Public and Popular History

LENT TERM 2019

Convenors: David Reynolds (djr17) and Helen McCarthy (hm234).
Bernhard Fulda (bdf20) is on leave.

Meetings on Thursdays at 5pm in Christ’s College, Lloyd Room, Third Court.

31 January  CURATING THE PAST: TURNING HISTORICAL SCHOLARSHIP INTO PUBLIC EXHIBITIONS

Exhibitions are a popular engagement tool for academics seeking to bring their research to wider audiences, as well as a core activity for museums, galleries and libraries. Translating scholarship into forms that will intrigue, surprise or enlighten the non-specialist visitor is not, however, a straightforward task. Historian Dr Helen McCarthy (St. John’s College) will reflect on her recent experience of creating *These Four Walls* – a photographic exhibition based on her research into the history of women home-workers – while, from the other side, Dr Chris Burgess (University Library) will talk about the creative and practical work that goes into the UL’s programme of major exhibitions.

28 February  HISTORIANS AND THE MOVIES: *Mary Queen of Scots* and *The Favourite*

Professional historians are often listed as ‘consultants’ for movies or TV series. But are their names there simply for decoration? How far can they ensure ‘historical accuracy’? And what might that term mean for film-makers? Two major history movies about women and power were released in the New Year and we have a chance to hear from their historical consultants. Professor John Guy (Clare College) talks about the adaptation of his best-selling biography for the film *Mary Queen of Scots* (dir. Josie Rourke) and Dr Hannah Greig (York University) shares her experiences advising on *The Favourite* (dir. Yorgos Lanthimos) – a black comedy about the women close to Queen Anne.