

# Department of English

E-NEWS NO. 2/2023-24

## Poetry Circle

Are you a poetry lover? Wishing to share your original work? Join CUHK Poetry Circle with our CENG tutor Alison Brown. This is an opportunity to read your original poetry in front of a group, hear original poetry from your peers, and discuss the poems with each other. Even if you do not have original poetry to share, please feel free to come listen and discuss. No prior experience is necessary. All are welcome!

Date: Every other Thursday starting from 14 September  
Time: 6:00 pm  
Venue: E-Zone, Fung King Hey Building  
Registration: RSVP [here](#)

## Romantic Reading Circle

Are Romantic poems too difficult? Want to take your close reading skills to another level? Come join the new weekly Romantic Reading Circle led by our MPhil student Ernest Yuen and find out more. All English undergraduates are welcome!

Date: Every Wednesday starting from 13 September  
Time: 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm  
Venue: E-Zone, Fung King Hey Building  
Registration: <https://cloud.itsc.cuhk.edu.hk/mycuform/view.php?id=2043578>  
Enquiry: [ernestyws@link.cuhk.edu.hk](mailto:ernestyws@link.cuhk.edu.hk)

## Stage Workshop

Interested in stage theatre? Curious about stage equipment and the process of stage production? The Office of the Arts Administrator (OAA) at CUHK would like to invite all theatre enthusiasts to a [Stage Workshop](#).



**Date:** Wednesday, 20 September 2023  
**Time:** 7:00 pm  
**Venue:** Sir Run Run Shaw Hall (SRRSH)  
**Content:**

- Knowledge about stage equipment and safety measures of SRRSH;
- Basic understanding of stage sound;
- Basic understanding of lighting

**Registration:** <https://cloud.itsc.cuhk.edu.hk/webform/view.php?id=13671738>  
**Enquiry:** 3943-1928 / cuoaa@cuhk.edu.hk

## Research and Publications

Professor Li Ou has published her monograph [\*Keats and Scepticism\*](#) with Routledge.

### Description:

*Keats and Scepticism* explores Keats's affinity with the philosophical tradition of scepticism and reads Keats's poetry anew in the light of this affinity. It suggests Keats's links with the origin of scepticism in ancient Greece as recorded in Sextus Empiricus's *Outlines of Scepticism*. It also discusses Keats's connections with Montaigne, the most important Renaissance inheritor of Pyrrhonian scepticism; Voltaire, the Enlightenment *philosophe* whose sceptical ideas made an indelible impact on Keats; and Hume, the most thoroughgoing sceptic after antiquity. Other than Keats's affinitive ideas with these sceptical thinkers, this book is particularly interested in Keats's experiments with the peculiar language, forms, modes, and genres of poetry to convey the non-dogmatic philosophy. In this light, it re-reads *Isabella*, 'La Belle Dame sans Merci', the 1819 odes, the two *Hyperions*, *King Stephen*, and *Lamia*, all of which reveal Keats's self-reflexive and radical sceptical poetics in challenging poetic dogmas and conventions.

This book is for Keats lovers, students, teachers, scholars, or non-academic readers who are interested in Romanticism, nineteenth-century studies, or poetry and philosophy in general. This original, accessible interdisciplinary study aims to offer the reader a fresh perspective to read Keats and appreciate the quintessential Keatsian poetics.

Professor Li Ou presented her paper 'Teaching Romanticism in the Afflicted City' at the International Association of University Professors of English (IAUPE) conference, Rome, 11-15 July 2023. She also gave a paper 'Keats's Homemaking Poetics of Homelessness' at the 2023 Wordsworth Summer Conference, Rydal, 7-11 August 2023.

