

**France, Great Britain, Ireland:  
Cultural transfers and the circulation of knowledge in the Age of Enlightenment**

**Call for papers**

The British, French and Irish Societies of Eighteenth-Century Studies are launching a joint research programme on the cultural transfers between their three countries in the Enlightenment period. Between 2008 and 2010, three international symposia will be held in succession in France (Paris), Great Britain and Ireland. A selection of the contributions will subsequently be published as the conclusion to the programme.

A call for papers is thus launched for the first symposium, to be held at Université Paris-Diderot in September 2008. Beyond a mere comparative approach, it will aim at starting an introductory exploration of the numerous issues at stake, such as, for instance:

- 1) The actors involved in the transfers, who could be called the ‘importers’ or ‘purveyors’ of foreign ideas and acted as cultural intermediaries, be they politicians or diplomats, mere travellers (Grand Tour), *savants*, authors, artists, etc. It will be interesting to examine the part played by institutions or more informal networks (e.g. the correspondence between the Royal Society and the Académie des Sciences);
- 2) The transfer of cultural items—books, newspapers, works of art, objects, etc. The role of booksellers and printers, and the importance of foreign titles in the catalogue of private libraries should be looked at;
- 3) The transfer of literary, philosophical, political or aesthetic models in processes of cultural legitimization (e.g. garden art, Richardson’s novels, the English political system, etc.). Such transfers may prove asymmetrical in intensity or time;
- 4) Transfer processes through imitation, translation, or adaptation;
- 5) The effect of such transfers on the construction of national identities throughout the century: the invention of a past, a language or a national history (e.g. Macpherson). It will be interesting to examine transfers in relation to mutual power play, wars and imperialist ambitions (e.g. Britain and Ireland / France, Britain and Ireland)

Proposals (title + abstract) must be sent by e-mail **before 30 November 2007** to Lise Andriès (lise.andries@wanadoo.fr) **AND** to Frédéric Ogee ([frederic.ogee@univ-paris-diderot.fr](mailto:frederic.ogee@univ-paris-diderot.fr)). Proposals for the 2009 and 2010 conferences can also be submitted.