The Censorship of British Theatre

1737-1843

Theatre censorship had a profound impact on the cultural and political life of the Georgians. Leading experts on 18th and 19th-century theatre will explore the implications of statutory theatre censorship as Britain grappled with issues of modernity, race, gender, and religion during a period of imperial expansion and conflict.

LOCATION:
Rothenberg Hall
Steven S. Koblik Education and Visitor Center

John O’Keeffe, Jenny’s Whim, or, The Roasted Emperor (1794).
Huntington Library, LA 1037, f.20r.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 2018

8:30 Registration & Coffee
9:30 Welcome:
Steve Hindle (The Huntington)
Remarks:
David O’Shaughnessy (Trinity College Dublin)

Session 1 Establishing Statutory Censorship
Moderator:
Kate Newey (University of Exeter)
Thomas Lockwood (University of Washington)
“Was the Licensing Act Just—An Act?”
Kristina Straub (Carnegie Mellon University)
“Licensing Knowledge: Theatricality and the Body Academic”

1:00 Session 2 Censoring History
Moderator:
Emily Anderson (University of Southern California)
Bridget Orr (Vanderbilt University)
“Censoring Empire: Patriot Plays, Colonial Policy, and Anti-Imperial Performance”
David O’Shaughnessy
“Ireland’s Historical Tragedies”

2:45 Break

3:00 Session 3 Censoring Performance and Space
Moderator:
Daniel O’Quinn (University of Guelph)
David Taylor (University of Warwick)
“The Politics of Elsewhere: Revolution and the Aesthetics of Theatrical Space”
Jim Davis (University of Warwick)
“Evading Censorship through Comedy, Improvisation, and Non-Verbal Performance in the Early 19th Century”

12:00 Lunch

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 2018

9:00 Registration & Coffee
9:30 Session 4 Censoring Real Life
Moderator:
Matthew Kinservik (University of Delaware)
“The Censorship of Personal Satire on the 18th-century London Stage”
Julie Carlson
(University of California, Santa Barbara)
“Knife or Not?: Censoring Thomas Holcroft”
Gillian Russell (University of Melbourne)
“Censoring the Playbill: The Case of The Gamblers (1823-24)”

12:00 Lunch

1:30 Session 5 Censoring Women
Moderator:
Julie Carlson
Daniel O’Quinn
“The discipline of a life in fashion’, Censoring The Ton, The Whim, and The Town As It Is”
Kate Newey
“Women Writers and Censorship in the Early 19th Century”

3:15 Concluding Remarks
David O’Shaughnessy

Conference registration and optional lunches by reservation only.
Conference registration fee .................................................$ 25.00 (Students free)
Buffet lunch (January 12) .................................................... $ 20.00
Buffet lunch (January 13) .................................................... $ 20.00

Please visit huntington.org/censorship for ticket information.