



Arts & Humanities
Research Council



UNIVERSITY OF LONDON · SCHOOL OF ADVANCED STUDY



BEYOND TEXT

The Sounds of Early Cinema in Britain

Senate House, London, UK, and the Barbican Centre, London

7-9 June 2009

PROGRAMME:

Sunday 7 June 2009: Barbican Centre, Cinema 1

- 3–3.15** Introduction to conference: Julie Brown
Introduction to D.W.Griffith and *Way Down East*: Professor David Mayer
- 3.15–6.15** *Way Down East*: original score by William Frederick Peters and Horace Silvers, reconstructed and conducted by Gillian Anderson (prog. includes short interval)
- 6.30–7** Gillian Anderson in conversation with Professor Ian Christie
- 7pm** Depart for dinner (more details to follow)

Monday 8 June 2009: Institute of Musical Research

9am Registration

9.15 Welcome

9.30–10.45 Film Lecturers

Film Lecturers in the UK, pre-1907

Dr Joe Kember, University of Exeter

'Sound' and silent cinema in Scotland

Dr Trevor Griffiths, University of Edinburgh

COFFEE

11.15–1 Early musical practices

'Motivated Music': the evidence for accompaniment practice in London cinemas, 1896–1913

Prof Ian Christie, Birkbeck College, University of London

Music in Mitchell and Kenyon shows

Dr Vanessa Toulmin, National Fairground Archive, University of Sheffield

Music for *A Trip to the Moon?* A Probable English Film Score for A French Film Fantasy

Prof Martin Miller Marks, Mass. Institute of Technology

LUNCH

2–3.45 The 1910s: UK and US practices

Entertainment licensing in the UK during the 'silent' film era

Dr Jon Burrows, University of Warwick

The Sound of the City: Music, The Show, and the Picture Palace

Dr Jim Buhler, University of Texas at Austin

"The efforts of the wretched pianist": Fiction as Historical Resource

Prof Andrew Higson, University of York

COFFEE

4.15–5.15 Resources 1: Film and Documents

Dr Phil Wickham, The Bill Douglas Centre, University of Exeter
Luke McKernan, Curator, Moving Image, British Library
Bryony Dixon, Curator, Silent Film, British Film Institute
Prof David Sanjek, University of Salford

End of day discussion, followed by Buffet (at IMR)

8pm Barbican Centre, Cinema 1

The Flag Lieutenant: original score by Albert Cazabon. Arranged and performed by Philip Carli (pno.) with Gunter Buchwald (vln.) and Paul Clarvis (perc.)

Tuesday 9 June 2009: Institute of Musical Research

9.30 -10.45 Music and/as transition practice

Another mystery from the pen of Mr. Edgar Wallace? The case of the vanishing part-talkie, *The Crimson Circle* (British Talking Pictures, 1929)

Fiona Ford, University of Nottingham

Live music and the transition to sound in Britain

Dr Julie Brown, Royal Holloway, University of London

COFFEE

11.15-12.30 Retrospective Research: Early Sound Films and Silent Practice

Scores in early sound film as sources for silent film accompaniment practices

Dr Ian Gardiner, Goldsmiths College, University of London

The Development of Dialogue Underscoring in Sound Films in the Early 1930s

Prof David Neumeyer, University of Texas at Austin

LUNCH

1.30-2.45 Resources 2: Technology and Ephemera

Phil Wickham, Curator, The Bill Douglas Centre, University of Exeter

Dr Mike Allen, Birkbeck College, University of London

Len Rawle, Cinema Organ Society

Other panel members tbc.

COFFEE

3.15 – 4.30 Musical Performance on Film

Silent Mancunians: Overcoming Silence in Silent Operas

Dr Chris P. Lee, University of Salford

Variety Performance as Captured in Early Film

Prof Derek B Scott, University of Leeds

The conference closes at **5.30 pm** after a short **open forum**.

The network — The Sounds of Early Cinema in Britain — is funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council, under their Beyond Text programme. For further information please see www.ahrc.ac.uk and www.beyondtext.ac.uk The research team are: Dr Julie Brown (Royal Holloway, University of London), Principal Investigator, and Dr Annette Davison (University of Edinburgh), Co-investigator.