

While the reciprocal relationship of politics and emotions is not new, the amplification and acceleration thereof, particularly by means of social media, is. From the Scottish Independence Referendum and Brexit to Covid-19, immigration, austerity and climate policies, emotions have proven to be key components in affecting social and cultural politics.

This conference focuses on the connection between emotions and cultural politics, examining how emotions shape and are shaped by political events. The event looks at how emotions have intensified political discourse and considers how emotions are used strategically in political debates, with terms like empathy and indignation either being embraced or dismissed. The central theme of the conference is how emotional dynamics drive societal divisions, solidify group identities, and impact democratic processes.

Organisation

Department of English at the University of Innsbruck:
Sarah Back, Dorothee Birke, Elisabeth Frank, Matthias Mösch, Ulla Ratheiser, Christoph Singer

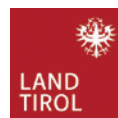
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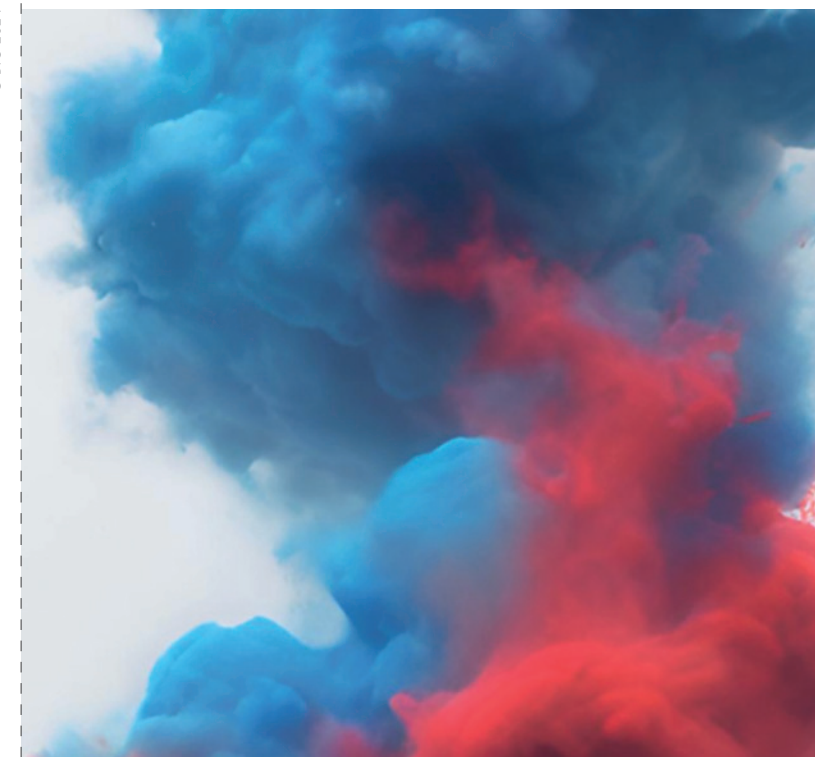
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The up-to-date programme is available online:
www.britcult.de/conference2024



Annual Conference of the Society for the Study of British Cultures 21 – 23 November 2024

Ágnes-Heller-Haus, Kleiner Hörsaal
Innrain 52a, 6020 Innsbruck, Austria

Organisation

Department of English at the University of Innsbruck:
Sarah Back, Dorothee Birke, Elisabeth Frank, Matthias Mösch, Ulla Ratheiser, Christoph Singer

Programme

Thursday, 21 November

12:30–2pm BritCult Board Meeting (SR 14)

2:30–6pm **Registration**

3–5:30pm Postgraduate Forum (SR 14)

6–6:45pm **Conference Opening** (Kleiner Hörsaal)

6:45–7:45pm **Keynote**
(Chair: Dorothee Birke, University of Innsbruck)

Carolyn Pedwell (University of Lancaster, UK).
AI, Intuition and the Making of Computational Cultures

From 8pm **Conference Warming** (Ägnes-Heller-Haus)

Friday, 22 November

8:30–11:00am Registration

9–10:30am **Panel 1: Class and Politics of Emotion**
(Chair: Julia Hoydis, University of Graz)

Susanne Bayerlipp (University of Frankfurt).
Taste, Fashion and the Politics of Emotions: (Re-) Appropriating Burberry

Julia Boll (University of Duisburg-Essen).
The Spirit of Service: The Neoliberal Promotion of Community Volunteering in Austerity Britain

Anja Hartl (University of Innsbruck).
The Emotional Politics of Representing Social Class on the Contemporary British Stage

10:30–11am Coffee Break

11am–12:30pm **Panel 2: Nationalism and Affect**
(Chair: Ariane de Waal, University of Leipzig)

Merle Tönnies and **Dennis Henneböhl** (University of Paderborn, University of Erlangen).
The Shifting Use of Emotional Rhetoric by Britain's Two Major Parties in (the Run-Up to) the 2024 General Election Campaign

Andrew Wells (University of Kiel).
The British 'Love' of Liberty, 1660–1800

Carolyn Steinke (University of Augsburg).
Shame and the Female Body in Irish Nation-Building

12:30–2:30pm Lunch Break / JSBC Board Meeting (SR 12)

2:30–3:30pm **Panel 3: The Role of Cultural Studies in Times of Affective Polarisation: A Conversation**
(Chair: Ulla Ratheiser, University of Innsbruck)

Joanna Rostek and **Gerold Sedlmayr** (University of Leipzig/Giessen, University of Erlangen)

3:30–4pm Coffee Break

4–5pm **Keynote**
(Chair: Matthias Mösch, University of Innsbruck)

Ann Cvetkovich (University of Texas at Austin).
Public Feelings in a Time of Broken Infrastructures

5–7pm Members' Assembly (Kleiner Hörsaal)

8pm **Conference Dinner**
La Trattoria, Sparkassenplatz 5, Innsbruck (self-paid)

Saturday, 23 November

9–10am **Panel 4: Aesthetics of Confrontation**
(Chair: Sarah Back, University of Innsbruck)

Ellen Grünkemeier (University of Bielefeld).
Disturbing the Comfortable in Popular Culture: Towards an Aesthetics of Confrontation

Jana Gohrisch (University of Hannover).
Narrating Black Anger and Agency Forty Years On: The BBC Documentary Uprising (2021)

10–10:30am Coffee Break

10:30–11:30am **Panel 5: Scandals and Collective Emotion**
(Chair: Ines Gstrein, University of Innsbruck)

Irene Valenti (University of Augsburg).
"For the Trampled Multitude": Collective Affects in P. B. Shelley's Political Poetry

Deborah de Muijnck (University of Gießen).
Dorian Gray's Cultural Condemnation: The Affective and Socio-Political Functions of Oscar Wilde's Literary Persecution

11:30am–12:30pm **Panel 6: Unsettling Affect**
(Chair: Elisabeth Frank, University of Innsbruck)

Tamara Radak (University of Vienna).
"A Woman's (Affective) Work is Never Done": See Red Women's Workshop's Archive of Contrasting Feelings

Dilâra Yılmaz (University of Kiel).
Of #sadgirls, #softgirls, and #unhingedwomen: Selling Gendered Negative Affect on the International Literary Marketplace

12:30pm **Conference Closing**

2pm **Outing**
Bergisel Panorama & Bergisel Christmas-Market