SHARPENING THE SUBTLE KNIFE

Cutting New Paths Through Children’s Literature

* A CONFERENCE

16–18 November 2006, Cotsen Children’s Library, Princeton University

CO-ORGANIZERS:

M. O. GRENBY (Newcastle University)

ANDREA IMMEL
(Cotsen Children’s Library, Princeton University)

This November the Cotsen Children’s Library will host an ambitious conference taking a panoramic view of children’s literature from its beginnings to the present day. A roster of internationally recognized experts in the field from Australia, Canada, the United Kingdom, and United States will present papers on subjects including the origins of children’s literature, book making, the canon, illustrated texts, children’s poetry, retellings and revisions, literacy, children’s books for grownups, gender and genre, beast tales, fantasy and imagination, humor and subversion, children without families, and more.

(Details overleaf)
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TENTATIVE PROGRAM

BRIAN ALDERSON (independent), Bookmaking—Always a Chancy Occupation.

JULIA BRIGGS (De Montfort), Flying Bedsteads, Talking Trees and a Mouse’s Wedding: The Imaginary Worlds of Children’s Fiction.

RICHARD FLYNN (Georgia Southern), The Fear of Poetry.

M. O. GRENBY (Newcastle), Materializing the Maternal: On the Origins of Children’s Literature.

ANDREA IMMEL (Princeton), Empty Vessels, Bent Twigs, and Blank Slates: Constructs of Childhood and the Writing of Books for Children.

U. C. KNOEPFLMACHER (Princeton), The Children’s Book for Adults.

ROD MCGILLS (Calgary), Big and Little; or How Rabelais Informs Children’s Humour.

LISSA PAUL (Brock), From Early Lessons To DISTAR: Learning to be Literate.

MAVIS REIMER (Winnipeg), Little Worlds and Worlds Apart: Traditions of the School Story.

KIMBERLEY REYNOLDS (Newcastle), Nobody’s Children: The Adventures, Opportunities and Alliances of Familyless Children.

DAVID RUDD (Bolton), Penning in the Animals? Beasts, Boys, Girls and Toys in Children’s Literature.

JUDY SIMONS (De Montfort), Books for Girls, Books for Boys: Gender and Genre.

JOHN STEPHENS (Macquarie), Twice-Told Tales: Ways of Spinning Straw Into Gold.

DEBORAH STEVENSON (Illinois), Family Classics: Children’s Literature and the Multiple Axes of Canonicity.

KATIE TRUMPENER (Yale), The World in Images: Nineteenth-Century Picture Worlds and Modernist Ways of Seeing.

LYNNE VALLONE (Texas A&M), Historicizing Difference: The Politics of Conversion and Resistance.

For further information visit:

http://ccl.princeton.edu/research/e347/conferences.html

or contact Andrea Immel, Curator of the Cotsen Children’s Library

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