Will Glovinsky, Columbia University

“Trollope’s Antagonists”

Will Glovinsky is a doctoral candidate in the department of English and Comparative Literature at Columbia University, where he works on nineteenth-century British literature, the history of the novel, modernism, and postcolonial, empire, and affect studies. His dissertation, “Unfeeling Empire: Realism and Distant Intimacy in the British Novel, 1815-1930,” traces how formal developments in the realist novel – the rise of impersonal omniscient narration, and the gradual deflation of readerly affects – unfolded as linked responses to the heightened pressures that nineteenth-century colonial emigration and imperial careering placed on British ideals of domesticity and epistolary intimacy. Building on postcolonial theorists’ accounts of the tie between imperial self-alienation and colonial subjugation, the project examines how omniscient narrations in Britain’s imperial century helped to anesthetize the effects of social dispersion while also training readers in new, flatter modes of affective engagement with literary characters, and antagonists in particular.

Will’s essays and reviews have appeared or are forthcoming in Victorian Literature and Culture, V21collective.org, Los Angeles Review of Books, The Rumpus, The Millions, and elsewhere. At Columbia, he currently co-convenes the Nineteenth-Century British Colloquium. He received his BA in Comparative Literature from Swarthmore in 2012 and his MA & MPhil from Columbia (2015, 2017).

The lecture will be delivered at St. Bartholomew’s Church, 109 East 50th Street (the rear/side entrance, between Park and Lexington Avenues), New York, NY. Enter at the red double doors and take the elevator to the fourth floor to Room 42. The reception will begin at 6:00 p.m., with the talk to start at 6:30 p.m.

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The 2018 Annual Lecture of The Trollope Society (USA)

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