



**Manchester
Metropolitan**
University

Gothic Manchester Festival V: Gothic Styles

**Manchester City Centre
24th–29th October 2017**





Contents

Introduction	2
Full events schedule	4
Frankenstein/Bride of Frankenstein	4
The Neon Demon (2016)	7
M:GAG Art Exhibition launch and wine reception	8
Gothic Styles: Dr Claire Nally In Conversation with John Robb	9
Rosie Garland – The Night Brother	10
ArA: Gravedance	11
Gothic Styles: Gothic Substance	12
Manchester Centre for Gothic Studies Book Launch and Wine Reception	13
Gothic Manchester Walking Tour	16
Gothic Styles Street/Fashion Show	17

Introduction

After the great success of last year's Gothic Manchester Festival on 'The Gothic North', our attention turns this year to the topic of Gothic Style(s).

At the start of the 21st century, the Gothic is everywhere. Fiction and film, television and graphic novels – full of vampires, zombies and their hunters – have brought the Gothic into the mainstream.

As Victorian Gothic architecture looms large over cities such as Manchester, Goth fashion and music reference the mode whilst enlivening our streets, bars, clubs and homes with new Gothic styles of their own.

This year's Festival will be full of such delights, offering everything from body-beautiful horror in *The Neon Demon* to real North West street style in a catwalk devoted to extraordinary Goths and steampunks. As usual, our thrilling series of events will centre on a one-day conference of accessible papers delivered by an egalitarian mix of students, seasoned academics, experts and enthusiasts. Many of the 'extra' events are free, with the conference costing just £10 for the full day.

We very much look forward to welcoming you, and your style, to the mix!

mmu.ac.uk/gothicmanchesterfestival

Twitter: @gothicmmu #gothfest17



The Manchester Centre for **Gothic Studies**

The Gothic Manchester Festival is the strange offspring of The Manchester Centre for Gothic Studies at Manchester Met. The Manchester Centre for Gothic Studies' mission is to promote the study of the Gothic both nationally and internationally and to work across age ranges and levels of study – from sixth form to PhD and beyond. We aim to bring the dark delights of Gothic culture to a wider non-specialist audience.

Full events schedule

Tuesday 24th October

**DM17 Film Series presents:
Frankenstein (PG) /
Bride of Frankenstein (PG)**

Dir James Whale / USA 1931 – 71 mins /
USA 1935 – 75 mins

The Dancehouse Theatre
10A Oxford Rd
Manchester
M1 5QA
6.30pm – 10.00pm

Tickets available at designmcr.com

This double bill rediscovers two classics that helped define the horror genre in the '30s. In the first film, a scientist (Colin Clive) digs up corpses to reanimate them with electricity and inadvertently creates a 'monster' (Boris Karloff). In a rare occasion when the sequel is better than the original (*Bride of Frankenstein* is hailed as Whale's masterpiece), the same scientist sets about making a mate for his earlier creation. The screening will be introduced by the DM17 film series co-curator Christopher Frayling, to coincide with the publication (on 31 October) of his definitive book *Frankenstein – The First 200 Years* that heralds the bicentenary of Mary Shelley's 1818 novel.

In collaboration with the Design Manchester Festival.







Wednesday 25th October

The Neon Demon (2016)

Dir. Nicolas Winding Refn

Film screening with introduction by
Jennifer Richards (Manchester Fashion
Institute, Manchester Met)

70 Oxford Street
M1 5NH
6pm – 8.30pm

FREE – tickets available on Eventbrite

When aspiring model Jesse moves to Los Angeles, her youth and vitality are devoured by a group of beauty-obsessed women who will use any means necessary to get what she has.

Set in the modern Gothic world of fashion, Nicholas Winding Refn's *'The Neon Demon'* is a tale of beauty, narcissism, betrayal and death. The film itself uses many of the traditional modes akin to horror and Gothic films but reframes these themes within a contemporary setting for a 21st Century audience.



Jennifer Richards

is Lecturer in Arts and Humanities at Manchester Metropolitan University.

Her research

area explores the Gothic within Visual Communication and Fashion. Over the past year she has presented papers on Gothic subcultures at Kingston University, Manchester Gothic Festival and exhibited work at the University of Sheffield's Reimagining the Gothic Showcase.

She has just published an article for the Fashion Studies Journal, which discusses the influence of witchcraft and mysticism in fashion and visual culture. She is currently working on the subject of transgressive women, and is currently co-convenor for Gothic Manchester Festival 2017.





Wednesday 25th October

**M:GAG Art Exhibition launch
and wine reception**

70 Oxford St
M1 5NH
8.30pm

FREE – tickets available on Eventbrite

Our screening of *'The Neon Demon'* will be followed by a wine reception to celebrate the launch of this year's MGAG exhibition *'Black is Such a Happy Colour'*.

If you combine joy and division, you may get a hint of what Manchester Gothic Arts Group – aka M:GAG – is all about. A ceremony celebrating love that won't tear us apart but rather hold out a hand to keep outsiders inside. Step out of isolation

and embrace the 10th Anniversary of its first ever exhibition, *'Unmasked'* (2007 – Sacred Trinity Church, Salford).

M:GAG continues its ongoing collaboration with Manchester Metropolitan University to bring you new art for the Gothic Manchester Festival, with hints of *'Unmasked'* early work lurking in the dark ... A celebration of the diversity of Gothic style, from belfries to banshees and Victorians to vampires through a variety of artistic media.

Join us as we descend the rickety stairwell into the crypt, our candle flame flickering in the wind. We will shine light into the darkness to see who wants to come out and play, because as The Crow flies and cries: *"It can't rain all the time"* – not even in Manchester.

Thursday 26th October

Gothic Styles: Dr Claire Nally In Conversation with John Robb

3MT Theatre
Afflecks Arcade
Oldham Street
M1 1JG
6.30pm – 8.00pm

FREE – tickets available on Eventbrite

Join music and Gothic culture aficionados John Robb (Membranes, Louder Than War) and Dr Claire Nally (Northumbria University) for a full and frank discussion on the Gothic past and Goth in the 21st Century.

Find out what John has learned from researching his forthcoming book on Goth music and fashion history and hear how Gothic literature and films connect to street style and pop culture.

Does the ubiquity of Gothic style in everything from Alexander McQueen to All Saints mean that Goth has lost its dark edge and ability to express alienation? Or does the massive popularity of shows like *The Walking Dead* and *Penny Dreadful* indicate that the Gothic sensibility has a special place in these post-hope, post-truth times? And what of phenomena such as happy-Goth, pastel-Goth and even 'health-Goth'? Is Goth thriving or is Goth finally dead?

John Robb has almost finished writing *The Art of Darkness* an in-depth book on the darker end of post-punk and Goth culture. He also fronts the critically acclaimed band Membranes, whose recent double album *Dark Matter/Dark Energy* has seen the band play gigs and festivals across Europe, including supporting Goth stalwarts The Sisters of Mercy on their tour.

Dr Claire Nally is Senior Lecturer in Twentieth-Century English Literature at Northumbria University, specialising in Irish Studies, subcultures and gender studies. She has published several published books: *Envisioning Ireland: W. B. Yeats' Occult Nationalism* (Peter Lang, 2009), *Selling Ireland: Advertising, Literature and Irish Print Culture, 1891-1922*, (with John Strachan, Palgrave, 2012), *Naked Exhibitionism: Gender, Performance and Public Exposure*, (ed. with Angela Smith, I. B. Tauris, 2013), *Forming and Performing Feminism* (ed. with Angela Smith, Palgrave, 2015) and is the co-editor of the 'Gender in Popular Culture Library Series'. Her recent work has focused on Goth and steampunk subcultures. Her next monograph is entitled *Steampunk: Gender, Subculture and the Neo-Victorian*.





Photo Rachel Saunders

Friday 27th October

Rosie Garland – The Night Brother

Reading and book signing

John Ryland's Library Historic Reading Room

Deansgate

M3 3EH

6pm – 8pm

FREE – tickets available on Eventbrite

Introduced and chaired by Dr Xavier Aldana Reyes (Manchester Met)

Tagged 'literary hero' by *The Skinny*, Rosie Garland is an award-winning poet, novelist and singer with post-punk band *The March Violets*. With a passion for language nurtured by libraries, she started out in spoken word, garnering praise from *Apples and Snakes* as 'one of the country's finest performance poets'.

She is the author of *Vixen*, a Green Carnation Prize nominee. Debut novel, *The Palace of Curiosities*, won Book of the Year in the Co-op Respect Awards 2013 and was nominated for both The Desmond Elliott and the Polari First Book Prizes. Her latest novel *The Night Brother* (Borough Press) was reviewed in *The Times* as "A rich and ambitious tale set in late Victorian Manchester... Garland's prose is a delight: playful and exuberant. There are shades of Angela Carter in the mad world she creates... Full marks."

Her most recent poetry collection, *As In Judy*, is out with Flapjack Press. She is half of *The Time-Travelling Suffragettes*.

www.rosiegarland.com

Twitter @Rosieauthor



Friday 27th October

ArA: Gravedance

Gothic club night
Sacred Trinity Church
Chapel Street
Salford
M3 5DW
9pm – 2am

Entry £5
BYOB

ArA exists to be a sanctuary for the alternative. A unique event in a 17th century church. A Gothic dream come true!

Goth/Metal/EBM/Punk/80's

Saturday 28th October

Gothic Styles: Gothic Substance

Festival Conference

70 Oxford St

M1 5NH

9am – 6pm

£10 – tickets available on Eventbrite

Introduced and chaired by Dr Linnie Blake

Is there substance to the Gothic's many styles? Does the Gothic continue to reveal the great unspoken truths of our world? Did it ever? Is the Gothic anything more than a commercial product that may be sold, as a style, to a new generation of consumers? Was it always thus? What cultural function does Goth(ic) style possess? And how has this evolved from the Enlightenment to the neoliberal present?

This one-day conference will present 20-minute talks on all aspects of Gothic style. As such, topics may include, but are not confined to:

- Literary, Filmic and Popular Cultural Stylistics – Gothic or merely Gothicky?
- The Gothic styles of art and architecture
- Gothic fashion – from subculture to haute couture
- Goth music, clubs and clubbers
- The popular perception of Goth(ic) style – from Halloween dress up to hate crime.



Full listings of talks and speakers will be available at the Gothic Manchester Festival website.

Also featuring:

- Manchester Gothic Art Group (MGAG) annual exhibition
- The Hungry Dog Emporium of Curiosities
- Blackwell's and MUP Gothic book stalls

This one-day conference will present 20-minute talks on all aspects of Gothic style.

Saturday 28th October

Manchester Centre for Gothic Studies Book Launch and Wine Reception

70 Oxford Street
M1 5NH
6pm – 7pm

FREE – tickets available on Eventbrite

Join the Manchester Centre for Gothic Studies in celebrating the 2017 release of five new publications from our academic staff:

Xavier Aldana Reyes

Spanish Gothic: National Identity, Collaboration and Cultural Adaptation
(Palgrave Macmillan)



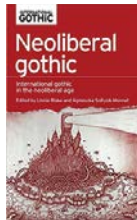
Ed. Sorcha Ni Fhlainn

Clive Barker: Dark Imaginer
(MUP)



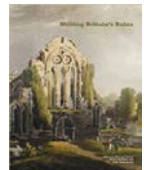
Eds. Linnie Blake and Agnieszka Soltysik Monnet

Neoliberal Gothic: International Gothic in the Neoliberal Age
(MUP)



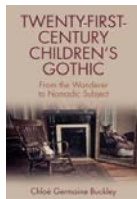
Eds. Dale Townshend, Michael Carter and Peter N. Lindfield

Writing Britain's Ruins
(British Library)



Chloe Germaine Buckley

21st Century Children's Gothic: From the Wanderer to Nomadic Subject (EUP)



Join us for an evening of wine, short speeches and a jaw-dropping celebration cake from the wondrous Conjuror's Kitchen www.conjurorskitchen.com

The wine reception will be followed by an optional trip to see the Manchester city centre Halloween decorations and spontaneous dinner/drinks (to be arranged on the night).



Dr Xavier Aldana Reyes is Senior Lecturer in English Literature and Film at Manchester Metropolitan University, and a founding member of the Manchester Centre for Gothic Studies. He is the author of *Spanish Gothic* (2017), *Horror Film and Affect* (2016) and *Body Gothic* (2014), and the editor of *Horror: A Literary History* (2016). Xavier is chief editor of the University of Wales Press's forthcoming Horror Studies book series, the first dedicated to the genre in all its manifestations.



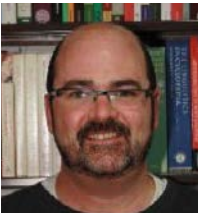
Dr Linnie Blake is Reader in Film and Literature at Manchester Metropolitan University and Head of the Manchester Centre for Gothic Studies. She has published widely on Gothic literature, film and television and sits on the editorial and advisory board of the journal *Horror Studies* and *Dark Arts* and the University of Wales' Horror Studies series. Her most recent book is the collection *Neoliberal Gothic* (2017) co-edited with Agnieszka Soltisik Monnet.



Chloé Germaine Buckley is Senior Lecturer at Manchester Metropolitan University. She writes about and teaches children's literature and culture. Her previous publications include articles on children's Gothic, Weird fiction, witches and the postcolonial Gothic. She is co-editor of the edited collection, *Telling it Slant: Critical Approaches on Helen Oyeyemi* (2017) with Sarah Illott.



Dr Sorcha Ní Fhlainn is Senior Lecturer in Film Studies and American Literature and a founding member of the Manchester Centre for Gothic Studies at Manchester Metropolitan University. She is Reviews Editor for Gothic Studies, the journal of the International Gothic Association. She has published widely in Gothic and horror studies, popular culture and film studies. Upcoming titles include *Postmodern Vampires: Film, Fiction, and Popular Culture* (Palgrave, 2018).



Dale Townshend is Professor of Gothic Literature in the Centre for Gothic Studies at Manchester Metropolitan University. His most recent publications have arisen from his AHRC Leadership Fellowship, 'Writing Britain's Ruins, 1700–1850: The Architectural Imagination', and include *Writing Britain's Ruins*, a collection of critical essays, co-edited with Michael Carter and Peter N. Lindfield, and a forthcoming monograph, *Gothic Antiquity: History, Romance, and the Architectural Imagination, 1760–1840*. He is also currently co-editing, with Angela Wright and Catherine Spooner, the three-volume *The Cambridge History of the Gothic*, scheduled for publication in 2020.



Sunday 29th October

Gothic Manchester Walking Tour

Meet outside Manchester Cathedral
M3 1SX
12 Noon

£9.00 – Tickets available on Eventbrite
(via Anne Beswick)

Join Anne Beswick – your local guide
– to be reminded of the other side of
Manchester.

Mostly we're blinded by the busyness of everyday life but this walking tour of our streets and backstreets will show you a little of what is hidden in plain view. The Gothic undertow in Manchester writhes just below its glossy surface. Right here on the city streets is the evidence of death by disease, violence and despair. Right here is the Gothic in architecture and literature, a legacy from the past. Manchester isn't superficial: there's more here than you know. Come and find out what really happened on the streets of our so-called 'original, modern city'.



Sunday 29th October

Gothic Styles Street/Fashion Show

Exchange Square
Manchester City Centre
M3 1BD
6pm – 7pm

FREE – just turn up

Featuring:

- Comperes Rosie Lugosi and Liquorice Black
- Border Morris from Stone the Crows
- ArA DJs
- Fantastical make up competition winners from House of Fraser
- Kiku Boutique corsetry

Join us for an extravagant exploration of what it means to have Goth style! Real-life Goths, punks, steampunks and other assorted ‘weirdo mosher freaks’ will strut, stomp and parade their individual dress sense for the public of Manchester. Interspersed with the street style will be fashion looks from students and alumni of Manchester Met’s Manchester Fashion Institute, showing the pervasive influence of Goth sensibilities in contemporary haute couture. Soundtracked by Goth music, introduced by two queens of Gothdom – Rosie Lugosi The Vampire Queen and Manchester’s monochrome drag par excellence Liquorice Black – this will be a catwalk to remember and a brilliant way to round off your Halloween weekend in the city.

In association with the Sophie Lancaster Foundation.

Part of Halloween in the City produced by Manchester BID.





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