November 2007

CALL FOR PAPERS



Contesting Creativity, 1740-1830 12-14 September 2008, University of Leeds, UK

The concept of creativity in literature and the arts has long been associated with individual genius and divine inspiration. Recent scholarship, however, has begun to address the importance of other more interactive models, and particularly the ways in which creativity might be understood as a social process. Focusing on the period 1740-1830, this conference aims to find ways of moving beyond genius, inspiration, and originality, towards thinking about literary creativity in terms of collaboration, connection, and development. Approaches that might be taken include:

- Creativity as response/dialogue/ negotiation
- Creative networks/coteries/circles/ institutions
- Creativity through imitation/ translation/plagiarism
- Creativity as labour/craft

Plenary speakers: Clifford Siskin (NYU) and Lucy Newlyn (Oxford). We would welcome proposals for twenty-minute papers that engage with these or related topics. Abstracts of 250 words should be sent via email to Dr. David Higgins, School of English, University of Leeds (d.higgins@leeds.ac.uk) by 14th January 2008.

This conference is the inaugural event of the Creativity Project Leeds carried out by the School of English's Long Eighteenth Century Research Group: David Fairer, David Higgins, Robert Jones, Vivien Jones, Simon Swift, and John Whale.

