Blake, Gender and Sexuality in the Twenty-First Century

15-16 July 2010
St Aldate’s Church, Oxford, UK

Programme
Thursday 15 July

9:00am - 9:25am Registration and Welcome; Vere Street commemorative moment (C. Hobson)

9:30am - 11:00am Session 1

**Christopher Room**, Kevin Hutchings chairing
Angus Whitehead, 'The loving [is formed] to associate': The Sexual Life of Catherine B.
Magnus Ankarsjö, Sowing Sand all over: Abstinence and Free Love, or William Lost in Paradise
Mark Crosby (unfortunately not in attendance, paper to be read), Catherine Sophia Blake: 'An Excellent Helpmeet'

**Meeting Room**, David Fallon chairing
Minne Tanaka, Female Figures in Twelve Large Colour Prints
Valerie Doulton, Blake's Visions of Freedom and Repression as Staged by The Live Literature Company
Susanne Sklar, 'The Place of the Last Judgment'

11:00am Coffee

11:30am - 1:00pm Session 2

**Christopher Room**, Nick Williams chairing
Kevin Hutchings, Sex, Sensuality, and the Material World in Blake's Garden of Love
Elizabeth Bernath Walker, 'In What Gardens Do Joys Grow?': Queer Botanizing in Blake's Visions, Wollstonecraft's *Vindication* and Darwin's *Botanic Garden*
Susan Matthews, 'The Earth mov'd': Cowper, Darwin, Blake and the Birth of 'Sexuality'

**Meeting Room**, Steve Clark chairing
Lucy Cogan, Sex and Violence in *The Book of Ahania* and *The Four Zoas*
Michelle Leigh Gompf, Ripped from Complacency: Violence and Feminist Moments in Blake

1:00pm - 2:15pm Lunch

2:15pm - 3:45pm Session 3

**Christopher Room**, Keri Davies chairing
Gerda Norvig (presenter) and Jeffrey Robinson (co-author, unfortunately not in attendance), Gender, Counterpoetics and the Politics of Mutual Forgiveness in Blake's 'Pickering Manuscript'
Steve Clark, Blake's Closet Drama

**Meeting Room**, Marsha Keith Schuchard chairing
Georgia Dimitrakopoulou: Thel and Oothoon: Beauty and Self-Destruction
David Shakespeare, 'The Sight of All These Things': Vision and Obscurity in Blake's *Milton*
Sean Nelson, 'A Body Repugnant to the Lamb': Blake's Attack on Chastity in *Jerusalem*

3:45pm Tea

4:15pm-5:15pm Session 4

**Christopher Room**, Helen Bruder chairing
Christopher Z. Hobson, Normalizing Perversity: Tenth-Anniversary Reflections on *Blake and Homosexuality*
Friday 16 July

9:30am - 11:00am Session 5

Christopher Room, Susan Matthews chairing
David Worrall, Dorothy Gott and Female Prophets in Blake
Marsha Keith Schuchard, ‘A Secret Common to Our Blood’: The Visionary Erotic Heritage of William Blake, Thomas Butts, and Mary Butts

Conference Room, Sibylle Erle chairing
Peter Otto, Blake, Enoch, Swedenborg, and the Contours of Phallic Sexuality
Ayako Wada, The Hidden Love Triangle and Adulterous Birth in Blake’s *The Four Zoas*

11:00am Coffee

11:30am - 1:00pm Session 6

Christopher Room, Shirley Dent chairing
Bethan Stevens, The Virgil Wood-Engravings Out of Scale: Blake's Gigantic, Masculine Pastoral
Catherine McClenahan, Sweet Transvestites?: Gender and Sexuality in Blake's Later Works
Tony Rosso, The Last Strumpet: Harlotry and Hermaphrodisim in Blake's Rahab

Conference Room, Elizabeth Bernath Walker chairing
Elizabeth Effinger, Matrixial Borderspace and *The Book of Thel*: Rethinking the Feminine
Young-ok An, The Female Body and the Drinking Cup in Blake
David Fallon, Phyloprogenitive Blake

1:00pm - 2:15pm Lunch

2:15pm - 3:45pm Session 7

Christopher Room, Bethan Stevens chairing
Bill Goldman, Jerusalem the Lilly
Galina Tokareva, Mother and Child Archetype in Blake's Poetry
Keri Davies, William Blake and the Sexuality of Christ

Conference Room, Catherine McClenahan chairing
Paige Morgan, The Hinges on the Doors of Marriage: Technology and Sexuality in the work of William Blake and Stelarc
Tim Heath, A paper entitled Tittle
Tom Mayberry, Hélyos and Ceylène [A Poison Tree]

3:45pm Tea

4:15pm-5:15pm Session 8

Christopher Room, Tristanne Connolly chairing
Shirley Dent, ‘Tender curb’: William Blake, Sex and Censorship
Philippa Simpson, Blake and Pornography

Afterwards: Informal Dinner and Celebration!
at Al-Shami Lebanese Restaurant, 25 Walton Crescent, Oxford, tel 01865 310066