

# ***Under the Volcano, 70 Years On:* An International Malcolm Lowry Conference**

## **Programme**

### **Day One: Friday 28 July**

at Liverpool John Moores University, Redmonds building, Brownlow Hill, Liverpool L3 5UG

**9-9.30am** Registration, coffee

**9.30am** Welcome by Helen Tookey, Liverpool John Moores University

**9.35-10.20am** Keynote address: 'Lowry's kindred spirits: 70 years and still counting', Sherrill Grace (Professor Emerita, University of British Columbia)

**10.20-11.30am** Lowry and place

Margaret Linley (Simon Fraser University) and Miguel Mota (University of British Columbia), "'Dollarton? That's what we thought but it's Grasmere": Lowry and literary ecology'  
Cian Quayle (University of Chester), 'Malcolm Lowry – detours and dislocations: Douglas and Dollarton – proposals for artworks'

**11.30-11.50am** tea/coffee

**11.50am-1.20pm** Lowry and politics

Ben Clarke (University of North Carolina at Greensboro), "'We've got a bastard duke on board": class, fantasy and politics in *Under the Volcano* and *Ultramarine*'  
Mark Crawford (Athabasca University), 'Malcolm Lowry and the end of communism'  
Nigel Foxcroft (University of Brighton), 'Malcolm Lowry: the Russian dimension'

**1.20-2.30pm** lunch

**2.30-4pm** Losses and remains: Lowry's process

Pierre Schaeffer (University of Strasbourg), "'Identity and doubleness: being and writing in Malcolm Lowry's *In Ballast to the White Sea*'  
Christopher Madden, 'Reading Derrida reading Lowry reading Browne: *Under the Volcano* and ashes'  
Patrick A. McCarthy (University of Miami), 'Haunted by books: Malcolm Lowry's *Ultramarine* and *In Ballast to the White Sea*'

**4-4.15pm** tea/coffee

#### **4.15-5.30pm** Editing Lowry

Chris Ackerley (University of Otago), 'In Ballast: weighing the evidence when annotating Lowry'  
Vik Doyen (KU Leuven), 'A critical edition of *October Ferry to Gabriola*'  
and panel discussion of Ottawa University Press critical editions

#### **Evening programme at Bluecoat:**

**From 6.30pm:** meal in the bistro upstairs (pre-booked), plus *Shot Under the Volcano* installation by John Hyatt (details in pack)

#### **8.30-9.30pm** *The Lighthouse Invites the Storm* (in the performance space)

Performance of newly commissioned text/sound work. Artists Alan Dunn, Jeff Young and Martin Heslop, with singers Jack Roberts and Mersey Wylie, draw on the local maritime landscape, Lowry's own writings, and stories of Wirral-based retired seafarers to create an immersive experience inspired by Lowry's life and work. (Free, but requires booking)

## **Day Two: Saturday 29 July**

at Bluecoat, School Lane, Liverpool L1 3BX

**9.30-10am** tea/coffee; welcome by Bryan Biggs, artistic director, Bluecoat

**10-10.45am** Keynote address: "'Will the real Malcolm Lowry please stand up?'" *Under the Volcano*, or chewing more than you can swallow', Professor Michael Schmidt, FRSL (Carcanet Press)

**10.45-11am** break

#### **11am-12.30pm** Film and magic

Paul Tiessen (Wilfrid Laurier University), 'Epistolary gesture as psycho(cine)geographic archive: drifting across a 1930 terrain of Malcolm Lowry's Cambridge, fifty years on'

Michael Romer, 'Adding magic to the 1940 *Under the Volcano*'

Alberto Lena (University of Valladolid), 'Into the labyrinth: John Huston's *Under the Volcano* and cinematic representations of Mexico'

**12.30-1pm** Mark Goodall (University of Bradford) in conversation with Tristram Powell, director of 1967 BBC Lowry documentary, *Rough Passage*; followed by screening of the film (25min)

#### **Afternoon and evening programme, Wirral:**

**2.30pm** Coach pick-up for guided walk/tour of Lowry's Wirral, led by artist, historian and psychogeographer Colin Dilnot. Culminates in New Brighton around 5pm, with time to get something to eat before walk along promenade to Mariners' Park for evening event.

**7-8pm** *The Lighthouse Invites the Storm*, Mariners' Park retirement home for merchant seamen, Wallasey. Plus, display/artefacts. Words, songs, sound and music interweaving stories of retired mariners with Lowry's writings, overlooking the River Mersey.

**8.30pm** Coach returns to Liverpool.