The Inventor of Britain

A Symposium on the Life and Legacies of Humphrey Llwyd (1527-1568)

Monday 29 October

The Knowledge Centre, British Library

This day will explore the work of Welsh historian and cartographer Humphrey Llwyd, as we mark the 450th anniversary of his death. His maps and other works shaped the early modern vision of Britain. A series of talks will cover all aspects of Llwyd’s varied life and legacy.

For further details and booking (free), see: https://www.bl.uk/events/the-inventor-of-britain.

Programme

09:30-09:45: Welcome and Opening Remarks (Philip Schwyzer)

09:45-11:15: Panel 1: Welsh Tradition and Scholarship
   Paul Russell (Cambridge): ‘Humphrey Llwyd and John Dee’
   Huw Pryce (Bangor): ‘Humphrey Llwyd and the First History of Wales’
   Paul Bryant-Quinn (Exeter): ‘Sewing the Quires Together: Welsh Publications in Milan, 1567 - c.1596’

11:15-11:30: Coffee

11:30-13:00: Panel 2: Mapping Britain and Wales
   Keith Lilley (QUB): ‘The Mapping Worlds of Humphrey Llwyd’
   Catherine Porter (QUB): ‘Mapping the Text: The Geography of Llwyd’s Breviary’
   Helen Fulton (Bristol): ‘The Description of Britain and the Chorography of the March of Wales’

13:00-14:30: Lunch (including time for optional group visits to a display of Llwyd’s works and maps from the BL collections)

14:30-16:00: Panel 3: Describing and Debating Britain
   Lorna Hutson (Oxford): ‘Insular Imaginings’
   Philip Schwyzer (Exeter): ‘Visions of Britain in Llwyd, Spenser, and Drayton’
   Roger Mason (St Andrews): ‘George Buchanan on Humphrey Llwyd’s Vision of Britain’

16:00-17:00: Closing roundtable