

Cambridge Elements

Elements in Eighteenth-Century Connections

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EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY ILLUSTRATION AND LITERARY MATERIAL CULTURE

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Eighteenth-Century Illustration and Literary Material Culture

Richardson, Thomson, Defoe

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Abstract: This Element studies eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century instances of transmediation, concentrating on how the same illustrations were adapted for new media and how they generated novel media constellations and meanings for these images. Focusing on the 'content' of the illustrations and its adaptation within the framework of a new medium, case studies examine the use across different media of illustrations (comprehending both the designs for book illustrations and furniture prints) of three eighteenth-century works: Defoe's *Robinson Crusoe* (1719), Thomson's *The Seasons* (1730) and Richardson's *Pamela* (1740). These case studies reveal how visually enhanced material culture not only makes present the literary work, including its characters and story-world. But they also demonstrate how, through processes of transmediation, changes are introduced to the illustration that affect comprehension of that work. This title is also available as Open Access on Cambridge Core.

This Element also has a video abstract:
[Cambridge.org/Eighteenth-Century Illustration and Literary Material
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Keywords: illustration, material culture, literary history, mediation, transmediality

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Contents

1	Transmediation, Illustration and Material Culture	1
2	Re-signifying <i>Pamela</i> : From Snuff Box to Chapbook	11
3	Damon, Musidora and the Containment of Desire: From Vase to Miniature	25
4	Palemon, Lavinia and Virtuous Love Exemplified: From Creamware Jugs to Derby Figurines	42
5	Re-narrating <i>Robinson Crusoe</i> : Transmediation on French Speaking Plates	60
6	Conclusion	79
	References	84