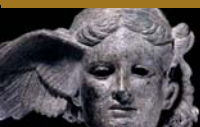


BRISTOL INSTITUTE  
OF GREECE, ROME,  
AND THE CLASSICAL  
TRADITION

Annual Report  
2010/2011



University of  
**BRISTOL**

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*Herakles at Goldney Hall, University of Bristol*

The Institute was established in 2000 under the Directorship of Professor Robert Fowler, Wills Professor of Greek, to support research into any aspect of Greek and Roman civilization and the classical tradition, with particular emphasis on work exploring the links between ancient and modern. The Institute pursues its aims through the appointment of post-doctoral research fellows, offering postgraduate bursaries, fostering publications, and supporting conferences and research workshops of international significance. It also organises events to disseminate its work beyond the academy, and to engage with people of all ages and backgrounds who have an interest in the classical world and its legacy.

The future of Classics as a subject depends on the kinds of exciting, innovative and interdisciplinary work that the Institute promotes. Our ability to support high-quality research activities, to organise world-leading events and to enable exceptional young scholars to pursue their studies is likely to become ever more important for the future of classical studies, in Bristol and internationally, during these difficult times for British universities and for the arts and humanities in particular.

# The Year in Review

**The Institute enjoyed another outstanding year, hosting a superb array of events, intellectually challenging yet accessible to anyone interested in the heritage of Classical antiquity. From Marathon to Montaigne, Pompeii to Pope, the Aegean Bronze Age to digital reconstructions, the Institute knows no bounds to its remit, so long as Classics and the Classical Tradition come into view. We are particularly good at bringing together scholars from many different fields and perspectives, and discovering exciting new lines of inquiry into the reception of antiquity. The quality of our staff and students is second to none. Having now completed its first decade, the Institute is an established national and international scholarly presence, and a recognised leader in its field. Without the efforts of talented and hard-working colleagues, and especially the support of our many donors, none of this would have been possible. As Director, I extend to them all my heartfelt thanks.**

*Professor Robert Fowler, Institute Director*

## Research Fellow, Visiting Professors, Postgraduate Scholars

From the beginning the post-doctoral fellows have been central to the Institute's remit. Such fellowships provide outstanding young scholars with the opportunity to develop their careers, publish research and gain valuable teaching experience. They are a vital part of the Institute's intellectual life, and the Institute in turn provides a platform from which they can launch successful careers. Our alumni are now in post in numerous universities in the UK and abroad, carrying with them the distinctive Bristol vision of the Classical tradition.



Bristol Half-Marathon runners Loriel Anderson, Jessica Priestley, Leo Borrie and Qussei Buhidma, and cheerleader Robert Fowler. Not pictured: Colin Elliott

### *Thornhill-Leventis Fellow*

**Jessica Priestley** has completed her first year as the Thornhill-Leventis Fellow. She has been developing her doctoral thesis into a book on *Herodotus and Hellenistic Culture*, for which she was in the course of the year offered a contract by Oxford University Press. She is beginning work on perceptions of geography and the physical world in the literature of the Hellenistic period (third to first centuries BC), a time when geographical knowledge was expanding rapidly, and mental outlooks were radically changing – as happened in the fifteenth century, after the discovery of the New World. Dr Priestley presented four papers on her research, three in the UK and one in New Zealand. She taught a full course of undergraduate lectures on ‘Comedy and Philosophy on Tragedy’, reading Aristophanes, Plato and Aristotle with students. She also arranged a series of outreach activities around the 2500th anniversary of the Battle of Marathon, including public talks, a poster competition for schools, and as a grand finale entering a team of five runners in the Bristol Half Marathon, all sporting Institute T-shirts. The marathoners raised £880 for the new charity *Classics for All*, which promotes the teaching of Classics in state schools. Jessica writes, ‘I feel extremely privileged and grateful to hold an academic position in such a stimulating environment and with such excellent opportunities for research and professional development at this early stage in my career.’

# The Year in Review



*Professors Shelmerdine and Nowicki*

## ***P.M. Warren Visiting Professorship in Aegean Prehistory***

This year we appointed two distinguished Aegean Bronze Age scholars, **Prof. Cynthia Shelmerdine** (*emerita*, University of Texas at Austin) and **Prof. Krzysztof Nowicki** (Institute of Archaeology and Ethnology, Polish Academy of Science). Prof. Shelmerdine worked on a book under contract to Cambridge University Press (working title *Mycenaean Society*), completed an article and a book review, and gave a lecture for the Research Seminar series in the Dept. of Classics and Ancient History, entitled ‘Ordinary and Extraordinary Mycenaean’. Prof. Nowicki worked on a book entitled *Crete and the South-East Aegean in the Final Neolithic (Chalcolithic) and the Beginning of the Bronze Age*, and gave two lectures in the Department of Archaeology and Anthropology, entitled ‘Crete and the South-East Aegean in the Final Neolithic (Chalcolithic) and the Beginning of the Bronze Age, c. 4000–3000 BC’ and ‘Cretan Peak Sanctuaries: Distribution, Topography and Spatial Organization’. The Warren Professorships were supported by a grant from the Institute for Aegean Prehistory.

## *Postgraduate Scholars*

A scholarship from the Stavros S. Niarchos Foundation enabled James McDermott to undertake a PhD at Bristol. James's thesis examines the influence of Sparta – often overlooked in favour of Athens – on classical writers in Reformation-era France, particularly Montaigne. He has enjoyed a successful first year, and in 2011/12 will develop further links with colleagues outside the field of Classics, and at the University of Nottingham. 'The generosity of the Stavros S. Niarchos Foundation in funding this research has been a blessing', says James. 'The funding that I received from the Foundation has been crucial in the embryonic stages of my research.'

Charlotte Currie, holder of the scholarship provided by Neill and Catrin Morgan, had an outstanding MA year. Her thesis on 'Existentialism in the Ancient World' was distinguished by its originality, and one of her pieces of coursework was published in *Amaltea*, a journal of myth criticism – an exceptional achievement for a master's student.

## **Research Projects and Publication Series**

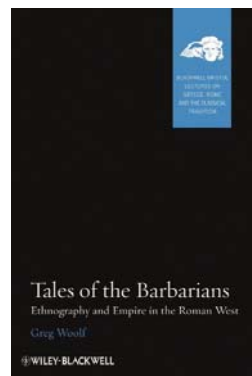
Work continues on *The Oxford History of Classical Reception in English Literature*, a definitive five-volume project edited by Charles Martindale and David Hopkins. The first volume will appear in 2012–13. No project of such dimensions has ever before been undertaken in this field. Intensive workshops precede the publication of each volume; two are scheduled for summer 2012, including one focusing on the great aesthetic critic Walter Pater (1839–1894).

# The Year in Review

*Thucydides: reception, reinterpretation and influence*, a research project hosted by the Institute and funded by the AHRC (c.£460,000 over four years), is now at the end of its second year of activity. This year it organised a research workshop on ‘Philology and Education’ in Bristol in March and another on ‘Thucydides our Father: a conversation on the politics of the *History*’ in Seattle in September. In conjunction with colleagues from Modern Languages, and with funding from the Institute as well as the Bristol Institute for Research in the Humanities and Arts, it organised a workshop on ‘Translating Thucydides’ in Bristol in October. Members of the project have given papers on their research at seminars and conferences in Reading, London, Bielefeld, Yale and Edinburgh. For further details please see [www.bris.ac.uk/classics/thucydides](http://www.bris.ac.uk/classics/thucydides).

*New Directions in Classics*. This innovative series, published by I.B. Tauris and edited by Duncan Kennedy and Charles Martindale, specialises in imaginative, cutting-edge work on the reception of Classical antiquity. The first volume is due out in the coming year: Elizabeth Prettejohn (Bristol), *The Modernity of Ancient Sculpture: Greek Sculpture and Modern Art from Winckelmann to Picasso*. Several volumes are expected in 2012–13: Joanna Paul (Open University, PhD Bristol), *A Spectacle of Destruction: Pompeii and Herculaneum in Popular Imagination*; Duncan Kennedy (Bristol), *Antiquity and the Meanings of Time: A Philosophy of Ancient and Modern Literature*; Phiroze Vasunia (Reading), *Empire without End: Postcolonialism and the Ancient World*.

*Bristol-Blackwell Lectures in Greece, Rome and the Classical Tradition*. The annual Bristol-Blackwell Lectures, now entering their sixth year as a series, are published by Wiley Blackwell. Two volumes have appeared: Danielle Allen (Princeton), *Why Plato Wrote*; Greg Woolf, *Tales of the Barbarians: Ethnography and Empire in the Roman West*.







*Royal Fort House, University of Bristol*

## Fundraising

In 2010/11 the government announced major changes to funding of the higher education sector, which included drastic cuts to research council funding. Against this backdrop, philanthropic support for research and researchers has never been more important. We are immensely grateful to all who have supported the Institute this year.

The generosity of our supporters is critical to our ability to support and retain the brightest postgraduate students, to attract talented postdoctoral fellows, and to disseminate our world-class research. The work of our scholars is exciting and relevant; through their efforts we can advance our understanding of the Classical world and how it has shaped the world we live in today. Yet without financial assistance from our donors, much of it would not be possible.

# The Year in Review

Last year, we announced the appointment of Dr Jessica Priestley, whose Thornhill-Leventis Fellowship in Greek Studies was enabled by generous gifts from Mr Andrew Thornhill QC and the A. G. Leventis Foundation. Jessica took up her post in October 2010 and has already contributed much to the life and work of the Institute (see elsewhere in this Report). Thanks to the generosity of the Stavros S. Niarchos Foundation, last summer we were able to award a scholarship to PhD student James McDermott, for his work on the influence of Sparta on the French philosopher Michel de Montaigne. We are also indebted to the Foundation for continuing to fund a part-time administrator for the Institute. Marilyn Knights is not only an experienced and highly qualified administrator, but she also has a personal interest in classical Greek culture. Her work will be invaluable in supporting the work of the Institute. Once again this year the Institute for Aegean Prehistory (INSTAP) has generously funded the P.M. Warren Visiting Professorship; indeed, we were able to welcome two visitors, Cynthia Shelmerdine of the University of Texas, and Krzysztof Nowicki of the Polish Academy of Sciences. A special gift from Neill and Catrin Morgan has enabled a deserving student to pursue a MA degree at Bristol. Their welcome scholarship was awarded to Charlotte Currie.

The 2010/11 year drew to a close with the arrival of a very special gift from the Spears family in memory of Thomas Spears MBE (Commerce, 1945–1947), a friend of the Institute for many years, who sadly passed away in 2010. Through their donation to the Institute's endowment fund, the Spears family are helping to secure the future of the Institute as a place of academic excellence and innovative research. With their help, our goal of raising £2 million for the endowment is now much more attainable.

Philanthropy not only provides long-term security for the Institute, allowing for greater forward planning, but also enables us to expand our outreach activities and invest in the top scholars. Our donors are vital to the continued success of the Institute, so we would like to extend our warmest thanks to all who have supported us in the 2010/11 year:

Dr Terence Blake; Mr William Davies and Mrs Phyllis Davies; Mr Nicholas Egon and Mrs Matti Egon; Professor Robert Fowler and Mrs Judith Fowler; Mr Declan Hamilton; Mr Richard Heyhoe; Mrs Aglaia Hill; The Institute for Aegean Prehistory (INSTAP); Mr Nicholas Jones and Mrs Sally Jones; The A. G. Leventis Foundation; Sir Michael Llewellyn Smith; Professor Charles Martindale and Professor Elizabeth Prettejohn; Ms Katie McKeogh; Mr Anthony Minns and Mrs Julia Minns; Mrs Susan Moore; Mr Neill Morgan and Mrs Catrin Morgan; Professor Neville Morley; Dr Jennifer Secker; Mrs Dianne Shearn; The Spears Family in memory of Mr Thomas A. Spears MBE; The Stavros S. Niarchos Foundation; Mr Andrew Thornhill and Mrs Helen Thornhill.

We would also like to extend our gratitude to Sir Jeremy Morse and Lady Belinda Morse, and to Professor Eric Thomas and Mrs Narell Thomas, for their continued support, and to those individual donors who wish to remain anonymous.

# Events



SOPRINTENDENZA SPECIALE PER I BENI  
ARCHEOLOGICI DI NAPOLI E POMPEI

*Recent discovery from Herculaneum: a scene of Dionysiac worship*

## ***New Approaches to Pompeii and Herculaneum Donors' Event: 12 February 2011, The Orangery, Goldney Hall***

Pompeii and Herculaneum, buried by the eruption of Vesuvius in AD 79, are among the most famous archaeological sites in the world. Robert Fowler, Institute Director, and Shelley Hales, also of Bristol, discussed some of the problems involved in understanding, developing and preserving this World Heritage Site, and showcased some creative approaches to the study of these fascinating cities. The Orangery was filled to overflowing for this event, a suitable show of appreciation for our donors.

## ***Pan(demonium): Why Marathon still matters 2,500 Years on***

2011 was the 2500th anniversary of the Battle of Marathon, which John Stuart Mill famously declared to be an event more important in English history than the Battle of Hastings. On 9 May Professor Paul Cartledge, A.G. Leventis Professor of Greek Culture at the University of Cambridge, spoke on the enduring significance of Marathon to an audience made up of students from the university and several local schools, and members of the general public. Professor Cartledge's address was one of several outreach activities organised by Dr Priestley, the Thornhill-Leventis Fellow, as part of her work in the Institute.



## *From Mimesis to Imitatio*

### **The Bristol-Blackwell Lectures in Greece, Rome and the Classical Tradition 10–18 May 2011**

The Bristol Wiley-Blackwell Lectures for 2011 were given by Colin Burrow, Senior Research Fellow of All Souls College Oxford. Dr Burrow's theme was *Imitation*, and his lectures focused on the complex set of interrelations between the language used to describe literary imitation, and the practice of imitation in the work of poets and novelists, ancient and modern. The first two lectures were concerned with the Classical world. The first focused largely on Ancient Greece – and particularly on the work of Aristophanes, Plato, and Dionysius of Halicarnassus. Dr Burrow traced the overlaps and ambiguities present from earliest times in the terms *mimesis* (the artistic imitation of reality) and *imitatio* (writers' imitations of one another), and the legacy of confusions and potentialities which such terms have left for later practitioners in the field. The second lecture, largely focused on Rome, examined the metaphors for imitation used in the Latin rhetorical tradition, particularly in the writings of Quintilian, and explored the ways in which these metaphors might be seen to haunt, like spectral presences, Roman poetic imitation itself, particularly in the work of Virgil and Lucretius. In the third and fourth lectures, Dr Burrow turned from the ancient to the modern world. Lecture 3 concentrated on the work of Milton, arguing that the English poet's imitative practices were deeply influenced by his understanding of the metaphors used in earlier discussions of imitation – particularly by Quintilian, who, it was argued, is a more important influence on Milton than is generally acknowledged. The fourth lecture pursued, in a wide-ranging and speculative vein, the fortunes of imitation in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, touching, among other things, on the connection between the concept of imitation and that of intellectual property, and exploring the phantomatic presence of Milton in Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*, and the influence of the concept of cloning on Ishiguro's *Never Let Me Go*. Dr Burrow

# Events

concluded the series by arguing that notions of imitation traditionally associated with the Classical tradition are still actively alive in modern genre fiction.

Dr Burrow's lectures were exemplary in their combination of scholarly learning, critical subtlety, and intellectual excitement. They were also delivered with a lively wit and pace that made them hugely entertaining – as was clear from the size and enthusiasm of his audience throughout the series.

## *Difference and Dialogue: An International Seminar with Luce Irigaray*

The Institute was privileged to be one of the sponsors of Luce Irigaray's International Summer Seminar 13–18 June 2011. This prestigious annual event brings together a group of international postgraduate students for an intensive residential workshop focused on Professor Irigaray's work. Professor Irigaray is one of the foremost French philosophers writing today. Her work has influenced fields as diverse as classics and ancient history, theology and religious studies, law, architecture, philosophy, sociology, anthropology, and human geography. The seminar provided an opportunity for our students to enjoy a challenging exchange of ideas with the international participants in attendance.

## *Christianity and Roman Society: A Colloquium for Gillian Clark*

To honour Gillian Clark on her retirement the Institute was pleased to host this one-day colloquium on late antiquity and Christianity, fields in which Professor Clark has made an outstanding contribution over many years. On the programme were Jill Harries, Tessa Rajak, Oliver Nicholson, Neil McLynn, Karla Pollman, Simon Corcoran, Dame Averil Cameron and Sir Fergus Millar. Speaker after speaker offered warm appreciation of all that Gillian had done for them personally and for the profession.



*Ara Pacis, Rome, Detail*

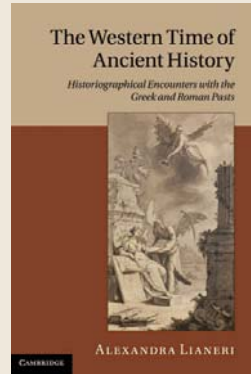
### ***Ethics of reception***

On September 7–8 Bristol hosted an interdisciplinary workshop on the Ethics of Reception entitled ‘To Receive is Never Neutral’. The event was organised by Bristol PhD candidate Alex Wardrop, and attended by a very interdisciplinary group of scholars and artists. Keynote lectures were delivered by Sarah Wood (Kent), Greg Garrard (Bath Spa), and Ika Willis (Bristol). A practical workshop was led by artist Astrid Breel. Numerous speakers led the audience in participatory discussions of topics ranging from the poems of Sulpicia to a short story by Gabriel García Marquez and post-Kantian normative ethics.

# Publications

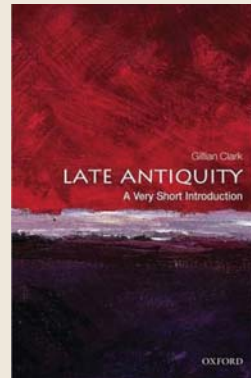
**Alexandra Lianeri (ed.), *The Western Time of Ancient History* (Cambridge 2011).**

This book examines the conceptual and temporal frames through which modern Western historiography has linked itself to classical antiquity. Edited by a former Institute Fellow, now a lecturer at the University of Thessaloniki, the volume includes two other contributions by Bristol staff, Neville Morley and Ellen O’Gorman.



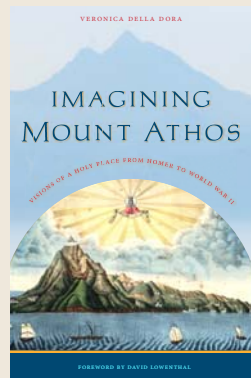
**Gillian Clark, *Late Antiquity: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford 2011).**

Professor Clark, whose retirement from Bristol was marked by an Institute event, has contributed this guide to the famous Very Short Introduction series, a standard reference for students (and scholars) everywhere.



**Veronica Della Dora, *Imagining Mount Athos: Visions of a Holy Place, from Homer to World War II* (University of Virginia Press 2011).**

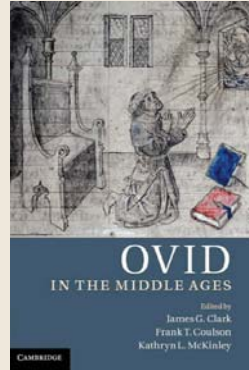
An ‘extraordinarily original book’ in the words of one reviewer, this study by Dr Della Dora of Bristol’s School of Geographical Sciences (and the Institute) reveals the astonishing range of perspectives from which the Holy Mountain has been viewed throughout history. Not allowed to visit the monastery as a woman, Della Dora has written an outsider’s account, drawing on a wealth of visual, textual, and oral material: a true study in reception.





**James Clark, Frank Coulson, Kathryn McKinley (eds.), *Ovid in the Middle Ages* (Cambridge 2011).**

Given Ovid's reputation for raciness and popularity since the Renaissance, it comes as a surprise to people to learn how central this secular author was to the literary culture of the Middle Ages. This groundbreaking series of essays includes an introduction and a chapter by Bristolian James Clark, one of the three editors.



## Some Shorter Writings

**Robert Fowler, 'Blood for the Ghosts: Wilamowitz in Oxford', *Syllecta Classica* 20 (2009), pp. 171–213**

**Charles Martindale, 'Performance, Reception, Aesthetics: Or Why Reception Studies Need Kant', in *Theorising Performance: Greek Drama, Cultural History and Critical Practice*, ed. Edith Hall and Stephe Harrop (Duckworth 2010), pp. 71–84**

**Pantelis Michelakis, 'Theatre Festivals, Total Works of Art, and the Revival of Greek Drama on the Modern Stage', *Cultural Critique* 74 (2010), pp. 149–163**

**Jessica Priestley, 'Herodotean Wonder and Callimachus' *Iambus* 6', in *The Statue of Zeus at Olympia: New Approaches*, ed. J. McWilliam et al. (Cambridge Scholars Press 2011), pp. 109–122**

**Vanda Zajko, 'Ted Hughes and the Classics', in *The Cambridge Companion to Ted Hughes* ed. T. Gifford (Oxford 2011), pp. 1–17**

# Forthcoming Events

**For information about any of these events, please see [www.bris.ac.uk/arts/birtha/centres/institute](http://www.bris.ac.uk/arts/birtha/centres/institute), or contact the Institute Administrator (Marilyn.Knights@bristol.ac.uk; +44 (0)117 331 8460).**

**Donors' Event: *Greece and Rome in Silent Cinema.***

**A screening of archival films with live music accompaniment.** Saturday 3rd December 2011.

Organisers Pantelis Michelakis (Bristol) and Maria Wyke (University College London).

**Research Workshop: *Thucydides and Historiography.***

Saturday 10th March 2012. Organiser Neville Morley (Bristol).

**Interdisciplinary Symposium: *Elgar's Caractacus.***

18th March 2012. Organisers: Stephen Banfield (Bristol), Charles Martindale (Bristol), John Pickard (Bristol), Ellen O'Gorman (Bristol).

**Blackwell-Bristol Lectures in Greece, Rome and the**

**Classical Tradition.** Tuesday and Wednesday 1-2 and 8-9 May 2012. Professor Bettina Bergmann, Mount Holyoke College: 'Motion, Sight, Wonder: Romans Picture their World'.

**Conference: *Thucydides our Contemporary.*** Thursday 28th – Friday 29th June 2012. Organiser Neville Morley (Bristol).

**Interdisciplinary Seminar: *Pater the Classicist.***

Saturday 30th June – Sunday 1st July 2012. Organisers Stefano Evangelista (Trinity College, Oxford), Charles Martindale (Bristol), Elizabeth Prettejohn (Bristol).

**International Conference: *The Oxford History of Classical Reception in English Literature, Vol. 5:***

**1880–2000.** Saturday July 7th – Sunday July 8th 2012. Organisers: Kenneth Haynes (Brown University), Charles Martindale (Bristol).



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**For further information about the Institute and its work,  
please see our website  
<http://www.bris.ac.uk/arts/birtha/centres/institute>**

BRISTOL INSTITUTE  
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**Bronze Head of Hypnos (1st-2nd century CE)**

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***I lock my door upon myself* (1891) by Fernand Khnopff**

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**Hypnos (1900) by Fernand Khnopff**

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