1:00pm**

### **Session Six: Abject Things**

Panel Chair: Gillian Russell (University of York)

- 'Small Things in the English Pauper Home, c. 1670-1834', Joseph Harley (University of Derby)
- "'We bought a Guillotine neatly done in bone)": Illicit Industries of Small Things on Board British Prison Hulks', Anna McKay, University of Leicester and the National Maritime Museum
- "'Dropt", "Lost", "Misplaced": Losing Small Things on London's Streets', Kate Smith (University of Birmingham)

**1:00-2:00pm Lunch, Huntington Ante-Room**

**2:00-3:45pm**

**Plenary Panel: The Miniature**

**Supported by the Centre for Eighteenth Century Studies at the University of York**

Panel Chair: Beth Fowkes Tobin (University of Georgia)

‘Home away from Home: The Miniature Shell Collection in Petronella Oortman’s Dollhouse’,  
Hanneke Grootenboer (University of Oxford)

‘Microhistory, For Real: Miniatures and Miniaturization in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth  
Centuries’, Dror Wahrman (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)