



2020 NEWSTEAD ABBEY BYRON SOCIETY CONFERENCE

24TH-25TH APRIL 2020

AT NEWSTEAD ABBEY

BYRON & LOSS

CALL FOR PAPERS

Keynote Speaker: Dr Mirka Horova

'There are two pleasures for your choosing—The one is winning, and the other losing': Byron and the Poetics of Loss

2020 marks the bicentenary of a troubling year. George III had lost his life and the new king George IV was rapidly losing what little shreds remained of his dignity, lost what little shreds remained of his dignity, pursuing his errant wife with hypocritical vengeance during the so-called Queen Caroline Affair. The government had lost the trust of the people, and many politicians would have lost their lives had the Cato Street Conspiracy succeeded. Meanwhile Byron, now in the fourth year of his self-imposed exile, was rapidly losing his hair, teeth, famous good looks, and – some might argue – his own dignity. It is against this backdrop that he became interested in Italian politics, or rather the loss of political authority and national autonomy.

To mark the year of 1820, we welcome papers considering the theme of Byron and loss.

Topics could include, but are not limited to:

- Grief, familial loss and suicide
- Melancholy, weltschmerz, Romantic melancholia
- Material and aesthetic losses
- Appetite and diet
- Loss of status, land, and national autonomy
- Loss of love, lovers, and spouses
- Religious convictions and anxieties
- Idealism and political convictions
- Anxieties about poetic reputation and legacy
- Writer's block and poetic inspiration
- Financial losses, economic instability and usury
- Ruins and degeneration

Submissions by
1st February 2020.
Send to Conference Organisers,
Dr Emily Paterson-Morgan
and Dr Charlotte May

Email: NewsteadByronConference@gmail.com