America was a major preoccupation of Ford’s. He wrote widely about America and American life in his fiction, criticism, and reminiscences, and he was for many decades involved closely with American writers and American literature. He admired and wrote about the work of his friends Henry James and Stephen Crane, and he knew many more of the best American writers of three times and places: figures such as Ezra Pound and H.D. in England before the First World War; Gertrude Stein, Ernest Hemingway, Katherine Anne Porter, and William Carlos Williams in post-war Paris; Allen Tate and Caroline Gordon, Robert Lowell, Theodore Dreiser, and Charles Olson in the U.S.A. in the 1930s. From the late 1920s he lived frequently in New York, and travelled over much of the country, accompanied in the 30s by his American partner Janice Biala.

This conference aims to focus attention on Ford’s lesser-known texts, and to explore his complex and evolving relation to America as a way of broadening, and deepening, our critical picture of Ford and his cultural relations. The Ford Society is committed to an outward-looking programme of events, examining Ford’s involvement with other writers, artists, milieux and cultural forms. We welcome work (from graduate students as well as established scholars) on the literary and cultural movements of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries; and comparative work on Ford and other figures.

For further information visit:
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