Charlotte Brontë: A Bicentennial Celebration of her Life and Works

Programme
Friday 13 & Saturday 14 May
#BrontëAtChawton
<table>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>09.00–09.30</td>
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| 09.30 – 10.30   | **Keynote speaker:** Juliet Barker  
                   (Author of *The Brontës* and former Curator and Librarian  
                   of The Brontë Parsonage Museum)                       |
| 10.30–12.00     | **Panel 1** (Dining Room) and **Panel 2** (Oak Room)                  |
| 12.00–13.00     | LUNCH (Great Hall)                                                    |
| 12.30–13.00     | Lower Reading Room open for viewing                                   |
| 13.00–14.30     | **Panel 3** (Dining Room) and **Panel 4** (Oak Room)                  |
| 14.30–15.00     | BREAK                                                                 |
| 15.00–17.00     | **Panel 5** (Dining Room) and **Panel 6** (Oak Room)                  |
| 17.00–17.15     | BREAK                                                                 |
| 17.15–18.15     | **Keynote speaker:** Justine Picardie  
                   (Editor in Chief of *Harper’s Bazaar* and *Town and Country*  
                   Magazines) (Dining Room)                               |
<p>| 18.15–18.45     | Evening Drinks Reception                                              |
| 18.45–20.00     | Dinner (Great Hall)                                                   |
| 20.00–20.40     | <strong>Play by Diana Birchall</strong> (Dining Room)                              |
| 20.45           | Coach departs from Chawton House Library to Alton                     |
| 09.00–09.15     | Registration                                                          |
| 09.15–10.45     | <strong>Panel 7</strong> (Dining Room) and <strong>Panel 8</strong> (Oak Room)                  |
| 10.45–11.15     | BREAK                                                                 |
| 11.15–12.45     | <strong>Panel 9</strong> (Dining Room) and <strong>Panel 10</strong> (Oak Room)                 |
| 12.45–13.45     | LUNCH                                                                 |
| 13.45–15.15     | <strong>Panel 11</strong> (Dining Room) and <strong>Panel 12</strong> (Oak Room)                |
| 15.15–15.30     | BREAK                                                                 |
| 15.30–16.30     | <strong>Keynote Speaker:</strong> Sally Shuttleworth (University of Oxford)        |
| 16.45           | Coach departs from Chawton House Library to Alton/ Alton Station      |</p>
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**Re-writing Writers’ Lives: Mrs Gaskell’s *Life of Charlotte Brontë***  
Chair: Gillian Dow, Chawton House Library/University of Southampton |
| 10.30-12.00  | **Panel 1**  
Chair: Sally Shuttleworth (University of Oxford)  
Cora Kaplan (University of Southampton/Queen Mary, University of London)  
**Memories of Childhood: Charlotte Brontë and Harriet Martineau**  
Valerie Sanders (University of Hull)  
‘Mediocrity in the Sensations’: Charlotte Brontë’s Unromantic Marriages  
Syrie James (Author, USA)  
**Autobiographical Details in the Novels of Charlotte Brontë** |
|              | **Panel 2**  
Chair: Marysa DeMoor (Ghent University, Belgium)  
Clare Broome Saunders (University of Oxford)  
‘I am an Esquire’: Charlotte Brontë’s Medievalism  
Filipa Sousa (University of Porto, Portugal)  
**Representations of a Young Heroine: Gender, Genre and the Gothic Imagination in Northanger Abbey and Jane Eyre**  
Gaïane Hanser (University of Lorraine, France)  
‘As the Reader Knows’: Charlotte Brontë’s Model Readers |
| 12.00-13.00  | **LUNCH in the Great Hall**                                                                    |
12.30-13.00 Lower Reading Room will be open for viewing: a chance to see Charlotte Brontë’s letter on reading Jane Austen’s *Emma*, part of Chawton House Library’s ‘Emma at 200’ exhibition

13.00-14.30 Dining Room Panel 3
Chair: Maria Hayward (University of Southampton)
Christine Nelson (Morgan Library and Museum, USA)
*I Imagine her Face: Charlotte Brontë’s Material Legacy*

Eleanor Houghton (University of Southampton)
*Charlotte Brontë’s Corset: Intimacies Revealed*

Helena Bergmann (University of Boras, Sweden)
*Architecture and Artifacts as Signifiers of Sublimation in Charlotte Brontë’s *Villette*  

Oak Room Panel 4
Chair: Daniel Brown (University of Southampton)

Sophie Franklin (University of Durham)
*I’ll Try Violence’: Charlotte Brontë and the Violent Nineteenth-Century Imagination*

Rosalind Parry (Princeton University, USA)
*Illustrating *Jane Eyre* for the Battle of Britain*

Emma Butcher (University of Hull)
*‘But the woes of war are not confined to the field of death’: War Trauma and Alcoholism in the Brontë Juvenilia*

14.30-15.00 BREAK

15.00 - 17.00 Dining Room Panel 5
Chair: Julie Donovan (George Washington University, USA)

Cornelia Pearsall (Smith College, USA)
*Burying Bertha*

Hannah Desouza (University of Oxford)
*‘Conscience, turned tyrant, held passion by the throat’: The Relationship between the Conscience and Passion in *Jane Eyre* and *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*
Heather Ward (Marshall University, USA)
The Mad-Man: Rochester’s Evolving Personality Disorder(s)

Siobhan Harper (University of Durham)
‘Do not choose me for your text’: The Healthy Body in Charlotte Brontë’s *Shirley*

Oak Room  Panel 6
Chair: Mary Hammond (University of Southampton)

Claire Thurlow (University of Surrey)
‘In this sequestered forest glade’: An Examination of the Role of Nature and the Natural World in the Work of Charlotte Brontë

Kimberley Dimitriadis (University of Sydney, Australia)
‘A shadow bent between the light and the lattice’: Astronomy and Eclipses in *Shirley*

Malcolm Bare (University of Virginia, USA)
Rising Architecture: The Ethics of Material Memory in *Jane Eyre* and *Villette*

17.00 - 17.15 BREAK

17.15 – 18.15 Dining Room  Keynote Speaker: Justine Picardie (Editor in Chief of *Harper’s Bazaar* and *Town and Country* Magazines)
Possession: How the spirit of Charlotte Brontë continues to haunt writers who have followed in her wake

Chair: Eleanor Houghton (University of Southampton)

18.15 – 18.45 Evening Drinks Reception - Sponsored by the Southampton Centre for Nineteenth-Century Research

18.45 – 20.00 Dinner in the Great Hall

20.00 – 20.40 Dining Room  ‘You are Passionate Jane’. A Play by Diana Birchall
Read by Diana Birchall and Syrie James

20.40  Coach departs from Chawton House Library to Alton
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<td><strong>Panel 8</strong>&lt;br&gt;Chair: Gillian Dow (Chawton House Library/University of Southampton)&lt;br&gt;Helen MacEwan (Brussels Brontë Group)&lt;br&gt;Charlotte Brontë seen by the Belgians: the view from ‘Labassecour’&lt;br&gt;Marysa Demoor (Ghent University, Belgium)&lt;br&gt;‘Brussels is still my promised land’: Charlotte Brontë’s Belgian Desires and Frustrations&lt;br&gt;Charlotte Mathieson (Newcastle University)&lt;br&gt;Brontë’s Brussels: Locating the Brontë Legacy Abroad</td>
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<td><strong>Panel 9</strong>&lt;br&gt;Chair: Cornelia Pearsall (Smith College, USA)&lt;br&gt;Sarah Wise (Bishopsgate Institute)&lt;br&gt;‘That Mystery of Mysteries’: Grace Poole</td>
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Eileen Fitzgerald (University of Winchester)
*Jane Eyre: Myth and Morality*

Kimberley Braxton (Keele University)
*Escaping the Shadow of ‘Jane Eyre’: A Re-Examination of Charlotte Brontë’s Writing Identity*

Oak Room

**Panel 10**
Chair: Carol Dole (Ursinus College, USA)

Lucy Sheerman (Artist in Residence, Metal Peterborough)
*The Imaginative Legacy of Jane Eyre on Subsequent Fiction*

Amber Regis (University of Sheffield)
*Charlotte Brontë on Stage: 1930's Biodrama and the Archive/Museum Performed*

Catherine Han (Cardiff University)
*The Afterlives of the Artist Charlotte Brontë: Art and Artistry in Contemporary Jane Eyre Adaptations*

12.45 - 13.45 **LUNCH in the Great Hall**

13.15 - 13.45 **Lower Reading Room Open for Viewing:** a chance to see Charlotte Brontë’s letter on reading Jane Austen’s *Emma*, part of Chawton House Library’s ‘*Emma at 200*’ exhibition

13.45 - 15.15 **Dining Room**
Chair: Valerie Sanders (University of Hull)

Julie Donovan (George Washington University, USA)
*Ireland in Charlotte Brontë’s Villette*

Adrian Tait (Independent Scholar)
‘I felt the consecration of its loneliness’: *Jane Eyre, Moor House and the Nature of Dwelling*

Justine Pizzo (University of Southampton)
*Atmospheric Inspiration and the Meteorological Nervous System in Shirley*
Oak Room  Panel 12  
Chair: Cora Kaplan (University of Southampton/Queen Mary, University of London)  
Angharad Eyre (Queen Mary, University of London)  
Reviving Old Memories of Her Dear Friend: Ellen Nussey, Early Brontë Studies and Literary Tourism  
Sonia Villegas-López (University of Huelva, Spain)  
The Brontës in Spain: Two Recent Bio/Fictional Accounts  
Anne Reus (Leeds Trinity University)  
‘That Indefinable Something’: Virginia Woolf reads Charlotte Brontë  

15.15 -15.30 BREAK  

15.30 -16.30 Dining Room  
Keynote Speaker: Sally Shuttleworth (University of Oxford)  
Charlotte Brontë: Experimental Novelist  
Chair: Gillian Dow (Chawton House Library/University of Southampton)  
Closing Questions and Remarks  

16.45 Coach departs from Chawton House Library to Alton/Alton station  

Exhibitions at Chawton House Library during the conference:  
Lower Reading Room  A special exhibition on Charlotte Brontë, not only containing her letter on reading Jane Austen’s *Emma*, but also a fragment of her dress and a lock of her hair taken on the day of her death, as well as other numerous items of ephemera.