

**Two Centuries of Anglo-German Correspondences:
Celebrating Queen Victoria, Prince Albert,
George Eliot and Theodor Fontane**



Wednesday 26 – Friday 28 June 2019

17.00 – 20.00 & 10.00 – 17.00

**The Lydia & Manfred Gorvy Lecture Theatre
Victoria and Albert Museum**

This international conference marks the outstanding contributions to British-German cultural exchange by four key figures, all born in 1819: Queen Victoria, Prince Albert, George Eliot and Theodor Fontane. Four major themes will be discussed in relation to 19th-century British-German interactions: literature and philosophy, travel, science and knowledge, the arts and music.

Wednesday 26th June

- 17.00 Registration
- 17.30 Opening Chair: Rüdiger Görner, Queen Mary University of London (QMUL)
- 17.40 Prince Hubertus of Coburg
- 18.00 Keynote: Rosemary Ashton, 'A Sketch of Anglo-German Relations in the Nineteenth Century', introduced by Rüdiger Görner
- 19.00 Reception

Thursday 27th June 2019

Morning session: Literature

Chair: James Vigus, QMUL

- 10.00 Coffee
- 10.30 Juliette Atkinson, UCL – 'George Eliot as Realist Novelist'
- 11.15 Helen Chambers, University of St Andrews – 'Fontane as Realist Novelist'
- 12.00 Rüdiger Görner, QMUL – 'Early Victorian Thoughts on the Land of Poets and Thinkers. Notes on British-German Intellectualism at the beginning of the Long Century'
- 12.45 Lunch break (by own arrangements)

Afternoon session: Travel

Chair: Astrid Köhler, QMUL

14.30 Patricia Howe, QMUL – ‘Theodor Fontane: A German Traveller in England and Scotland’

15.15 John Rignall, Warwick University – ‘George Eliot’s Travels in Germany’

16.00 Tea

16.30 A.N. Wilson, London – ‘Travels of Victoria and Albert’

End of Day 1

Friday 28th June 2019

Morning session: Science/Knowledge

Chair: Tim Boon, Science Museum London

10.00 Coffee

10.30 Eckhard Mönning, Naturkundemuseum Coburg, Germany – ‘The History of the Natural History Museum Coburg’

11.15 Jana Riedel, QMUL and Victoria and Albert Museum – ‘Prince Albert’s Collecting Practices’

12.00 John R. Davis, Historic Royal Palaces – ‘Exhibitions in Germany and Britain’

12.45 Lunch (by own arrangements)

Afternoon session: Arts & Music

Chair: Daniel Johnson, London

14.30 Norbert Meyn, Royal College of Music – ‘Mendelssohn, Albert and Anglo-German Connections in 19th Century Music’

15.15 Julius Bryant, Victoria and Albert Museum – ‘Prince Albert and Anglo-German Architecture’

16.00 Tea

16.30 Susanna Avery-Quash, National Gallery London – ‘The Reception of Early German and Netherlandish Art in Britain during the Victorian Era’

End of Conference.

This conference is supported by the Victoria and Albert Museum (South Kensington), Stadt Coburg (Germany), the Centre for Anglo-German Cultural Relations, the Queen Mary Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences, and the School for Language Linguistics and Film at Queen Mary University of London.