In 1948, the British government literally retooled Daniel Defoe’s hapless hero Robinson Crusoe to re-narrate the history of Britain in an 11-minute cartoon, made by the Halas and Batchelor animation team - the so-called “Walt-Disney of Britain.” A look at “Robinson Charley” allows us to see the Robinsonaden spun all over Western Europe in the years following WWII. The lecture will focus on Halas and Batchelor’s charming cartoon, the information campaign of which it was a part, and all that this little film (and Daniel Defoe’s original Robinson Crusoe) helps us to understand about the postwar period.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1st, 12:30PM
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