VICTORIAN POPULAR NOVELISTS
1860-1900
10-12 September 2009
Senate House, University of London
Supported by the Centre for Nineteenth Century Studies, Birkbeck College
Keynote speakers: Professor Pamela Gilbert and Dr Juliet John

'A low cry burst upon the girl's ear and that of her mistress'

In 1899 the Daily Telegraph published a list of the 100 Best Novels in the World, a list that included works by a number of Victorian popular novelists: Ainsworth, Besant & Rice, Braddon, Collins, George Lawrence, Lever, Ouida, Reade and Mrs Henry Wood. Little more than a century on, several of these writers have re-established themselves within the canon while others are the subject of increasing scholarly interest.

This conference will reflect upon recent developments, such as digitization and new academic reprints, and assess their impact upon research and teaching practices. It also marks the launch of the Victorian Popular Fiction Association which aims to foster research in this field through regular seminars and conferences.

Conference topics include: Gender, femininity, and the construction of self; Science and medicine; Ideas of Empire and national identity; Lost authors; Ideas of sisterhood; Commerce, and capitalism; Can highbrow be popular?; Performance - stage and screen; Pulp fiction - textual construction and destruction; Influence of Darwin; French popular novel; Sensation fiction as publishing revolution; Serialisation.

Registration Fees:
£80 Standard | £60 IES Members/Unwaged/Speakers | £40 Postgraduate students

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