The 5th Middle Ages in the Modern World (MAMO) Conference

Schedule

24–26 June 2025

King's College, Strand Campus

Tuesday 24th June

10:00-10:30	Registration			
	Room K016	**Room K018**	**Room K019**	**Room K020**
10:30-12:00	*Gawain* Revisited	The Middle Ages in Modern Games (I)	18th and 19th Century Medievalism	Paston Letters, Lives and Legends
12:00-13:00	Lunch			
13:00-14:30	Screen and Stage (I): Modern Cinema	The Middle Ages in Modern Games (II)	*Event*: St Just Ordinalia	Spanish and Portuguese Medievalisms
14:30-15:00	Break			
15:00-16:30	Screen and Stage (II): Mid-century Theatre	The Middle Ages in Modern Games (III)	*Event*: Gaming playtest	Visibility, Connectivity, Creativity
16:30-17:00	Break			
17:00-18:00	Plenary: Angela Weisl and Robert Squillace			
18:00-19:00	Reception (Sponsored by the New Chaucer Society)			

Wednesday 25th June

10:00-10:30	Arrival			
	Room K016	**Room K018**	**Room K019**	**Room K020: Chaucer Special Strand**
10:30-12:00	Online Use and Misuse	The Middle Ages in Modern Games (IV)	Death, Burial, and Strange Survivals	Chaucer: At Home and Abroad (I)
12:00-13:00	Lunch			
13:00-14:30	Institutional Use and Misuse	The Middle Ages in Modern Games (V)	Medievalism and the Epic	Chaucer: At Home and Abroad (II)
14:30-15:00	Break			
15:00-16:30	*Workshop*: Medievalism and Extreme Right Content	The Middle Ages in Modern Games (VI)	*Event*: Gaming event	Chaucer: Scholars and Theories
16:30-17:00	Break			
17:00-18:00	Plenary Roundtable: Mary Flannery, Euan Roger, and Caroline Bergvall *Public Chaucer*			
18:15-19:45	Performance: Daisy Black *Yde and Olive*			

Thursday 26th June

10:00-10:30	Arrival			
	Room K016	**Room K018**	**Room K019**	**Room K020**
10:30-12:00	*Workshop*: Wiki-thon	Crusade Imagery in the 21st Century	Modern Mysticism	Medievalism and Scholarship Today
12:00-13:00	Lunch			
13:00-14:30	Landscapes and Medievalisms (I)	Christianity and Medievalism (I)		New Theoretical Approaches
14:30-15:00	Break			
15:00-16:30	Landscapes and Medievalisms (II)	Christianity and Medievalism (II)		Pedagogy and Practice
16:45-17:45	Plenary: Michael Eden *Gawain is Not a Hero? Tensions Between the Heroic and the Complex Subject in Representations of Sir Gawain in Art*			
17:45-18:00	Closing remarks			

Full Programme

Tuesday 24th June

10:00-10:30 Registration [Council Room]

10:30-12:00 Parallel Sessions 1

Session A: *Gawain* Revisited [Room K016]

- Lawrence Warner (King's College London):
  More *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* in Modern Literature
- Sabina Rahman (University of Sydney):
  "What Else Ought There Be?": Visibility of Race in Colonialist Fantasy and David Lowery's *The Green Knight* (2021)
- Simran Dhaliwal (Hughes Hall, Cambridge):
  The Green Knight's Temporal Assimilation

Session B: The Middle Ages in Modern Games (I): Chronological Flexibility [Room K018]

- Kate Cook (King's College London):
  Collecting or understanding the past? Attitudes to the Roman period and interactions with past time in medievalist games
- Ricardo Alexandre Fonseca Santana (University of Lisbon):
  "The threads of fate span all life and time": The portrayal of time in Norse mythology as explored in *God of War* (2018) and *God of War Ragnarök* (2022)
- Baha Tan Oral and Deniz Özyurda-Ergen:
  Elastic Histories: Time and Player Interaction in Medieval-Themed Games

Session C: 18th and 19th-century Medievalisms [Room K019]

- Crystal Biggin (University of Nottingham):
  Translating Boccaccio in Charlotte Lennox's *Shakespear Illustrated* (1753–54)
- Lucinda Menaul (King's College London):
  William Morris
- Akari Kobayashi (University of Oxford):
  Re-evaluating Elizabeth Siddal's *Lady of Shalott* (1853) via Medievalism
- Natalie Hanna (University of Liverpool):
  Elizabeth Barrett Browning's Medieval Feelings

Session D: Paston Letters, Lives and Legends [Room K020 – hybrid session]

- Diane Watt (University of Surrey):
  God's Own Gentlewoman: Writing a Biography of Margaret Paston
- Holly Maples (University of Essex and College of William and Mary):
  Margaret Paston's Women of the Roses
- Karen Smyth (University of East Anglia):
  Walking in Paston Footprints

12:00-13:00 Lunch [Council Room]

13:00-14:30 Parallel Sessions 2

Session A: Screen and Stage (I): Modern Cinema [Room K016]

- Christopher Richards (University of Birmingham):
  'They celebrated like berserkers': Interrogating the Glorification of Violence in Robert Eggers' *The Northman*
- Felipe Brandi (NOVA University Lisbon):
  When Cinema Aims to Reveal How Little We Know About Medieval Life. The Middle Ages, Cinema and the European Imaginary of the 1980s.
- Patrick Masters:
  Templars in Space – The influence of the Knights Templar on Star Wars

Session B: The Middle Ages in Modern Games (II): Cycles and Breaks [Room K018]

- Graham Culbertson (University of North Carolina):
  Roguelites and Eternal Recurrence: Medieval Cycles of Catastrophe in *Wildermyth*
- Maria Vrij (University of Birmingham):
  Seasons and seasonality: Charting the passage of the year in historical games
- Robert Houghton (University of Winchester):
  A Time of Transition or A Time of Crisis? The Periodisation of the Middle Ages in *Sid Meier's Civilization VII*

Session C: Event: St Just Ordinalia: A Community Celebrating their Medieval Heritage [Room K019]

- Organised by the St Just Ordinalia.
  Details to follow.

Session D: Spanish and Portuguese Medievalisms [Room K020 – hybrid session]

- Pedro Martins (NOVA University Lisbon):
  "The Cradle of the Nation"? The Medievalist Construction of Guimarães in Modern Portugal (1887-1940)
- Ana Maria Machado (University of Coimbra):
  Portuguese Studies in Medievalism. The *Humildade gloriosa*, by Aquilino Ribeiro
- Claudia Fernández Estrada:
  Contemporary Arthurianism: Negotiating the Global and the Local through Exclusion and Identity.

14:30-15:00 Break [with refreshments in the Council Room]

15:00-16:30 Parallel Sessions 3

Session A: Screen and Stage (II): Mid-century Theatre

- Beatrice Wilford:
  Desire Against the Will in *I Know Where I'm Going!*: Medievalism in Powell and Pressburger
- Victoria Turner (University of St Andrews):
  Performing *Aucassin and Nicolette*: amateur theatre and local medievalism in twentieth-century England
- Sara Torres (University of New Mexico):
  Magic to Do: Musicals and Medievalism on the Mid-Century Stage

Session B: The Middle Ages in Modern Games (III): Hybrid Temporalities [Room K018]

- Stacy Kessler (Indiana University of Pennsylvania):
  From Gawain to TikTok: Beheading the Tortilla
- Vitor Marroni Fortuna (State University of Londrina):
  Hammering History: the reception of Viking culture in the game *Ragnaröck*
- Cyril Senn (University of Freiburg):
  Bringing a knife to a gun fight: Hybrid temporalities as genre aesthetics
- Marcus Jensen:
  Audio amalgamation: Collapsing temporalities in Medieval fantasy game soundtracks

Session C: Event [Room K019]

- Gaming playtest
  Details to follow soon.

Session D: Visibility, Connectivity, Creativity: Honouring Medieval Women's Stories in the Modern World [Room K020]

- Laura Varnam (University College, Oxford):
  Wealhtheow on the Whale-Road and Beyond: Poems for Heorot's Queen and Reflections on Writing Her Story / Herstory
- Sheila Passey (University of Wolverhampton):
  Reclaiming Aethelflaed: Feminist Storytelling and the Challenges of Adapting Early Medieval Herstories into Modern Historical Fiction
- Daisy Black (University of Wolverhampton):
  A Many-Woman Show: *Yde and Olive*, Women's Work and Storytelling as Medievalist Feminist Praxis

16:30-17:00 Break [with refreshments in the Council Room]

17:00-18:00 Plenary [Safra Room]

- Angela Weisl (Seton Hall University)
- Robert Squillace (New York University)

Details to follow soon.

18:00-19:00 Reception [The Terrace]

Sponsored by the New Chaucer Society.

Wednesday 25th June

10:00-10:30 Arrival [with refreshments in the Council Room]

10:30-12:00 Parallel Sessions 1

Session A: Online Use and Misuse [Room K016]

- Kenna L. Olsen (Mount Royal University):
  Beyond Medieval Mimicry to Chaucer's Wicker House: Evoking Medieval English Experientialiality via Immersive Performances of Medieval English Texts
- Andrew B.R. Elliott (Independent Researcher):
  Amusing, Awful, and Artificial: AI & Medievalism
- Rachel Moss (University of Northampton):
  Medieval chivalry, social media and the emotional drivers of radicalisation into extreme right online cultures

Session B: The Middle Ages in Modern Games (IV): Periodisation Beyond the West [Room K018]

- Muhammad Abdul Karim, Sengkala Dev:
  No Middle Ages in Timor: Understanding the concept of Middle Ages in *Temukung: Cultivation in Drylands*
- Kristina Wittkamp:
  Medievalisms in Russian-language computer games – depictions of Rus' between fantasy and historical simulation
- Hirohito Tsuji (University of East Anglia):
  Japanese Stereotypes in Medievalist Games: The *Onimusha* series

Session C: Death, Burial, and Strange Survivals: The Norse-Gothic Response and Literary Receptions in Britain [Room K019]

- Sharon Choe (University of Copenhagen):
  Loðbrók, Lodbrach, Lodbrog: Revisiting Norse Death in Eighteenth-century Britain
- Maggie Pavleszek (University of York):
  "Lost in the wind and the night": Ship Funerals and Imperial Anxiety in H. Rider Haggard's *Eric Brighteyes* (1891)
- Hannah Armstrong (University of York):
  Strange Survivals: Sabine Baring-Gould and the Norse-Gothic

Session D: Chaucer: At Home and Abroad (I) [Room K020]

- Helen Brookman (King's College London):
  At home with the medieval: reading Chaucer with Mary Eliza Haweis and the National Home Reading Union
- Nancy Warren (Texas A&M University):
  Chaucer's Wife of Bath in Colonial Virginia: Aphra Behn's *The Widow Ranter*
- Ben Parsons (University of Leicester):
  Unmilitary and Perverted: Chaucer in Zululand in the 1870s and 80s

12:00-13:00 Lunch [Council Room]

13:00-14:30 Parallel Sessions 2

Session A: Institutional Use and Misuse [Room K016]

- Gwen Seabourne (University of Bristol):
  Legal Medievalisms: appeals to the 'medieval' in modern common law sources
- Eleanor McDonald-Dick (University College London):
  Anti-Normanism by Omission: Discussions of the Origins of Kyivan Rus' in English-language news and popular history media following the 2022 Russian Invasion of Ukraine
- Alexandra Sterling-Hellenbrand (Appalachian State University):
  Working off the Past? Monuments and the Medieval Imaginary in Austria and the American South
- Michael Makin (University of Michigan)
  First as Farce, then as Tragedy? The Death, Rebirth, and Subsequent Weaponization of East-Slavic Medievalism in Russia and Ukraine

Session B: The Middle Ages in Modern Games (V): Education [Room K018]

- Josip Mihaljević (Old Church Slavonic Institute):
  Web Games for Learning and Promoting the Glagolitic Script
- Jay Carter (Independent Scholar):
  Temporal Blindspots: the Educational Potential of *Pentiment*
- James Worth (University College London):
  Creating the Age of Apocalypse: Game Mechanics as Pedagogical Tools for imparting a Historiographical Periodisation of West Roman Collapse in *Total War: Attila*
- Isabela Albuquerque (University of Pernambuco):
  Games as didactic tools for basic education: an experience at University of Pernambuco undergraduate History Course

Session C: Medievalism and the Epic [Room K019]

- Daniel Sawyer (University of Oxford):
  Early Forms and Modes for Unusual Readerships: A Case Study
- Julio San Román Cazorla (Complutense University of Madrid):
  'You're a Girl Dragon!': The Evolution of Epic Identity in *Beowulf* from the Anglo-Saxon Poem to Maria Dahvana Headley's Feminist Adaptation
- Josephine Spelsberg (King's College London):
  Sexist or feminist? A comparison between the fifteenth-century epic *Salman und Morolf* and the twenty-first-century motion picture *Jennifer's Body*

Session D: Chaucer: At Home and Abroad (II) [Room K020]

- Mary Boyle (St Edmund's College, Cambridge):
  Dirty Great Literature: The *Canterbury Tales* in German
- Hugo Lacoue-Labarthe (Université Paris 3 Sorbonne Nouvelle):
  Impersonating Chaucer: Pier Paolo Pasolini and J.R.R. Tolkien, aspiring medieval poets in the 20th century?
- Candace Barrington (Central Connecticut State University):
  "This false traytour Deeth": Chaucer in Iran

14:30-15:00 Break [with refreshments in the Council Room]

15:00-16:30 Parallel Sessions 3

Session A: Workshop [Room K016]

- Medievalism and Extreme Right Content
  Organised by Rachel Moss (University of Northampton)
  Details to follow soon.

Session B: The Middle Ages in Modern Games (VI): Design [Room K018]

- Thom Gobbitt (Karl Franzens Universitat, Graz):
  Rules Lawyers' Time: Early Medieval Laws, Plot, and Gamification
- Robin Kessler (East Stroudsburg University):
  Balancing the overpowered in OverPower
- Vinicius Marino Carvalho:
  How to address hyperobjects in historical video games?

Session C: Event [Room K019]

- Gaming event – details to follow soon.

Session D: Chaucer: Scholars and Theories [Room K020 – hybrid session]

- Yasmin Ibrahim (King's College London):
  Eleanor Hammond (1866-1933): A Scribe of Chaucer
- Wan-Chuan Kao (Washington and Lee University):
  Anaracialism and Its Situatedness
- Malek J. Zuraikat (Yarmouk University, Jordan):
  Proto-Modern Theories of Dreaming in Chaucer's "The Book of the Duchess"

16:30-17:00 Break [with refreshments in the Council Room]

17:00-18:00 Plenary Roundtable: Public Chaucer [Safra Room]

- Mary Flannery (University of Bern)
- Euan Roger (The National Archives)
- Caroline Bergvall (Queen Mary University of London)
  Details to follow soon.

18:15-19:45 Performance [location to be confirmed]

- *Yde and Olive*, performed by Daisy Black
  Storyteller and academic Daisy Black presents the remarkable thirteenth-century tale of Yde, who dresses herself as a knight and cuts her own paths to freedom. A tale of disguise adventure, gender fluidity, straight-talking angels, and the power of queer love.
  Weaving medieval narrative with modern folk song, this performance will take you from birthing chambers to military barracks, through moonlit country lanes and woods stained with slaughter, and from quiet chapels to court chambers crackling with gossip.

Thursday 26th June

10:00-10:30 Arrival [with refreshments in the Council Room]

10:30-12:00 Parallel Sessions 1

Session A: Workshop [Room K016]

- MedievalWiki – A Wikipedia citation-a-thon for MAMO 2025
  Organised by Fran Allfrey (University of York), Lucy Hinnie (University of Leeds and Wikimedia UK), Lucy Moore (University of York), and Richard Nevell (University of Exeter and Wikimedia UK).

  With billions of page-views every month, and its content scraped to power artificial intelligence, digital assistants, and search engines, there's a case to be made that Wikipedia is one of the most effective ways to get the Middle Ages out into the modern world.

  However, Wikipedia tends to reproduce biases and exclusions that exist in the real world. Work by women, BIPOC, and queer scholars is under-represented on medieval historical topic pages, which often rely on a limited number of cited sources.

  In this hands-on workshop, we will introduce participants to key concepts and practical tools for Wikipedia editing. Participants will be split into folks who have edited before and first-time editors. Experienced editors will be invited to select existing Wikipedia pages to audit and improve, and to gather research to cite. First-time editors will learn the basics of editing before moving to live editing to improve articles together.

Session B: Crusade Imagery in the 21st Century: Symbol, Image, and Action [Room K018]

- Eleanor Janega:
  Nostalgia, Easy Answers and the Battle for the Public Imagination
- Matthew Gabriele (Virginia Tech):
  Crusade Studies Haunted by the So-Called Clash of Civilizations
- Mike Horswell:
  Back to the Crusades: Reflecting on Crusader Medievalism after 9/11 in Comics
- Brett Whalen (University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill):
  Response

Session C: Modern Mysticism [Room K019]

- Michelle M. Sauer (University of North Dakota):
  Modern Adaptations of the Medieval Anchoritic Lifestyle
- Mirabelle Dominé-Walley and Luke Walker:
  Into the Mystic
- Eduardo De Oliveira Correia (King's College London):
  'To Give Rise to a True Image': Andrei Tarkovsky's *Andrei Rublev* and Julian of Norwich's *Revelations of Divine Love*

Session D: Medievalism and Scholarship Today [Room K020]

- Camille Campos Fragoso (EHESS, Paris):
  Searching for Oneself in the Medieval Past: Trans Erasures, Cis Gestalts, and the Limits of Historiography
- Tommaso di Carpegna Falconieri (University of Urbino):
  Studies of and on medievalism in European neo-Latin-speaking countries in the last ten years
- Peter Jones (University of Plymouth):
  MORRÍSLAND Glöggt er gests augað (William Morris & Iceland)

12:00-13:00 Lunch [Council Room]

13:00-14:30 Parallel Sessions 2

Session A: Landscapes and Medievalisms (I) [Room K016]

- Emma Nuding (University of York):
  More Foreign than 'Fellow': Finding the Early Medieval with Charles Kingsley and St Guthlac of Crowland
- Maia Blumberg (Queen Mary University of London):
  Local Medievalisms and 'Nostalgia for the Ordinary': The Case of Malmesbury
- Linsey Hunter (UHI):
  Why here? Why now? An analysis of Identity and Place in retellings of the legend of Finella, Lady of the Mearns, c. 1900-c.1960

Session B: Christianity and Medievalism (I) [Room K018]

- Helen Young (Deakin University):
  "The New Middle Ages" and Twenty-First Century Christian Nationalism
- Sarah Schnödewind (University of Hamburg)
  Between Popular Culture and New Age. The Modern Reinterpretation of the Cathars in "The Cathar Tarot: The Secret Wisdom of the Cathars"

Session C: New Theoretical Approaches [Room K020]

- Usha Vishnuvajjala (SUNY-New Paltz):
  Medieval(ist) Mothers and Daughters: One Avenue for Reconciling Medieval Studies and Medievalism Studies
- Sophia Philomena Wolf (University of Freiburg):
  Experiments with Blank Spaces: Condensation and Expansion in Contemporary Retellings
- Caroline Banerjee (City, University of London):
  Liveable Cities and Liveable Bodies: Stepping into Power in Caroline Bergvall's *Alisoun Sings*

14:30-15:00 Break [with refreshments in the Council Room]

15:00-16:30 Parallel Sessions 3

Session A: Landscapes and Medievalisms (II) [Room K016]

- Fran Allfrey (University of York):
  Medieval stories in a neolithic landscape
- Kathryn Maude (The National Archives) and Emily Robinson (University of Sussex):
  Curating the Medieval: Telling the 'Lost' History of a Sunken Island
- Bathsheba Lockwood Brook (University College London):
  Moving Encounters: Towards an Affective Practice of Walking in *Refugee Tales*

Session B: Christianity and Medievalism (II) [Room K018]

- Emmet Taylor (University College Cork):
  Mythconceptions: 'Paganized' Retellings of *Lebor Gabála Érenn*
- Allie Richardson (University of Tennessee Knoxville):
  Exploring Japanese Demonology: The Red Book of Appin in Anime and Manga
- Lucie Herbreteau:
  Who will kill the dragon? Rewriting the legend of Saint George and the dragon for children in the 20th and 21st century

Session C: Pedagogy and Practice [Room K020]

- Kirsty Bolton (University of Oxford):
  Medieval and Modern Experiences of Migration
- Karen A. Winstead (The Ohio State University):
  Medievalism as Pedagogy: Creating "Wicked Students"
- Brendan O'Connell (Trinity College Dublin):
  Teaching Medieval Complaint through Sara Ahmed

16:45-17:45 Plenary: Michael Eden [Safra Room]

- Gawain is Not a Hero? Tensions Between the Heroic and the Complex Subject in Representations of Sir Gawain in Art

  Sir Gawain, as depicted in Sir Gawain and the Green Knight (SGGK), has traditionally been represented in illustrations accompanying translations of the poem. I have previously referred to this as an 'established visual language'—a framework that oscillates between portraying Gawain as a conventional heroic figure and as a complex, introspective subject. On one hand, he appears as a visual cipher of the knight: depicted in action, traveling, and fighting. On the other, artists attempt to convey his interiority—his regret, fear, and anticipation. While these representations may appear to depict the same Gawain, they reveal an underlying fault line: where iterations of Gawain, such as the man of action vs the introspective subject reflect significantly, and uncomfortably, on one another.

  This plenary will explore Gawain as both a site and sight of crisis, moving beyond the traditional monomyth. Unlike conventional heroes, his transformation remains unresolved, complicating the notion of heroic incorporation. This ambiguity, rather than diminishing his significance, presents compelling opportunities for contemporary artists who seek to reimagine this figure in new and innovative ways.

  Michael Eden is a visual artist, researcher, and writer exploring the intersections of monstrosity, subjectivity, and landscape representation. His practice spans semi-abstract figurative and landscape painting, ceramics, and sculptural constructions, often engaging with themes of eeriness and flux as critiques of resurgent right-wing ideologies. He earned his PhD from Middlesex University, where his research bridged medieval literature, modernist art criticism, landscape theory, national myth-making, and monster studies, framed through the lens of artistic practice. His work is particularly informed by *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* and the problematic modernism of Wyndham Lewis. Eden contributes to academic and journalistic publications on art practice, film, monstrosity, and arts education and is a fellow of The Digswell Arts Trust and editor of the *Journal of Art & Writing*.

16:45-17:45 Closing remarks [Safra Room]