

Romanticism and Creative Writing: Legacy and Resistance?

Call for Papers

The cultural epoch known as Romanticism has had great influence on the study and practice of contemporary creative writing. How writers use and conceive lived experience in the production of their work, how they reflect upon their writing, and how they investigate the discipline of writing in scholarly terms, all continue to be shaped by cultural ideas that emanate from the late-eighteenth and early-nineteenth centuries. This is no less the case in a contemporary Australian context, where the cultural negotiations surrounding notions of place, including connections and disconnections from wilderness, shifting understandings of rural and industrialised landscapes, land ownership and use practices, identification with country and the rise of the post-post-colonial city, remain vital and volatile.

Romanticism continues to inform critical and authorial perspectives of contemporary Australian writing through both interpretative and creative scholarly practices. Abstract proposals are sought for submission as a proposed special issue to TEXT journal which will explore Romanticism's legacy for the study and practice of writing, its influences, inspirations, tyrannies and resistances. In the context of creative writing's establishment as an academic discipline and the advent of digital media as the platform for new writing, this collection offers an opportunity from which to consider Romanticism's legacies and possibilities for new, post-Romanticist discourses to emerge. Papers are encouraged to investigate, but are not confined to, the following key ideas:

- writing about or from nature
- romanticizing urban spaces
- the relationship between theory and praxis
- the cult of individualism
- imaginative escape from harsh conditions of daily life
- reconstructed landscapes
- the illusion of the pastoral
- the idealization of the natural world
- writing against nature
- experience and inspiration - 'reflecting in tranquillity'
- being 'awe-inspired'
- beyond being human
- bio-diversity vs species supremacy
- authorial authenticity

Abstracts

Abstracts for papers should be between 200-300 words and should be sent to the editors Stephanie Green, Paul Hetherington and Chantelle Bayes at romanticismandwriting@gmail.com.

Important Dates

Abstracts due by November 15th 2015
Full papers due by February 29th 2016
Resubmission following peer-review July 1st 2016
Final submission to TEXT September 2016
Publication date: April 2017