

## The Politics of Romanticism

The 17<sup>th</sup> international conference of the *Gesellschaft für englische Romantik* (Society for English Romanticism) will be hosted by the English Department of the University of Bamberg.

Bamberg, October 5-8, 2017.

**Keynote Speakers:** Peter Kitson (University of East Anglia), Mark Philp (University of Warwick), Tilottama Rajan (University of Western Ontario), Nicholas Roe (University of St Andrews).

### Call for Papers

Romanticism has always been understood in relation to the upheavals and profound political changes of the time around 1800. Recent historical research, however, has considerably qualified putative certainties about the politics of the period. Not only has the “age of revolution” or the “age of reform” been subjected to new scrutiny, but these labels now have to contend with the designation “age of counter-revolution”. Moreover, literary scholars have redefined or even demolished the boundaries between political writings and the traditional Romantic canon. In this process, the conventions of how Romantic studies imposes certain political views on its subject matter have been revealed – and thus the political nature of the discipline as such. In concert with political propaganda and popular notions about Romanticism, the discipline has at times affirmed national discourses of organic unity, socialist visions of utopian community, and environmentalist ideas of reconciling humanity and nature. In the course of the last two centuries, romanticism – or what has been regarded as such – has had a remarkable political afterlife.

We are seeking contributions with regard to three focus areas:

- Politics in the Romantic period and the literature and art of the time
- The institutional politics of Romantic studies
- The legacy of Romanticism in the politics of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries and today.

If you would like to present a paper addressing any of these thematic fields, please send a **proposal** as a PDF or Word document of no more than 500 words, accompanied by a short biographical sketch, to the local organisers. The **deadline** for proposals is **January 28, 2017**. You will be notified within three weeks after that date.

Presentations are limited to **25 minutes**. As usual, the conference will be held in English throughout.

Note: By special agreement, members of NASSR, BARS, SERA, JAER, NARS and the newly-formed Polish Society for the Study of European Romanticism do not have to become

members of the German Society for English Romanticism to take part in this conference – they only pay the regular **conference fee** of 40 Euros (10 Euros for students).

Detailed information about accommodation, travel, registration, a provisional conference programme, etc. will be provided on our **website**: [www.uni-bamberg.de/romanticism2017](http://www.uni-bamberg.de/romanticism2017).

Bamberg, a UNESCO World Heritage Site located in the south of Germany, is a city of medieval and baroque beauty and has a significant Romantic heritage (e.g. G.F.W. Hegel, E.T.A Hoffmann, W.H. Wackenroder). We will discover Bamberg's treasures on a guided tour and enjoy the virtuosity of some of the classical musicians Bamberg is also famous for.

Local organisers:

Prof. Dr. Pascal Fischer and Prof. Dr. Christoph Houswitschka  
[romanticism2017@uni-bamberg.de](mailto:romanticism2017@uni-bamberg.de)

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