



# REMARKABLE THINGS: THE AGENCY OF OBJECTHOOD AND THE POWER OF MATERIALITY

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2018 - The University of Warwick  
Humanities Building (Ground Floor) - Library Road, Central Campus

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| 9:00 – 9:30   |  | Registration and Refreshments – Ground Floor Humanities Building Corridor  |  |
| 9:30 – 9:40   |  | Welcome & Introduction: Kathryn Thompson – H0.52   |  |
| 9:40 – 10:40  |  | KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Professor Patricia Spyer (Graduate Institute Geneva) – H0.52  |  |
| 10:40 – 10:55 |  | Refreshment Break - Ground Floor Humanities Building Corridor  |  |
| SESSION 1:    |  | A. Enactment, Practice & Ritual<br>– Chair: Clare Rowan (Warwick) H0.58  | B. Displacement & Identity<br>– Chair: Patricia Spyer (Geneva) H0.60 |
| 10:55 – 11:15 | <i>From Tactile Contagion to Extended Self: Modelling the 'Magical' Properties of Earthen Tokens in the Late-Antique Cult of Symeon Stylites the Elder</i><br>– Heather Hunter-Crawley (Independent) | <i>Apotropaic Objects, Manding Culture and UNESCO: The Soso Bala, the Kuyate griots of Nyagassola (Mali), and Manding Legend Re-Defined for an Era of Heritage and Tourism</i><br>– Stephen Bulman (Independent) |  |
| 11:15 – 11:35 | <i>Bent Pins to Bezoar Stones: The Place of Amulets in the Material Culture of Healing</i><br>– Annie Thwaite (Cambridge University/ Science Museum, London)   | <i>Gambling Games and Gysbert's Glass: Narragansett and German Influences at Cocumscussoc, Rhode Island</i><br>– Alexandra Peck (Brown University)   |  |
| 11:35 – 11:55 | <i>Judaism and the Agency of Objects: Assemblages of Human and Non-Human Actants that Preserve Religious Minorities</i><br>– Elisa Farinacci (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)                        | <i>Fragments of Bone, Chips of Stone, and Splinters of Casket Wood: Singaporean Burial Plots and their Disquieting Contents</i><br>– Ruth Toulson (Maryland Institute College of Art)                            |  |
| 11:55 – 12:15 | Collective Panel Questions/Discussion  |  |  |

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| 12:15 – 13:15     |   | Lunch - Ground Floor Humanities Building Corridor   |  |
| <b>SESSION 2:</b> |   | <b>A. Re-Imagined &amp; Re-Empowered</b><br>– Chair: Alison Cooley (Warwick) H0.58  | <b>B. Props &amp; Attributes</b><br>– Chair: Zahra Newby (Warwick) H0.60 |
| 13:15 – 13:35     | <i>Aegyptiaca as 'Amulets' in Archaic Greece</i><br>– Matthew Skuse (University of Edinburgh)   | <i>Symbols Matter: Semiotics and Materiality of Vases and Vase-Shapes in Roman Religion</i><br>– Simona Perna (Birkbeck, UoL) *   |  |
| 13:35 – 13:55     | <i>The Power of the Past: A Case Study of the Apotropaic Use of Archaeological Artefacts in Ireland</i><br>– Donna Gilligan (National Print Museum, Dublin) | <i>Marked for Battle: Early Medieval Weapons Inscribed as Amulets</i><br>– Katherine Cross (Oxford University/The British Museum) |  |
| 13:55 – 14:15     | <i>Words as Apotropaic Objects and the Embodied Cognition Behind Evil Eye in the Ancient Mediterranean</i><br>– Irene Salvo (University of Göttingen)       | <i>Vestimentary Animation: On Mediality and Materiality of Sex Dolls</i><br>– Anna Kamneva (University of Paderborn)              |  |
| 14:15 – 14:35     | Collective Panel Questions/Discussion   |   |  |
| 14:35 – 14:55     |   | Refreshment Break - Ground Floor Humanities Building Corridor   |  |
| 14:55 – 15:55     |   | <b>KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Dr Lambros Malafouris (Keble College, Oxford University) – H0.52</b>  |  |
| 15:55 – 16:05     |   | Comfort Break   |  |

| SESSION 3:  | <b>A. New Perspectives on the Apotropaic</b><br>– Chair: Ruth Toulson (Maryland) H0.58   | <b>B. The Ordinary Made Extraordinary</b><br>– Chair: Emma-Jayne Graham (Open University) H0.60                   |
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| 16:05 – 16:25   | <i>Conceptualising the Paradox of ‘Apotropaic Art’</i><br>– Brecht Govaerts (Oxford University)                                  | <i>Beyond Words: The Material Value of Letters during the Great War</i><br>– Margaux Whiskin (Warwick University) |
| 16:25 – 16:45   | <i>Apotropaic Marks and the Training of Stonemasons</i><br>– Jenny Alexander (Warwick University)                                | <i>Love-Locks Unlocked</i><br>– Ceri Houlbrook (University of Hertfordshire)                                      |
| 16:45 – 17:05   | <i>Introduction to Inorganic Demonology:<br/>           Reza Negarestani and The Exorcist</i><br>– Joshua Carswell (Independent) | <i>Miraculous Early-Modern Prints in Italy</i><br>– Margherita Clavarino (Warburg Institute)                      |
| 17:05 – 17:25   | Collective Panel Questions/Discussion  |   |
| <b>17:30 – 18:00 Closing Remarks followed by Wine Reception: Kathryn Thompson – H0.52</b> |  |   |

**\*TIMINGS & ORDER OF THE DAY SUBJECT TO CHANGE OR ADJUSTMENT\***



## **POSTER SESSION:**

A Selection of Research Presentations, Artistic Work & Creative Responses to the Conference Themes

- On display throughout the event

- ***'The Stag Beetle *Lucanus Cervus* as a Magical and Medicinal Roman Amulet?'***
  - Adam Parker (Open University)
  
- ***'INVESTMENT: An Artist's Depiction of Magical Objects and IVF'***
  - Tabitha Moses (Artist)
  
- ***'Protective Talismans & Archaic Relics:  
The Trojan Palladion on the North Metopes of the Parthenon'***
  - Ioannis Mitsios (University of Athens)
  
- ***'An Object-Filled Blogging Adventure at Object (<http://medium.com/objects>)'***
  - Katie Harling-Challis & Eleanor Scolah (Durham University)