

Bodleian Libraries
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Centre for the Study of the Book 2017-18

The Centre for the Study of the Book hosts a programme of academic and educational outreach from Bodleian Special Collections. These activities are designed to bring together the expertise of library curators, researchers, and practitioners to make the collections accessible for learning at all levels. Events in the programme are presented in collaboration with colleges and Faculties of the University of Oxford, with the Oxford Bibliographical Society, and with research projects based at Oxford and other universities.

The Bodleian Visiting Fellows Programme further integrates research in Bodleian collections with the ongoing intellectual life of the Libraries and the University. Thanks to the generosity of several benefactors, Visiting Fellows join the Bodleian Centre for the Study of the Book in the Weston Library for residencies of between one and six months, to pursue an uninterrupted period of study focusing on the Bodleian's Special Collections, and to take advantage of exchanges with University researchers and library curatorial and Conservation staff.

One of the rare resources preserved by the Bodleian's Department of Special Collections is the hand-press printing workshop. Programming for public courses, school visits, and workshops makes this facility available to a wide audience. In 2017-18 the CSB welcomed the first Bodleian printer-in-residence, Russell Maret, for a month of practical experiment, workshops, and a public lecture.

Blog, The Conveyor: <https://blogs.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/theconveyor/>

Events calendar: <http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/csb/events>

Fellowships offers: <http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/csb/fellowships>

Bodleian Education: <http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/whatson/learn>

Bodleian Bibliographical Press: <http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/csb/bibpress>

SUMMARY 2017-18

Academic events highlights

18 Nov Symposium: Disseminated and re-circulated: popular culture in script and print. Convened by **Jill Shefrin**, RBC Foundation-Bodleian Fellow (59 registered: 45 attending)

22 Nov Bodleian Fellows Lecture. **Anita Chowdry**, Bahari Visiting Fellow, 'Pigments in Persian manuscripts'.

24-25 Nov Conference (with Lincoln College): Two hundred years of Italian manuscripts at Oxford: Exploring the Canonici Collection. Convened by **Irene Ceccherini**, Lyell-Dilts Fellow (55 registered)

Hilary Term: Seminar in History of the Book (with 15th century BOOKTRADE). Convened by **Dr Cristina Dondi** (HT2018) (avg. 20 attending)

Hilary Term: Bindings Master classes. **David Pearson**, Lyell Reader in Bibliography 2017-18, and Research Fellow, Institute of English Studies, University of London (HT2017) [Avg. 23 attending]

22 Feb Annual McKenzie Lecture. **Professor Stefan Collini** (Cambridge) The Idea of 'the Reading Public': Literary History or Cultural Criticism? [with English Faculty] (45 attending) The lecture is supported by the McKenzie Trust.

19-20 April Conference (with Lincoln College): Printing and Misprinting: Typographical Mistakes and Publishers' Corrections (1450-1650). Convened by **Geri Della Rocca de Candal and Paolo Sachet**

16 May Persian manuscripts lectures: **Prof. Dr. Mandana Barkeshli and Sadra Zekrgoo** Convened by **Marinita Stiglitz**, Bodleian Conservation.

24 Apr–8 May The Lyell Lectures. **David Pearson**, 'Book Ownership in Stuart England' Avg. 60 attending.

25–29 Jun Summer School: The Scientific Image. Led by **Roger Gaskell**. [12 students]

29 Jun–3 Jul Summer Workshop, Hebrew Manuscript Studies: **César Merchán-Hamann** (OCHJS & Bodleian Library)

4 July Bodleian Fellows Seminar. **Tara Lyons**, Sassoon Visiting Fellow

Public lectures highlights

5–20 July [Series] Which Jane Austen? lectures. Convened by Kathryn Sutherland

Hilary Davidson, 'Reconstructing Jane Austen's silk pelisse'

Emma Clery, Professor of English, Southampton, 'Jane Austen in the Literary Marketplace'

13 Sept **Brian Hurwitz**, Professor of Medicine and the Arts, King's College London 'Parkinson of the Disease – Apothecary, Pamphleteer, Fossilist, Storyteller [with Neuroscience]

20 Oct **Griselda Garner**, 'Discovering *The Owl Service*: the plates, the place and the stories'

6 Sep–25 Oct [Series] John Murray/Jane Austen lectures. Convened by Kathryn Sutherland and Gillian Dow. Avg. 42 attending.

David McClay (Manuscripts Curator for the John Murray Archive at the National Library of Scotland), 'John Murray II's experience of publishing women; was Jane Austen typical?'

Professor Kathryn Sutherland (Oxford), 'More Praise than Profit: Jane Austen's dealings with John Murray'

Professor Catriona Seth (Oxford), 'The most famous woman in Europe: Germaine de Staël'

Professor Matthew Grenby (Newcastle), 'Unmasking Mrs Markham, the most successful historian of Austen's age'

Dr Annie Gray, 'From White Soup to White-Pots: Maria Rundell and Regency Gastronomy'

Dr Carl Thompson (Surrey), 'The Intrepid Maria Graham: John Murray's Most Travelled 'Lady Author''

Dr Gillian Dow (Southampton) "'Real Solemn History": Stéphanie-Félicité de Genlis and the Historical Novel'

A grant from the English Faculty partially supported these lectures.

7 Dec–4 Apr [Series] Designing English lectures. Convened by Daniel Wakelin. [Series]. Avg. 70 attending

Daniel Wakelin, 'Were there medieval designers?'

Matthew Champion, 'Medieval graffiti: reading the writing on the wall?'

Katherine O'Brien O'Keeffe, 'The king and 'I'; Alfred and the Alfredian project'

Dr Holly James-Maddocks, 'The illuminators' craft'



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Visiting fellows bring their expertise from around the world.

The programme invites scholars from outside Oxford for a period of up to six months, to study Bodleian Special Collections. Visiting Fellows events are supported by the Fellowships funds.

In 2017-18, the Libraries granted funds to 33 visitors, under the following Fellowships: The Humfrey Wanley Fellowship; The Byrne-Bussey Marconi Fellowship, for the study of communications and science; The David Walker Memorial Fellowship, for Early Modern History; The Sassoon Fellowship; The Bahari Fellowship in Persian Arts of the Book; The Royal Bank of Canada Foundation-Bodleian Fellowship. In addition, the Libraries welcomed scholars from learned societies, the Renaissance Society of America, the British Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, and The Georgian Group. Details of the 2017-18 Fellows and their research projects can be found on the [CSB Fellows webpage](#).

Some of the Fellows who contributed to academic and public programmes in 2017-18:

Anita Chowdry, Bahari Visiting Fellow, (pictured above) curated a display of Persian manuscripts which opened in November 2017, 'Making manuscripts for a prince of the Black Sheep'. Chowdry delivered a public lecture in November, and conducted curator talks at the first Bodleian Library 'Late' event in December 2017.

Jacob Ward, Byrne-Bussey Marconi Fellow, delivered the Douglas Byrne Marconi Lecture in Hilary Term, '[What happened to wireless?](#)' (6 March) [\[See podcast.\]](#)

Jill Shefrin, RBC Foundation-Bodleian Fellow, convened the symposium, 'Disseminated and re-circulated: popular culture in script and print'. [Conference programme](#).



ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES

Talks, discussions, courses and prize-givings provide a meeting-ground for scholars.

As a host for these programmes, the Centre for the Study of the Book provides bridges into the collections for initiatives by Faculties and University-hosted research projects, and supports outreach from the Bodleian to the wider research community.

Conferences, seminars, and lectures

Two hundred years of Italian manuscripts at Oxford: Exploring the Canonici Collection (24-25 November, 2017, at the Weston Library and Lincoln College). Irene Ceccherini, Lyell-Dilts Fellow, convened this conference examining the collection of Matteo Luigi Canonici (1727-1805), which includes musical, liturgical, humanist, and medical manuscripts. [Conference programme.](#)

Seminar in the History of the Book Cristina Dondi (Lincoln College and I5cBOOKTRADE), convened this seminar during Hilary Term 2018. The seminar is part of the academic programme of both the Library and the I5cBOOKTRADE research project.

Dr Alan Stahl (Curator of Numismatics, Princeton University), [‘Coins, Money and Prices in Renaissance Italy’](#)

Prof. Julia Bray (Laudian Professor of Arabic, University of Oxford), [‘Scrolls into codices: Jilyani’s picture-poems for Saladin’](#)

Prof. Ian Maclean (All Souls College), [‘Andreas Frisius of Amsterdam and the search for a niche market, 1664-75’](#)

Dr Irene Ceccherini (Lyell-Bodleian Research Fellow in Manuscript Studies, Bodleian Library, Dilts Research Fellow in Palaeography, Lincoln College), [‘Merchants’ books of Venice and Florence’](#).

Dr Laura Carnelos (Marie Curie Fellow, CERL and British Library), ‘From ephemeral to rare: 16th-Century Italian Popular Books in the British and the Bodleian Libraries’

Prof. Lilian Armstrong (Wellesley College), [‘The De Spira Brothers vrs. Nicolaus Jenson, 1469-1472: A Rivalry Traced through Hand-illuminated Copies of their Editions’](#)

Dr Falk Eisermann (Gesamtkataloge der Wiegendrucke, Staatsbibliothek, Berlin), [“‘Did you mean incurable?’ Searching and Finding Incunabula in the World Wide Web’](#)

Material Text Seminar, Hilary Term. David Pearson (Lyell Lecturer 2017-18), delivered four talks on British binding styles since 1600. Attendance, 24 at each seminar.

Lyell lectures, Trinity Term. The title of David Pearson's 5-lecture series was 'Book ownership in Stuart England'. The lectures are funded by the Lyell Fund. [See podcasts.](#)

Student learning

[Bodleian Student Editions](#) This initiative is a partnership between the Bodleian's Department of Special Collections, the Centre for Digital Scholarship, and the Cultures of Knowledge project. Student champions in launching the workshops were Olivia Thompson and Helen Brown. At these sessions, students of the University of Oxford, from any Faculty, are introduced to manuscripts from the Bodleian collections and taught to analyze and transcribe these. The results are published on the Early Modern Letters Online portal. (Five sessions, 23 Nov 2017, 31 Jan 2018, 1 Mar, 9 June, and 7 July.)

Master of Studies hand-press printing. Postgraduate students learn the art of printing on the hand-press at weekly classes offered by the Bodleian Bibliographical Press, with one seminar on the history of paper. Learning through typographical error is the rule for early-modernist scholars who produce their own illustrated pamphlets. Sessions are held on one afternoon per week in Weeks 3-8 of Michaelmas and Hilary Terms. The Faculty of English pays for instruction of its students on this course.

The Colin Franklin Award for Book-collecting. Ekaterina Shatalova (Keble), won the Colin Franklin Prize for her essay, 'One very nonsensical collection,' about her collection of Edward Lear editions in English and in translation, and of the genre of nonsense verse inspired by Lear. The prize fund is donated by Anthony Davis.

Summer School: The Scientific Image

(25-29 June 2018)

Convened by Roger Gaskell. Twelve students enrolled, to examine the styles, content, and methods of creating scientific images from the 15th to the 19th centuries. Students heard additional lectures from Jim Bennett and Stephen Harris, and made visits to the Sherardian Library and the Museum of the History of Science and to the Bodleian Bibliographical Press and the Oxford Printmakers' Cooperative. The students came from Spain, the Netherlands, the USA, UK, Canada, and Sweden. By profession they were academic historians, artists, antiquarian book dealers, librarians, and postgraduates in English literature, history, and the history of science.

The Summer School is self-supporting, with a registration fee of £500.



BIBLIOGRAPHICAL PRESS

The smell of oil-based ink pervades the workshop where students, University researchers, Oxfordshire families, adults and school groups learn first-hand about the making of books. At the Bodleian's letterpress workshop, on the ground floor of the Old Bodleian Library, are five iron printing presses dating from the 19th century, an etching press and a proofing press, with a quantity of metal and wood type, and specimens illustrating the craft of printing. The Bibliographical Press programme, providing the opportunity for hands-on experiment and creativity, is part of the Centre for the Study of the Book offering to researchers and the public.

Printer-in-Residence

Russell Maret was the Bodleian's Printer-in-residence, using the workshop for a month in October 2017. Maret delivered a public lecture, '[Making third-stream books in the post-digital age](#),' and two free workshops during his residency, experimenting with ways of printing Shakespeare's work and giving dedicated printers an early taste of a typeface he has designed, which is now in production, 'Hungry Dutch'. <http://russellmaret.blogspot.com/2017/12/bodleian-libraries-residency.html>

Maret's work, *Interstices & Intersections or, an Autodidact Comprehends a Cube*, featured in the display, 'Looking at Euclid,' Blackwell Hall, Weston Library, 19 May - 15 July 2018. The display was curated by the [Reading Euclid project](#) based in the Faculty of History. Project leader Benjamin Wardhaugh (All Souls) and project researchers Philip Beeby and Yelda Nasifoglu also practiced printing some propositions and diagrams at the workshop.

The residency is funded by a private donation to the Bibliographical Press.

Support for University of Oxford faculties and for university-level teaching

English Faculty: the Press supported teaching of letterpress to the English Master of Studies programme with two series of classes in Michaelmas and Hilary Terms

Ruskin College of Art: [Printing a line](#), a project with artist Tamarin Norwood, was made in June 2017 and filmed for the University's podcasts. This was a project to print a single continuous 38-foot line of text on the replica wooden common press in the Weston Library's Blackwell Hall.

<https://podcasts.ox.ac.uk/printing-line-bodleian-weston-library-printing-press>

The connection continued with Alexandra Franklin speaking at the seminar, PrintmakingThinking, convened by Tamarin Norwood and Graeme Hughes at Ruskin College, in February 2018.

History, and Medieval and Modern Languages: The Press supported Faculties in recognition of the anniversary of Lutheran Reformation, at [events outside the History Faculty building](#) (in October) and [at the Taylor Institution \(in April\)](#).

Earth Sciences: Jon Wade and colleague made a hand-set letterpress version of the abstract of the article, 'The divergent fates of primitive hydrospheric water on Earth and Mars,' and made a linocut illustration to accompany this https://twitter.com/World_of_Wade/status/943549415712808961 From outside Oxford, the workshop hosted visits of classes from **UCL, Southampton, and Cornell College, Iowa**, and collaborated with the **Institute of English Studies, London, the St Bride Foundation, and University of Reading** in the Gutenberg anniversary masterclass, '[Reconstructing Gutenberg's Press](#),' convened by Elizabeth Savage

Support for Bodleian Education

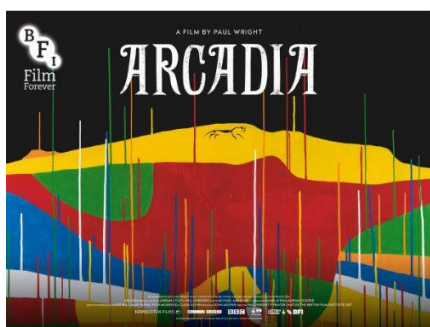
The Bibliographical Press supported the Bodleian's [Education Programme](#) by hosting workshop visits from the following schools:

St Andrews, Headington–Wallingford School–Oxford Spires Academy–King Alfred's, Wantage–Magdalen College School–Marlborough C of E School, Woodstock–Abingdon and Witney College

Open days and public sessions

- Oxford Open Doors: 700 drop-in visitors on Saturday, 9 September 2017
- Westgate Centre, 28 April, 12-4 pm; c. 60 drop-in visitors
- Free drop-in 'First Saturday' printing in May-July in Blackwell Hall including Karl Marx's birthday (5 May) and Alice's Day (7 July).
- Weekly classes: The Press offered 3 series of 6-week classes to the public, taught by Richard Lawrence and Elizabeth Adams.
- 2 Linocut weekend classes in May taught by Robin Wilson and Rosie Fairfax-Cholmeley.
- 3 sessions for choirs participating in the Bodleian Ballads project with Oxford Folk Weekend

Some of the work completed at the Bodleian Bibliographical Press:



- An Occitan text, printed with red and blue initials by André Penafiel and Paul Nash
- Adam Maynard (Bodleian), *Three Poems* (to be launched November 2018).
- Wood type from the Stephen Austin donation was used by designer Stanley Donwood for the poster of the film, *Arcadia*, by Paul Wright (2018).

Letterpress networks

The Bodleian joined an AHRC network led from Birmingham and Leeds, '[Letterpress: past, present, future](#),' and Alexandra Franklin spoke at the first workshop on 29 September in Birmingham. Following up on the success of the Sonnets 2016 project to collect relief-printed Shakespeare sonnets from around the world, Richard Lawrence and Alexandra Franklin delivered a presentation about the project to the Oxford Fine Press Book Fair in March. The CSB and the John Johnson Collection joined the Association of European Printing Museums.