EINLADUNG

zum 238. Institutsseminar
am Montag, dem 17. Juni 2019, um 17 Uhr c.t.
im Elise-Richter-Saal der Universität Wien

Joanna Story
(University of Leicester)

Insular manuscripts in Carolingian Francia before 850

In the period from c. AD 600–850 manuscripts written in the islands of Britain and Ireland were copied in scripts that are distinctive and diagnostic. These ‘Insular’ scripts were also used in monasteries founded by Irish and English missionaries to the Continent in the later seventh and eighth centuries. In the ninth century, these monasteries began to use the Caroline minuscule promulgated by Charlemagne’s reform, but the legacy of the Insular system of scripts can still be seen in manuscripts made in places such as Fulda up until the middle decades of the ninth century.

More than 840 Insular manuscripts or fragments survive in libraries across Europe and in the USA. More than half of these are housed in as many as 66 libraries and archives in German-speaking lands: Austria, Switzerland and Germany. This paper will focus on data arising from a current research project that concentrates on this corpus of manuscripts, exploring what they reveal about both the Insular contribution to the intellectual culture of Europe in the post Roman centuries, and the interconnectedness of Britain, Ireland and Francia in the age of Charlemagne.

Joanna Story is Professor of Early Medieval History at the University of Leicester. Her research concentrates on early medieval Europe, especially Anglo-Saxon England, Francia, and Italy from the seventh to ninth centuries as well as aspects of twelfth-century history, and manuscript studies. Her principle area of research is the links between the kingdoms of Anglo-Saxon England and the Empire of Charlemagne, working primarily with written sources but also with material culture (especially manuscripts, epigraphy and sculpture). She is the author of Carolingian Connections: Anglo-Saxon England and Carolingian Francia, c. 750–870 (Studies in Early Medieval Britain 3, Aldershot 2003) and currently directs three major research projects: the first is on the Epitaph of Pope Hadrian I, extant in St. Peter's in the Vatican for which a monograph is forthcoming with OUP. She is Principal Investigator for a major interdisciplinary research programme on The Impact of Diasporas on the Making of Britain: evidence, memories, inventions sponsored by The Leverhulme Trust and also for a Leverhulme Trust International Network on Insular Manuscripts, AD650–AD850: Networks of Knowledge. She is General Editor, with Dr Roy Flechner of the Routledge series, Studies in Early Medieval Britain and Ireland.

Moderation: Bernhard Zeller

Gäste sind herzlich willkommen!