

# Text and Image in the City

A BOOK HISTORY RESEARCH NETWORK Study Day on Print and Manuscript Culture in British and European Towns and Cities

CENTRE FOR URBAN HISTORY, UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER  
FRIDAY, 31 MAY 2013 (9.30 am to 5.00 pm)



Fenwick's, Leicester

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“During the sixteenth century the business of printing became a constituent part of European urban culture, and this development reinforced the differences between life in the town and life in the countryside. In the course of the remaining five centuries of the millennium, print conquered the world, but also remained a product intimately embedded in urban life: printed matter was manufactured, sold, and largely invented in urban centres.”

*Printed Matters: Printing, Publishing and Urban Culture in Europe in the Modern Period*, ed. M. Gee & T. Kirk (Ashgate, 2002), p. 1.

“In an age of urban mass literacy, the city as place and the city as text defined each other in mutually constitutive ways. [...] As the *word city* acquired more layers, the uses to which words could be put multiplied, enhancing their disorderly potential.”

Peter Fritzsche, *Reading Berlin 1900* (Harvard, 1996), pp. 1, 4-5.

#### SPEAKERS (SEE PROGRAMME OVERLEAF)

**Caroline Archer** (Birmingham City) *Paris Underground*  
**Daliah Bond** (Aberdeen) *Defining the Scottish Chapbook*  
**Gervase French** (Leicester) *Newcastle's Chapbook Literature*  
**Matt Harle** (Birkbeck) *Tomorrow's London*  
**Sandro Jung** (Ghent) *The Topography of Urban Architecture*  
**Sarah Laseke** (Oxford) *Scribes in the City*  
**Geraldine Marshall** (Birmingham City) *Birmingham's Graphic DNA*  
**Jack Mockford** (Hertfordshire/British Museum) *Flash Notes*  
**Rathna Ramanathan** (Central St Martin's) *London's Little Presses*  
**Rosa Smurra** (Bologna) *'Studium', Manuscript Books and Urban Landscape*

Plus a talk and display of prints by Sarah Kirby, Artist in Residence, Centre for Urban History

**COST: £10 (PAY CASH ON THE DAY) FOR REFRESHMENTS AND A SANDWICH LUNCH**

To reserve a place email John Hinks: [jh241@le.ac.uk](mailto:jh241@le.ac.uk)

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### PROGRAMME

9.30 Registration (tea and coffee available)

10.00 Welcome by Prashant Kidambi (Director of CUH) and Catherine Armstrong (Chair of BHRN)

10.15 Session 1 (Chair: Catherine Armstrong)

**Daliah Bond** *Defining the Scottish Chapbook: a description of the 'typical Scottish chapbook'*

**Gervase French** *Newcastle's Chapbook Literature: rival identities and popular culture, 1750-1832*

**Jack Mockford** *Flash Notes: imitation paper money in late Georgian England*

11.30 Tea/Coffee

12.00 Session 2 (Chair: Gervase French)

**Geraldine Marshall** *Birmingham's Graphic DNA: reading the 'word city' through signage, architectural letter forms and the typographic landscape*

**Sandro Jung** *The Topography of Urban Architecture: Peacock's The Polite Repository, 1800-1820*

**Caroline Archer** *Paris Underground: the missing memory of the city*

1.15 Sandwich lunch

2.00 **Sarah Kirby**, Printmaker, Artist in Residence at the Centre for Urban History

2.30 Session 3 (Chair: Catherine Armstrong)

**Rosa Smurra** *'Studium', Manuscript Books and Urban Landscape: Bologna, 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> centuries*

**Sarah Laseke** *Scribes in the City: the urban manuscript production of romances in the 15th Century*

3.20 Tea/Coffee

3.50 Session 4 (Chair: John Hinks)

**Matt Harle** *Tomorrow's London: the GLC and London's abandoned future of the 1960s*

**Rathna Ramanathan** *London's Little Presses*

4.40 Final discussion

5.00 End