Petites Nouvelles – Issue #7
January 12, 2021
The following table of contents includes shortcut links; click on a title and you will jump directly to that section of the newsletter.

Suggestions and submissions of content for future issues are always welcome! Please contact either cmrs@osu.edu or spitulski.1@osu.edu with your ideas. The deadline for submitting items for inclusion in the next issue will be Sunday, January 24.

Also, be sure to “like” us on Facebook and check out our Instagram and Twitter feeds for more news, links, & MedRen miscellany!

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**Greetings**

Dear All:

I hope your holiday season and winter break were restful and enjoyable, despite all
the deviations from the norm that likely accompanied them! Welcome to this first Spring issue of *Petites Nouvelles*, and though we have no feature for this issue, there are quite a few updates to gather and relay, including the new schedules for our two reading groups this term, some save-the-date notes on upcoming CMRS lectures, much ado about a couple of recent and future Shakespeare performances, and more!

Best,

Nick Spitulski
Administrative Coordinator, Humanities Institute

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**Upcoming CMRS and other MedRen Events**

**As previously announced, the Center has decided to postpone its planned 2021 Popular Culture and the Deep Past event. The event has been tentatively re-scheduled for February 11-12, 2022**

**Old French Reading Group: January 12, 19**

The Old French Reading Group will resume meeting today, January 12, and will meet each Tuesday afternoon 4:30 – 5:30 throughout the Spring 2021 term. Read aloud in Medieval French and learn about the language and culture -- for scholarly inquiry or sheer amusement.

No prior experience needed!

Contact Prof. Sarah-Grace Heller (heller.64@osu.edu) for more information.

Register via Zoom: [https://osu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwvc--vqz8sHdf9m4m1BwPg0NPnKnbCR97k](https://osu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwvc--vqz8sHdf9m4m1BwPg0NPnKnbCR97k)
Medieval Latin Reading Group: January 21

The Medieval Latin reading group will meet on Thursdays, 3:30-4:30 p.m., during the Spring 2021 semester, beginning Thursday, January 21.

Participants in the group are not required to prepare the readings ahead of time, and nobody should feel obligated to participate aloud, if you're more comfortable listening. We are happy to accommodate participants with all levels of Latin expertise, including those who have never tried Latin or who have forgotten everything they once knew.

If you would like to receive the Zoom meeting link and be added to the mailing list for future links and readings, please contact CMRS Associate Director Leslie Lockett at lockett.20@osu.edu.

Looking for Hamlet, 1603 Premiere - January 15, 8:00 p.m. ET

Covid-19 has put a damper on Lord Denney’s Players’ ability to perform live, but it hasn’t dampened their enthusiasm for exploring Shakespeare’s textual curiosities. Looking for Hamlet, 1603, the company’s seventh production, is a full-length documentary film about the earliest text of Shakespeare’s most well-known play, where Hamlet utters not, “To be or not to be, that is the question,” but “To be or not to be – ay, there’s the point.” Scholars find so many significant differences in this early text when they compare it to its later versions that they have long challenged its authenticity. How did such a curious version of Hamlet come to be, and what should we make of it?

The film, produced by students in the Autumn 2020 semester of ENGL 4520.02: Special Topics in Shakespeare, will premiere on the Department of English’s YouTube channel at 8 pm on Friday, January 15, 2021. After the show, viewers are invited to a Zoom talkback with the cast and crew.

Production Webpage
Polish Studies Initiative Lecture: “Life and Death in Medieval Giecz, Poland” – January 27, 11:30 a.m.

The Polish Studies Initiative invites you to join this talk by Dr. Mandy Agnew.

Mandy Agnew, PhD, is an associate professor in the Injury Biomechanics Research Center (School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, College of Medicine) at The Ohio State University. She is a skeletal biologist that specializes in studying human health, both in the past and the present. In collaboration with the Slavia Foundation and the First Piasts Museum, Dr. Agnew has been leading instruction of the Mortuary Archaeology Field School in Giecz, Poland for 17 years. Students from around the world come to Giecz every summer to assist with rescue excavation of an early Medieval cemetery there and learn about mortuary archaeology and human osteology.

If you have any questions about accessibility or wish to request accommodations, please contact us at csees@osu.edu. Typically, a two weeks' notice will allow us to provide access.

Learn More about the Polish Studies Initiative at OSU


The Mediterranean Seminar and The Ohio State University announce The Mediterranean
Seminar Winter/Spring 2021 virtual workshop on “The Global Mediterranean” to be held via Zoom from February through April 2021, and organized by Harry Kashdan (OSU), Brian Catlos (CU Boulder) and Sharon Kinoshita (UCSC).

This is the first (and we hope the last) Mediterranean Seminar workshop that will be held virtually. The workshop is a collaborative and interactive event in which attendees are given the opportunity and are expected to participate.

The program takes place over the course of five two-hour sessions held on Fridays in February, March and April.

The three workshop sessions will likely be of particular interest to CMRS audiences. However, because the goal is to engage in a sustained conversation, attendees are expected to attend all of the sessions (one absence is permitted).

Additional Information and Registration Link

**SAVE THE DATE**

CMRS Lecture: “Making and Knowing in Sixteenth-Century Europe”

Friday, March 5
4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Zoom (pre-registration requested)

Pamela Smith
Seth Low Professor of History
Director of the Center for Science and Society
Columbia University
An anonymous late sixteenth-century French technical manuscript, Ms. Fr. 640 (now held by the Bibliothèque nationale de France), has been the subject of research by the Making and Knowing Project since 2014. This intriguing manuscript provides important insights into the material, technical, and intellectual world of late sixteenth-century Europe, and sheds light on how and why nature was investigated, used in art, and collected and appreciated in early modern Europe. The laboratory reconstruction by the Making and Knowing Project of the technical and artistic “recipes” contained in Ms. Fr. 640 provides further knowledge about the manuscript, as well as of materials and processes, but it also raises a host of questions.

If you require an accommodation such as live captioning or interpretation to participate in this event, please contact cmrs@osu.edu. Requests made by about 10 days before the event will generally allow us to provide seamless access, but the university will make every effort to meet requests made after this date.
Wood has been the primary technological material for almost all of human history. But compared to ceramics, stone and metals it is barely visible to archaeologists. A limited range of surviving artefacts, backed by careful use of ethnographic study, allow us to posit key developments in human/wood ecologies. But to construct a coherent narrative of what one might call the Long Wood Age, to render visible that which is invisible, requires creativity in physical and intellectual experimentation. In this paper Max Adams, who is both an archaeologist and a woodsman, explores some lines of enquiry.

If you require an accommodation such as live captioning or interpretation to participate in this event, please contact cmrs@osu.edu. Requests made by about 10 days before the event will generally allow us to provide seamless access, but the university will make every effort to meet requests made after this date.
MEDREN 5610 Students Select New Acquisitions for Rare Books & Manuscripts Library

With the recent support to the OSU RBML of an anonymous donor who wanted the opportunity “to impact teaching and research within the Rare Books & Manuscripts Library for years to come,” students in the Autumn 2020 section of MEDREN 5610 “Manuscript Studies” were empowered to select $50,000 in rare manuscripts for University Libraries’ Rare Books & Manuscripts Library.

Full Article

Voigt Presentation from Plantin-Moretus Museum Woodblock Webinar Available Online

CMRS faculty affiliate Lisa
Voigt, Professor of Spanish and Portuguese, presented “Tall Tales and Crocodile Tails in Plantin’s Illustrated Travel Accounts” at the December 7 woodblock webinar hosted by the Plantin-Moretus Museum in Antwerp. The full recording of the webinar is now live on YouTube; look for Professor Voigt’s talk at about the 1:46:30 mark!

Webinar Link

CMRS Kahrl / Hanawalt Essay Deadline – April 2

The CMRS is now accepting nominations for the 2020-2021 Barbara A. Hanawalt Award for Outstanding Graduate Essay and the Stanley J. Kahrl Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Essay.

Nominations for each will be due by 5:00 p.m. Friday, April 2, 2021. The nomination form is available via the website linked below.

Submission Guidelines

Newark Campus Black Box Theater’s Pandemic Players Updates

The Ohio State University at Newark’s Black Box Theater has announced audition dates for its next production, a reader’s theater performance of Julius Caesar. The production will be recorded via Zoom and available for viewing in April 2021.

Auditions are open to the public and will be virtual by Zoom appointment or video submission only. An appointment must be made for a Zoom audition by emailing director Edie Norlin at norlin.123@osu.edu. Video auditions must be submitted via email, and all videos must be submitted by and all Zoom appointments requested by January 24.

As a reminder, December’s performance of Macbeth is also now live on the OSU Newark YouTube page – click the link below!

Additional Info – Julius Caesar

December Macbeth Performance Link