

Conférence de Jonathan Wilcox
(University of Iowa)

*Anglo-Saxon Treasure: The Significance of the New-Found
Staffordshire Hoard for the History of the Book in Anglo-Saxon England*

A most spectacular collection of treasure from Anglo-Saxon England was discovered in a field in Staffordshire in 2009, with additional items being discovered in recent months. This heavily illustrated talk will describe this glorious discovery and contextualize the new-found hoard, paying particular attention to its relation to the Old English epic poem *Beowulf*. The Staffordshire Hoard contains beautiful gold and garnet work that appears to illustrate well the world of the poem and yet it will be suggested that both poem and hoard create a veneer of solidity and glory, nostalgia and brutality, that masks the more complicated realities of power emerging in Anglo-Saxon England. In such a context, the single inscribed object proves to be a significant pointer towards a new world of textuality.



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15h30

**Université Paul-Valéry
Site Saint Charles
(tram arrêt Albert 1^{er})**

Salle 003

Jonathan Wilcox is the John C. Gerber Professor of English at the University of Iowa, where he specializes in medieval literature and culture. He has published widely on Old English literature, including the edited collections *Humour in Anglo-Saxon Literature* and *Naked Before God: Uncovering the Body in Anglo-Saxon England*. He is currently working on a book about the imagining of books in early medieval England.