

# DEMYTHOLOGISING THE DEMYTHOLOGISER: RE-VISITING ANGELA CARTER

## Postgraduate Symposium

Friday 15 December 2006  
University of Exeter



*Tiresias was a Greek priest transformed into a woman after attacking a pair of copulating snakes. Tiresias lived as a woman; s/he got married, had several children and became a famous prostitute. When s/he came upon the snakes again, s/he was transformed back into a man. Having “lived” as both sexes, Hera asks him to now answer the question of who has the greatest pleasure during copulation - man or woman?*

The controversially erotic content and theoretical engagements of Angela Carter's popular texts have been – and continue to be – a minefield for feminist hermeneutics, especially with regards to female sexuality. Even today, the question of ‘moral pornography’ presented in *The Sadeian Woman* provokes heated debate in relation to contemporary feminist politics. This year in particular has witnessed a dramatic increase in both academic and popular interest in Carter, demonstrated by the success of the Angela Carter Tribute at the South Bank Centre (11th June 2006) and the reissue of several of her works, with new introductions, by Vintage. Likewise, the publication of Sarah Gamble's *Angela Carter: A Literary Life* and Becky Munford's collection *Re-Visiting Angela Carter: Texts, Contexts and Intertexts* this year marks a new wave of Carter criticism.

The symposium aims to create a new research platform for the latest directions and explorations in Carter scholarship. While Charlotte Crofts, Sarah Gamble and Becky Munford will offer keynote talks, the afternoon sessions will provide a forum for postgraduate students to discuss their new work on Carter. This symposium hopes to initiate a framework for sustaining the importance of this renewed interest in Carter for future years.

Please send proposals (max. 500 words) for 15 minute papers by **30<sup>th</sup> November 2006**. Places for non-presenting delegates are limited and will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis, as there is no conference fee and refreshments and lunch are complimentary. Please direct proposals and enquiries to Michelle Parslow: [mlp203@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:mlp203@exeter.ac.uk).