

VOLTAIRE FOUNDATION

University of Oxford

ANNUAL REPORT 2022/23



UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD

99 Banbury Road

Voltaire Foundation

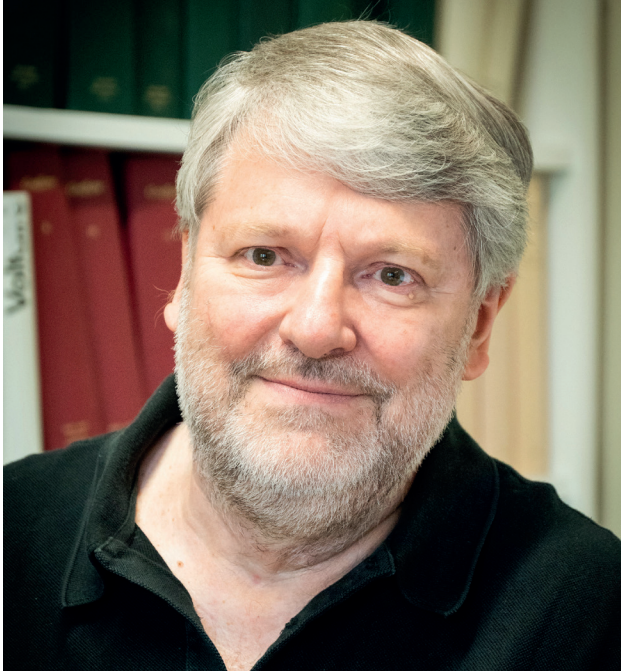


VOLTAIRE
FOUNDATION
for Enlightenment studies



UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD

Welcome



This has been an exciting year for the Voltaire Foundation: after completing the paper edition of the *Complete Works of Voltaire* in 2022, we have spent the year charting a new course as a digitally-focused research department for Enlightenment studies. We now have a superb and growing group of postdoctoral students, whose projects are highlighted in this annual report. At the same time, we have been busy transforming our traditional expertise in textual editing into the digital realm. Our new online journal, *Digital Enlightenment Studies*, will be launched in autumn 2023; and after intensive work on the Voltaire edition, we are on course to launch the new digital Complete Voltaire in 2024. This is set to become our flagship project, and we are currently discussing what name to give it – watch this space!

Nicholas Cronk, Director

It is especially gratifying that we have successfully completed what is arguably the largest academic book publishing project of the last 100 years – the 205 volumes of the *Complete Works of Voltaire* – while at the same time setting out on a very ambitious programme of digitisation, pioneering new techniques and methodologies both for Oxford and the wider world, and doing so at significant scale.

As the Voltaire Foundation moves from a focus on Voltaire to one which encompasses the Enlightenment more broadly, I believe this could not be more important. Enlightenment values – free thinking and free speaking – are under attack from many sources: making the process of digitisation which enables them to be accessed not just in a scholarly way but also more broadly in the public domain, even more important, putting them at the heart of modern discourse. As debates about the acuteness of artificial intelligence gather pace, nothing could also be more timely. The medium for us, to a significant degree, must be the message.

I hope you find this report of our activity in 2022/23 informative.

Miles Young, Chair of Voltaire Foundation Fund Board of Management



News



News from the Lab

The Voltaire Lab saw its first intake of postdoctoral researchers and a graduate student (in collaboration with the Humanities Division). This year, we were delighted to welcome Roman Kuhn, British Academy Newton International Fellow (report on p.7), Zoe Screti, Astra Foundation Research Fellow in Manuscript Studies (report on p.6) and Joana Roqué Pesquer, one of the first generation of the Humanities Division's new MSc course in Digital Scholarship and the first recipient of the Voltaire Foundation Bursary for this course (report on p.9).

We are also participating for the first time this year in UNIQ+, an innovative scheme run by the University

of Oxford providing research internships for talented undergraduate students from under-represented backgrounds and giving them the opportunity to experience postgraduate study and research over the course of a seven-week summer programme. Find out more about what our four interns have been doing with us on p.8-9.

The team in the Voltaire Lab office

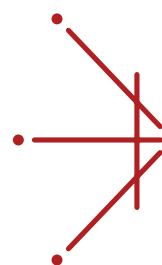
Standing l.r.: Gillian Pink, Roman Kuhn, Zoe Screti, Joana Roqué Pesquer, Birgit Mikus

Seated l.r.: Hayley O'Connell, Nicholas Cronk, Alison Oliver
(photography ©Keiko Ikeuchi)

Launch of *Digital Enlightenment Studies*

This year saw us prepare the launch of our new online journal, *Digital Enlightenment Studies* (DES), in association with our long-standing publishing partner Liverpool University Press.

DES is an open-access, international, peer-reviewed online journal dedicated to digital humanities, their methodologies and resources, in 18th-century studies. The journal will publish in English and French and welcomes contributions in areas such as digital editions, building and exploiting corpora, database construction, linked open data, domain adaptation of methods, operationalisation of concepts, text annotation, and the interpretability, transparency and reproducibility of results.



DIGITAL
Enlightenment
STUDIES

Digital Voltaire

Since the celebrations of the completion of the print Voltaire edition, work on its digital incarnation has taken on a new momentum. 2023 saw Apex CoVantage deliver the final digitised volume of the 205, with all 107,500+ pages not only totally rekeyed, but impressively tagged to the very high-level specification drawn up by our digital consultant, Dan Barker (DanCan Ltd). All digitised volumes are subjected to rigorous checks, and further undergo a second process of semantic tagging, whereby specific types of content (such as dates, bibliographic information, quotes and proper nouns) are identified and encoded by specialist editors. All decisions made are fed back into custom-made algorithms in order to improve the identification of these elements automatically, thus increasing the efficiency of the editorial work.

In parallel, it has been exciting to hold frequent discussions about the functionality of Digital Voltaire, and to see our ideas taking shape in a wireframe. This visual manifestation will serve as a demonstration of the resource before it is fully developed, thus giving key stakeholders a preview, as well as the opportunity to give feedback. While possibilities such as full searches, or linking to outside resources, are easy to imagine, and indeed are a given, we are particularly keen to explore other ways of navigating and interpreting the data, as well as new methods for visualising how Voltaire's text changed over time across different manuscript and print editions, or how multiple letters within the correspondence are related to and interact with each other.

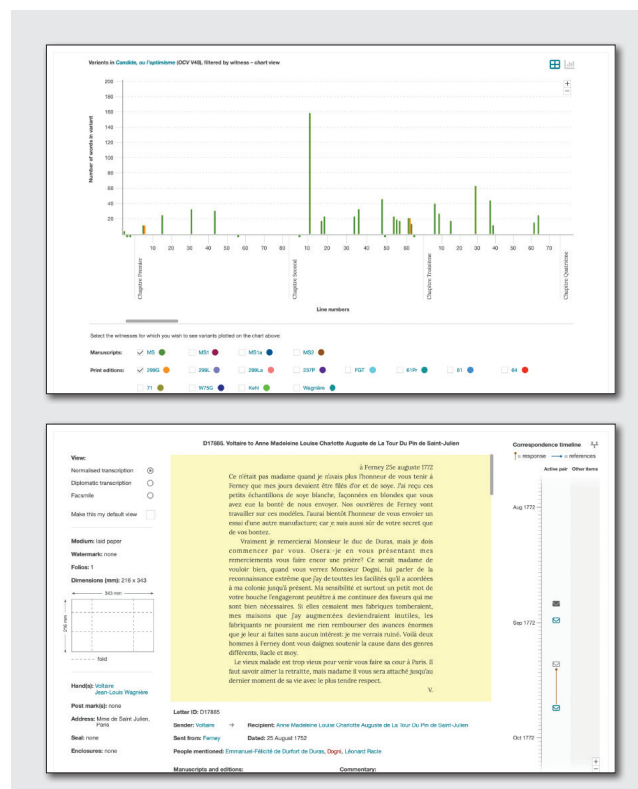
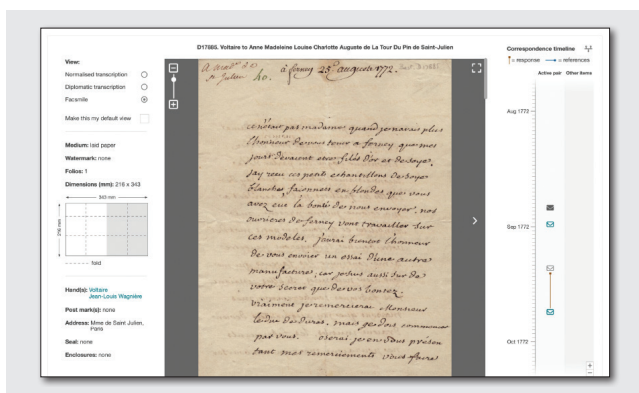


We are investigating several options regarding the financial model, the marketing and the dissemination of Digital Voltaire, all of which necessarily go hand-in-hand.

Above: Alison Oliver and Gillian Pink in the Voltaire Lab (photography ©Keiko Ikeuchi)

Below: the Digital Voltaire wireframe work in progress

Opposite: the Voltaire Library Database



Voltaire Studio

Regardless of the model adopted for the main resource, it will have an important open-access component in the Voltaire Studio. Last year we reported on the first stages of the Voltaire Library Database, undertaken in collaboration with ObTIC (Observatoire des textes, des idées et des corpus) (Sorbonne), and are pleased to announce that it will be publicly launched in autumn 2023. It is the fullest set of data regarding the books (c.6000 volumes) and manuscripts (c.1000) that Voltaire is known to have owned and used, bringing together

information from four main sources. These include the 1961 Russian-published catalogue of his books now held in the National Library of Russia (we have corrected some errors that have been identified in the decades following its publication), and the 1912 inventory of the manuscripts in the same collection. It will link to both Digital Voltaire – most notably the edited marginalia – and the Catalogue of Manuscripts relating to Voltaire (see p.6). These online databases will offer extensive research possibilities in conjunction with Digital

Voltaire and each other, but will also act as valuable free-standing resources to scholars all over the world. The attractive user interface and its sophisticated yet intuitive search capabilities are the work of Staltech Europe Ltd, funded by a generous grant from the John Fell Fund (University of Oxford). To read more about the work that has gone into digitally reconstructing the 200 composite volumes in Voltaire's library fashioned out of shorter printed works and sometimes manuscripts, see p.9.

Title	Publisher	Publication Date	Publication Place	Source	Classifications	Notes	Actions
...Delle vite de pontifici. Nelle quali si descrivono le vite...	Comin da Trino di Monferrato	1565	Venise	SK081	- Vies des hommes illustres		
...Lexicon Graeco-Latinum, à probatis auctoribus locupletatum...	Ioann Antonius Huguetta et Marcus Antonius Ravaud	1663	Lyon	SK091	- Philologie		
[Alessandro nell'Indie].		[17.]		BV2438	- Théâtre italien	Title page is missing.	
[Arrêt du Conseil supérieur de Louisiane du 29 octobre 1768....]	[D. Braid]	[1768]	[La Nouvelle Orleans]	BV0171	- Droit civil	BV places title and all publication details in square brace.	
[Arrêt du Parlement de Toulouse du 15 juin 1776, ordonnant l'....]		[1776]		BV0183	- Droit civil		
[Cedula].		[17.]	[Lisboa (?)]	BV0640	- Droit civil		
[Déclaration à messieurs les magistrats de la ville d'Annecy.		[1766]		BV3526	- Droit civil	Contains confirmation of the laws concerning bigamy.	
[Épîtres et poésies mêlées. 1748-1778].				BVAM45	- Poésie française	Ex-Libris Henri Rieu.	
[Lettre à Voltaire].				BVAM08	- Epistolaires	Letter possibly dating from 1776. Bound in BV2389, between p.	
[Lettre à Voltaire] Paris, ce 15 7re, 1770.				BVAM23b		Bound in vol.5 of BV3440, between p.8 and 9.	
[Lettre à] Mr. Jean Vernet, pasteur et professeur...		[1769]		BV3635.2	- Philosophie	After title BV adds: [Au sujet du livre de J. Vernet: Réflex.	
[Lettre à] Mr. Jean Vernet, pasteur et		[1769]		BV3635.1	- Philosophie	After title BV adds: [Au sujet du livre de J.	

Digital d'Holbach

As well as tackling the transformation of an archival corpus to a digital platform, the VF is exploring the distinctive challenges of developing a born-digital edition with the Digital d'Holbach project, which aims to create a digital scholarly edition of the writings of radical Enlightenment philosopher and 'father of atheism' Paul-Thiry d'Holbach. Several editions are already under way and at different stages of completion. Funded in tandem by the British Academy and the Leverhulme Trust, our edition of d'Holbach's correspondence, in particular, will significantly advance knowledge on the Radical Enlightenment and the circulation of ideas in 18th-century Europe. It will also provide crucial data for a study of the reception of d'Holbach's ideas in late 18th-century and Revolutionary France, as well as for an intellectual biography of d'Holbach.

Alongside the edition, and largely thanks to it, Holbachian studies at the Voltaire Foundation continue to thrive. Ruggero Sciuto's monograph on d'Holbach's and Diderot's theory of determinism was published earlier this year in the *Oxford University Studies in the Enlightenment* series, and the recent conference of the International Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies gave three members of our team a chance to showcase their research. Meanwhile, Ruggero Sciuto and Gillian Pink are working on an addition to Jerom Vercruysse's bibliography of d'Holbach's publications – an indispensable step towards the completion of the project – and a great collaborative volume on d'Holbach's masterpiece, the *Système de la nature*, is gradually taking shape.

Read Ruggero Sciuto's article in *Dix-huitième siècle* on the Digital d'Holbach project



Communicating Enlightenment in ephemeral poetry: subversion, sociability and gossip in 18th-century *poésies fugitives*

Dr Roman Kuhn joined us from the Freie Universität Berlin as British Academy Newton International Fellow. He is pursuing a research project on 18th-century *poésie fugitive*, occasional poetry that 'escaped' from the author's (or recipient's) portfolio and was circulated to a broader audience in print or manuscript.



18th-century *poésie fugitive* is elusive in more than one way. First, the poems themselves are (or pretend to be) ephemeral creations, anchored in a more or less private sociable setting. And second, and more

importantly, it is not evident how to conceptually pin down this type of poetry. Diderot, in the *Encyclopédie*, characterised 'pièces fugitives' as texts that are circulated first in manuscript and within a restricted circle of readers and only later are disseminated to a wider audience; they are, to use a modern term, texts that are 'leaked' to the public. Diderot's definition is one that focuses almost exclusively on the production and publication of fugitive verse and prose. At the same time, *poésie fugitive* has acquired a generic meaning, signifying 'light verse', no matter how it was produced, disseminated and published.

No less challenging than the conceptual fuzziness is the sheer volume. *Poésies fugitives* come en masse and can be found at various locations: dedicated *recueils de poésies*, anthologies, journals (the *Mercur de France* has a separate section for *poésie fugitive*), as an appendix to more substantial works, etc. *Poésie fugitive* infiltrates almost all areas and markets within the print sphere; it is practised by celebrities like

Voltaire, whose fugitive poetry is a coveted material throughout the 18th century, as well as by minor and virtually unknown poets.

The project aims to reconstruct this type of poetry both conceptually and historically. Working with contemporary reflections on the genre (if it is a genre) and the poetics embedded within the poems themselves, it tries to reconstruct the use and development of this conceptual domain of poetry. Another aim is to reconstruct the networks created by fugitive poetry. As an eminently sociable form of literature it connects poets and their audience; as a short form that lends itself to being published and republished, collected, transcribed and disseminated in various ways, it also shows networks of publication and text reuse.

The term *poésie fugitive*, interestingly, is used almost exclusively in France with no direct equivalents in other European languages and literatures. This, however, does not mean that the literary practice across Europe did not develop comparable phenomena all over the continent. A symposium held in spring 2024 will bring together specialists on different European literatures in order to consider the international dimension of fugitive poetry and discuss affinities as well as differences between European literatures.

Read Roman's blogs on his project so far



Above: François-Félix Nogaret, *Le Fond du sac ou restant des babioles de M. X. *** Membre éveillé de l'Académie des Dormans*. À Venise [Paris]: Chez Pantalon-Phébus [Cazin], 1780. All things ephemeral in this illustration (soap bubbles, mayflies, rainbow, etc.) as well as the title of the publication, *Le Fond du sac*, and the section-title 'pièces fugitives, ou riens' make for a carefully constructed semblance of negligence.

Right: Roman Kuhn in the Voltaire Lab (photography ©Keiko Ikeuchi)



The Voltaire Lab

The Voltaire Lab, now in its fifth year of existence, continues to be a hub of research activity centred around Voltaire's digital corpora and, more generally, the interface of digital humanities methods and collections with 18th-century studies. Thanks to the generous support of the Astra Foundation, we were able to continue our main research and development efforts for 2022/23, including the Voltaire Library Database, whose data entry is largely completed, and the Catalogue of Manuscripts relating to Voltaire, a project led by postdoctoral fellow Zoe Screti. We are currently developing a new interface for these two databases which will allow users to query and visualise their contents in a variety of new ways.

The Voltaire Lab continued to work closely with the Sorbonne across various projects, and in particular with the ObTIC (Observatoire des textes, des idées et des corpus) project team, currently based at the Bibliothèque nationale de France DataLab, and the European Research Council-funded project ModERN (Modelling Enlightenment). Lab co-director Nicholas Cronk gave the opening lecture of the ModERN project launch in May 2023. Postdoctoral fellow Roman Kuhn is working closely with the ModERN team and the BNF DataLab to construct a large corpus of 18th-century



Glenn Roe and Zoe Screti in the Voltaire Lab

digitised press, a corpus that will prove useful for tracing the publication and reception of *poésie fugitive*. Postdoctoral fellow James Gawley (a joint post between ObTIC and Oxford) continued his work on identifying Latin allusions in Voltaire's *Henriade* and was recently awarded an 'ERC-Access' grant by the Agence Nationale de la Recherche to continue his work in Paris for the next two years.

Two important conferences this summer (the International Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies in Rome and the Digital Humanities conference in Graz) provided the opportunity to showcase the Lab's research in digital intertextuality and network analysis.

UNIQ+

This summer the VF hosted four students on the UNIQ+ Research Internship programme run by the University of Oxford, which aims to widen participation at postgraduate level by offering seven-week research internships to talented undergraduates.

Our interns worked in the Voltaire Lab on a variety of projects relating to their research interests.

Visualising Voltaire's life and works

I am primarily working on creating a timeline of Voltaire's life, alongside an interactive map of his travels. I am also conducting independent research exploring his interest in science and creating a timeline to contextualise his work in the history of science.
Charlotte White

I am working on creating interactive digital resources to help people learn more about Voltaire's life, works and cultural impact. These include a timeline of Voltaire's publications and a visual database / network of his relationships.
Isra Hussein



UNIQ+ research interns in the Voltaire Lab: l.t.r. Charlotte D., Isra, Aušra, Charlotte W

Voltaire's *pots-pourris*

As the first student sponsored by the Voltaire Foundation to study the new MSc in Digital Scholarship at the University of Oxford, Joana Roqué Pesquer has been working on the Voltaire Library Database for both her practicum placement and her final master's thesis.

She has focused on Voltaire's 200 composite volumes titled *pots-pourris* and their contents. These collections are literary medleys that escape all definition, since they are all different from one another, but one of the elements that figuratively binds them together is the fact that they are the only works made and compiled by Voltaire that have not yet been thoroughly explored by scholars. Nevertheless, they are crucial to an understanding of how Voltaire used written sources to critically engage with literary tradition.

Joana started analysing the collections by cataloguing them while correcting and updating the 1961 Russian-published catalogue of Voltaire's library. She has created the first searchable database of these collections, providing a draft digital catalogue that recreates the complex inner mechanisms of the *pots-pourris* (volumes split into different sections within a collection, multiple copies of the same edition bound together, sections torn apart, etc.). Completing the dataset has allowed her to carry out tabular data analysis on the titles of the 2000 works that the collections contain, through topic modelling and keyword extraction methods, such as the Natural Language Toolkit (NLTK), to identify the most relevant and frequent topics. The goal has been to add fields in the catalogue such as 'estimated year of creation', or 'classifications', so that further research can be developed on the importance of the *pots-pourris* and their historical context. As well



Nicholas Cronk, Joana Roqué Pesquer and Gillian Pink
(photography ©Keiko Ikeuchi)

as upgrading current bibliographic information, and creating a searchable digital resource, Joana's thesis investigates how these polychronic and multitemporal compilations shape the literary text itself, by creating a comparative and intertextual space inside each volume that alters meaning between the texts and the thematic and discursive relationships that emanate from them.

Discover more
about the
pots-pourris
catalogue here



Digital Voltaire metadata identification

I am working on the metadata of the Complete Works of Voltaire (1968-2022). Embracing the conduits of contextual and historical-bibliographical influence, my project endeavours to pair the proper nouns populating the edition with their corresponding encyclopaedic entries, contributing to the enrichment of the Digital Voltaire resource. Aušra Bukniute

Voltaire and Rousseau iconography

I am creating a subset database of the images from the VF's collection of Voltaire iconography featuring Voltaire with Jean-Jacques Rousseau to trace the relationship between these two prominent Enlightenment figures. Charlotte Disley

Academic Events

Special lectures

In November 2022, **Gregory Brown** (University of Nevada/VF), General Editor of *Oxford University Studies in the Enlightenment*, presented an exciting digital project at the Maison Française d'Oxford under the title 'Beaumarchais's correspondence network: textual corpus, metadata and social historiography'.



Watch the Besterman lecture on our YouTube channel



The 2022 Besterman Lecture was delivered by **Helena Rosenblatt** (CUNY), an eminent historian of political thought and an expert on the Enlightenment. Professor Rosenblatt flew over from New York to talk to a full lecture theatre at the Examination Schools on 'Napoleon's Nemesis: Madame de Staël and the Origins of Liberalism'.

In May, we were delighted to welcome **Peter B. Kaufman** (MIT and St Edmund Hall) to Oxford to give a talk on 'The Fifth Estate: Networks of Enlightenment in the Age of Trump', highlighting the VF's continuing commitment to opening up discussions about how the values of Enlightenment translate to the contemporary global context.



Top: Helena Rosenblatt (CUNY), 2022 Besterman Lecturer
Bottom: (l.r.) Andrew Kahn chairs Peter Kaufman's talk at St Edmund Hall, Oxford, May 2023

Bottom right: The 2022 Besterman Lecture, East Writing School, Examination Schools, Oxford

Enlightenment workshop series 2023

Our interdisciplinary flagship seminar returned to its in-person format after two years online and moved to a new-old venue at Magdalen College, where the seminar had been launched in the 1990s by John Robertson and Laurence Brockliss.

The 2023 series (January to May) featured renowned international scholars as well as Oxford-based early-career researchers. David Armitage (Harvard) attracted a large public from different faculties for his discussion of the impact of international law on Mozart's *Marriage of Figaro*. Friedrich Vollhardt (Munich) compared the prominence of theodicy in works by Lessing and Voltaire and Eva Piirimäe (Tartu) discussed Herder's changing views of the French Revolution. Luisa Simonutti (Milan) talked on unpublished manuscripts by John Locke that testify to the impact of early-modern Arabic sources on his work, while Sanja Perovic (KCL) shared with us the results of a collaborative project on the transfer of revolutionary thought between Britain, Italy and France. Jürgen Overhoff (Münster) talked on the understudied influence of the educational reformer Basedow on Immanuel Kant's pedagogical writings, and Jeffrey Ravel (MIT) fascinated us with a talk on the unexpected uses of playing cards in 18th-century France.

But the Enlightenment Workshop was not only a forum for visiting eminent scholars from abroad: the seminar also allowed Oxford-based postdocs to showcase their research. Ruggero Sciuto (VF and St Edmund Hall) focused on the radical end of the scale in his paper on representations of female atheists in 18th-century France, while Michelle Pfeffer (Magdalen College) spoke on a major representative of the 'religious Enlightenment', William Warburton, and his prominence in the public sphere. Nicolas Fréry (Strasbourg), concluded the series with a presentation of a new edition of Voltaire's hitherto unpublished correspondence with his niece, Marie-Louise Denis.



Legacies of Enlightenment symposium 2023

In June, we held a two-day postdoctoral symposium at New College, Oxford, in conjunction with the Turin Humanities Programme (Fondazione 1563 per l'Arte e la Cultura della Compagnia di San Paolo), and with the generous support of the New College Ludwig Fund for the Humanities. We welcomed early-career researchers based in Turin and Oxford to speak about their research on the theme of 'Legacies of Enlightenment'. It was a fantastic opportunity for sharing work and forging new connections with others working in the field, and included a special guided visit to the Bodleian Library to admire some of their Enlightenment treasures.

International Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies in Rome

The year was concluded by the Congress of the International Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (ISECS) in Rome (3-7 July). The VF's founder, Theodore Besterman, took the lead in establishing ISECS in the early 1960s, and the VF has had major presence at these four-yearly conferences ever since. In line with the 2023 theme, 'Antiquity and the shaping of the future in the Age of Enlightenment', VF researchers organised and participated in sessions on Voltaire's engagement with Latin authors and on the digital tracing of the Enlightenment reception of antiquity. Our book stand, organised in collaboration with Liverpool University Press, gave prominence to our publications, including *Oxford University Studies in the Enlightenment*, and was a consistently popular meeting-point.

Honorary Doctorate from McGill University for Nicholas Cronk

Congratulations to our Director, Nicholas Cronk, who has been awarded an Honorary Doctorate from McGill University for his scholarship, recognising him as one of the world's pre-eminent Enlightenment scholars while standing at the forefront of digital humanities technology. Nicholas also had the honour of giving the Convocation Address to the Arts graduates in the presence of the Chancellor John McCall MacBain.



Editing and digitising marginalia workshop 2022

In November, we held a stimulating workshop on the many and varied challenges posed by editing marginalia, in association with OCTET (the Oxford Centre for Textual Editing and Theory) at Jesus College.

Above: Nicholas Cronk at McGill University, June 2023

Below: Legacies of Enlightenment participants, New College, Oxford, June 2023



Oxford University Studies in the Enlightenment

The *Oxford University Studies in the Enlightenment* in the past year has remained at the forefront of the field of 18th-century studies, leading the conversation about the meaning and significance of the Enlightenment today.

From September 2022 through August 2023, we published 12 books, reflecting the breadth and the depth of the collection; these books demonstrate the relevance of the Enlightenment to the contemporary world while still retaining our longstanding heart and core of our identity as a publisher of rigour with respect to both our high standards of peer review and our meticulous copy editing.

For readers who turn to us for the leading work on the Enlightenment canon, our monograph on the theme of causality in the work of Diderot and d'Holbach (2023:04) provided new insights on well-known material, while our book of essays by a leading historian of Enlightenment thought revisited longstanding arguments and offered new perspectives on issues of intellectual history, the history of philosophy and the study of narrative and identity (2022:09).

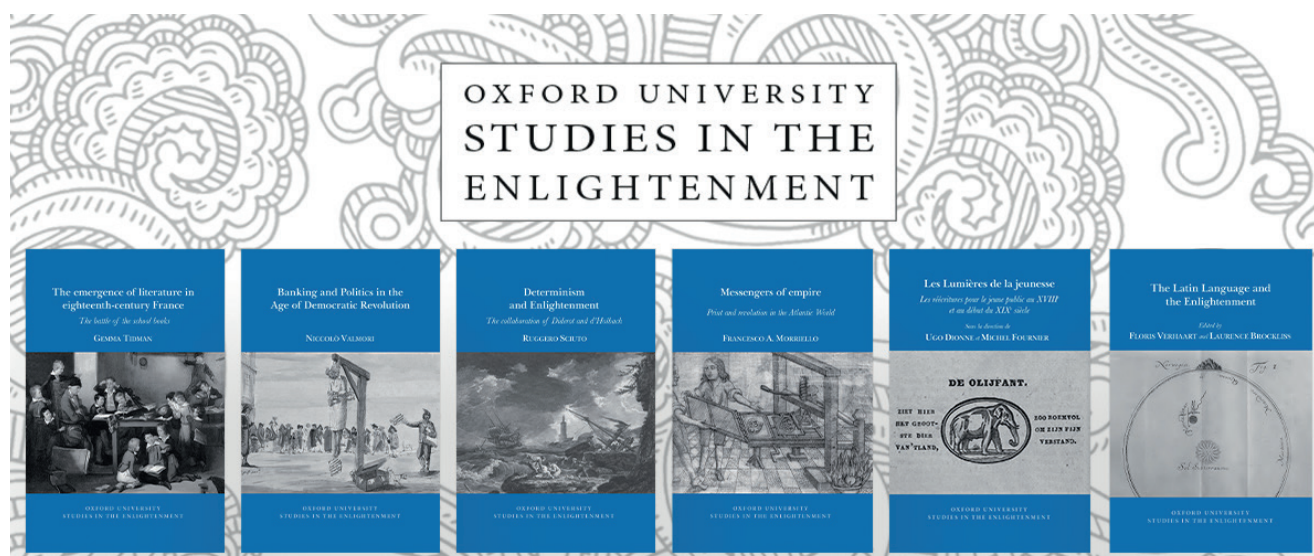
One important direction in which we advanced this past year is the study of the social institutions of the Enlightenment with volumes considering the cultural, political and social practice of philosophical and scientific thought in the institutional context of the Academy of Berlin (2022:11); the meaning of literature in the curricular and pedagogical debates in the intellectual and professional networks centred on institutions of secondary education in France, the *collèges* (2023:02); the publication of texts with Enlightenment themes edited for young readers (2023:06); and the communities and institutions of the world of Nordic academia (2023:08).

We also pursued important issues of political culture as manifest in commerce and finance, including a monograph on international banking networks during the French Revolution (2023:03) and an important work on print and communication across mercantile networks in the Caribbean, including the involvement of enslaved people in networks of print (2023:05).

A second theme we explored was political theory as a form of cultural expression. We published a monograph – in French – on the importance of Harrington for French Enlightenment republican thought (2022:12); a monograph – translated from Italian to English – on aesthetics and political theory (2023:01); and a third monograph on the importance of ancient Rome in the political theory of Montesquieu (2022:10).

Indeed, the theme of classical legacies in the Enlightenment – the theme of the Congress of the International Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (ISECS) held in Rome this year – also figured centrally in a book of essays on uses of the Latin language in the Enlightenment (2023:07).

Looking forward, our editorial pipeline remains deep and wide, and we will address in the fall 2023 catalogue pressing questions on the history of the interpretation of the Enlightenment (2023:11), offer new source material on the French Revolution (2023:10), and expand our understanding of the parameters of the Enlightenment to include the Ottoman Empire (2023:09).



2022/23 volumes

Anthony J. La Vopa, *Enlightenment past and present: essays in a social history of ideas* (2022:09)

Nathaniel K. Gilmore, *Montesquieu and the spirit of Rome* (2022:10)

Tinca Prunea-Bretonnet and Peter R. Anstey (eds), *The Berlin Academy in the reign of Frederick the Great: philosophy and science* (2022:11)

Myriam-Isabelle Ducrocq, *La République de Harrington dans la France des Lumières et de la Révolution* (2022:12)

Gerardo Tocchini, *Diderot, Rousseau and the politics of the arts in the Enlightenment* (2023:01)

Gemma Tidman, *The emergence of literature in eighteenth-century France: the battle of the school books* (2023:02)

Niccolò Valmori, *Banking and politics in the age of democratic revolution* (2023:03)

Ruggero Sciuto, *Determinism and Enlightenment: the collaboration of Diderot and d'Holbach* (2023:04)

Francesco A. Morriello, *Messengers of empire: print and revolution in the Atlantic world* (2023:05)

Ugo Dionne and Michel Fournier (eds), *Les Lumières de la jeunesse: les réécritures pour le jeune public au XVIIIe et au début du XIXe siècle* (2023:06)

Floris Verhaart and Laurence Brockliss (eds), *The Latin language and the Enlightenment* (2023:07)

Mikkel Munthe Jensen, *Patriotism and reform in Nordic universities during the long eighteenth century* (2023:08)

Below left: Author Ruggero Sciuto and his newly published volume, with Rebecca Graham, editorial assistant for the series

Below right, top: *The Oxford University Studies in the Enlightenment* book stand at ISECS, Rome, 2023

Below right, bottom: Gillian Pink



Development News

New Head of Philanthropy

We are delighted to welcome Caitlyn Sanderson, who joined the Voltaire Foundation in summer 2023 as the new Head of Philanthropy.

Caitlyn has a long history of fundraising for non-profits and charities, having worked in areas as varied as health and human services, museums, and higher education. Most recently, she was the Director of Research and Leadership Gift Officer at the New College Foundation in Sarasota, Florida. Caitlyn has a BA in History from New College of Florida and an MA in Publishing from Oxford Brookes University.

Believe it or not, this is not Caitlyn's first time working with the Voltaire Foundation – many years ago when she worked at Oxford University Press UK, she was part of the marketing and sales team that helped launch Electronic Enlightenment around the world.



Astra Foundation

A generous gift from the Astra Foundation is allowing us to fund innovative digital research at the Voltaire Foundation over a four-year period, and to bring visitors to Oxford for short research visits. Most importantly, the gift enabled us this year to continue the appointment of Professor Glenn Roe as Astra Foundation Research Fellow in Digital Humanities, and to appoint Dr Zoe Screti as Astra Foundation Research Fellow in Manuscript Studies. We are enormously grateful for this support which is transforming our digital research and taking it in exciting new directions.



Polonsky Foundation

The other prime focus of our activities has been the digitisation of the Voltaire edition, completed in print last year. Our aim is ambitious, to create a digital edition of the highest possible specification, comparable in prestige to Theodore Besterman's print edition. To achieve this, we urgently need to raise funds, and we are especially grateful for the help we have received for this purpose from the Polonsky Foundation.

Académie française and the British Academy

The Fondation del Duca, under the aegis of the Académie française, has made a generous gift in support of digitisation costs. In addition, we are delighted that the British Academy has recognised this project by awarding it the status of an Academy Research Project, with funding for a five-year period.



Martin J. Gross Family Foundation

Meanwhile, we continue to care about printed volumes as well, and in particular we are concerned to give continued life, in both paper and digital form, to important books that we printed in the past. We are very grateful therefore to the Martin J. Gross Family Foundation for funding the reprinting of a prestigious series of volumes devoted to editions of clandestine writings.

Zoe Screti, the Astra Foundation Research Fellow in Manuscript Studies (photography ©Keiko Ikeuchi)



“The ideas of the Enlightenment are critically important ones to the world we live in and I am thrilled to be a member of the team that highlights their continued relevance to our time. I look forward to meeting the Voltaire Foundation’s many long-time supporters and friends and building many more strong relationships as the VF moves further into the digital arena and continues to be at the forefront of scholarship.”

Caitlyn Sanderson

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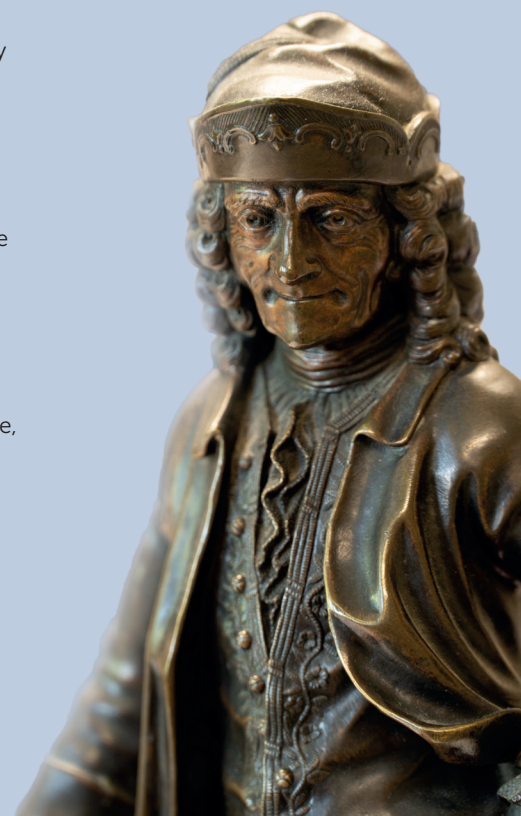
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