

International Congress

Robert Graves: a Centenary Celebration

Palma de Mallorca, Spain

7 - 11 November 1995

Congress Director: Dr Patrick Quinn, Nene College, Northampton, UK and St John's College Robert Graves Trust, Oxford

Final Programme:

Tuesday 7 November 1995

19.30 approx: Coaches leave hotels for the University of the Balearic Islands main campus (about 5 km from Palma.)

20.00 Opening reception offered by The University of the Balearic Islands.

22.00 approx. Coaches return delegates to hotels in Palma.
(Dinner will generally be available in Palma from about 21.00 onwards, to 00.00 or later.)

Wednesday 8 November 1995

07.30 onwards: Breakfast available at hotels.

09.45 Delegates walk to La Caixa Cultural Centre.

10.00 Inauguration of the Centenary Congress at La Caixa Cultural Centre, Palma de Mallorca (formerly the Gran Hotel, Palma, where Graves and Laura Riding stayed for 3 weeks on their first arrival in Palma in 1929.)

10.15 Introduction and welcome by William Graves, son of Robert Graves and author of "Wild Olives: life in Mallorca with Robert Graves", published 1995. (Hutchinson). Nominated for the J. B. Ackerley Prize.

10.30 -11.30 Session 1: The White Goddess

Convenor: Patrick Quinn

Robert Bertholf. State University of New York at Buffalo: "Graves' White Goddess' and its influence on Robert Duncan: a book of resemblances."

John Sharkey, Wales, UK: "The Roebuck leaps from the Thicket."

11.30 - 12.00 Coffee / refreshments break

12.00 - 13.20 Session 2: Graves and Mallorca, Catalunya and Spain, 1:

Convenors: Antonio Bennasar & Peter Taylor
Joan Fiol, University of the Balearic Islands, "The Perfect Guest."
P. Louise Johnson, St. John's College, University of Oxford: "The Mallorcan 'Colonia Extranjera'"

13.20-13.50 Round table discussion

14.00 Buffet lunch

15.45 - 17.00 Session 3: Graves and the Novel:

Convenor: Patrick McGuinness

Ludmilla Volodarskaya: Freelance translator, Russia: "King Jesus: Two types of King power."
Marisa Saracino Favale, Università Degli Studi di Lecce, Italy: "Re-writing and manipulation in Graves' Mediterranean themes."

17.00 Break

17.15-18.15 Pre-broadcast viewing of Sean O'Mordha's BBC Documentary, "I, Graves."

18.30 Exhibition of Mick Kelly's paintings. Venue: Casal Solleric, Palma de Mallorca.

19.30 Break

20.00 Official opening of the Robert Graves Centenary exhibition "The poet and the Muse", ("El poeta y la Musa") sponsored by The Balearic Autonomous Government, The Island Council of Mallorca, and the Palma and Deya Town Halls, at La Lonja Exhibition centre, Palma de Mallorca.

Thursday 9 November 1995

07.30 onwards: Breakfast available at hotels.

09.30 Delegates walk to La Caixa Cultural Centre.

10.00- 11.30 Session 4: Graves and Modernism:

Convenor: Ian Firla

John Presley, University of Michigan - Dearborn: "Graves, Yeats and Thomas." Richard Schumaker, University of Maryland: "Robert Graves and Europe, 1935-45." Patrick McGuinness, University of Oxford: "Alternatives to Modernism."

11.30 - 11.50 Coffee / refreshments break.

11.50 - 13.10 Session 5: Graves and Mallorca, Catalunya and Spain, 11:

Convenor: Dunstan Ward

D. Sam Abrams, Aula de Lletres, Barcelona: "Clouds over the mainland: the impact of Robert Graves on Catalan literature."

Francisco Diaz de Castro, University of the Balearic Islands: "Spanish poetry and Robert Graves."

13.10 - 13.20 Break

13.20 Coaches depart for Deia.

14.00 Arrive Deia. Buffet lunch provided at Restaurant Son Marroig, Deia, at the invitation of Deia Town Hall.

15.00 Delegates free to walk around Deia: those intending to walk past Robert Graves' house, Canellun, down to the beach and up through the village should make sure they are suitably prepared with walking shoes, etc.

17.45 Coffee / tea refreshment to be provided at Hotel La Residencia.

18.15 Readings of the poetry of Robert Graves given by writers Alan Sillitoe and Ruth Fainlight, who lived on the island at Soller for 6 years and knew Graves, at Hotel la Residencia, Deia.

19.30 Coaches depart Deia for Palma de Mallorca.

(Dinner will be available generally in Palma from about 21.00 onwards.)

Friday 10 November 1995

07.30 Breakfast available at hotels.

09.30 Delegates walk to La Caixa Cultural Centre. Ç

10.00 - 11.20 Session 6: Graves and poetry

Convenor: Peter Taylor

Paul O'Prey, University of Bristol: "Graves' concept of poetry."

Josep Maria Jaumà, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona: "A few invisible footnotes to a translation of Robert Graves (reflections)."

11.20 -11.50 Coffee / refreshments break

11.50 - 13.10 Session 7: Graves and storytelling

Convenor: Patrick Quinn

Ben Wright, University of Maryland: "Personal Mythography II."

13.20 - 13.50 Round table discussion

14.00 Buffet lunch

15.30 - 17.00 Session 8: Emotion and poetry

Convenor: John Kelly

Simon Brittan, University of East Anglia, Norwich: "Graves and the mythology of desire."
Devindra Kohli, University of Bonn, Germany: "A measure of casualness: the peripatetic in Graves' poetry."

Patrick Quinn, Nene College, Northampton and St John's College Robert Graves Trust: "Poetic therapy and disappointing poetry."

19.00 - 20.30 Julian Glover's "An evening with Robert Graves" at the Teatro Principal, Palma de Mallorca (in co-operation with the Consell Insular.)

20.30 approx. Coaches leave Teatro Principal for Gala Centenary Dinner.

21.00 Closing Gala Centenary Dinner at Rte. Son Termens.

Keynote speaker: Dr John Kelly, Senior English Fellow, St John's College, University of Oxford.

Late: Coaches return delegates to hotels.

Saturday 11 November 1995

07.30 Breakfast available at hotels.

09.30 Coaches leave hotels for Deya.

11.00 Armistice remembrance Ceremony at Deya Churchyard (where Robert Graves is buried.)

11.30 - 15.00 Delegates free in Deya.

15.00 Coaches return delegates to Palma de Mallorca

Sunday 12 November 1995

13.55 British Midland flight BD164 leaves Palma (PMI) for London Heathrow. Arrives 15.15

Robert Graves was born on 24 July 1895, at Wimbledon, London. He died on 7 December 1985 at Deya, Mallorca, Spain.