

Castle Schönburg, near Bingen on the Rhine, Germany
Thursday 26 – Sunday 29 May, 2011

Call for Papers

SCOTLAND – ScottLAND

The title slogan has been infused with a breath of fresh air by the publication of Stuart Kelly's *Scotland – The Man Who Invented A Nation* (2010). To quote Kelly, Scott's publication of *Waverley* (1814) "changed the entire world's perception of Scotland, and Scotland's perception of itself". (Self-)perceptions of Scotland did not start changing with *Waverley*, but already manifested themselves in his earlier lyrical publications, most notably in *The Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border* (1802-1803). With this collection of ballads, Scott intended to "contribute somewhat to the history of [his] native country".

This interdisciplinary conference is interested in the people and the cultural phenomena who/which influenced Scott's *Minstrelsy*. Furthermore, the conference is concerned with the impact Scott's ballad collection had on Scot(t)land, Europe and Romanticism in general. Thus, we warmly encourage contributions including but not strictly limited to the following topics:

- **Origins:** Who was involved in the compilation of the *Minstrelsy*? Who contributed to the collection (directly or indirectly)?
- **Scott-Canon:** What is the specific relationship between the *Minstrelsy* and Scott's other work?
- **Zeitgeist:** In how far was Scott influenced by *zeitgeist* when setting up the *Minstrelsy*? How exactly is *zeitgeist* reflected in the ballad collection (especially concerning oral tradition and print, Enlightenment thought and historical context)?
- **Non-Scottish Influences:** In how far can the *Minstrelsy* be said to have been influenced by European, and especially German and Danish, Romanticism?
- **Reception:** How was the *Minstrelsy* received in Scotland, Germany and Europe? Which influence did the *Minstrelsy* exhibit in these countries?
- **Scotland around 1800:** What was the historical, political, social, economic, musical ... and wider cultural context of the *Minstrelsy*?
- **Cultural Memory/Theory:** The *Minstrelsy* in literary, cultural and historical perspective today?

We are proud to announce, that this conference will also see the foundation of a society for Scottish studies in Europe. By attending the conference you will have the opportunity to become one of the founding members.

Please submit your proposal (title, abstract of about 250 words) to info@walterscott.de. - Proposals are due by 15 December 2010.