

British Association for Victorian Studies Annual Conference: Composition and Decomposition

Date(s) Thursday 1st (00:00) - Saturday 3rd September 2011 (23:59)

Contact Any queries, please contact the conference organizers at bavs2011@googlemail.com (<mailto:bavs2011@googlemail.com>). Conference hashtag [#bavs11](https://twitter.com/#!/search/%23bavs11) (<https://twitter.com/#!/search/%23bavs11>)

Download [Add to Calendar \(/schools/edacs/departments/drama/events/bavs.aspx?ical=true\)](#)



Birmingham City Library after the fire in 1879. Reproduced with the permission of Birmingham Libraries & Archives. WK/B11/8531.

Nineteenth-century Birmingham was considered a triumph of industrialization and celebrated as the 'workshop the world.' It was a city intimately connected with industry and manufacture; techniques and processes were invented in the city that allowed its firms to lead the world in the manufacture of a wide range of products. Of these, one of the most famous was pens. This conference celebrates the double meaning of composition, focusing on both the artistic practice and on of what things are made. At a time when the country as a whole, and this city in particular, is reflecting upon the legacy of industrial decline, the conference also considers the inverse of composition: decomposition and processes of decay.

- [joining instructions](#)

(https://docs.google.com/document/d/1OUdYELP6o4IVhk8WK4tapeODoMvaJvIOLz6fxa5-128/edit?hl=en_US)

- [current program](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1GQCPzHkIMj-Je-NpBOuVdsL1ARJZ1twAkC-qao_B6-w/edit?hl=en_US) (https://docs.google.com/document/d/1GQCPzHkIMj-Je-NpBOuVdsL1ARJZ1twAkC-qao_B6-w/edit?hl=en_US)

Registration

Registration will end on Wednesday 24 August. **To register for the conference, please click here** (https://www.bhamonlineshop.co.uk/browse/extra_info.asp?compid=1&modid=2&prodid=333&deptid=17&catid=3).

There are three categories of registration:

1. Standard registration

Standard registration at full or PG rate with accommodation includes all meals from morning tea/coffee on Thursday to afternoon tea/coffee on Saturday, including the Friday night reception in the Muirhead Tower, plus accommodation (en suite, with breakfast) on Thursday and Friday nights. This registration includes the Conference dinner on Friday night.

2. Standard registration without accommodation

Standard registration at full or PG rate without accommodation includes all meals from morning tea/coffee on Thursday to afternoon tea/coffee on Saturday, including the Friday night reception in the Muirhead Tower, but not campus accommodation. This registration includes the Conference dinner on Friday night.

3. Day registration

Day registration at full or PG rate include morning & afternoon tea/coffee and lunch on the day/s of registration, including the Friday night reception in the Muirhead Tower, but not accommodation or evening meals. This registration does NOT include the Conference dinner on Friday night. For delegates opting for the Day rate for Thursday and/or Friday, evening meals can be purchased separately:

Dinner: Thursday night £15

Conference dinner: Friday night £35

All delegates must be financial members of BAVS. Registration for the 2011 BAVS Conference does not include membership of BAVS. **To arrange membership subscription, please click on this link** (<http://www.bavsuk.org/membership.htm>).

Accommodation

Accommodation will be in Mason Hall on the Vale. Accommodation check-in is from 15:00 on the day of your booking and the Check-in desk is located at the Vale Hub. We suggest that anybody arriving before 15:00 on Thursday or Friday comes straight to the Business School where there will be a secure space to leave suitcases. Dinner on Thursday night is at the Vale so there will be time to check in after the Thursday afternoon Keynote address and before the evening meal. For **a map of the Vale click here** (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/Documents/university/valemap.pdf>). The University provides a **useful Google Map showing both the Vale and the main campus here** (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/contact/directions/edgbaston-directions.aspx>). It is a ten to fifteen minute walk from the Vale to the Business School.

Location

The conference is being held in the Business School on the University of Birmingham's main Edgbaston campus. The main campus is conveniently located 3 miles from the centre of Birmingham. There is a regular train service from the campus's own station (University) into Birmingham and beyond. The campus is also connected by many bus routes into town, the most convenient running up the Bristol Road just south of the campus near to the Business School. Full details about **how to get to the campus can be found here** (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/contact/directions/edgbaston-directions.aspx>) and there is a **map of the campus here** (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/Documents/university/edgbaston-map.pdf>).

There is plenty to see and do on campus including:

- 'Form and Design in the Nineteenth Century', a special exhibition in the atrium of the Muirhead Tower (R21 on the campus map) curated by Dr Nicola Gauld and the **University's Special Collections** (<http://www.special-coll.bham.ac.uk/>) to coincide with the conference.

- [The Barber Institute of Fine Arts \(http://www.barber.org.uk/\)](http://www.barber.org.uk/)
- [Winterbourne House and Garden \(http://www.winterbourne.org.uk/\)](http://www.winterbourne.org.uk/), a restored Edwardian Arts and Crafts house and garden, conveniently located between the Vale and the main campus.
- And [various other sites of interest, listed here \(http://www.rcc.bham.ac.uk/index.shtml\)](http://www.rcc.bham.ac.uk/index.shtml)
- A [Googlemap showing all these locations is available here \(http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?msid=212294809852835789335.0004aa36166af9aef5daf&msa=0&ll=52.450308,-1.929646&spn=0.013234,0.036306\)](http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?msid=212294809852835789335.0004aa36166af9aef5daf&msa=0&ll=52.450308,-1.929646&spn=0.013234,0.036306).

Organizing Committee

Katy Birch, David Gange, Paul Horn, Nicola Gauld, Jim Mussell, Kate Newey, Sarah Parker, Claire Robinson, Marion Thain, Peter Yeandle

- [download conference poster \(/Documents/college-artslaw/drama/2011bavsposter.pdf\)](#) (pdf, 251KB)

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