

Call for Papers

Bloomsbury adaptations

Bath Spa University

5th and 6th May 2011

'No poet, no artist of any art, has his complete meaning alone. His significance, his appreciation is the appreciation of his relation to the dead poets and artists... the past should be altered by the present as much as the present is directed by the past.'
(T.S. Eliot, *'Tradition and the Individual Talent'*)

'Bloomsbury Adaptations' is an interdisciplinary conference which aims to explore the ways that twentieth and twenty-first century art (literary, visual, performing) has been influenced by the work of The Bloomsbury Group and its London milieu. Papers, short performance pieces, works of art, suggestions for literary/artistic workshops inspired by Bloomsbury are welcomed as the catalyst for a discussion of how, in Eliot's words, the past has been 'altered by the present as much as the present is directed by the past'.

Highlights of the conference will include a creative writing workshop with Susan Sellers, author of the acclaimed novel *Vanessa and Virginia*; a performance of the play 'Vanessa and Virginia' by Elizabeth Wright; dance performances by The Stephen Pelton Dance Company and a Bloomsbury inspired exhibition of art work by post-graduate students at Bath Spa University.

Keynote Speakers: Frances Spalding and Paul Edwards

Workshops: Susan Sellers (Creative Writing), Kitty Randle and Sarah Fullagar (Performance)

Performances: 'Vanessa and Virginia' (Moving Stories) and dance programme by the ShadyJane Dance Company.

Proposals for 15 min papers are invited addressing the work of 'the Bloomsbury Group' and their contemporaries using adaptation and inspiration as a starting point.

Topics may include (but are not limited to):

- inspiration
- adaptation
- the difficulties and joys of translating one form of creative output into another
- how creative works influence each other
- 'anxieties of influence' (Harold Bloom)
- early-twentieth century London and its impact on the contemporary art scene

- dance, drama, music, painting, sculpture, prose, poetry influenced by Bloomsbury and the London Scene
- The Omega Workshop and its influence
- Creative reactions against Bloomsbury

Proposals for individual papers and/or panels due by February 28th 2011. We also welcome working examples which demonstrate how Bloomsbury and its age have affected contemporary artists (literary, visual and performing). These may include, but are not limited to performances (dance, drama, music), creative workshops, poetry and prose readings, exhibitions, live art, film etc. Please send 250-word abstracts as Word attachments to Dr Elizabeth Wright (e.h.wright@bathspa.ac.uk) by **28th February 2011.**

Who to contact:

Dr Elizabeth Wright – Conference Organiser (e.h.wright@bathspa.ac.uk)

Jo Howe and Sandy Joakim – Marketing and Publicity (joanna.howe10@live.bathspa.ac.uk and Sandra.Joakim10@live.bathspa.ac.uk)

Chris Lewis – Registration and Payments (christopher.lewis10@live.bathspa.ac.uk)

Liz Greenfield – Website Design and Illustration (liz.online@gmail.com)

To register for the conference and for further information, please visit <http://www.bathspa.ac.uk/bloomsbury>