

After Death and Afterlife: The End or Beginning?

Fifth Biennial Bryn Mawr College Graduate Student Symposium

Sponsored by the Graduate Group in Archaeology, Classics and History of Art,
and the Center for Visual Culture

October 7th and 8th, 2005

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Aidan Dodson, University of Bristol (Department of Archaeology and Anthropology)

Although death is a universal phenomenon, its sequel is deeply mysterious. Is death an absolute end, or is it the beginning of something greater? Every culture and religion supplies its own answers, which are expressed through the treatment of the bodies of the dead and the memorialization of the deceased. Art, literature, and oral traditions may present more general accounts of death and its aftermath. Furthermore, concepts associated with the death and afterlife of humans have been used to describe the “life-cycles” of cities, civilizations, and artistic and literary styles. This conference will examine a full range of historical, cultural and critical-theoretical approaches to these topics through papers by graduate students in archaeology, classics, the history of art, and cognate disciplines.

Paper Topics may include (but are not limited to):

- Mortuary customs and rituals (both sacred and secular)
- Commemorative monuments/ tombs/ memorials
- Images, depictions, and literary accounts of death
- The mythology of death and afterlife
- Journeys to the Underworld
- The relationship of death to fertility
- Sacrifice associated with the dead and implications for the afterlife
- Heroization, fame after death, and/or canonization
- Death and rebirth of cities, empires or cultures
- Rebirth, reconfiguration or transfiguration
- Stylistic changes and the reuse of past styles
- The rhetoric of rebirth in the Renaissance
- Problematics of being-towards-death

Abstracts (**250 words maximum**) are due **May 1, 2005**. Please attach a cover page with: name, title, institutional affiliation, e-mail address, and contact address.

Send to: Graduate Student Symposium Committee
Box C 1616
Bryn Mawr College
101 N. Merion Ave.
Bryn Mawr, PA 19010

Or via email at: nblackwe@brynmawr.edu

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Friday October 7th, 2005

2:00 – 4:30 PM **Registration**, Carpenter Library

4:30 – 5:30 PM **Reception**, Quita Woodward Room

5:30 – 6:30 PM **Keynote Address**, Carpenter B-21

Dr. Aidan Dodson (University of Bristol, Department of Archaeology and Anthropology)

"The Draw of the Dead: The First Modern Investigations in the Royal Cemeteries of Egypt and the United Kingdom"

7:00 – 9:00 PM **Dinner** at a local restaurant

Saturday October 8th, 2005

8:45 – 9:30 AM **Breakfast**, Quita Woodward Room

9:30 AM – 12:00 PM Morning Session: Tombs and Ritual, Carpenter B-21

9:30 AM **Opening Remarks**

9:50 AM **Jennifer Walker** (University of Minnesota, Department of Anthropology)

In The Land Of The Living: Landscape, Movement and Memory in Neolithic Orkney, Scotland

10:10 AM **Crystal Fritz** (Bryn Mawr College, Classical and Near Eastern Archaeology)
Liminality vs. Ethnicity: Greek Hegemony in Early Alexandrian Tombs?

10:30 AM **Sara Flannery** (University of Pittsburgh, History of Art)

Ritual Presence, Ritual Perpetuity: A Study of the Japanese "Haniwa" Figurines

10:50 AM **15-minute break**; coffee and snacks available, Quita Woodward Room

11:05 AM **Emily Weglian** (University of Minnesota, Department of Anthropology)

Transformations of Death and Burial: Mortuary Analysis in North American Colonial Contexts

11:25 AM **Bernard Zirnheld** (Yale University, History of Art)

The Shaker Lollipop Cemetery: Visual Representation of a Counter-Theology

11:45 AM **General session discussion**

12:00 – 1:30 PM **Lunch**, Thomas Cloisters

1:30 – 3:10 PM Afternoon Session I: Memorials and Memory, Carpenter B-21

1:30 PM **Jean Murachanian** (UCLA, Art History) Armenian Genocide Memorials

1:50 PM **Tienfong Ho** (Bryn Mawr College, History of Art)

"A Sound Learning": Constructing a New Ethics Through Speaking Names of the Dead

2:10 PM **Annemarie Catania** (The John Hopkins University, Department of Classics)
Erotic Mortality in Propertius III, 10

2:30 PM **Marie Gasper-Hulvat** (Bryn Mawr College, History of Art)
The Historical and the Eternal in the Medieval Russian Icon

2:50 PM **General Session discussion**

3:05 – 3:30 PM **Coffee break**, Quita Woodward Room

3:30 – 4:45 PM Afternoon Session II: Faces of Death, Carpenter B-21

3:30 PM **Jennifer Bopp** (Brown University, Modern Culture and Media)
Narrative In(ter)ventions: Jeffrey Silverthorne's "Letters from the Dead House"

3:50 PM **Stacy Dunn** (Tulane University, Department of Anthropology)
Death Concepts and Contemporary Ritual Reuse of Archaeological Remains in the Central Coast of Peru

4:10 PM **Maureen Beabout** (Bryn Mawr College, Department of Classics)
Gone Today, Hair Tomorrow: The Death and Renewal of Poetic Materia in Ovid's
"Amores" 1.14

4:30 PM **General Session discussion**

4:45 PM **Concluding Remarks**
Aidan Dodson

5:00-6:00 PM **Reception**, London Room

6:00 – 8:00 PM **Dinner**, Dorothy Vernon Room, Haffner (on BMC campus)

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Accommodations

Several hotels in the area of Bryn Mawr College are listed below, for those participants who need accommodations. The graduate students of Bryn Mawr College will be happy to offer transportation to and from the hotels which are not close to public transportation.

The Radnor Hotel

591 East Lancaster Avenue
St. Davids, PA 19087
610-688-5800

\$119-\$139 per night with local college discount

A 10-minute drive from campus and within walking distance to restaurants

The Wayne Hotel

139 East Lancaster Avenue
Wayne, PA 19087
610-687-5000

\$139 per night with local college discount

A 15-minute drive from campus and within walking distance to shopping, movies, and restaurants

Philadelphia Marriott West

111 Crawford Avenue
West Conshohocken, PA 19428
610-941-5600
\$95-\$130 per night

A 7-minute drive from campus

Residence Inn Conshohocken by Marriott

191 Washington Street
Conshohocken, PA 19428
610-828-8800

\$119 per night (suite)

A 10-minute drive from campus

We may also be able to arrange a home-stay with a graduate student for both nights (Friday and Saturday). You will need to be in contact with him/her in advance of your arrival. If you would like to have a home-stay arranged, please email Nick Blackwell: nblackwe@brynmawr.edu.

[Click here for detailed maps and directions to the college.](#)

[Click here for campus maps and further information about the college.](#)

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Graduate Student Symposium Committee
Box C-1665
Bryn Mawr College
101 N. Merion Ave.
Bryn Mawr, PA 19010

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Many thanks to these departments for their support:

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History of Art

Classics

Center for Visual Culture

Graduate Group

Graduate School of Arts and Sciences

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Death Mask of Napoleon Bonaparte
Bronze
French, mid-19th c.
Made by I. Richard and Quesnel after a Dr. F. Anton Marchi original
Anonymous donor
Bryn Mawr College Art and Archaeology Collection



Crocodile Mummy
Gift of the Academy of Natural Sciences, The William S. Vaux
Collection
Bryn Mawr College Art and Archaeology Collection



Athenian Lekythos
Athens, 450-440 BC
The Lucy Shoe Meritt Collection
Bryn Mawr College Art and Archaeology Collection

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