The following table of contents includes shortcut links; click on a title and you will jump directly to that section’s full information in the newsletter.

Suggestions and submissions of content for future issues are always welcome! Please contact either cmrs@osu.edu or spitalski.1@osu.edu with your ideas. The deadline for submitting items for inclusion in the next issue will be Sunday, April 4. Also, be sure to “like” us on Facebook and check out our Instagram and Twitter feeds for more news, links, & MedRen miscellany!

- In This Issue:

- Greetings

- Upcoming CMRS and Other MedRen Events
  - CMRS Colloquium Series: “The Other ‘Ploughman’s Tale’ and Christ Church MS 152” – April 5
  - Old French Reading Group – March 23, 30
  - “Portugal, Race, and Memory: A Conversation, A Reckoning” – March 24
  - Medieval Latin Reading Group – March 25, April 1
  - Center for the Study of Religion No More than a Page Series: “Paradise Lost and the Problem of a God Who Mocks” – March 31
  - **SAVE THE DATE** CMRS Lecture Series: “From Festival Park to Museum: Six Decades of Living History at the Jamestown Settlement” – April 16
Greetings

Dear CMRS Affiliates and Friends,

We had an excellent crowd on hand for Friday’s annual Barbara A. Hanawalt Public Lecture, as author, archaeologist and independent scholar Max Adams highlighted for us, through various archaeological and other cultural examples, just how fundamental wood has been (and of course still is) to not only our ecological but also technological development. In case you missed it, or other recent entries in this year’s series, I do hope to have them posted to our website soon!

As we begin to wind down the academic year, with just a few events remaining on our schedule as you’ll see further below, it’s time once again to begin planning for next year, and indeed potentially beyond! If you have any suggestions of speakers for our upcoming series, please do feel free to send them our way via the webform on our website at https://cmrs.osu.edu/cmrs-lecture-series-recommendation-form. Public Lecture ideas are especially always welcome.

Finally, faculty, please don’t forget to send us your students’ essays for consideration in this year’s Stanley J. Kahrl and Barbara A. Hanawalt Essay Award competitions – the deadline approaches!

Sincerely,
Nick Spitulski
Administrative Coordinator, Humanities Institute
The Ohio State University

Upcoming CMRS and other MedRen Events

2020-2021 CMRS Colloquium Series
The Other ‘Ploughman’s Tale’ and Christ Church MS 152

Monday, April 5
4:00 – 5:00 p.m. EDT
Zoom (pre-registration requested)

Zachary Hines
Visiting Assistant Professor of English
The Ohio State University – Lima Campus

A reminder including the abstract and single-page summary for Professor Hines’s presentation will be circulated next Monday.

If you anticipate any accessibility needs for this event, please contact cmrs@osu.edu.

Old French Reading Group: March 23, 30

The Old French Reading Group 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--vqz8sHdf9m4m1Bwp0NPnKnBCR97k

Medieval Latin Reading Group: March 25, April 1

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

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.

The Department of English
and the
Global Arts and Humanities Discovery Theme

present

“Portugal, Race, and Memory: A Conversation, A Reckoning”

Wednesday, March 24
1:00 – 2:30 p.m. EDT
(6:00 – 7:30 p.m. Lisboa / 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Luanda)
Zoom (pre-registration requested)

This interdisciplinary and transhistorical event, co-sponsored by Global Arts + Humanities Discovery Theme and the English Department Diversity and Inclusion Committee, convenes researchers and practitioners from Spanish and Portuguese, English, and History to discuss the use of personal narratives in reckoning with the relationship between the past and the present. The aim of this conversation is to bridge the gap between Portugal’s legacies of slavery, and autotheory, or life writing, which positions the memory and embodiment of the speakers as central tools that help us understand the lives and afterlives of racial violence.
PORTUGAL, RACE, AND MEMORY: A CONVERSATION, A RECKONING

MARCH 24, 2021 FROM 1:00-2:30PM EST / 6:00-7:30PM LISBOA / 7:00-8:30PM LUANDA VIA ZOOM

This event will be moderated by Professor Lisa Voigt (Spanish and Portuguese, The Ohio State University). Presenters include Pedro Schacht Pereira (Spanish and Portuguese, The Ohio State University), Patricia Martins Marcos (History and Science Studies, University of California San Diego), Kathryn Vomero Santos (English, Trinity University), and Mira Assaf Kafantaris (English, The Ohio State University).

For more information, including registration, visit: https://u.osu.edu/portugalraceandmemory/

2020-2021
Center for the Study of Religion
No More than a Page Series

Paradise Lost and the Problem of a God Who
In *Paradise Lost*, John Milton sets himself the task of justifying God by not only expanding and explaining the account of the Fall of Adam and Eve in Genesis but of writing the prequel to the Bible, telling the story of God’s elevation of his Son, Satan’s revolt, and the fall of the rebel angels. Much in Milton’s poem is strange, however wonderful, and however influential. One alarming strangeness is Milton’s representation of God, which constantly threatens to undermine the project of justification (one that is essentially theological) by entangling it in complications of character and plot (which are essentially literary). These tangles have led some readers, including the English Romantic poets, to judge that Milton had either deliberately or unconsciously achieved exactly the opposite of what he professed at the opening of Paradise Lost. Subsequent critics fall into two camps: those who, like Blake and Shelley, feel that Milton’s project of justification is either a failure or a screen for a radical political, theological, or moral critique; and those who take Milton at his word and locate the failure in some readers not in the poem, which does ultimately justify God to man, even if in somewhat unorthodox theological terms.

If you would like to receive a copy of Dr. Hamlin’s page and/or will require accommodation to participate in this event, please contact religion@osu.edu.

**SAVE THE DATE!**

2020-2021
Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies Lecture Series

From Festival Park to Museum: Six Decades of
Living History at the Jamestown Settlement

Luke Pecoraro
Director of Curatorial Services
Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation

Friday, 16 April 2021
4:00 – 5:30 p.m. EST
Zoom (pre-registration requested)

**Free and Open to the Public**

Founded in 1957 to commemorate the 350th anniversary of the first permanent English settlement in North America, the Jamestown Festival Park made living history its signature approach towards interpreting the events of 1607 through immersive outdoor exhibits. The field of historical archaeology was just beginning to coalesce as a discipline, and historical accounts combined with 16th and 17th c. illustrations guided how James Fort, the three replica ships, and Powhatan’s Lodge were constructed. The archaeological discoveries of the original site of Jamestown as well as other 17th c. sites across Virginia and contemporary Native American sites led to a richer interpretation of material culture that led to an endurance of the Festival Park to survive beyond the 1950s and become the Jamestown Settlement Museum.

This final lecture in the Center’s 2020-2021 series will highlight the changes in archaeological interpretation of artifacts and site patterns that have influenced the changing landscape of the Jamestown Settlement Museum’s living history programs and the growth of the permanent collection over its sixty-plus years of existence. The skilled craft of the Settlement’s interpretive staff will also be discussed in the context of rediscovered industrial arts as revealed through archaeology.

Live captioning will be provided at this event; however, if you require other accommodation to participate, 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.

**Funding provided by the Global Arts and Humanities Discovery Theme**
News & Notes

MRGSA Announces 2021-2022 Board Members and Virtual Happy Hour Wednesday

The 2021-2022 Medieval and Renaissance Graduate Student Association board will be:

- President: Tamara Mahadin
- VP: Tori Dikeman
- Treasurer: Meaghan Pachay
- Secretary: Abby Greff
- Members-at-Large: Lucía Aja López, Nick Hoffman, Maggie Wilson

Join us for our Monthly Happy Hour Wednesday at 5 pm. We’ll celebrate elections and brainstorm for the coming year/anything people want to do in the next few months.

Email MRGSA

CMRS Kahrl / Hanawalt Essay Deadline – April 2

Submit your final nominations for the 2020-2021 Barbara A. Hanawalt Award for Outstanding Graduate Essay and the Stanley J. Kahrl Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Essay!

Submissions are due by 5:00 p.m. Friday, April 2, 2021. The nomination form is available via the link below.

Submission Guidelines

CSMBR Lecture March 26 – “A Natural History of the Soul: Galenic Themes in Early Modern Philosophy”

The Centre for the Study of Medicine and the Body in the Renaissance is an institute for advanced research in medical humanities and history of science hosted by the Institutio Santoriana - Fondazione Comel and based at the Domus Comeliana in Pisa. Join the Centre for this talk by founding director Fabrizio Bigotti on the Renaissance rediscovery of Galenic anatomy and how it impacted the making of early modern philosophy.

Event Website

Glorious Sounds: Exploring the Soundscapes of British Nonconformity, 1550-1800 – Virtual Conference April 14-15

This major two day multi-disciplinary conference
hosted by the International John Bunyan Society seeks to explore the various ways that sound impacted the lives and writings of early modern Nonconformists and, in turn, their spiritual practices.

University of Kent MEMS Festival June 2021 – Proposal Deadline April 30

Please join the University of Kent online for its seventh annual MEMS Summer Festival. This two-day event celebrates Medieval and Early Modern history, 400 – 1800, and encourages a wide range of interdisciplinary topics, including but not limited to, politics, religion, economics, art, drama, literature, and domestic culture. MEMS Fest aims to be an informal space in which postgraduate students, early career researchers, and academics can share ideas and foster conversations, whilst building a greater sense of community. Undergraduate students in their final year of study are also welcome at the conference.

Next Issue: April 5 Submission Deadline: April 4