

# The Poetry of Humphry Davy

Science,  
Literature, &  
Romanticism

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# Biography

- 1778- 1829
- ‘Romantic chemist’
- Beddoes
- RI (1799)
- International figure
- Travel
- Death and Fame



# ‘Constellations’

- Biographies
- Public culture of science
- Medicine
- Big picture HSTM
- Literary figure

# Research question and method

- How can we assess his poetry?
- Social connections
- The ‘other’ two cultures?  
HSTM/Literary theorists

# ‘Sons of Genius’ (1795-6)

To scan the laws of Nature, to explore  
The tranquil reign of mild Philosophy,  
Or on Netwonian wings sublime to soar  
Thro’ the bright regions of the starry sky.

(Lines 77-80)

# Programme of Research

- Work at RI – primary material
- Science communication CDA
- Divide thesis:  
LOCALITY – ties in various strands and methods
- Cornwall
- Bristol
- London
- International
- Byronic

