

The Empathy Effect: Teaching Literature about the World Wars and the Holocaust

Bill Douglas Cinema Museum, Exeter

(Old Library Seminar Room A/B)

12th September 2018

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#empathyeffect18

A one-day interdisciplinary workshop hosted at Bill Douglas Cinema Museum in Exeter as part of the AHRC-funded Teaching and Learning War Research Network to explore young people's engagement with and receptivity to the cultural memory messages of the two world wars and the Holocaust from an international comparative perspective.

We have a very full schedule and would ask that you arrive promptly for a 9am start and to keep all papers to a maximum of 20 minutes to ensure as much time as possible for questions/discussion. Many thanks for your cooperation.

9am: Arrival (tea and coffee available)

9.15am: Introductions and welcome

9.30am: Keynote 1: Rosie Kennedy, Goldsmiths, University of London

“A spree indeed!” – Children, Literature and the Imagination in First World War Britain’ (chaired by Jane Potter, Oxford Brookes)

10.30am: Panel 1: – The ethics of war and genocide in the classroom – chaired by Andy Pearce (UCL Institute of Education)

- Julia Ribeiro S. C. Thomaz (Université Paris Nanterre/École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales), “This is no case of petty right or wrong”: First World War Poetry and Historical Truth in Academia and in Secondary Education’
- David Lees (Warwick), ‘Where familiarity can breed empathy: Teaching and learning Hélène Berr’s *Journal* and Patrick Modiano’s *Dora Bruder* in UK Higher Education’
- Adrian Barlow (English Association), ‘Writing and war memorials: teaching about the aftermath of the world wars’

11.45am: Panel 2: Pan-European perspectives – chaired by Adrian Barlow (English Association)

- Caroline Perret (Independent Scholar), ‘Pierre Chaine’s *Mémoire d’un Rat*: An Empathic Teaching of WWI in France’

- Marjorie Gehrhardt (Reading), 'Facial injuries in the Great War: Using literary texts to teach about visible wounds'

1.00pm: Lunch

1.45pm: Keynote 2: Catherine Butler, Cardiff University

'Return and Repression: Children's Literature, Memory and the End of the Great War' (chaired by Joanne Parker, Exeter)

2.45pm: Panel 3: Empathy, literature and violence – chaired by Christina Spittel (UNSW Canberra/Australian Defence Force Academy)

- Verity Smette (Birmingham), 'Remembering the Round-ups – the Representation of Traumatic Memory in French children's fiction'
- Vera Veldhuizen (Cambridge), 'Empathy Across Time in Speculative Children's Shoah Fiction'
- Darren Oldridge (Worcester), '"The Hearts of the Wicked": Teaching the Holocaust through *Conspiracy* (2001)'

4.00pm Break (tea and coffee available)

4.30pm: Panel 4: Fostering empathy by other means – chaired by Ann-Marie Einhaus (Northumbria University)

- Marc McKiernan and Vicky Jones (Haltwhistle Film Project), 'Up In The Air: Helping young people learn about WW1 through animated storytelling'
- Sean Lang (Anglia Ruskin), 'Dramatising the Great War'
- David Rich (FWWCBTP/UCL IoE), 'How can the literature of the First World War add human value to school tours of the battlefields?'

6.00pm: Close of workshop