CONFERENCE SCHEDULE TIMETABLE: DRACULA RETURNS TO DERBY (last updated 3/2/25)

PLEASE NOTE THIS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE - TICKETS AVAILABLE HERE

TIME	THU 15th	FRI 16th	SAT 17th	SUN 18th
9:45 – 11:00	**10:00–13:00 REGISTRATION**	Panel 2a: **I VANT TO BITE YOUR FINGER**: the body of the vampire Panel 2b: **TO THE BATCAVE!**: vampires in their environments Panel 2c: **PRACTISING DRACULA**	Panel 5a: **BATS ENTERTAINMENT!**: vampires on TV Panel 5b: **BLOOD, BLOOD, BLOOD!** Panel 5c: **RECOUNT!** The afterlife of Count Dracula	**11:00-12:30** *Pages from a Virgin's Diary* - SCREENING +INTRO/Q&As Chair: Alex Davis
11:00-11:15	**12:00 onwards Sandwiches and snacks**	BREAK	BREAK	
11:15-12:30	**13:00–13.50 WELCOME TO MY HOUSE! ENTER FREELY** Conference team & Julia Kruk (Dracula Society)	Panel 3a: **A SEA OF WONDERS:** land and sea Panel 3b: **TRANSVISION VAMP**: transnational film Panel 3c: **I'M A LOVER, NOT A BITER!** - vampire sexuality	Panel 6a: **WHAT WE DO IN THE SHADOWS**: clothing the vampire Panel 6b: **POP GOES THE VAMPIRE**: games and comics 6c: **SHORT FILM/S (20 mins)**	
12:30 – 14:00	**14.00 KEYNOTE – "We are the centre of England—the hub of the universe": Reconstructing the Derby of 1924** Cath Feely	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
14:00 – 15:00		**KEYNOTE – DERBY' S DRACULAS: 1924 to 2024** Catherine Wynne	Panel 7a: **DRAC'S BACK:** Dracula the icon Panel 7b: **DEATH BY STEREO:** vampires in contemporary media Panel 7c: **SHORT FILM/S (20 mins)**	**FANGS FOR THE MEMORIES!** Closing remarks, and roundtable feedback **CONFERENCE ENDS**
15:00 – 15:30	BREAK	BREAK	**15:15-15:30** BREAK	
15:30 – 16:45	Panel 1: **LORE & LEGEND**: vampire folklore	Panel 4a: **WHAT MUSIC THEY MAKE!** Panel 4b: **BRIDES OF DRACULA** Panel 4c: **REVAMPING THE VAMP**: adapting vampire legends	Panel 8a: **A MIDSUMMER BITE'S DREAM**: Dracula on stage Panel 8b: **STAKE IT OR LEAVE IT**: vampires and material culture Panel 8c: **CAUGHT IN A TRAP**: captive vampires	
	7:30pm Drinks Celebration @ TBC	7:30pm Dracula Slam @ Museum of Making	7:30pm Derby Monster Mash @ The Hairy Dog	

FULL SCHEDULE - PAPERS & SPEAKERS

THURSDAY 15th MAY

10:00-13:00
REGISTRATION

13:00-13:50
WELCOME TO MY HOUSE! ENTER FREELY
welcome panel, with the **Dracula Returns to Derby** conference team formally opening the conference

- Project Lead - **Matthew Cheeseman** (University of Derby)
- Conference Co-ordinator – **Diane A. Rodgers** (Sheffield Hallam University)
- Academic Outputs Co-ordinator – **Duncan Light** (Bournemouth University)
- Dracula Events Specialist – **Dan Webber** (Derby Museums)

Horror consultant - **Alex Davis** (University of Derby)

PhD Candidate - **Kellie Everton** (University of Derby)

A Word about the Dracula Society

Julia Kruk (Chair and Treasurer of Dracula Society)

14:00 – 15:00
KEYNOTE -
"We are the centre of England—the hub of the universe": Reconstructing the Derby of 1924 - Cath Feely (University of Derby)
Chair: Diane Rodgers (Sheffield Hallam University)

15:30 – 16:45
Panel 1: **LORE & LEGEND**: vampire folklore
Chair: Matthew Cheeseman (University of Derby)
Grave Mistakes: Burying the British Vampire - **Kate Cherrell (University of Portsmouth)**

Crossroads, Coffins, and Corpses: Gothic Folklore and Fiction in Derbyshire's Dark Heart -**Victoria Langford (University of Nottingham)**
Dracula and religion, Dracula and spirituality - **John Fraser (Council Member for Society of Psychical Research)**

FRIDAY 16th MAY

9:45 – 11:00

Panel 2a: **I VANT TO BITE YOUR FINGER**: the body of the vampire
Chair: Claire Mead (Independent scholar)
From the Demeter to the Operating Theatre: echoes of Dracula in modern day medicine - **Holly Brining (Independent scholar)**
Dracula's Skins: Trauma, Surface and Vampiric Renewal - **Katharine Cox (University of Derby)**
Something wrong with my lungs (for I don't seem ever to get air enough) — an exploration of transvampirism - **Jas Bevan Niss (Independent scholar)**

Panel 2b: **TO THE BATCAVE!**: vampires in their environments
Chair: Lidia Pancratova (Independent scholar, Founder of Kinoah/Film Spaces)
The sublime architecture of Castle Dracula and the landscape in Bram Stoker's 'Dracula' (1897) - **Amy de Nobriga (Leeds Arts University)**
Urbane, Urban, Undead: Spatial concealment and human passing - **Andrew Fergus Wilson (University of Derby)**
The Dracula Parrot Psittrichas fulgidus: Lifeblood Excursions into the Vampiric Natural World - **Graham Rowe (University of Derby)**

Panel 2c: **PRACTISING DRACULA**
Chair: James Deutsch (Smithsonian Institution, USA)
Adapting Dracula - **James Pyman (Open College of the Arts)**
The blood is the life: A creative practice exploration of an object as vampire - **Maxine Gee (Bournemouth University)**

11:15-12:30

Panel 3a: **A SEA OF WONDERS:** land & sea
Chair: Duncan Light (Bournemouth University)
Dracula and the Gothic Maritime - **Mark Fryers (The Open University)**
An Ebb Tide? The Sea's Presence in Adaptations of Dracula - **Ellie Hebden (University of York)**
The Sublime Landscapes of Dracula: Visualising Otherness in Whitby and the Carpathians - **Mark Rees (University of Wales Trinity Saint David)**

Panel 3b: **TRANSVISION VAMP**: transnational film (4 PAPERS)
Chair: Klára Feikusová (Palacký University Olomouc, Czechia)
Mexican Gothic and Dracula - **Jimena Moran (University of Derby)**
Vampiric Genre Variations in Czech/oslovak Cinema - **Barbora Kaplánková (Palacký University Olomouc, Czechia)**
Monsters, Masculinity, and the Supernatural: British Horror's Cinematic Identity - **Thomas Craig (University of Derby)**

Panel 3c: **I'M A LOVER, NOT A BITER!** - vampire sexuality (4 PAPERS)
Chair: Agnese Palumbo (Dartmouth College, USA)
Inherently Queer: An Exploration of Queer Sexuality and Identity through the Vampire Figure - **Gabi Garcia (Independent scholar)**
Vampiric Mythologies: Subversions of Dracula's "Kiss" in The Gilda Stories - **Lilly and Zachary Axel Clausen (SOAS University of London, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Spain)**
Vampires as Archive: Immortality and Resistance in Due and Gomez - **Zoe Robertson (University of Edinburgh)**

14:00 – 15:00

KEYNOTE –
DERBY'S DRACULAS: 1924 to 2024
Catherine Wynne (University of Hull)
Chair: Katharine Cox (University of Derby)

15:30 – 16:45

Panel 4a: **WHAT MUSIC THEY MAKE!**
Chair: Leslie McMurtry (University of Salford)
Fan readings of Dracula the Musical: the legend, the killer, the lover - **Anna Rufer Bílá (Palacký University Olomouc, Czechia)**
Void ov Voices, Nosferatu, and the Aesthetics of Evil - **Céline Cregut (University of Angers, France)**
What Music They Make: An Immersive Dracula Audio Journey - **Mark Randell, Daithi McMahon & Michael Brown (University of Derby)**

Panel 4b: **BRIDES OF DRACULA**
Chair: Jeanne Tiehen (University College Dublin)
What if there was no vampire? A feminist adaptation of Stoker's text through the eyes of Lucy Westenra - **Rosie Fiore-Burt (Royal Literary Fund, Society of Authors, Middlesex University)**
Monstrous femininity and agency: Female vampires as villains in contemporary media - **Polly Delliere-Moor (University of Derby)**
THREE WOMEN – considering the status, philosophy, hopes, dreams, camaraderie, and rivalry of Dracula's 'Brides' - **Darrell Buxton (Independent scholar)**

Panel 4c: **REVAMPING THE VAMP**: adapting vampire legends
Chair: **Thomas Craig (University of Derby)**
The figure of the vampire has much evolved in fiction - **Barry McCann (Independent scholar)**
From Vampires to Ghosts - **Callum E. Cooper (University of Northampton and The California Institute for Human Science)**
Dracula lives in Saltburn; the vampire myth and its literary antecedents - **Symon Quy (University of Bedfordshire)**

SATURDAY 17th MAY

9:45 – 11:00

Panel 5a: **BATS ENTERTAINMENT!**: vampires on TV
Chair: Stella Gaynor (Liverpool John Moores University)
Vampiric Adaptation in AMC's Anne Rice's Interview with the Vampire (2022-) - **Hes Bradley (Independent scholar)**
Czech Folklore and Anaemic Televisual Vampires - **Klára Feikusová (Palacký University Olomouc, Czechia)**
The BBC Gatiss / Moffatt Dracula: Haunted by Hammer - **Derek Johnston (Queen's University, Belfast)**

Panel 5b: **BLOOD, BLOOD, BLOOD!**
Chair: Mark Holmwood (Independent scholar)
The Blood is the Life: Dracula's medical background - **Cat Irving (Surgeons' Hall Museums)**
CREDO QVIA IMPOSSIBILE "I believe because it is impossible" - **Alan Beresford (The Dracula Society)**
Renfield and the Blood Scavenger in Vampire Film - **Alex Davis (University of Derby)**

Panel 5c: **RECOUNT!** The afterlife of Count Dracula
Chair: Maxine Gee (Bournemouth University)
From Author to Authored: The Afterlives of Bram Stoker - **Hannah Gilbert (Independent scholar)**
So it shall be written: The presentation of verifiable truth in Dracula and The Pallbearer's Club - **Kieran Judge (Aberystwyth University)**
Dracula: A Ghost for a Modern World - **Kate Roach (Independent scholar)**

11:15-12:30

Panel 6a: **WHAT WE DO IN THE SHADOWS**: staging the vampire
Chair: Graham Rowe (University of Derby)
Origin Stories: Dracula from Shakespeare - **James Ranahan (Shakespeare Birthplace Trust)**
Set Design in Dracula - **Lidia Pancratova (Independent scholar, Founder of Kinoah/Film Spaces)**
The theatrical context and the canonical Dracula – **Matthew Cheeseman (University of Derby)**

Panel 6b: **POP GOES THE VAMPIRE**: games and comics
Chair: Kaja Franck (University of Hertfordshire)
Slaying and Staking Claim: Queer play and influences in vampiric TTRPGS - **Cooper King (University of Edinburgh)**
Playing the monster: How Dracula influenced tabletop roleplaying games - **Peter Ray Allison (Independent scholar)**

The Sign of the Cross? – Apotropaicism and hyperconsciousness of Dracula in the 1970s - **John Newton (Independent scholar)**

6c: **SHORT FILMS (20 mins)**
Bloodsuckers (by Anjali Dance Company): A ten-minute film inspired by the legend of the vampire Nosferatu
The Brides of Dracula (by Alexander Miguel): A five-minute film introducing a new breed of vampires

14:00-15:15

Panel 7a: **DRAC'S BACK! -** Dracula the icon
Chair: Andrew Fergus Wilson (University of Derby)
Dracula: An Acting Role to Kill For - **Jeanne Tiehen (University College Dublin)**
The Count and the King: Between Dracula and Elvis Presley - **Mark Duffett (University of Chester)**
"Boyar or Szekely?: The Problem of Dracula Ethnology In Stoker & Beyond" **- Joel Heyes (Goth City Promotions)**

Panel 7b: **DEATH BY STEREO:** vampires in contemporary media
Chair: Anna Rufer Bílá (Palacký University Olomouc, Czechia)
"They're vampires": The case of the blood drinking teenage murderers in The Vampire Clan and Murder, Mystery & MakeUp - **Stella Gaynor (Liverpool John Moores University)**
The Blood You Can't See - **Leslie McMurtry (University of Salford)**
Dracula Reimagined: The Digital Folklore of Vlad Țepes in Meme Culture - **Claudia Horeanu (University of Bucharest)**

Panel 7c: **SHORT FILM/S (20 mins)**
Bloodsuckers: A ten-minute film inspired by the legend of the vampire Nosferatu
Brides of Dracula: A five-minute film introducing a new breed of vampires

15:30-16:45

Panel 8a: **A MIDSUMMER BITE'S DREAM**: Dracula on stage
Chair: Catherine Wynne (University of Hull)
Hamilton Deane and the Globalisation of Dracula - **Paul Murray (Independent Scholar)**
Horace Liveright and the 1927 Broadway Production of Dracula - **James Deutsch (Smithsonian Institution, USA)**
'The Fourth Bride': an immersive theatre performance - **Chloe Victoria Gorman (Moth Sanctuary Productions)**

Panel 8b: **STAKE IT OR LEAVE IT**: vampires and material culture
Chair: Mark Rees (University of Wales Trinity Saint David)
Much At Stake: A Vampire Slayer's Toolkit - **Claire Mead (Independent scholar)**
Fixed into stone: Vampires as statues in western literature - **Penny Goodman (University of Leeds)**
Dracula souvenirs in Romania: Materiality, aesthetics, meaning - **Duncan Light (University of Bournemouth)**

Panel 8c: **CAUGHT IN A TRAP**: captive vampires

Chair: Rosie Fiore-Burt (Royal Literary Fund, Society of Authors, Middlesex University)
Dracula and his thanatophobia: New perspectives on hedonic consumption - **Mark Holmwood (Independent scholar)**
Undead Celluloid: Vampires in the Techno-Borderlands of America - **Isabella Edwards (Independent scholar)**
“This Man Belongs to Me!”: the Queer Contract in Dracula and in S.T. Gibson’s A
Dowry of Blood - **Agnese Palumbo (Dartmouth College, USA)**

SUNDAY 18th MAY

11:00-12:30

Chair: Alex Davis (University of Derby)

Dracula: Pages from a Virgin’s Diary (2002) with introduction to Dracula and ballet from the Macabre Danse research project

FILM SCREENING +INTRO/Q&As - **Kaja Franck, Karen Graham** and **Kate Harvey**

14:00-15:30

FANGS FOR THE MEMORIES!
Conference team & guests
Closing remarks from the Dracula Returns to Derby conference and event team,
and a selection of our special guests,with roundtable feedback,
questions and discussion from the audience.