The Conference

This conference is the capstone event in a series of seminars, panels, lectures and meetings.

Selected papers from this conference will be appearing in a forthcoming issue of The Eighteenth Century: Theory and Interpretation.

Eighteenth-Century Latour:

Bruno Latour’s work is directly concerned with the way we tell the story of the Enlightenment. His formulation of modernity as a particular intertwining of people and things has shaped recent efforts to rethink the arts of the eighteenth century. This two-day conference addresses these issues directly, putting into conversation distinguished scholars of the eighteenth-century arts who have been influenced by Latour’s work.

Issues addressed by this conference include the development of modern forms of objectivity, the Enlightenment as an achievement in technical media, and the place of materiality in literary forms like the novel.

Thanks to:

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Images: interior of the London Monument (photo by author);
Program

Thursday December 12
Panel One: Thursday 2-4pm (MODERATOR)

Joe Drury, Villanova University
*Iconoclash and the Gothic Object*

Kalissa Hendrickson, Arizona State University
*Latour and Performance Studies: Active Stage*  
*Props in Elizabeth Inchbald's Appearance Is Against Them*

Jonathan Lamb, Vanderbilt University
*Turning Things into Things and the Limits of Such Representation*

Friday December 13
Panel Two: 9-11am (MODERATOR)

Paddy Bullard, University of Kent
*Daedalean Swift: Technical Mediation and Latourian a-modernity*

Courtney Weiss Smith, Wesleyan University
*Anne Finch’s Descriptive Turn*

Sean Silver, University of Michigan
*Hooke and Latour on Extended Cognition*

Panel Three: 11.30-1pm (MODERATOR)

Rachel Scarborough King, New York University
*Latour and Genre: The Case of the Letter Pamphlet*

Christina Lupton, University of Warwick
*Paper Ontologies: Reading Sterne with Latour*

Lunch: 1-2.30pm

Panel Four: 2.30-4.30pm (MODERATOR)

Brad Pasanek and Chad Wellmon, U of Virginia
*The Enlightenment Index*

Miruna Stanica, George Mason University
*Portraits of Delegation*

William Warner, UC Santa Barbara
*The modes of the existence of fiction [FIC] and the future of the literary humanities*