

Fame and Fortune: The *Mirror for Magistrates*, 1559-1946

September 14th-15th 2012

Call for Papers

Proposals are invited for papers to be presented at an interdisciplinary conference on the *Mirror for Magistrates* at Magdalen College, Oxford.

This rich and varied collection of texts was one of the most popular and influential works of sixteenth-century historiography, but has until recently been critically neglected. This conference will bring together graduate students and established academics from a variety of fields in order to encourage new dialogues about the *Mirror*, and explore how it can contribute to our understanding of early modern history, literature and politics.

Plenary lectures will be given by Scott Lucas (the Citadel) and Mike Pincombe (Newcastle University). Confirmed speakers include Andrew Hadfield, Paulina Kewes, James McBain, Michelle O'Callaghan, Mike Pincombe, Jennifer Richards, Cathy Shrank, Meredith Skura, Bart van Es, Angus Vine, Jessica Winston, and Matthew Woodcock.

Papers may cover any aspect of the *Mirror* and its additions, from its suppression under Mary I in the 1550s to Richard Niccols's oppositional Jacobean edition of 1610, as well as its treatment by editors Joseph Haslewood (1815) and Lily B. Campbell (1938 and 1946).

Proposals are also welcome which address wider themes suggested by the *Mirror* tradition, including but not limited to:

- *de casibus* tragedy; the reception of Boccaccio and Lydgate in the sixteenth century
- Paratexts and framing devices
- Collaborative authorship; polyvocality; the social text
- The roles of fortune and providence in Renaissance narratives of the past
- The censorship and suppression of early modern texts
- Elizabethan legislation and legislative reform; literature and the Inns of Court
- Protestant intellectual culture
- Conduct manuals; advice books; mirrors for princes
- Elizabethan and Jacobean verse historiography
- Discourses of tyrannicide and rebellion
- Literary responses to the accession and reign of James I and VI
- Representations of Ancient Britain and the Middle Ages in sixteenth-century poetry and prose
- The use of personae; the literary construction of identity and authority
- Readers of the *Mirror*, from Gabriel Harvey to Ben Jonson; annotations and marginalia
- The *Mirror*'s sources (Geoffrey of Monmouth, Edward Hall) and the *Mirror* as a source (in Spenser, Shakespeare)
- The role of the editor, from the sixteenth to twenty-first century

Proposals for papers of 20 minutes should be no more than 300 words long, and accompanied by a brief speaker biography. The deadline for submission is 1st May 2012.

To submit a proposal or for further details, please contact Harriet Archer at mirrorconference2012@gmail.com, or visit www.mirrorconference2012.com.

We are grateful for the support of the University of Oxford Centre for Early Modern Studies.