

Jessica Wood

Thesis title: A Critical Analysis of the Presentation of the Relationship between Nietzsche's Idea of the Dionysian and Artistic Creation in the Works of Thomas Mann and Gabriele D'Annunzio.

Supervisors: **Dr Nicholas Martin** (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/lcahm/departments/german/staff/profile.aspx?Referenceld=4375>), **Dr Clodagh Brook** (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/lcahm/departments/italian/staff/profile.aspx?Referenceld=4429>)

I am currently working toward my PhD at the University of Birmingham, investigating the relationship between Thomas Mann and Gabriele D'Annunzio with regard to Nietzsche's idea of Dionysus and the Dionysian.

I obtained my undergraduate degree in German and Italian Studies at Birmingham, graduating in 2010. Having developed a keen interest in German and Italian literature, I went on to complete my MPhil(B) in Modern European Cultures in 2012.

My doctoral thesis aims to shed light on the reception of Nietzsche's idea of Dionysus by two rarely compared writers, linking the fields of German and Italian literature. Evident affinities between many of the works of Mann and D'Annunzio suggest a significant engagement with Nietzsche's thought, and a shared interest in the impulses associated with Dionysus. I am particularly interested in the importance of Dionysus to the artist, as portrayed by Mann and D'Annunzio in several of their texts.

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