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Vendégelőadók sorozatának következő rendezvényére,



Dr. BÉATRICE LAURENT

Professor of Victorian Studies

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**Sleeping Beauties in Victorian Britain:
Cultural, artistic and literary explorations of a myth
című előadására.**

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The figure of the beautiful reclining female sleeper as a trope in the Victorian imagination calls on visual, literary and erotic connotations, all contributing to a complex density of readings involving aesthetics, gender definition and medical assumptions of the age. From the Pre-Raphaelites and late Victorian aesthetes to the adaptors of fairy tales, from the explorers of sleep theory to the fascinated crowds who visited Ellen Sadler - the real-life "Sleeping Maid" who is reported to have slept from 1871 to 1880 -, artists, scientists and the larger public seem to have shared a common interest in the myth of the Briar Rose and its contemporary implications. This lecture seeks to bring together and examine a corpus of Sleeping Beauties drawn from Victorian art, literature and medical reports and to explore the significance of the enduring revival of the myth.

BÉATRICE LAURENT, Professor of Victorian Studies at the Université Bordeaux-Montaigne. As a Pre-Raphaelite scholar, she has published several articles on Victorian art, edited a volume of essays on William Morris (*News from Nowhere*, ed. Du Temps, 2004) and authored *La Peinture anglaise* (Du Temps, 2006). Her research interest is the intersection of art, science and literature in Victorian culture. This interdisciplinary approach is implemented in her recent edited volume, *Sleeping Beauties in Victorian Britain: Cultural, Literary and Artistic Explorations of a Myth* (Peter Lang, 2015).