



## Silent Echoes: Golden Age Crime Fiction and Trauma

### Day 1: Friday 12 September 2025

<b>08:30</b>	<b>09:00</b>	<b>Registration and Welcome</b>
<b>09:00</b>	<b>10:30</b>	<b>Panel 1</b> (chair Kelly Thomson) Kemper Donovan – “Cozy” Violence and Trauma in the Works of Agatha Christie Carol Westron – Watching Tortoises Sprint: a consideration of humour as a defensive strategy in Golden Age fiction Elizabeth Prevost – “Christies for Coping: Reading Detective Fiction to Escape, Confront, and Critique a War-Torn World, 1939-51”
<b>10:30</b>	<b>11:00</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>11:00</b>	<b>12:30</b>	<b>Panel 2</b> (chair Brittain Bright) Kelly Thomson – Trouble on the Home Front: Exposing and Exploring the Patriarchal Bargain in <i>The Mysterious Affair at Styles</i> Felicitas Mayer – Dorothy L. Sayers’s “sleuth family”: Reimagining familial ties in the aftermath of war trauma Mary C. Rawlinson - Gender Trauma in Dorothy L. Sayers’s Wimsey-Vane Novels
<b>12:30</b>	<b>13:30</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>13:30</b>	<b>15:00</b>	<b>Panel 3</b> (chair Marta Usiekiewicz) Charlotte Beyer – “No Third Way”: The Immigrant Woman as Traumatized Other in Agatha Christie’s Mr Quin story “Harlequin’s Lane” Marthe Jocelyn – “People do very terrible things”: Child Victims, Killers, and Spies in Agatha Christie Tina Hodgkinson – “Unfit Lives”: Raising the Curtain on Eugenics in Poirot’s Last Case
<b>15:00</b>	<b>15:30</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>15:30</b>	<b>17:00</b>	<b>Panel 4</b> (chair Benjamin Parris) Michelle M. Kazmer – Information Trauma and Epistemic Injustice: “One has no accurate information” Robin Ramsey – “Rise, Lord Bickleigh of Wyvern”: Trauma, Emasculation, and <i>Malice Aforethought</i> James Mortimer – An <i>Endless Night</i> with Mike and Santonix: Outliving Trauma in Queer Space

Evening event TBC

## Day 2: Saturday 13 September

09:00	10:30	<b>Keynote: Jessica Meyer – 'About the only thing I could read': Golden Age Detective Fiction as War Fiction</b>
10:30	11:00	<b>Break</b>
11:00	12:30	<b>Panel 5</b> (chair Elizabeth Prevost)  Benedict Morrison – Vanity and Virtuosity: The Healing of Wounded Time in Golden Age Crime Fiction  Emma Curryer and Leia Tilley – Golden Age Detective fiction: Reflections on Trauma: Reality can be stranger than fiction  Bethan Davies – Reading Agatha Christie’s Writing as a Social History of Suicide
12:30	13:30	<b>Lunch</b>
13:30	15:00	<b>Panel 6</b> (chair Joanna Miles)  Nina Muždeka – Shaken Foundations: War Trauma and the Gendered Self in Agatha Christie’s Golden Age Fiction  Sarah Martin – ‘Undoubtedly, Bombing does Something to you’: Trauma, Dislocation, and the Blitz-torn Landscape in E.C. Lorac’s <i>Murder by Matchlight</i>  Brittain Bright – Reading the Signs: Trauma, Haunting, Deception, and Detection in Gladys Mitchell’s <i>When Last I Died</i>
15:00	15:30	<b>Break</b>
15:30	17:00	<b>Panel 7</b> (chair Kemper Donovan)  Benjamin Parris – The 120 Days of Sleuthing: Detecting Sexual Trauma and the Irish War of Independence in Lynn Brock’s <i>The Kink</i> (1927)  Marta Usiekiewicz – Consumption, Trauma, and Masculinity in Dorothy L. Sayers’ Lord Peter Wimsey Series  Caroline Derry -- War, Food Rationing, and Hinch as ‘Liminal Lesbian’ in <i>A Murder is Announced</i>
17:00		<b>Conference close</b>