Abstract

Focusing on the poetry published in the *Cornhill, Once a Week, Good Words*, and the *Argosy*, four of the most prominent illustrated literary periodicals of the 1860s, this thesis contends that the popular poetry found in mid-century periodicals is not only essential to our understanding of the periodical press, but also that the periodical is integral to our understanding of Victorian poetics. Each chapter examines the poetry and poetics of a single periodical title and addresses several key issues related to the publication of poetry in the periodical press: the power and influence of illustrated poetry in contemporary visual culture, the intended audience of the literary periodical and the issues that raises for editors and poets, the sociology and networks of print, and the ways in which periodical poetry participated in contemporary debates about prosody. This thesis thus offers an alternative history of Victorian poetry that asserts the centrality of the periodical and popular poetry. In other words, it argues that without a consideration of the vital importance of periodical poetry, Victorian poetry studies is quite simply anachronistic.

Awards, Scholarships, Fellowships

2012 Hugh Campbell and Marion Alice Small Fund for Scottish Studies Graduate Student Scholarship
2010 University of Victoria Graduate Award
2010 Ian H. Stewart Graduate Student Fellowship, Centre for Studies in Religion and Society, University of Victoria
2007 Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Doctoral Canada Graduate Scholarship

Presentations

2. Ehnes, Caley. “‘Their sole work is to represent the age’: The Modern Mode of Poetry in *Once a Week*.” Victorian Interdisciplinary Studies Association of the Western United States. Portland, Oregon, USA. Nov. 2013. (oral)


Publications


