

Annual Report 2003-4

Merger

In August 2004 the Institute of Hellenic and Roman Studies (Director: Professor Robert Fowler) and the Centre for the Classical Tradition (Director: Dr Miriam Leonard; Chair: Professor Charles Martindale) merged to form the new Institute (Director: Martindale; Deputy Director (finance) Dr Nicoletta Momigliano). In practice the two bodies collaborated closely throughout the year, so we are submitting a joint report.

The Institute is a Faculty body. In future it will be run by an Executive Committee (which currently contains members from Archaeology, Classics and AH, English, History, and History of Art), which will meet 5 times a year, and report in the summer to the Board, consisting of all interested parties in the University.

Institute fellows and scholars

A core concern of the Institute is to provide opportunities for scholars at the beginning of their career in the form of one-year and two-year postdoctoral fellowships (8 so far). We had two one-year fellows in 2003-4: Dr Isobel Hurst, 'Homer in 19th-Century English Literature by Women Writers' (located in Dept of Classics and AH); Dr Stefano-Maria Evangelista, 'Classics and Modernism' (in Dept of English). Dr Evangelista has subsequently been appointed to a 4-year fellowship at Merton College, Oxford. Reports have been requested, and will be lodged in the Institute files (to be held by Birtha).

We have appointed Katherine Harloe (Cambridge) to a 2-year Fellowship to work on 'Nietzsche and the Greeks' (located for the first year in Classics, but establishing links also with Philosophy).

Rayne Scholarships (worth £7500) are for taught MAs in the Faculty relating to any aspect of Classics or the Classical Tradition. The two Rayne Scholars for this year are Amber Standifer (MA in Ancient History) and DeAnna Cardoza (MA in Mediterranean Archaeology).

Finances

Momigliano is engaged in a fund-raising drive to establish an endowment of £50K, to provide regular income for Institute activities. So far she has raised more than £10K.

Events 2003-4

The policy of the Institute is to pursue quality more than quantity. In general it favours events that are interdisciplinary and involve more than one department, have an international or at any rate a strong national dimension, relate to other research projects and are likely to lead to publication in due course. A number of such events were held in 2003-4:

Kant's Third Critique: Its Value Within the Arts and Humanities Today :
2-day colloquium, co-sponsored by Depts of Classics and AH and of
Philosophy, 24-5 April 2004, Arts Faculty.

Organisers: Professor Charles Martindale, Professor Elizabeth Prettejohn
(Plymouth), Dr Carolyn Wilde

Outside Funding: British Academy (£1875)

Publication: projected volume edited by organisers.

This event included ten papers by scholars in Philosophy, English, Classics, and Art History, who addressed the question of the value of Kant's Third Critique from the perspectives of their respective disciplines. Three contributors were brought to the UK by a grant from the British Academy: Paul Crowther, Professor of Art and Philosophy at International University Bremen, on 'Kant and the Conditions of Artistic Creativity'; Professor Matt Potolsky (English, University of Utah) on 'Kant and Aestheticism'; Professor Whitney Davis (Art History, University of California at Berkeley), on 'Queer Beauty'. Other speakers addressed Kant and the visual arts (modernism and postmodernism), key ideas in Kant's aesthetics (subjective universality, genius, and autonomy), Kant and literature (poetry, metaphor). Professor James I. Porter (Classics and Comparative Literature, Michigan) acted as Principal Respondent; the conference was timed to coincide with Professor Porter's visit to Bristol as visiting Meaker Professor. The audience consisted of 29 invited delegates (including speakers) in the disciplines listed above, plus Performance Studies, Music, and Art & Design (including two practising artists); delegates came from the UK, USA, and Germany. Since all participants had an active research interest in the area, considerable time was devoted to discussion, which became progressively livelier and more probing over the course of the two days. The discussions were particularly useful in realising the conference's aim of encouraging interdisciplinary exchange between philosophers and scholars from elsewhere in the arts and humanities who have a significant interest in the issues raised by Kant's aesthetics. Among the issues that encouraged substantial debate were the question of disinterest, the distinction between science and art, and the distinction between art and aesthetics.

2. Reception and Reception-theory and Antiquity: day seminar, 1st May, 2004, IAS.

Organisers: Professor Charles Martindale, Professor Richard Thomas
(Harvard)

Publication: *Classics and the Uses of Reception*, edited by the organisers,
Blackwell 2006.

In January 2003 the organisers co-chaired a panel of 5 speakers to present papers on 'The Uses of Reception' at the American Philological Society's Annual Meeting, held at New Orleans. As a result of the interest aroused, they

decided to edit a collection of essays on the subject. In preparation for this volume and to give it a greater focus and unity, a colloquium was held in Bristol. Since the early 1990s there has been a huge expansion of work broadly categorised as 'reception', particularly in the UK (where it is a separate category in the Classics Research Assessment Exercise). But there has not been a great deal of discussion or debate about the value of the term or the principles on which such work should be conducted. The aim of the collection is to ask what the future might hold for reception studies, reception history, reception theory, and offer varied demonstrations of the productive use of reception within the Classics of the future.

3. Iphigenia in the Arts: day conference, co-sponsored by the Archive of Performance of Greek and Roman Drama, 14 May, 2004, Burwalls.

Organiser: Dr Pantelis Michelakis

Outside Funding: Society for the Promotion of Hellenic Studies, the Leventis Foundation, The Archive of Performances of Greek and Roman Drama (AHRB)

There were six plenary lectures and a panel exploring the myth of the sacrifice of Iphigenia in iconography, literature, opera, and theatre. The event had two aims: to explore the relevance of the myth at the beginning of the third millennium; and to examine possible similarities between the current interest in Iphigenia and other important moments in the reception history of the myth such as those associated with Euripides, Racine, Gluck, and Schiller. The conference was attended by more than 50 academics and graduate students not only from other universities throughout the UK but also from Ireland, Germany, South Africa, and USA.

4. Stravinsky/Cocteau/Oedipus: Myth, Music and Modernism: half-day colloquium, 7 July, 2004, Victoria Rooms.

Organisers: Dr Neville Morley, Dr Vanda Zajko

Outside Funding: The Michael Marks Foundation

Igor Stravinsky's opera-oratorio *Oedipus Rex* of 1927, with its libretto by Jean Cocteau translated into Latin, appears in both subject and form as an extraordinary and fascinating intersection of different intellectual and cultural traditions: the reinterpretation of ancient Greek tragedy for the modern world (as seen also in Cocteau's *Antigone*), the re-imagining of antiquity (above all through an emphasis on myth and 'primitivism') and the negotiation of ideas of the 'classical' and the 'monumental' in composition and performance. The aim of the colloquium was to bring together scholars studying the different traditions of twentieth-century music, modern French drama and the reception of classical culture, both to explore different aspects of this particular work and to consider its place in the wider cultural context. It was the first time we have sponsored an event which took as its focus a musical work, which was therefore something of an experiment; in the event the quality of the papers

was high and the discussion of them both detailed and broad-ranging. Papers were given by Maureen Carr (Penn State); Edward Forman (Bristol); Nicholas McKay (Sussex); Stephen Walsh (Cardiff).

Cypriot Identity in History and Prehistory: day colloquium, co-sponsored by Dept of Archaeology, 4 September, 2004, Dept of Archaeology.

Organisers: Robert Fowler, Tamar Hodos

Outside funding: Government of Cyprus

Publication: possible publication of papers in *History and Anthropology*.

The event focussed on the question of the *longue durée* in the context of regional history, with wide-ranging interdisciplinary discussion. Speakers were Rebecca Bryant (Cornell); Joanne Clarke (East Anglia); Michael Given (Glasgow); Marios Hadjianastassis (Birmingham); Bernard Knapp (Glasgow); Angela Michael (Glasgow); Anastasia Serghidou (Rethymno); Louise Steele (Lampeter).

Other Developments

The Institute has made an association with the Classical Studies Reception Network (which comprises Bristol, Durham, Nottingham, Oxford, Reading OU), and will participate in a number of future Network events, starting with a research seminar series at the Institute of Classical Studies, School of Advanced Studies, University of London. It has also forged links with 'Contexts for Classics' at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, with which we are planning exchange events.

The Institute is currently negotiating with two publishers, IB Tauris and Blackwell, about possible series of publications to be associated with the Institute. Former Institute fellow Dr Aleka Lianeri is working on a proposal for an edited collection arising from her Institute conference 'Translation and the Classic' (co-editor, Dr Zajko). A selection of papers from the 2nd Marks Conference, 'Decadence, Ancient and Modern', is to be published as a journal special issue (editor: Professor Potolsky).

Future plans

The Faculty Theme 'Reception' is located within the Institute. The Executive Committee is currently working on a wide range of programmes for the years ahead.

Charles Martindale

Robert Fowler

October 2004