



Call for Papers

Symposium

Old Sources – New Creations: Modern Takes on Past English Language Stages

Date: 9 September 2022

Evidence from past English language stages has been dealt with in various ways. There are innumerable examples of texts that have been edited, emended and prepared for use by a modern audience. While these deal with authentic material there are other cases where modern texts, or individual words or passages within a modern text, give merely an impression of belonging to a previous language stage: they draw on earlier material to create something new with an archaic twist. This process can be encountered in various resources, such as historical or fantastic novels, poems, websites, blogs, movies and TV series, teaching materials, and there are even full translations of entire books into Old, Middle and Early Modern English. The respective linguistic realisations can take various forms which may be distinguished into specific categories; cf. Traxel (2018) for Old English and Traxel (2019) for Middle English (both studies revise and refine the terminology used in Traxel 2012).

This one-day symposium, held at the University of Stavanger, Norway, looks for a wide range of papers dealing with the incorporation of past language stages within a modern context. In order to allow for various approaches, all types of post-Renaissance English resources may be covered. Some aspects to be examined may be reasons for their inclusion, choice and origin of forms, misunderstandings and/or adaptations of these, difficulties in rendering previously unfamiliar objects and concepts, intended audience, and reception. The results may also be related to the socio-cultural context in which they occur in order to explain their wider significance and to provide a broader basis for interdisciplinary discussion.

Prospective speakers are invited to send short abstracts (ca. 250–300 words) dealing with any type of Late Modern or Present-Day English materials that use or adapt earlier linguistic features for a modern audience by **31 March 2022** (*e-mail*: oliver.traxel@uis.no).

References

Traxel, Oliver M. 2012. Pseudo-Archaic English: The Modern Perception and Interpretation of the Linguistic Past. *Studia Anglica Posnaniensia* 47(2–3): 41–58.

Traxel, Oliver M. 2018. Reviving a Past Language Stage: Modern Takes on Old English. In: *Aspects of Medieval English Language and Literature: Proceedings of the Fifth International Conference of the Society of Historical English Language and Linguistics*. Ed. Michiko Ogura and Hans Sauer with Michio Hosaka. *Studies in English Medieval Language and Literature* 55. Berlin: Peter Lang. 309–328.

Traxel, Oliver M. 2019. Middle English in the Modern World. In: *Current Explorations in Middle English: Selected Papers from the 10th International Conference on Middle English (ICOME), University of Stavanger, Norway, 2017*. Ed. Merja Stenroos, Martti Mäkinen, Kjetil Thengs and Oliver M. Traxel. *Studies in English Medieval Language and Literature* 56. Berlin: Peter Lang. 309–332.

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Room: Hulda Garborgs Hus N-107

Programme

0900–0915: **Opening** (Oliver M. Traxel, Stavanger)

0915–1045: **Session 1: Translating the Past**

Majewski, Kerstin (Munich), *Translating Old English Elegies: Modern Anglo-Saxonist Versions of The Wanderer and The Seafarer*

Schwan, Birgit (Munich), *Intralingual Translations, Retellings and Adaptations: Modern Takes on The Battle of Maldon*

Hausleitner, Felix (Graz), *Cockayne's (Pseudo-)Archaic Translations: A 19th-Century Approach on the Old English Medical Texts*

1045–1130: **Coffee/Tea Break (sponsored for speakers)**

1130–1230: **Session 2: Playing with the Past**

Maiwald, Patrick (Würzburg) [on Zoom], *"When first he came upon the holy wood": Historical Mashup Language in Recent 'Shakespearean' Retellings of Hollywood Films*

Porck, Thijs (Leiden), *Poking Fun at Past Language Stages: Mark Twain's Mock-Malory and Pseudo-Shakespeare*

1230–1345: **Lunch Break (sponsored for speakers)**

1345–1415: **Session 3: Evoking the Past**

Lundblad, Sonya (Stavanger), *Pseudo-Archaic Vocabulary and Morphology in J. K. Rowling's Harry Potter Series*

1415–1430: **Closing and Outlook** (Oliver M. Traxel, Stavanger)