

Comedy, Society and Popular Narrative

21st & 22nd November 2009, Liverpool John Moores University

Saturday 21st November

- 9.30 – 10.00 Registration and coffee
- 10.00 – 11.00 **Plenary**
Rebecca Mallett, Sheffield Hallam University
“Claiming Comedic Immunity”: Or, What Do You Get
When You Cross Contemporary British Comedy with
Disability?
Chair: Irene Rose
- 11.00 – 11.30 Coffee break
- 11.30 – 1.00 **Panel 1: Comic fantasy, politics and the popular**
Nickianne Moody (LJMU): Comedy in Fantastic Spaces:
Radio Drama and Narrative Form
Claire Pamment (Rawalpindi): *Don't Ever Speak!* Popular
urban Punjabi theatre
Eve Smith (LJMU): Function as Genre: Aristophanes as a
generic model for political comedy
Chair: Joanne Knowles
- 1.00 – 2.00 Lunch
- 2.00 – 3.00 **Panel 2: What makes 'female' comedy?**
Louise Peacock (Hull): Women in stand-up comedy, or:
what do you call a female comedian?
Joanne Knowles (LJMU): The comedy of incompetence
in chick fictions
Chair: Val Williamson
- 3.00 – 3.30 Tea and coffee
- 3.30 – 4.30 **Panel 3: How far can comedy go?**
Tim Miles (Surrey): 'A unique capacity to offend'?
Prejudice, offence and stand-up comedy: the case of
Burns and Herring versus *The Guardian*
Sharon Lockyer (Brunel): Putting the 'Mock' into
Democracy? Contemporary British Television and the
Political Process
Chair: Eve Smith
- 4.30 – 5.00 Tea and coffee

- 5.00 – 6.00 **Plenary**
Brett Mills, University of East Anglia
Comedy / Nation
Chair: Nickianne Moody
- 6.00 – 6.15 End of day remarks
- 6.30 Dinner for delegates who wish to attend at Host
restaurant, Falkner Street

Sunday 22nd November

- 9.30 – 10.00 Coffee
- 10.00 – 11.00 **Research Plenary**
Eve Smith (LJMU): Counting the laughs: can quantitative
methods be used in researching comedy?
Chair: Nickianne Moody
- 11.00 – 11.30 Coffee break
- 11.30 – 12.30 **Panel 4: Comic bodies**
Irene Rose (Manchester): It's A Disability Thing: Meeting
the Conditions of Irony in the BBC Ouch! podcasts
Pauline Eyre (Manchester): *Little Britain* and the
Laughable Body: Engaging with Disability through the
Lou and Andy Sketches
Chair: Eve Smith
- 12.30 – 1.30 Lunch
- 1.30 – 2.30 Roundtable discussion and ARPF AGM, with tea
Chair: Joanne Knowles
- 2.30 – 3.00 Close