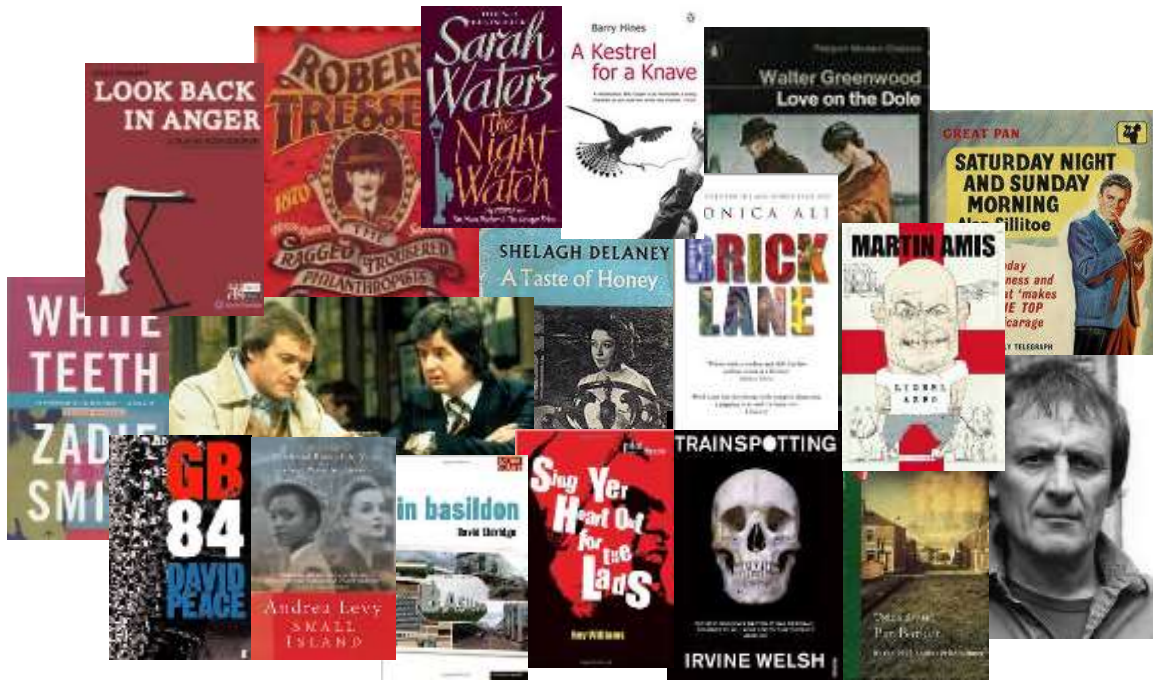


What Ever Happened to the Working Class?

Rediscovering Class Consciousness in Contemporary Literature



Senate House, School of Advanced Studies, Bloomsbury, London

Thursday 17th September, 2015

- 9.00-9.45 Registration
- 9.45-10.45 Plenary session – Keynote
- 10.45-12.00 1st Parallel sessions (2 rooms)
- 12.00-12.15 Coffee
- 12.15-1.30 2nd Parallel sessions (2 rooms)
- 1.30-2.10 Lunch
- 2.10-3.50 3rd Parallel Sessions (2 rooms)
- 3.50-4.00 Coffee
- 4.00-5.15 4th Parallel Sessions (2 rooms)
- 5.15-6.30 Plenary session
- 6.30-7.30 Drinks Reception with performance

9.00-9.45 Registration

9.45-10.45 Plenary session: Keynote

Ian Haywood (Roehampton), 'Tressell's Beano: the politics of pleasure in *The Ragged Trousered Philanthropists*'

10.45-12.00 1st Parallel sessions (2 rooms)

Session 1: Post-Class Fictions

Phil O'Brien (Manchester), 'The Deindustrial Novel: class, work, and identity in contemporary British fiction'

Andrew Rowcroft (Lincoln) 'Working Through the Working Class: The Case of Jonathan Lethem's *Dissident Gardens*'

Adrian Chapman (Florida State University London), "'On the Sick": Mental Illness and Class in Barbara Taylor's *The Last Asylum* and Nathan Filer's *The Shock of the Fall*'

Session 2: Poetry Class

Gavin Goodwin (Aberystwyth), 'Work, Experiment and Solidarity: The Transformatory Poetics of Mark Nowak'

Matthew Crowley (Brighton), 'A Moment of Abstraction: Education, Place, and Class in the Work of Tony Harrison'

Natalie Rawson (Canterbury Christchurch), 'Tracing the impulse to evil through the evil of exclusion: Iago's shadow in contemporary culture'

12.00-12.15 Coffee

12.15-1.30 2nd Parallel sessions (2 rooms)

Session 3: Fiction: Class, Gender, Sexuality

Nicola Wilson (Reading), 'Women in the Ditch: Feminism, Housing, and Crisis'

Fran Bigman (Brunel), 'Bearing Ambivalence: Unwanted Pregnancy and Social Mobility in Alan Sillitoe and Pat Barker?'

Kerry Cockerham (Leeds), 'Sarah Waters' *The Paying Guests*: Queering class and modernism'

Session 4: Screening Class

Clive James Nwonka, "'You're what's wrong with me" *Fish Tank*, *The Selfish Giant* and the Language of Contemporary British Social Realism'

Nick Hubble, 'The Unmaking of the English Working Class: *Whatever Happened to the Likely Lads*'

Liza Betts, 'TV Adaptations: How class is written on the body via the clothing used as costume'

1.30-2.10 Lunch

2.10-3.50 3rd Parallel Sessions (2 rooms)

Session 5: Fiction: Class, Race, Nation

Mark Schmitt (Dortmund), 'Tainted Whiteness: White Trash and the Racialisation of the British Working Class in the Novels of Irvine Welsh, Niall Griffiths and John King'

Aidan Byrne (Wolverhampton) and Lisa Sheppard (Cardiff), 'What's Haunting Welsh Working-Class Fiction'

Ben Clarke (North Carolina at Greensboro), "'In Muirhouse nae cunt can hear ye scream": Irvine Welsh and Working-Class Writing'

Corey Gibson (Groningen), 'Class Consciousness, National Identity, and the Role of the Writer in the 2014 Independence Referendum'

Session 6: Precarity

Francesco di Bernardo (Sussex), 'Precarious Lives: literary perspectives on the Southern European precariat'

Liam Connell (Brighton), 'Fictional Precarity and Class Consciousness'

Patricia McManus (Brighton), 'Liberalism, The Novel and the Impossibility of a Working-Class Politics'

Richard Bromhall (Nottingham Trent), 'Political Chavs: Contemporary Fiction and Working Class Anger'

3.50-4.00 Coffee

4.00-5.15 4th Parallel Sessions (2 rooms)

Session 7: David Peace

Nicklas Feisleben Lund (Copenhagen), 'David Peace's *GB84* – a post-political strike novel'

Katy Shaw (Leeds Beckett), 'His Dark Materials: Social Class in the Novels of David Peace'

Cyprian Piskurek (Dortmund), 'The People's Manager: David Peace's *Red or Dead* and the Fictionalisation of Bill Shankly'

Session 8: Drama Class

Rebecca Hillman (Reading), 'Agitprop and anti-prop: the marginalisation of working-class theatre in Britain'

Siân Adiseshiah (Lincoln), 'We're not all middle-class now: class (re)signification in Jez Butterworth's *Jerusalem*'

Katie Beswick (Queen Mary, London), 'Working Class Voices: Authorship, Authenticity and Politics in Council Estate Plays'

5.15-6.30 Plenary session

Simon Kövesi (Oxford Brookes), 'John Clare in Contemporary Culture: Working-Class Hero or Eco-Warrior?'

David Forrest and Sue Vice (Sheffield), 'The Screenwriter as Novelist: The Case of Barry Hines'

Kathleen Bell and Nicola Valentine (De Montfort), 'Reclaiming class: a complex negotiation'

6.30-7.00 Drinks Reception with performance

Andrew Curtis, *Vesting Day*. Director: Tommo Fowler.