

# Call for Papers: BRUT in NEW TROY 2020

June 26-29, 2020

University of Notre Dame London Global Gateway, London, UK



*The building of New Troy, in London, BL, MS Harley 1808, fol. 30v (detail). © British Library.*

For centuries, the “standard” version of Britain’s history held that the realm was founded by an exiled descendant of Aeneas called Brut (or Brutus), who came to the island with a band of Trojans, defeated the hostile giants living there, named it after himself, and established the capital city of New Troy, later known as London.

Popularized by Geoffrey of Monmouth in his twelfth-century *History of the Kings of Britain*, this matter was read, translated, supplemented, and transformed across medieval and Early

Modern Europe, and across the gamut of languages and forms. The history of figures like Brut, Lear, Cordelia, Ursula, Ronwen, Arthur, Merlin, and Cadwallader catalyzed an extraordinarily long-lived, popular, and influential tradition, playing a key role in the development of Arthurian literature and English historiography right into the seventeenth century, with works running from the realm’s remote “legendary” origins to *Brut* continuators’ own times.

Under the auspices of the International Lawman’s *Brut* Society and the University of Notre Dame, **this conference aims to promote fruitful conversation among scholars working on all aspects of the long historiographic, literary, and artistic *Brut* tradition.** In the heart of New Troy, we seek to provide a forum for comparative, multilingual, cross-period, and cross-disciplinary discussion of *Brut*-related works and manuscripts, both canonical and less familiar, and by no means limited to “legendary” material.

We invite proposals for 20-minute papers on the *Brut* tradition from all disciplines, including medieval and Early Modern languages and literatures, and art, book, cultural, intellectual, political, religious, or any other kind of history. Topics may include, but are not limited to:

- The present and the renovation of the past in *Brut* texts
- The role of the city in *Brut* texts
- Ideas of “Britain”: nation, religion, geography, and history
- Travel and migration in *Brut* texts and by its manuscripts
- Multilingualism and the languages of the *Brut* tradition (Dutch, English, French, Irish, Italian, Latin, Norse, Scots, Spanish, Welsh . . .)
- *Bruts* across borders (political, theological, temporal, physical, linguistic, generic . . .)
- Medieval and post-medieval authorship, reception, and transmission of *Brut* texts and manuscripts
- *Bruts* and technologies old and new (manuscript, print, digital media)

Please send abstracts of <300 words, with full contact information and specification of audiovisual needs, to organizers Julia Marvin and Jaclyn Rajsic at [brutinnewtroy2020@gmail.com](mailto:brutinnewtroy2020@gmail.com). Deadline for submissions: **15 October 2019**.

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[www.brutinnewtroy.com](http://www.brutinnewtroy.com)

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