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978-1-107-02910-1 - Transfiguring the Arts and Sciences: Knowledge and Cultural Institutions in the Romantic Age

Jon Klancher

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## TRANSFIGURING THE ARTS AND SCIENCES

In this important and innovative study Jon Klancher shows how the Romantic age produced a new discourse of the “Arts and Sciences” by reconfiguring the Enlightenment’s idea of knowledge and by creating new kinds of cultural institutions with unprecedented public impact. He investigates the work of poets, lecturers, moral philosophers, scientists, and literary critics – including Coleridge, Godwin, Bentham, Davy, Wordsworth, Robinson, Shelley, and Hunt – and traces their response to book collectors and bibliographers, arts-and-sciences administrators, painters, engravers, natural philosophers, radical journalists, editors, and reviewers. Taking a historical and cross-disciplinary approach, he opens up Romantic literary and critical writing to transformations in the history of science, history of the book, art history, and the little-known history of arts-and-sciences administration that linked early modern projects to nineteenth- and twentieth-century modes of organizing “knowledges.” His conclusions transform the ways we think about knowledge, both in the Romantic period and in our own.

JON KLANCHER is Professor of English at Carnegie Mellon University. His areas of research include Romantic and Victorian studies, history of books and reading, and the sociology of cultural fields. He is editor of *A Concise Companion to the Romantic Age* (2009).

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JON KLANCHER



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Frontmatter

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*For Joan,  
and my daughters Emily, Sophia, and Maya*

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Jon Klancher

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---

Contents

<i>List of tables</i>	<i>page</i> viii
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	ix
Introduction	I
PART I QUESTIONS OF THE ARTS AND SCIENCES	
1 From the age of projects to the age of institutions	27
2 The administrator as cultural producer: restructuring the arts and sciences	51
3 Wild bibliography: the rise and fall of book history in the nineteenth century	85
4 Print and institution in the making of art controversy	107
5 History and organization in the Romantic-age sciences	125
PART II QUESTIONS OF THE LITERARY	
6 The Coleridge Institution	153
7 Dissenting from the “arts and sciences”	182
Epilogue: Transatlantic crossings	223
<i>Notes</i>	232
<i>Bibliography</i>	274
<i>Index</i>	295

Cambridge University Press  
978-1-107-02910-1 - Transfiguring the Arts and Sciences: Knowledge and Cultural Institutions  
in the Romantic Age  
Jon Klancher  
Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

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*Tables*

1	Royal Institution lecture series in seasons 1805–7	73
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978-1-107-02910-1 - Transfiguring the Arts and Sciences: Knowledge and Cultural Institutions in the Romantic Age

Jon Klancher

Frontmatter

[More information](#)*Acknowledgements*

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Jon Klancher

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

x

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