

TRAVELLING TO NEW WORLDS: IMMIGRATION, EMIGRATION AND THE EXPERIENCE OF WALES
The Eighteenth Annual Conference of the Association for Welsh Writing in English
Gregynog Hall, Newtown, Powys, Wales, UK
7-9 April 2006

Welsh identity is not, and has never been, a stable, geographically-restricted affair. The quest for work and freedom has historically precipitated emigration from within Wales while its industrial heartlands have been fed by successive waves of immigrants. Welsh writing has been enriched by these population movements and continues to be informed by them. Writers fleeing from persecution are arriving in Wales; writers from Wales are travelling to and engaging with other worlds.

This is a call for papers that seek to extend the discussion of English-language literature and Wales to new territories, discussing canonical or non-canonical, contemporary or historical literature. The categories of 'Identity and place', 'Travel writing' and 'Colonialism and post-colonialism' are suggested as possible foci; however work that addresses the conference themes but falls outside these categories is also welcome.

WE INVITE PAPERS ON TOPICS RELATING TO:

1. Identity and place

topics such as

- rewriting the nation;
- writing the Welsh diaspora
- the writing of first, second or third generation immigrants;
- exploring migration and shifting national borders;
- life writing, community and place.

2. Travel writing

topics such as

- travel writing and the anglophone Welsh novel;
- travel writing and nationalism;
- the idealisation and exploration of 'elsewhere';
- hiraeth and writing 'home';
- reading the world.

3. Colonialism and post-colonialism

topics such as

- Welsh writing, colonialism and the postcolonial
- inscribing population movements within industrial and post-industrial writing;
- the contemporary experience of refugee writers in Wales;
- globalization and writing the nation;
- writing psycho-geography/ies.

ABSTRACTS OF 3-500 WORDS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY 1st JANUARY, 2006 TO:

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