

Call for Papers: Stevie Smith Conference 2016

'We all have these thoughts sometimes.'

-- Stevie Smith, *Some Are More Human Than Others* (1958)



The work of Stevie Smith (1902-1971) has received uneven critical attention. Widely loved outside the academy, her novels and poetry resist traditional modernist narratives.

However, Smith is enjoying a revival both within and beyond academia. Not only has Virago Press recently re-released her novels, but a critical edition of her poems is forthcoming.

Given this resurgence in popular and academic interest in her writing, we invite you to share 'thoughts' on Stevie Smith's work, for a one-day conference in Oxford. Contributors may consider, among other topics:

- Stevie Smith and her contemporaries
- Smith and life-writing
- Smith in relation to modernism/postmodernism
- Stevie Smith's critical history
- Smith and her forebears (myth, fairytale, the Victorians...)
- Stevie Smith and visual art
- Smith and "simplicity"
- Smith in her historical-political context
- Stevie Smith and gender

Proposals are invited for twenty-minute papers, to be delivered in panels of three. Individual proposals (of 250 words), and panel proposals (of up to 700 words), for three papers interacting under a common theme, are warmly accepted. Creative responses to Smith's work are also welcome.

The conference's plenary speakers have been confirmed as **Professor Dame Hermione Lee** and **Dr Will May**.

Please send proposals to steviesmithconference@gmail.com. **The deadline for submissions is 11th November 2015. The conference will take place on 11th March 2016 at Jesus College, Oxford.**

For updates, visit steviesmithconference.wordpress.com. We welcome you to disseminate this CfP widely.

Drawing taken from Not Waving But Drowning © Estate of Stevie Smith and reprinted by permission of Faber and Faber Ltd. This conference is organised in association with the Oxford Centre for Life-Writing (OCLW).