

NOUVELLES

Nouvelles



Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies
The Ohio State University
October, 1998

Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies

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Greetings

The beginning of this academic year brings with it a wonderful new group of faculty members in medieval and renaissance studies. You'll find details about our new colleagues in the following pages, but it's a great pleasure to welcome as affiliates of the Center: David Cressy and Barbara Hanawalt in History, Caroline Bicks and Nancy Miller in English, Adena Tanenbaum and Daniel Frank in Near Eastern, and Panagiotis Roilos in Greek and Latin. There are also several searches planned for this coming year in medieval and renaissance studies, so we should have new colleagues to welcome a year from now. As I learned at a recent meeting of center directors, Ohio State has been attracting a great deal of attention for the faculty who have joined us in recent years.

You will find information in this issue of *Nouvelles Nouvelles* about the Center's upcoming events. I want to call particular attention to the two courses offered by the Center in the winter quarter: MRS 210, *The Court of Charlemagne* taught by Anna Grotans; and MRS 610: *From Manuscript to Print in the Late Medieval and Early Modern Eras* taught by John King. The Charlemagne course has not been taught in some years, but it's been thoroughly revised and now carries GEC credit. This version of MRS 610, from manuscript to print, is being offered for the first time. Students in the course will have the opportunity to use manuscripts and early printed books preserved in the Rare Book Room at the OSU Library.

In response to suggestions from colleagues, the Center has decided to make available a limited amount of money to help graduate students in coursework travel to libraries and collections to do research. Grants will be limited to \$250 per student, and applications must include a statement of research, a brief budget and a letter of support from the course instructor. Students should apply when the need for funding arises and need not wait for the Center's regular small-grant competition. If you have questions about this program, please be sure to speak with me directly.

All signs point to an exciting year for the Center. I look forward to seeing you at our events.

Nick Howe

New Affiliates

Caroline Bicks (Assistant Professor, Department of English) works on early modern obstetrical writings and on female communities in literary and non-literary texts. She has published articles on childbirth rituals and on the domestic space in Shakespeare's plays. She is currently working on a book, *Lurking in the Gossip's Bowl: Midwiving Narratives in Shakespeare's England*. Other interests include classical mythology, epic poetry, and early modern women writers.

David Cressy (Professor, Department of History) is Director of the West European Studies Program at Ohio State. He is working on the social, cultural and religious history of early modern England. His most recent publication, *Birth, Marriage and Death: Ritual, Religion and the Life Cycle in Tudor and Stuart England*, won the 1998 John Ben Snow prize of the North American Conference of British Studies. His current interests include a study of community crises in Elizabethan and early Stuart England, and work on the revolutionary crisis of 1641 that preceded the English Civil War.

Daniel Frank (Assistant Professor of Hebrew Language, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures) received an A.B. from Harvard University, an M.A. from the University of London, and a Ph.D. from Harvard. His primary field of research is the history, literature, and doctrines of the Karaites, a Jewish sect that emerged in the lands of medieval Islam; he also works on Judeo-Arabic Bible commentaries. He was formerly a Fellow of the Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies, a Research Fellow at Wolfson College, Oxford, and a Lecturer in the Faculty of Oriental Studies of Oxford University. He served as the Reviews Editor for the *Journal of Jewish Studies* for the past four years. Among his publications are an edited volume, *The Jews of Medieval Islam: Community, Society, and Identity*.



Barbara Hanawalt (King George III Professor, Department of History) specializes in the history of women, children, and the family in medieval England. She is the author of several books, including *Growing Up in Medieval London: The Experience of Childhood in History*, *Of Good and Ill Repute: Gender and Social Control in Medieval England*, and *An*

Illustrated History of the Middle Ages.

Nancy Weitz Miller (Assistant Professor, Department of English, OSU - Mansfield) studies sixteenth and seventeenth century English literature and culture and specializes in gender, conduct, and sexuality. She has a growing interest in cultural connections between textual and musical practices. Her publications include articles and essays on Milton and chastity, seventeenth-century women's persuasive writing, and Vives and female conduct literature. She has a book in progress about rape and the rhetoric of chastity in early modern England. She is currently serving as President of the Margaret Cavendish Society.



Panagiotis Roilos (Assistant Professor, Department of Greek and Latin) received his B.A. in 1991 from the University of Athens and his Ph.D. from Harvard University in 1998. His areas of scholarly research include Byzantine literature, Renaissance Greek literature, the Modern Greek novel and oral literature. He has published articles on the Byzantine novel, Renaissance Cretan literature, and ritual oral literature.

Adena Tanenbaum (Assistant Professor of Literature, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures) received her B.A. from Barnard College and both her A.M. and Ph.D. from Harvard University. Her research has focused on philosophical themes in medieval Hebrew poetry of Spain, and she is completing a book on the idea of the soul in Andalusian synagogue poetry from the eleventh and twelfth centuries. She was formerly a Senior Associate of the Oxford Centre of Hebrew and Jewish Studies, a member of the Oriental Studies Faculty of Oxford University, and a Visiting Lecturer at University College London.



Among Us

Albert N. Mancini (Professor, Department of French and Italian) published "Aretino Italo e Americano," in *Italica*, Vol. 75, No. 3 (1998), pp. 441-453; a reprint of "Autobiografia e Autocoscienza Narrativa nel Viggio di Francia di Sebastiano Locatelli," in *Bollettino del Centro Interuniversitario di Ricerche sul Viaggio in Italia*, Vol. 16, No. 1-2 (1997), pp.155-176.

John N. King (Professor, Department of English) will direct a 1999 summer seminar for college teachers on "The English Reformation: Literature, History, and Art" which was awarded an NEH grant. His recent publications are: arts editor for *The Royal Historical Society British Bibliography*, (Oxford U. Press, 1998); article "On Editing Foxe's 'Book of Martyrs,'" *New Ways of Looking at Old Texts II: Papers of the Renaissance English Text Society 1992-96*, ed. W. Speed (Tempe, 1998), pp. 53-59. He gave a plenary lecture entitled "'The Light of Printing': William Tyndale, John Foxe, John Day, and Editorial Craft," at the William Tyndale Conference, Oxford University, September 7, 1998.

Research and Fellowship Opportunities

(for more information, please contact Jill Fehleison, CMRS, 256 Cunz Hall, 1841 Millikin Rd., Columbus, OH 43210-1229; (614)292-7495.

The Folger Institute is offering a limited number of fellowships for residencies to scholars whose research is appropriate to the collections



at the Folger library. The institute offers both long-term and short-term fellowships and further information as well as fellowship applications may be found on the Folger Library's website at <http://www.folger.edu>.

The American Branch of the Richard III Society announces the William B. Schallek Memorial Graduate Fellowship awards. The awards, usually \$500 or \$1,000, are available to graduate students conducting research in a field or fields relating to the life and times of King Richard III or to late fifteenth-century English history and culture in general. An application and instructions are available at the Richard III and Yorkist History Server, at <http://www.r3.org/edu3.html>.

Inaugural Lecture

Richard Davis (Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures) will present his Inaugural Lecture on November 17, 1998, at 7:30 p.m. in the Grand Lounge of the Faculty Club. His lecture is entitled "Writing English, Reading Persian."

International Gathering of Foxe Scholars

The Ohio State University will be the site of an interdisciplinary colloquium, John Foxe and His World. The sponsors

invite art historians, literary scholars, political, social and ecclesiastical historians, and other interested persons to this international Foxe Colloquium, the first to be held in North America. Plenary lectures will be given by Patrick Collinson, Regius Professor Emeritus of Modern



History at Cambridge, Frances Dolan, University of Miami, David Kasten, Columbia University, David Loades, Professor Emeritus of the University of Wales, Steven Mullaney, University of Michigan, and Andrew Pettegree, Professor of Modern History at St. Andrews University, Scotland. This conference will take place on the Ohio State campus April 29 through May 2, 1999.

Call for Papers

(For more information please contact Jill Fehleison, 256 Cunz Hall, 1841 Millikin Rd., Columbus, OH, 43210-1229, (614)292-7495).

The University of Miami will host an interdisciplinary conference entitled MEMORIA hosted by Medieval, Renaissance and Baroque Studies on February 18 through 20, 1999. Paper proposals are invited on topics concerning any aspect of memory in the Medieval and Early Modern periods. Deadline for the submission of proposals is October 31, 1998.

Announcements

Renaissance Music

The 1998-1999 Early Music in Columbus concert series presents Fretwork with Michael Chance, countertenor in "Ye Sacred Muses," music of the Renaissance and Baroque. The concert will be held Saturday, October 31, 1998 at 8:15 p.m. at the Huntington Recital Hall on the campus of Capital University. For more information please call (614) 861-4569.



Paris in the Spring

The University of Delaware is offering a semester abroad in Paris designed especially for students interested in Medieval and Renaissance Studies. This program will include courses in art history, literature, history and the French languages and will be held from February 8 through May 23.

Annual Event

Harvard Divinity School is hosting its annual Theological Education Day on Friday, November 6. On this day prospective students will be able to talk with current faculty and students about the academic programs and resources of the Divinity School.



The Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies Presents:

**Europe's First Encounter
(ca. 1500-1800) with the Great and
Mighty
Kingdom of China**

by D.E. Mungello

(Department of History and Director of Asian Studies,
Baylor University)

Thursday, November 12, 1998
5 p.m. in Room 300 of Cunz Hall
on The Ohio State University Campus

A CONVERSATION WITH

D.E. MUNGELLO

for both faculty and graduate students
will be held on Friday November 13, 1998
from 10:00 a.m. through 12:00 p.m.
in Room 300 Cunz Hall
on The Ohio State University Campus

This is the third lecture of the five-part series:

EUROPE AND THE REST OF THE WORLD, 500-1650

This series is sponsored by an Interdisciplinary Research Seminar Program Grant from the Office of Research and the Graduate School of The Ohio State University. Faculty and students are encouraged to preregister for conversations. For more information please contact the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies at (614)292-7495 or visit our website <<http://www/cmrs.ohio-state.edu>>.



The Medieval and Renaissance Worlds in Contemporary America

Saturday, October 24, 1998

Conference Theatre, 2nd Floor of the Ohio Union, 1739
N. High St.
(on the Ohio State University Campus)

Free to the Public

See how the medieval and
renaissance
periods have been revived in our
contemporary culture with the following
speakers And Topics:

Carol J. Clover

(Professor of Scandinavian Studies, University of California, Berkeley)

Trials, Lies, Sagas, and Movies

Aaron Betsky

(Curator of Architecture and Design, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art)

Pragmatic Romance: The American Campus and its Medieval Models

Sharan Newman

(Author of the Catherine LeVendeur Mysteries and the Guinevere Trilogy)

Writing Medieval History as Fiction

Charles Atkinson

(Professor of Music History, The Ohio State University)

Sounding and Resounding: Medieval Music in the Later Twentieth Century

Carl Lindahl

(Professor of English, University of Houston)

Getting Medieval in Today's Festive America

Sponsored by the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies

For more information, contact the CMRS at (614) 292-7495 or
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This program is made possible, in part, by a
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SMALL GRANT APPLICATIONS

The Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies is pleased to announce its Autumn quarter competition for its Small Research Grant Program. Faculty affiliates and doctoral students with A.B.D. status are eligible to apply. Applications must be submitted to the Center by November 20, 1998. If you haven't yet received the application materials, please contact Suzanne Childs at CMRS at (614)292-7495 or visit our world wide web site at: www.cohums.ohio-state.edu/cmrs/.

SMALL GRANT REPORTS

PHIL ADAMO (Ph. D. Candidate, Department of History)
Moulins in the Spring.

Thanks to a small research grant from the CMRS, (as well as two other small grants, and one quarter teaching a double load) I was able to spend the entire spring quarter conducting dissertation research at the Archives Départementales de l'Allier located near Moulins-sur-Allier, France. My topic concerns the origins of a thirteenth-century monastic order called the Val des Choux (Latin: vallis caulium) named for the valley of cabbages in which their first monastery was located. Because of the abundance of Valliscaulian primary documents at the archives in Moulins, it was necessary for me to study these in situ. Without assistance from the CMRS, this might not have been possible.



I knew that ten weeks would in no way offer enough time to finish my archival research--and I was hoping to return to France--so I devoted the time to reconnaissance. I had already consulted the archival catalog on the monastery at Val des Choux before leaving, but I was surprised to learn how vague this catalog was. There were more documents than I could possibly get

through in ten weeks, so I knew that I would need to make microfilm. In the first three weeks of my research, I quickly consulted all of the Val-liscaulian documents on the archives' microfilm (13 rolls), and made my own, more detailed catalog of some. Using my notes, I was able to decide which materials I would need for my research, and then have these microfilmed for myself.

At this point it seems fitting to mention other ways (besides money) in which the CMRS helped my research. Thanks to an informal workshop on archival research—sponsored jointly by the CMRS and the Medieval and Renaissance Graduate Student Association (MRGSA)—I learned about the cultures that often exist in foreign archives, and was able to more effectively present myself, and be accepted, as a serious researcher. When I did finally ask to look at original documents in Moulins, I was told that the policy of the archives restricted the viewing of any documents before 1800, i.e., these could only be viewed on microfilm. The archivist claimed that if he allowed me to see the original documents in the reading room that it would cause tension among the other readers. I thought I was getting the old “if I let you do it, then I'll have to let everybody do it” routine, but to my surprise the archivist bent the rules and suggested setting me up in an extra office elsewhere in the building, where I could work all by myself. This seemed an incredible act of trust on the part of the archivist. I believe I was able to earn that trust in part because of the tips on professionalism I learned from the experienced researchers who conducted the abovementioned workshop, including Professors Frank Coulson, John King, and Predrag Matejic. Once I was allowed to look at original documents, the feelings that came over me were almost indescribable. It was awesome to hold in my own hands a papal bull of Innocent III and meditate on the fact that it is almost 800 years old. If we could find some way to translate that feeling to our undergraduate population, I think many more of them would enjoy studying history. After taking Frank Coulson's paleography course (which is cross-listed as a CMRS course, and which I highly recommend), I was able to read this and other documents with relative ease. I was also better able to put my research into perspective after a marvelous visit with Giles Constable, of the Institute for Advanced Study, during his visit to OSU for a lecture series sponsored by the CMRS.

I have largely discussed process rather than content in this brief essay because that is the point at which I find myself in my research. I am still attempting to devise a method for managing the great quantity of docu-

ments I discovered during my ten weeks in Moulins. In concluding these remarks on what the CMRS small research grant has done for me, let me say that it looks great on my vita, and that it no doubt played a role in my obtaining a Bourse Chateaubriand from the French government for the 1998-99 school year. As of 1 October, I will be back in Moulins for nine months, better prepared to start the in-depth research on the monastic order of the Val des Choux.

GRAEME M. BOONE (Assistant Professor, School of Music History and Literature) will use his CMRS grant for his research project "Toward the Origins of White Notation." This project aims to increase our understanding of the circumstances surrounding the appearance of white mensural notation, the immediate ancestor of modern staff notation, at the end of the Middle Ages. In the course of the fifteenth century, white notation (using all white, hollow notes) came to replace black notation (using all black, full notes) as the near-universal means for transmission of mensural polyphony in Europe. White notation thus represents a fundamental, and visually radical, shift in the material representation of music. But its precise origins, and the precise conditions of its appearance and dissemination, remain unknown. Scholars have traditionally linked them to the increasing use of paper as a writing support: black notes, according to this explanation, tend to bleed through paper, and were therefore replaced by hollow notes. But a better and more comprehensive explanation lies in the proliferation of cursive hands, in all acts of writing, during the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. Close examination of the full range of extant musical sources c. 1200 to 1550 shows that in them, paper, on the one hand, and cursive writing, on the other, were not used with great frequency before the beginning of the fifteenth century: in this respect, music lagged behind most other kinds of writing. This suggests that mensural notation, still rare by comparison with other forms of written art, remained conservative (a fact that is not surprising, when we consider its connection to chant notation, chant music, and liturgical books). The early fifteenth century, however, witnessed a profound transformation in musical style, one which is usually used, today, to mark the beginning of the Renaissance in music history. That change went hand in hand with the dissemination of cursive hands, white notation, and paper among musical sources. Taken together, these phenomena suggest a new departure, in which the act of writing becomes more personalized, casual, and immediate; and soon after, musical drafts and sketches make their first appearance (among extant sources), roughly contemporaneously to the same development

in graphic art. In sum, the appearance of white notation represents an epochal step, in European culture, toward that distinct musical literacy that characterizes the modern era.

SARAH PESSIN (Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Philosophy)

This past summer, with the help of a grant from CMRS, I took part in a six week program on renaissance and reformation history at Oxford University. In addition to participating in courses on the historical and theological issues defining these periods, I also took advantage of a graduate seminar led by Alistair McGrath which examined the diverse elements of medieval Christian spirituality, working, as I did, to better understand the atmosphere of the 11th and 12th century church and the rise of monasticism.

The combination of theology lectures on the rise of reformation thought compared, e.g., with the thought of Augustine, together with my research of the factors which contributed to changes in medieval Christian spirituality gave me the relevant background with which to carry out my own Ph.D. research on medieval philosophical thought.



In addition to the aforementioned classes, I worked independently with two other professors on preliminary dissertation materials. With Dr. John Roche, historian of science, I worked on an exploration of pre-Socratic, Platonic and Aristotelian conceptions of the notion of 'matter' as a way of better understanding the later Neoplatonic and medieval conceptions of matter which my dissertation explores. With Dr. Richard Cross, a member of the theology faculty, I discussed various details of the scholastic tradition, most notably the thought of Roger Bacon — a philosopher who figures predominantly in my current project.

The experience this summer was heightened by the many hours I was

able to spend working in the various reading rooms of the Bodleian Library, as well as by my first-hand tours of the historic streets of Oxford, including walks along the River Thames, and time spent in the fields of Lewis Carroll's wonderland at Christ Church Meadows. And under the guidance of Sandra Feneley at the Oxford CMRS, I was able to spend a few relaxing hours chiseling my very first stone sculpture — a gargoyle inspired by one of the wood carvings at New College, Oxford.

My summer at Oxford was highlighted by my trip to Leeds where I participated in the International Medieval Congress, presenting a paper on the thought of Moses Maimonides, and attended a host of papers on a variety of themes in medieval philosophy, history and theology. All in all, an excellent and productive summer. Thanks once again to CMRS for their support.



At the Library...

by Assistant Professor and General Humanities Bibliographer Marti Alt

BR195.W6 S38 1998 - MAIN

Schulenburg, Jane Tibbetts. *Forgetful of Their Sex : Female Sanctity and Society, ca. 500-1100*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1998. 587 p.: ill.

BR375 .W5 1998 - MAIN

Whiting, Robert. *Local Responses to the English Reformation*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1998. 269 p.

DC33.2 .B59 1998 - MAIN

Bouchard, Constance Brittain. *Strong of Body, Brave and Noble : Chivalry and Society in Medieval France*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1998. 198 p. : ill., map.

DG737.55 .G63 1998 - MAIN

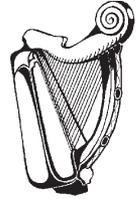
Godman, Peter. *From Poliziano to Machiavelli : Florentine Humanism in the High Renaissance*. Princeton, N.J. : Princeton University Press, 1998. 366 p.: facsimis.

HQ1149.I8 G46 1998 - MAIN

Gender and Society in Renaissance Italy. Eds. Judith C. Brown and Robert C. Davis. London; New York: Longman, 1998. 255 p.

MT955 .D28 1998 - MUS

Davidson, Audrey Ekdahl. Performing Medieval Music Drama. Eds. Audrey Ekdahl Davidson and Clifford Davidson. Kalamazoo, Mich.: Published for the Society for Old Music by Medieval Institute Publications, 1998. 50 p.



N6915.D28 1995 - FIN

The Early Medici and Their Artists. Ed. Francis Ames-Lewis. London: Birkbeck College, University of London, 1995. 216 p.: ill.

PE26.R62 W67 1998 - MAIN

Words and Works: Studies in Medieval English Language and Literature in Honour of Fred C. Robinson. Eds. Nicholas Howe and Peter S. Baker. Toronto : University of Toronto Press, 1998. 310 p.

PQ6058 .M66 1998 - MAIN

Montgomery, Thomas. Medieval Spanish Epic : Mythic Roots and Ritual Language . University Park, Pa. : Penn. State Univ. Press, 1998. 176 p.



Q124.97 .D38 1998 - MAIN

Daston, Lorraine. Wonders and the Order of Nature, 1150-1750. Eds. Lorraine Daston and Katharine Park. New York: Zone Books; Cambridge, Mass., 1998. 511 p.: ill.

TH4221 .E54 1997 - SEL

The Engineering of Medieval Cathedrals. Ed. Lynn T. Courtenay. Aldershot, Hampshire, Great Britain; Brookfield, Vt.: Ashgate, 199. 360 p.: ill.

Z106.5.G72 E543 1998 - MAIN

Anglo-Saxon manuscripts and their heritage. Eds. Phillip Pulsiano and Elaine M. Treharne. Aldershot ; Brookfield, Vt. : Ashgate, 1998. 304 p., 20 p. of plates: ill., facsim.

Activities...

If you have information about your professional or scholarly activities which you would like to have included in the next edition of the CMRS newsletter (Nouvelles Nouvelles), please submit it by campus mail. Such activities include publishing books, articles, or reviews, papers or lectures, awards received, services done, and research grants awarded. Please be sure to include your name, department, rank (i.e. Assistant Professor, Ph.D. candidate) and all other pertinent information. Submission deadline for the next publication is Friday, November 6, 1998. Please send submissions to the Editor, Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, The Ohio State University, 256 Cunz Hall, 1841 Millikin Rd., Columbus OH 43210-1229 or send them by e-mail to <cmrs@osu.edu>.

COVER PAGE: Armenian Four Gospels - from a manuscript written in 1289 AD which is held at the Cambridge Library.

ENDPLATE: A medieval spotted cat from The Master of the Game written in the second quarter of the 15th century. The book, in English, is located at the Bodleian Library, Oxford. Both of these images were sent to the CMRS by R. J. Stansbury (Ph.D. candidate, Department of History).



Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies
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1998-1999

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