



## 'Child be Strange'

### A Symposium on *Penda's Fen*

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2017, 09:30am–5pm, with a public screening at 6:20pm  
NFT3, BFI Southbank, London

#### Programme:

- 09:30** registration and coffee
- 10:00** welcome from organizers
- 10:05–11:25**
- panel 1 *Landscapes***
- Roger Luckhurst**  
*Penda's Fen*, Eeriness and the Polytemporal 70s
- Adam Scovell**  
A Sacred Demon of Ungovernableness: *Penda's Fen* and Folk Horror
- Jamie Sherry**  
"I am mud and flame!": Adolescence and Hybridity in the Liminal Spaces of Alan Clarke's *Penda's Fen*
- Beth Whalley**  
"The flame still flickers in the fen": Wetlands, Modernity and the Anglo-Saxon Past
- Chair: James Machin**
- 11:25–11:30** comfort break
- 11:30–12:50**
- panel 2 *Histories***
- Carl Phelpstead**  
Before England: Mercian Identity in Rudkin and Other Writers
- David Ian Rabey**  
Making Space for the Shadows: *Penda's Fen*, tradition and legacy
- David Rolinson**  
I append the map: a documentary history of *Penda's Fen*
- Craig Wallace**  
The "old, primeval 'demon' of the place opening half an eye": *Penda's Fen* and the legend of the sleeping king
- Chair: Carolyne Larrington**

- 12:50–14:00** lunch (own arrangements)
- 14:00–15:20** **panel 3: *Portraits***  
**Will Fowler**  
Dredging the Splintered Light: The Multiple ‘Unburialings’ of *Penda’s Fen*  
**Yvonne Salmon**  
*Penda’s Fen* and Contemporary Occulture  
**Daniel O’Donnell Smith**  
Between the Slits He Sits: The Material Ontology of Penda and the Frame  
**Andy Smith**  
“Which shall prevail?” Doppelgängers and Duality in the work of David Rudkin  
**Chair: Matthew Harle**
- 15:20–15:40** coffee
- 15:40–16:20** Closing plenary: Gareth Evans, Carolyne Larrington, and Roger Luckhurst
- 16:20–17:00** David Rudkin Q&A, with David Ian Rabey