

## **'Charlotte Brontë, Realism and Experimentation', Professor Sally Shuttleworth**

When *Jane Eyre* was published it was greeted by G. H. Lewes as a 'transcript of life', and assimilated into the emerging genre of realism. This lecture will return to the impact of that early reception, and consider by contrast the innovative and experimental forms adopted by Brontë in her novels.

Sally Shuttleworth is Professor of English Literature at the University of Oxford. She has published extensively on the inter-relations between literature and science, primarily in the Victorian period. Her books include *Charlotte Brontë and Victorian Psychology* (CUP, 1996) and *The Mind of the Child: Child Development in Literature, Science and Medicine, 1840-1900* (OUP, 2010), which takes *Jane Eyre* as one of its key texts. She has edited Oxford World Classics editions of *Jane Eyre*, and *Agnes Grey*.

### **Reading:**

Rachel Ablow, *Victorian Pain* (Princeton University Press, 2017), Ch. 3, 'Pain and Privacy in *Villette*.'

Miriam Allott, ed., *The Brontës: The Critical Heritage* (Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1974)

Amanda Anderson, *The Powers of Distance: Cosmopolitanism and the Cultivation of Detachment* (Princeton UP, 2001), Ch. 1.

Alexis Easley, 'The Brontës and the Victorian Reading Public, 1846-1860, in, *A Companion to the Brontës*, eds, Diane Long Hoeveler and Deborah Denenholz Morse (Blackwell, 2016).

Heather Glen, *Charlotte Brontë: The Imagination in History* (OUP, 2002)

Jo McDonagh, 'Rethinking Provincialism in Mid-Nineteenth-Century Fiction: *Our Village* to *Villette*', *Victorian Studies* 55:3 (2013), 399-424.

Marianne Thormählen, *The Brontës in Context* (CUP, 2012)

*Victorian Review* 42:2 (2016), Special Issue, The Brontës and Critical Interventions in Victorian Studies, eds. L. Hoffer and E. Meadows.