Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies

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This publication is available in alternative formats upon request. Please contact cmrs@osu.edu for more information.
Greetings

There has never been a year when *Nouvelles Nouvelles* was more aptly titled. We start the new quarter with a new office (well, almost new — we’ve been on the top floor of Dulles only a few months); a new director, and two new graduate assistants. In fact, if it were not for Ethan Knapp, our level-headed Associate Director, and Pat Swinehart, our capable Administrative Coordinator, none of us would have any idea of what we were supposed to be doing. Even Ethan and Pat have not labored long in the vineyards of CMRS, so it is very likely that we will all have to call upon the wisdom and patience of our more experienced medieval and early modern colleagues at OSU from time to time this year.

We have three new colleagues to welcome to the community of medieval and early modern scholars at OSU. Alan Farmer in the English Department works on Renaissance Drama; David Sanson in Philosophy specializes in metaphysics, but with a secondary interest in medieval philosophy; and Raffaella Fabiani Giannetto specializes in Renaissance Landscape in the Knowlton School of Architecture. We hope to introduce you to all three in more detail at a later date, and to hear from them in person in our colloquium series in due course.

There are plans afoot for several new initiatives in CMRS, most of them too inchoate to lay before you as yet, but one should be singled out here. Through the good offices of Chris Highley and John King, and with the generous support of Dean Roberts, OSU is currently applying to join the Folger Institute Consortium. Should our application be successful, membership in the consortium would provide us all with greatly enhanced access to the Folger
Greetings, cont...

Institute’s many programs and facilities, and at the same time, since OSU would be joining a very select group of institutions, raise our profile significantly among our fellow early modernists. In the words of the Executive Director, Kathleen Lynch, we would be contributing “to the conceptualization of educational and research activities that are nationally—and, increasingly, internationally—visible and influential.”

With so much that is new, it is perhaps appropriate that we should be taking time this year to look back. 2005/2006 marks the fortieth anniversary of the founding of CMRS, and in keeping with this landmark in our own history our lecture series will be illuminating a number of the anniversaries that coincide with ours but predate it by four, five, six, or even more, centuries. At the same time we will also be celebrating the contributions of a number of people whose efforts in the early days of the Center have enabled us to reach this milestone. Our own Richard Dutton started the series off with a bang (if you’ll forgive the pun) on October 3, by investigating the mysterious silence with which Shakespeare and his contemporaries greeted the discovery of the Gunpowder Plot in 1605, and as I write this, we are eagerly awaiting the arrival of Anne Walters Robertson from University of Chicago whose lecture will be given on October 21 in honor of one of our founding members, the eminent musicologist Herbert Livingston. We hope to welcome you not only to Professor Robertson’s lecture, but to all our other lectures, colloquia, and gatherings throughout the coming year.

With best wishes,

Richard Firth Green
Director, Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies
Deborah Burks (Associate Professor, English) was awarded a Coca-Cola Critical Difference Grant to support her work on women and the culture of surveillance in early modern England.

Frank Coulson (Professor, Greek and Latin) presented “Dante and the Latin Commentary Tradition on Ovid” at the International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds, United Kingdom, 11-14 July; he also presented “Two Newly Discovered Collections of Ovidiana” at Texts and Contexts: A Conference at the Center for Epigraphical and Palaeographical Studies at The Ohio State University, 30 September-1 October.

David Cressy (Professor, History) published a 2nd edition of Religion and Society in Early Modern England: A Source book (Routledge, 2005); he also co-authored Gunpowder Plots: A Celebration of 400 Years of Bonfire Nights (Penguin, 2005) and “Book Burning in Tudor and Stuart England” in Sixteenth Century Journal, Vol. 36, Summer 2005; he also conducted a workshop on social history at Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland, on 23 May, and he presented “When Did the English Civil War Begin?” at a Conference on “Cultures of War/Cultures of Peace” at the Huntington Library, San Marino, California, 10 September.

Richard Dutton (Professor, English) published “Recent Studies in Tudor and Stuart Drama” in Studies in English Literature, vol 45.2, Spring 2005; he also presented “Politics and the Context(s) of Henry V” at the Rocky Mountain Medieval and Renaissance Association meeting, Jackson Hole, Wyoming, 4 June; and he presented “Thinking Unthought Thoughts about Jacobean Theatrical Patronage” at the Theatrical Patronage in Early Modern Europe Conference, University of Keele, United Kingdom, 10 September.

Fritz Graf (Professor, Greek and Latin) published an essay entitled “Rolling the Dice for an Answer” in Mantikê: Studies in Ancient Divination. Religions in the Graeco-Roman World vol. 155 (Leiden).
Richard Firth Green (Professor, English) presented “Wightes as it be: A Prehistory of the Early Modern Demon,” the plenary lecture at the 31st annual conference of the Southeastern Medieval Association, 29 September-1 October; he also presented “The Genre of the Ordre de Bel Aise” at the Ohio Medieval Colloquium, Shawnee State University, Portsmouth, Ohio, 8 October.

Timothy Gregory (Professor, History) was awarded a University Outreach and Engagement Seed Grant for his project “Ancient Origins of Modern Society: Outreach Activities of the OSU Museum of Classical Archaeology”; he was also elected to the Excavations and Survey Committee of the American School in Athens.

Henry Griffy (Ph.D. Candidate, English) presented “The Work of Robin Hood Art in an Age of Mechanical Reproduction: A Case Study” at the Meeting of the International Association for Robin Hood Studies, University of Delaware, 29 September-2 October.

Barbara Hanawalt (Professor, History) presented “Differing Life Experiences for Urban and Rural Youth in Late Medieval England” at the International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds, United Kingdom, 11-14 July.

Sarah-Grace Heller (Assistant Professor, French and Italian) presented “The Ambiguous Vocabulary of Textile Decoration: Obscuring the Artisan’s Hand” at the International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds, United Kingdom, 11-14 July.

Michael Johnston (Ph.D. Candidate, English) presented “British Library MS Harley 2252: The Story of a Merchant Collector” at Texts and Contexts: A Conference at the Center for Epigraphical and Palaeographical Studies at The Ohio State University, 30 September-1 October.

John N. King (Professor, English) presented “The Making of the English Bible” on *What’s the Word?*, a weekly radio program on National Public Radio, Summer 2005.

Geoffrey Parker (Professor, History) published a revised edition of *Philip II: Un solo re, un solo imperio, Filippo II di Spagna* (Il Mulino, 2005); he also edited *The Cambridge History of Warfare* (Cambridge University Press, 2005) and published the 4th edition of *The Times Compact History of the World* (Times Books, 2005); he has also been elected a Foreign Member of the Koninklijke Nederlandse Akademie van Wetenschappen (Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences).

Mark Rankin (Ph.D. Candidate, English) was awarded a Graduate School Alumni Grant for Graduate Research and Scholarship to support his dissertation research.

Heather Tanner (Assistant Professor, History) presented “Boulogne and the Mechanisms of Comital Power” at the International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds, United Kingdom, 11-14 July.

Kimberly Thompson (Ph.D. Candidate, English) presented “Robin Hood and Tricksterism in Late Medieval England” at the Meeting of the International Association for Robin Hood Studies, University of Delaware, 29 September-2 October; she also presented “The Medieval Robin Hood: ‘Good Yeomanry’ and Bad Performance” at the Ohio Medieval Colloquium, Shawnee State University, Portsmouth, Ohio, 8 October.

Harry Vredenburg (Professor, Germanic Languages and Literatures) presented “The ‘Quaestiones fabulosae’ at Erfurt: Quodlibetical Tradition or Humanist Hoax?” at Texts and Contexts: A Conference at the Center for Epigraphical and Palaeographical Studies at The Ohio State University, 30 September-1 October.
In this year’s lecture series, we celebrate the Center’s 40th anniversary by honoring our founders and former directors. Throughout the year, we will present articles celebrating the careers of these individuals and what they have contributed to the Center as it is today. In the spirit of this, we present a tribute to Herbert Livingston, one of our founders. He will be honored by Anne Walters Robertson in her lecture on 21 October.


It was in the late nineteen-fifties. “What would you like to be doing about five years from now?” With this question Dr. Livingston gave my then uncertain life as a super-annuated student a decisive direction. To put questions and let the student discover possible answers marks the born teacher. As a result I eventually found myself among the first to graduate from the Ohio State University with a Ph.D. in music. Throughout the years it took me to achieve this goal Dr. Livingston remained not only the most patient and sagacious of advisers, but became a revered friend, so revered indeed that only years after reaching faculty rank myself and so a certain collegiality did I have the courage to address him by his first name; for too long a time he had been “Dr. Livingston.”
Born in 1916 in Syracuse, N.Y., Herbert Livingston attended secondary schools there and in 1937 earned a Bachelor of Music degree at Syracuse University. His graduate studies at the University of North Carolina (A.B. 1942; A.M. 1943; Ph.D. 1952) were interrupted by service in the United States Navy with a specialty in meteorology. Judging by recollections from classes with Livingston, Glen Haydon, one of the “grand old men” of American musicology, must have been a significant influence on Livingston, whose dissertation “The Italian Overture from A. Scarlatti to Mozart” (1952) is still considered a model.

After being on the faculty of Michigan State University from 1950 to 1956, Livingston came to Ohio State. There he set about developing and heading graduate history and literature studies in music to culminate in the Ph.D. degree. To find students interested in such a program is only one of the three necessary ingredients; the other two are to assemble appropriate faculty and to build a solid library. Even in those days I gained some idea of the scholarship and painstaking labors required to provide adequate reference and research materials from the reports of Olga Buth, then music librarian at OSU and a close friend. She never ceased to praise Livingston’s excellent judgment and dedication in the service of a collection which remains to benefit future generations of scholars.

In his assignments, too, Dr. Livingston emphasized bibliography, declaring it to be the most important and lasting part of many student papers. Thus one learned early to find out what others had discovered before venturing on a project.

Some of Livingston’s graduate students were especially attracted by his wide interests and knowledge in fields other than music. He constantly urged those whom he advised to find out about literature, languages, history in general and all the arts. One did not need the motivation of required courses, because his conviction of their importance was persuasive enough. Moreover, though too modest to say much about his earlier activities as a professional pianist, he never let us forget that music, if inseparable from ideas, is also inseparable from sound. Surely no attentive student could emerge from his tutelage with that deadly,
humorless worship of uncertain marks on ancient paper that in
some instances used to make a caricature of musicology. Indeed,
precision of observation and execution was required by
Livingston, too. But he managed to instill a sense of perspective,
always trying to relate the single phenomenon to the context of
the whole: music, sounded at special times and places, often for
specific purposes.

The study of performance practices, in those days just becoming
established in other American graduate music programs, was an
important part of Livingston’s design for OSU. (Still somewhat
in German bondage, we called it “Aufführungspraxis” then.)
How the constant awareness of manifold music-making enlivened
our studies!

The kindest of men, Livingston has a wonderful way to bring one
back from intellectual absurdities. One memory among many
may suffice: I was carrying on with great enthusiasm about the
marvels of the Renaissance Age, if one could have lived then and
so on. First came the gentle smile with just the smallest touch of
irony; then: “How long has it been since you have witnessed a
public execution?”

He also impressed on us that it is not necessary—except for
bureaucratic purposes—to “defend” the choice of a topic. All that
is needed is the overwhelming desire to learn about it. Moreover,
different treatments of the very same topic might well yield
worthwhile results in each. With Livingston’s ever alert skepti-
cism towards unchecked “authority” as a model, we were trained
to always look at the music ourselves rather than to accept tradi-
tional analyses without question.

The most characteristic trait of Herbert Livingston is one all too
rarely found: total selflessness. There is no reason to believe he
has changed since my work at OSU was finished almost twenty
years ago; so I am sure my experience was typical. I can never
be grateful enough for the untold hours he worked with me.
during the final preparation of the dissertation, hours unstintingly cut from his own vacation time. He never let up on the exacting standards, on being the devil’s advocate, finding this unclear and that redundant, patiently carrying me beyond fatigue and discouragement. The only way one could make up at least a little for such dedication was the abiding attempt to emulate him in always putting students first.

I am sure all those who have filled the pages of this journal join me in feeling blessed that Herbert Livingston was our teacher.

Hilde H. Junkermann
Professor Emeritus
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
This course will explore the rich tradition of Arthuriana that flourished in the Middle Ages and continues to thrive in modern popular culture. After sampling some of the earliest legends about King Arthur in British histories and saints’ lives, we will focus on three major works/authors: the fabulous tales of knights errant by Chrétien de Troyes, known as the “father of Arthurian romance”; Wolfram von Eschenbach’s Parzival, a haunting, often bewildering, story of sin and self-discovery centered on the quest for the holy grail; and Malory’s epic Morte Darthur, which, more than any single text, has shaped modern conceptions of Arthur. Requirements include 3 exams and an optional extra-credit paper.
Culture of a City-State in the Renaissance: Venice

Winter 2006
Medieval and Renaissance Studies 212

Professor Robert Davis
Department of History

This course will provide students with a case-study introduction to the Italian Renaissance via the city of Venice. This course will:

* approach Venice’s beginnings, its rise to mercantile and military prominence, its political and class structure, and its eventual decline in order to set a context for its cultural flowering in art, architecture, music, and literature.

* focus directly on Venice’s role as a gateway between East and West, as well as its influence on the Renaissance in “mainland” Italy.

* explore Venice’s fundamental contributions to modern economic and political practice, including the city’s influence on our own Constitution.

MTWRF 10:30-11:18
Central Classrooms 245
UG 5 credit hours
Call # 13328-7

For more information, contact The Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies at <cmrs@osu.edu> or 292-7495. Or visit http://cmrs.osu/courses/
Winter Quarter 2006

Medieval and Renaissance Studies 694
Nature in the Middle Ages

Professor Lisa Kiser
Department of English

This course will explore the various ways in which late medieval European literary culture reflected on the natural environment. We will read a variety of romances, allegories, saints' lives, lyrics, and fables to examine how different medieval communities constructed humanity's relationship to the non-human natural world. Social practices such as hunting, gardening, and animal domestication will be scrutinized, as well as the use of bestiaries, animal fables, herbal lore and landscape analysis.

For more information, contact The Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies at <cmrs@osu.edu> or 292-7495. Or visit http://cmrs.osu/courses/
This interdisciplinary GEC course surveys ten centuries of medieval Jewish history, literature, religion, and culture from the rise of Islam to the death of the false messiah, Shabbetai Zvi. Students will read a wide range of primary sources in English translation. We will examine the transformation of Jewish culture at different times and in different places and will explore the impact of host societies upon specific Jewish communities.
The Kahrl Awards

The Stanley Kahrl Awards for best graduate and undergraduate essay were handed out at our end-of-the-year party in May. The winners were...

Graduate Student Essay:
Rachel Clark, for “‘All this I give, let me possess thy grace’: Robert Dudley and the Rhetoric of the Queen’s Body in Gorboduc and The Lady of May”

Undergraduate Student Essays:
Erin Odor, for “Creatively Conventional: The Tension between Authorial Control and Conventional Restrictions in Four Pre-Modern East Asian Women’s Autobiographical Works”

AND

Kevin Ashenbach, for “The Spirit of Giddiness: Man’s Subjugation of Text in Protestant Europe and Twelfth Night”

Calls for Papers

We have received a large number of calls for papers, including conferences and publications on Early Modern drama, Early Modern religious practice, Early Modern ecostudies, Arthurian literature, Anglo-Saxon literature, and medieval popular culture. For more information on any of these, please contact the center or visit our website where they are posted.
Upcoming Events

Faculty Colloquium:

A Faculty Colloquium talk will be given by Heather Webb (French and Italian) on 18 November. The exact time and location is TBA. We will send out flyers when we have determined the details.

Lecture Series:

On 4 November at 1:30 pm in Room 210 of the Main Library, Thomas Madden (Professor of History, University of St Louis) will present “Remembering the Conquest of Constantinople in 1204: Then and Now.”

Classica et Beneventana:

The Center for Epigraphical and Palaeographical Studies announces a Symposium to honor Virginia Brown on the occasion of her 65th birthday, 28-29 October 2005 at The Ohio State University. It will be held at The John Glenn Institute for Public Service and Public Policy, 130 Page Hall, 1810 College Road.

Professor Brown has been Senior Fellow at the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies, Toronto since 1970. The conference will address topics in areas of research in which Professor Brown is currently engaged, including Beneventan script, texts dealing with the liturgy, and the classical tradition. Many CMRS affiliates will be presenting papers or moderating panels, including Frank Coulson (Greek and Latin), Heather Webb (French and Italian), Anna Grotans (Germanic Languages and Literatures), Predrag Matejic (Hilandar Research Library), Joseph Lynch (History), and Wayne Redenbarger (Spanish and Portuguese).

To view the complete program for the conference, please visit: http://omega.cohums.ohio-state.edu/epigraphy/courses.html
The Savior, the Woman, and the Head of the Dragon in Late Medieval Music

A lecture by Anne Walters Robertson
Claire Dux Swift Distinguished Service Professor of Music
University of Chicago

Oftentimes, great theological themes fundamentally inform art and music, and this was particularly true in the late middle ages. The Ur-Messianic prophecy from Genesis lies at the heart of three of the most famous polyphonic masses composed in the late fifteenth century and a motet for the Virgin Mary. This paper illustrates the ways in which this theology is represented in these works and how an evolving doctrine related to it plays out in music of the period.

Friday 21 October 2005
122 Main Library
1:30 pm

This is the second lecture in our 2005-06 series

a n n i v e r s a r i e s
In Celebration of Our 40th Year
& in Honor of Our Founders
At the Library

Prepared by Assistant Professor and General Humanities Bibliographer Marti Alt

Medieval and Renaissance Studies

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A list of additional newly-received resources is available at http://library.osu.edu/sites/humanities/medieval/
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