

**Conference on Second Sight and Prophecy University of Aberdeen 14-16 June 2013**  
**Conference Programme**

The conference will be held in the MacRobert Building/Elphinstone Institute.

**Friday 14 June:**

4.30–7.00pm – registration

5.30 -7.00pm – wine reception with refreshments and musical entertainment

7.00-8.00pm – Michael Hunter (Emeritus Professor of History, Birkbeck, University of London) – keynote speaker: Boyle’s Legacy: Second Sight in English and Scottish Thought in the Long Eighteenth Century. Chair: Ian Russell

**Saturday 15 June:-**

8.00-9.00am – registration

9.00-10.30am – parallel sessions:-

**Windows in the Landscape. Session 1a;Chair: Liz Curtis**

Dr Jay Johnston (University of Sydney and University of New South Wales, Australia): Of Stone and Site: Second Sight and its Material Culture in the Highlands and Islands

Dr Norman Shaw (University of Dundee, Scotland): Nemeton - Tickets to the Otherworld: Voluntary Second Sight in Scotland

Christel Mattheeuws (University of Aberdeen, Scotland): Reading the Future in the landscape: Astrology in Central East Madagascar

**Metaphor and Symbolism. Session 1b; Chair: Neil Curtis**

Maggie Hyde (University of Kent, England): William Lilly and the Philosopher's Stone

Neil Lanham (Independent Scholar, England): The Double Vision of ‘Natural’ Man

Sandy Wood (Royal Scottish Academy of Art & Architecture, Edinburgh, Scotland): Between the Late and Early: the Cult of the Visionary Artist

**10.30-11.00am – morning refreshments**

**11.00-12.30pm – parallel sessions:-**

**Classical Worldview: Portents and Inspiration. Session 2a; Chair: Helen Lynch**

June Chisholm (Open University, UK): Portents of doom in Greek tragedy

Samantha Newington (University of Aberdeen, Scotland): Magic and prophecy in Homer's *Odyssey* and beyond

Jane-Anne Shaw (University of Aberdeen, Scotland):: *Orpheus in the Overworld*

**Shamanism and Altered Consciousness. Session 2b; Chair: James E. Doan**

Dr. Gregory A. Hillis (University of California Santa Barbara, CA, USA): Prophetic Bodies and Temporal Displacement of the Self

Sharon Paice MacLeod (Senchas Celtic Religious Studies Association, Canada): The Hazel of Immortality: Mythic Symbolism and Entheogens in the Irish Literary Tradition

Stephen Sayers (Writer and Broadcaster, UK): The Union of Past, Present & Future in the Eternal Moment

**12.30 -2.00pm – sandwich buffet lunch**

**2.00-3.30pm – parallel sessions:-**

**The Poetic Vision. Session 3a; Chair: Samantha Newington**

Paola Baseotto (Insubria University, Italy): Prophecy, Vision and Human Flourishing in Spenser's "*Faerie Queene*"

Dr Syrithe Pugh (University of Aberdeen, Scotland): The Twin Gates: Echoes of Virgil's Ambiguous Prophecy in Spenser's *Faerie Queene*

Lee Joseph Rooney (University of Liverpool, England): Prophecy and the 'Decentred Universe' of Henry IV

**Contemporary Ethnographic Studies. Session 3b; Chair:Tom McKean**

Fiona-Jane Brown (Independent researcher, Scotland): From God or from Man?: incidences of second sight in Scottish fishing communities and their interpretations

John Hamilton (Physician, Nova Scotia Canada): Archie Dan Mac Lellan and the Social Constraints of Second Sight

Vincent R Jones & Leida K Mae (Lakehead University, Canada): Queer Seeing: The use of dreams, visioning and Ancestral guidance as research praxis by queer Indigenous students at Lakehead University

**3.30-4.00pm – afternoon refreshments**

**4.00-5.00pm – parallel sessions:-**

**Prophecy and Gender. Session 4a; Chair: Aideen O’Leary**

James E. Doan (Nova Southeastern University, USA): Women and Prophecy in Early Celtic Societies and Literature

Mary Pryor (University of Aberdeen, Scotland): Sibyls as Signifiers in Seventeenth-Century Scotland

**Augury and Divination: Means and Meaning. Session 4b; Chair: Michael Hunter**

Éva Pócs (Professor Emeritus, University of Pécs, Hungary): Divination and Sacrifice: Archaic Methods of Divination in Central Eastern Europe

*Domhnall Uilleam Stiùbhart (Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, University of the Highlands and Islands, Scotland): The Functions of the Future in the Past: Martin Martin and Second Sight*

**5.00 - 6. 00pm – visit to James Mackay Hall, King’s College Conference Centre, for conference art exhibition with Mary Pryor and artist Nicola Moss**

**7.30 for 8.00pm – conference dinner with musical entertainment at the Seven Incorporated Trades, Trinity Hall, Holburn Street, Aberdeen.**

**Sunday 16 June:**

9.30-11.00am – parallel sessions:-

**Prophets and Saints. Session 5a; Chair: Paola Bassetto**

Constantin Canavas (Hamburg University of Applied Sciences, Germany) : Transformations of a prophetic discourse from Greek into Arabic: (Pseudo)Apollonius of Tyana and his Arabic identities

Sabine Reichart (University of Regensburg, Denmark) : *Miracula Sancti Liudgeri*. Visions and prophecies in high medieval hagiography

Moti Benmelech (Herzog College, Israel): Messianism: Between Prophecy and History

**Power, Politics and Social Change. Session 5b; Chair: Jay Johnston**

Aideen M. O’Leary (University of Aberdeen, Scotland): Propheising Unity? The ‘Great Prophecy of Britain’ and the Two Messiahs

Marina Montesano (Università di Messina, Italy): The Political Use of Prophecy in Late Medieval Italy

Dr. Liv Helene Willumsen (University of Tromsø, Norway): Anders Poulsen – a Shaman from the High North

**11.00-11.30am – morning refreshments**

**11.30-1.00pm – parallel sessions:-**

**Divination and the Text. Session 6a; Chair: Caroline Oates**

Zohar Hadromi-Allouche(University of Aberdeen, Scotland): The Prophetess Eve: An Islamic Perspective of the First Woman

Michael T Miller (University of Nottingham, England): Enoch-Metatron and the Active Intellect in thirteenth-century Kabbalah

Dr. Eugene Kuzmin (Independent Researcher, Israel): Divinations in the *Sepher Raziel HaMalakh* and Christian Magic

**Events, Non-Events and Manipulations. Session 6b; Chair: Alex Sutherland**

Jürgen Beyer (Tartu University, Estonia): A prophecy about a flood to occur in Sleswick and Holstein in 1756: an analysis of the contemporary newspaper debate

Dr Lisa Collinson (University of Aberdeen, Scotland): Second Sight, Sound Art and Scholarship

Robert Segal (University of Aberdeen, Scotland): Cognitive Dissonance as Rational

**1.00pm -sandwich buffet lunch, farewell refreshments**

Information on pre- and post-conference tours of interesting sites in and around Aberdeen will be provided for those who wish to avail themselves at their own expense.