

1968: American Politics, Culture and Society in a Year of Upheaval

Rothermere American Institute, 12th May 2008

Organised by Ross Nicolson and Joe Merton

9.30 – 10.00 Arrival and registration

10.00-11.30 Session 1: The Other Side of 1968

Introduced by Dominic Sandbrook (Writer)

Chaired by Ian Hart (University of Oxford)

- William Hynes (University of Oxford): *'Law and Order' and the 1968 United States Presidential Election*
- Ross Nicolson (University of Oxford): *No Sex, No Drugs, No Rock 'n' Roll: Young People and the Eugene McCarthy Campaign*
- Clare Russell (University of Nottingham): *Making a Difference: The VISTA Programme in South Carolina*

11.30-12.00 Coffee Break

12.00-13.30 Session 2: Culture Meets Politics in 1968

Introduced by Lizabeth Cohen (Harmsworth Visiting Professor, University of Oxford/Harvard University)

Chaired by Joe Merton (University of Oxford)

- Kathryn Cramer Brownell (Boston University): *"Sock it to me?" The "New Nixon" and Rowan & Martin's Laugh-In*
- Francisca Fuentes (University of Nottingham): *1968 and the National Funeral*
- Karen Heath (University of Oxford): *The Politics of Art: Lyndon B. Johnson, Roger L. Stevens, and the National Endowment for the Arts, 1965-69*

13.30-14.15 Lunch

14.15-16.00 Session 3: 1968 – Forty Years On

Introduced by Godfrey Hodgson (Writer and former *Observer* Washington correspondent)

Chaired by Eleanor Thompson (University of Oxford)

- Jeff Bloodworth (Gannon University): *1968, National Greatness and the Transformation of American Liberalism*
- Tom Packer (University of Oxford): *Jesse Helms, North Carolina and the Legacy of 1968*
- Nicholas Witham (University of Nottingham): *Oliver Stone's 'Salvador': Negotiating the Legacy of the New Left in Reagan Era America*

16.00-16.30 Coffee Break

16.30-18.30 Plenary Address:

- Bruce Schulman (Boston University): *"They Want Meet the Press, We Want Johnny Carson": 1968 and the New American Cultural Politics.*

18.30 Conference Ends