

The *Blackwood's* Bicentenary

being,
thirty-six hours of heady discourse, heated debate,
and Ambrosian nights in Edinburgh

24-25 July 2017 ♦ University of Edinburgh



AFTER a tumultuous and decidedly dull first six months as the *Edinburgh Monthly*, William Blackwood's magazine underwent a thorough rebranding for its now-legendary October 1817 issue. On the 200th anniversary of what remains one of the boldest launches in British periodical history, we will return to the scene of *Blackwood's* founding, assembling hoary-headed Blackwoodians and fledgling scholars alike for two days of debate about Maga's highs and lows and its enduring legacies in literary, cultural, and political history.

CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS AND SPONSORS

Organizers: Nicholas Mason (Brigham Young U.) and Tom Mole (U. of Edinburgh)

Committee: David Finkelstein (U. of Edinburgh), Robert Irvine (U. of Edinburgh), Anthony Jarrells (U. of South Carolina), Jon Klancher (Carnegie-Mellon U.), David Latané (Virginia Commonwealth U.)

Sponsors: Centre for the History of the Book (U. of Edinburgh), Romantics Bicentennials series (Keats-Shelley Association of America), *Studies in Scottish Literature*

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS: Mark Parker (James Madison U.) and Joanne Shattock (U. of Leicester)



1. And it came to pass in those days that there were scholars who walked upon the earth in the glory of their wisdom.

2. And lo, they did foregather in the shadow of Arthur's Seat for rational conversation and good companie.

3. From Fife and Renfrewshire did they hail, from Scotland's southern neighbor and eke from her lost demesnes across the ocean.

4. They did raise a cup of cheer to the mighty manes of the departed creators of *Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine*, founded and brought to pass in that fair northern Athens, full a score of decades ago.

5. And he whose name was of Ebony did smile upon their endeavor.

6. They did proclaim around the land a Call for Papers, and much discourse of a rational, critical and inventive character did ensue, to the delight of all who partook of it.

7. And if the shade of Ebony was wroth to learn that, in these new days, the critical crew did not scruple to turn their gaze on those who were in some wise their forebears, and eke to censure them at times, yet his bonhomie was soon restored by a bumper of Ambrose's punch, and all manner of things were well.



DATES

One of the featured events in the KSAA's Romantic Bicentennials series, this two-day symposium will run from the morning of Monday, July 24, through the night of Tuesday, July 25. This will allow interested participants to make it to York for the opening sessions of BARS 2017 on July 27.

SYMPOSIUM VENUES AND FEES

All sessions will be held at the U. of Edinburgh, and participants will be responsible for arranging their own accommodations in the city. Fees will be approximately £50, excluding a symposium-ending banquet at a local restaurant.



Submit 250-word paper proposals to tom.mole@ed.ac.uk
or nam27@byu.edu by 1 March 2017



Centre for the History of the Book

