



MYTHS, LEGENDS, AND FAIRY TALES – Call for Papers

Perth Medieval and Renaissance Group Conference: *Saturday 16 November 2024*

Storytelling goes back as far as human history, with myths, legends, and fairy tales reflecting our ability to share the same stories over and over again in different settings. The medieval and Renaissance periods are ripe with such tales. Whether we look at legendary figures like King Arthur, Catherine de' Medici, and Joan of Arc; or tales like Spenser's *The Faerie Queen*, Valmiki's *Ramayana*, *The Thousand and One Nights*, or Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, the medieval and early modern periods have created a legacy of iconic stories that continue to inspire writers, artists, and scholars.

Perth Medieval and Renaissance Group, Incorporated, welcomes abstracts which address the theme of 'Myths, Legends, and Fairy Tales' in the medieval, early modern to renaissance periods (or equivalent periods from global history) and their afterlives including:

- Legendary figures and/or narratives (e.g. Bluebeard, Mélusine, King Arthur, and historical figures to whom legends have accrued) and their adaptation and/or afterlives, including their role as touchstones for politics and cultural identity
- Modern adaptations of myths, legends, or fairytales in literature, art, film, theatre, or gaming
- Representations of fairy tales, myths, or legends in contemporary historical paintings, sculptures, tapestries, or other art
- The cross-cultural spread of fairy tales, myths, and legends between communities and nations
- The importance of space and place in myths, and the function of liminal spaces
- Myths, legends, and fairy tales in relation to nature, landscape, and/or ecocriticism
- Portrayals of fairies, demons, and other supernatural beings (e.g. *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Sleeping Beauty*, *Cinderella*, *Labyrinth*, *A Court of Thorns and Roses*)
- Representations of legendary figures in modern media (Niccolò Machiavelli in *Assassin's Creed*, Robin Hood in many titular films, Lucrezia Borgia in *The Borgias*)
- Myths, legends, and fairy tales used to reinforce social values such as gender roles, heteronormativity, and social structures
- Resurgence of legends, fairy tales, and myths in modern media (Disney films, Chinese xiānxiá fiction, Japanese ninja tales)

We welcome abstracts for twenty-minute papers. We will also consider papers in other forms, especially shorter or combined papers to encourage students to share their work. This is an interdisciplinary conference seeking papers from academics, early career researchers, postgraduate and undergraduate students, and independent scholars in all fields, and we encourage abstracts from beyond the humanities.

Please send abstracts of 150–200 words with the paper's title, your affiliation and a short (up to 50 word) biography to the conference subcommittee at pmrg.committee@gmail.com.

The conference will take place in hybrid form at The University of Western Australia and over Zoom. Please specify in your submission whether you would attend in-person or online and which GMT time zone you will be joining us from. **Deadline for abstracts extended to 31 July.**

For further details, see <https://www.pmr.org.au/2024-conference-myths-legends-and-fairy-tales>