

# NOUVELLES


THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY  
NOVEMBER 2013

# NOUVELLES



CENTER FOR MEDIEVAL & RENAISSANCE STUDIES



 **November hath xxx.days.**

**8 November 2013**

CMRS Lecture Series: Annual MRGSA Lecture  
 Co-Sponsored by the Medieval and Renaissance Graduate Student Association  
 Christopher Dyer, University of Leicester  
 Diets of the Poor in Medieval England  
 3:00 PM, 090 18th Avenue Library

**12 November 2013**


CMRS Film Series: **The Witches of Eastwick (1987)**  
 Directed by George Miller  
 Starring: Jack Nicholson, Cher, and Susan Sarandon  
 7:30 PM, 455B Hagerty Hall

**15-16 November 2013**

**Texts and Contexts: Center for Epigraphical and Palaeographical Studies Conference**  
 Virginia Brown Memorial Lecture  
 Julia Haig Gaisser, Eugenia Chase Guild Professor Emeritus in the Humanities, Bryn Mawr College  
 Excuses, Excuses: Racy Poetry from Catullus to Joannes Secundus

**22 November 2013**

CMRS Lecture Series  
 Derek Pearsall, Harvard University  
 Feasting and Fun in Langland's *Piers Plowman*  
 3:00 PM, 090 18th Avenue Library

 **December hath xxxj.days.**

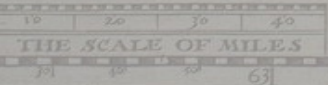
**2 December 2013**

**Holiday Party**  
 Hosted by:  
 Center for Medieval & Renaissance Studies, Center for the Study of Religion, Center for Folklore Studies, Diversity and Identity Studies Collective at OSU, and American Sign Language Program  
 4:30-6:30 PM, 455 Hagerty Hall

- A Typhina tower
- B Women tower
- C Herods Palace
- D Hippas tower
- E Gate Ephraim
- F Gate Benjamin
- G Abiram Castle
- H Water Gate
- I Dunhill Gate
- K Sheps Gate
- L Sheps Poole
- M Menchaz Palace
- N Ezekias Poole
- O Antonis Palace
- P Poud Street
- Q Arappas Palace
- R Ephas Gate
- S Old Gate
- T Salomon Palace
- F S hite Gate
- H Fountains of Shile
- Y Bathing Poole
- X Salomon Garden
- Z Fish Poole
- 1 Golden Gate
- 2 Fish Gate
- 3 Upper mont
- 4 Lower mont
- 5 Manuall tower
- 6 Saphatay tower
- 7 Hays sepulchre
- 8 Davids sepulchre
- 9 Arc in Sion
- 10 Milla

Without head  
 of bloud  
 is no remys  
 on Heb. o. 22

As Iesus was three dayes and  
 three nyghts in the whyle he  
 laye, shall the soules of man  
 be three dayes and three nyghts  
 in the heare of the earth  
 Math. 12. 40.





NOUVELLES NOUVELLES  
NOVEMBER 2013

CENTER FOR  
MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE STUDIES

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The Center for Medieval and Renaissance  
Studies is an interdisciplinary unit in the  
OSU College of Arts and Sciences dedicated  
to the study of Europe from the end of the  
Roman Empire through the seventeenth  
century, as well as comparable cultural  
developments in non-western countries.  
CMRS activities promote teaching and  
research in all aspects of medieval and  
renaissance culture, including art, music,  
literature, religion, history, philosophy, and  
government.

The activities of the Center include offering  
courses at both the undergraduate and gradu-  
ate levels, administering an undergraduate  
major and minor, sponsoring a graduate  
certificate program and Graduate Interdisci-  
plinary Specialization, organizing a series of  
lectures and colloquia, providing graduate  
administrative and teaching associateships,  
and publishing a newsletter, *Nouvelles Nou-  
velles*. It also aspires to serve as a resource  
for medievalists and Renaissance scholars  
at other institutions throughout the state. The  
Center has acted as the headquarters for the  
New Chaucer Society and the operational  
home for university-wide planning to com-  
memorate the quincentenary of Columbus’  
first voyage. We also have a series of oc-  
casional publications.



Eric J. Johnson, Associate Curator of Rare Books and Manuscripts at the Thompson Library, contributes a description of recent acquisitions to OSU’s collection. One recently acquired document, shown above, is fragment of a Missal including masses celebrating the feasts of the Common of One Martyr, likely produced in Germany during the late-eleventh or early-twelfth century.

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The cover image, “Hunger and Time Before Krates (Spes Ultima),” is an engraving by Giulio Bonasone (c. 1498 – after 1574). The back cover image is from a book of hours at University of Oxford’s Bodleian Library, MS. Douce 112 fol. 064r.



Greetings,

The Fall term is well advanced, now, and the heightened pleasures of the season surround us: it is a Feast indeed, to which our lecture series has contributed delightfully. Christina Normore (of Northwestern University) has explored the art-historical implications of the legendary, but well documented, feasts of the fifteenth-century court of Burgundy; Luisa del Giudice (founder of the Italian Oral History Institute in Los Angeles) has elucidated the history of *coccagna* as a utopian land of plenty in Italian literature and folklore across many centuries, in a lecture co-sponsored by the Center for Folklore Studies; and Timothy Tomasik (of Valparaiso University) has explained the history, tradition, and market of French cookbooks between c. 1300 and 1600, in the remarkable passage from manuscript to print. We are now looking forward with great pleasure to the visits of Christopher Dyer (of Leicester University; November 8) and Derek Pearsall (of Harvard University; November 22), traveling here from Britain to teach us about feast and famine, respectively, in late medieval England.

Regarding Center affairs more generally, and having met with many dozens of faculty and students in the past few months, I can say with some authority that we live in a time, and place, of astonishing creativity, commitment, and innovation, and that the Center is finely placed to take advantage of, as well as contribute to, the talents and achievements of our many affiliate members. Although I hardly began my directorship with ideas of radical change in mind, I have thought much about our mission and constituencies within and beyond the Columbus campus. As a result, with the blessing of our Advisory Committee, we are embarking on some changes and additions to the Center's activities that I hope will enhance its visibility and productivity in the coming years.

First among these is a reduction in the number of presentations in our yearly lecture series, which, beginning with the 2014-15 season, will number eight, instead of ten. That reduction will ease the schedules of our affiliate members, focus attention more effectively on the lectures that remain, and give us some room in the budget to add a second innovation, namely, a one-day, interdisciplinary conference, hopefully occurring each year, that brings noted scholars from near and far. The conference topic will be decided on the basis of submissions by faculty and graduate students, thus advancing not only the colloquy among our Center constituencies, but also the distinct research agendas of our members.

A third innovation is the creation of a yearly, one-day 'conference-carnival' that aims to unite the faculty, student, and broader Columbus and Ohio communities in flexible and creative ways. Under the aegis of 'Popular Culture and the Deep Past,' this initiative will address a different manifestation of contemporary popular culture each year, highlighting its resonance with medieval and Renaissance historical and cultural roots, broadly considered. This year's theme is the *Game of Thrones* (novel series and television show), and we have planned our 'Game of Thrones Day' for Saturday, February 8, 2014. Stay tuned for more information as the event develops, or check in with us online, at our website ([cmrs.osu.edu/game-of-thrones](http://cmrs.osu.edu/game-of-thrones)) or facebook group (<http://tinyurl.com/CMRSGOTD>).

There is more afoot, as will be revealed in future issues of *Nouvelles Nouvelles*. But for now, let me indulge the contemplations of my daily drive to campus from the beautiful Olentangy Valley exurbs, where the startlingly brilliant and endlessly diverse colors of the fall foliage make one dream, with Ronsard, of retiring to an autumnal woods in which, 'tout paisible et coi, vivras dans les bois pour la Muse et pour toi.' As I get to know our many affiliates and friends, I find the counterpoise to Ronsard's retreat is already here among us: a brilliant and, often, seemingly enchanted *forêt* of scholars, students, and friends. May the Center itself help each of us find, and share, our Muse.

Grame M. Boone  
Director, Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies



## CMRS ALUMNI, *UBI SUNT?*

*Many students have benefitted from CMRS programs, courses, and activities. We hope you enjoy reading about the professional accomplishments of the following alumnus.*

A native of southwestern Kentucky, **Kevin R. Poole** finished his PhD in Spanish and Portuguese at Ohio State in 2006. During his program, he took courses in medieval Spanish literature and culture with Professor Vicente Cantarino, as well as courses in medieval church and monastic history with the late Professor Joseph Lynch. He was also a faithful attendee of CMRS lectures and other events.



Under the guidance of Professor Cantarino, Kevin wrote a dissertation titled “Visualizing Apocalypse: Image and Narration in the Tenth-Century Gerona Beatus *Commentaries on the Apocalypse*,” which continues to be a topic of research interest for him. Focusing primarily on the visual narrative of the manuscript’s illustrations and the monastic practice of *lectio divina*, he developed a supernarrative theory that he proposes as the basis of spiritual study and contemplation in general. Since graduating, Kevin has continued to study the Beatus manuscript tradition, publishing articles in volumes on Apocalypse studies. The connections between medieval theology, literature and visual arts has come to occupy a place of primary importance in his research and teaching, evinced by his studies of theology and Catholic doctrine in the works of Gonzalo de Berceo, Alfonso X el Sabio, and Juan Ruiz. Most recently, Kevin published “On the Figure of Voxmea in Gonzalo de Berceo’s *Poema de Santa Oriá*” in the February issue of *Modern Philology*. He is currently working on a book tentatively titled *Faith, Love, and Happiness: the Theological Context of Juan Ruiz’s Libro de buen amor*, as well as a study and English translation of the *Historia Turpini*, the twelfth-century legend of

Charlemagne’s role in the discovery of the apostle’s tomb at Santiago de Compostela. He is also working alongside Professor Joseph Snow of the University of Michigan on the ongoing bibliography of the poetic works of Alfonso X. Kevin’s research has been presented at conferences in the United States, the United Kingdom, Mexico, and Spain, and he has given invited lectures at the University of Connecticut, Oklahoma State University, the University of Dallas, and Yale University.

Upon graduating from OSU in 2006, Kevin accepted the position of assistant professor of Spanish at Clemson University in South Carolina. There he taught courses in Spanish language, literature, and history until he moved to Yale University in 2009. As assistant professor of Spanish and Medieval Studies at Yale, he has taught graduate and undergraduate seminars on various aspects of Medieval Spanish literature and culture, as well as courses on the history of the Spanish language. He is an active member of the Medieval Studies Program faculty and regularly gives research talks at that program’s weekly “medieval lunch.” Kevin is also an active member of the Medieval Academy of America, and served as chair of the Local Arrangements Committee when the MAA held its annual meeting at Yale in 2010.

In September 2012, Kevin married Ms. Julia Brown, a native of New York City, who works for the New Haven-based non-profit organization Innovations for Poverty Action. They live together with their cat Luz.





# CELEBRATING THE ACADEMIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF CMRS AFFILIATES

**Angela Andersen (History of Art, PhD Candidate)** was awarded a Hamad bin Khalifa Travel Fellowship to attend the fifth biennial Hamad bin Khalifa Symposium on Islamic Art in Palermo, Sicily, 9-12 November 2013, on the theme “God Is the Light of the Heavens and the Earth: Light in Islamic Art and Culture.”

**Clare Balombin (French and Italian)** successfully defended her dissertation, “Saints in the *Roman de Renart*,” in July 2013, and graduated on 4 August 2013 with a PhD in French. Clare also presented, “*Foi que doi: Saints in the Roman de Renart*” at the 20th biennial conference of the International Reynard Society, held in Alicante, Spain from 23-26 July 2013.

**Barbara Becker-Cantarino (Germanic Languages and Literatures)** was honored at the German Studies Association Annual Meeting in Denver, October 2013, with a special session, a reception, and the presentation of a Festschrift: “*Wenn sie das Wort ich gebraucht.*” Festschrift für Barbara Becker-Cantarino von Freundinnen, Schülerinnen und Kolleginnen. Edited by John Pustejovsky and Jacqueline Vansant (Amsterdam/New York: Rodopi, 2013).

**Karen Bruce Wallace (English, PhD Candidate)** presented “Impaired Memory and Prosthetic Writing in the Old English *Soliloquies*” at the *Translatio* conference in Columbus, Ohio on 5 October 2013.

**Jonathan Burgoyne (Spanish and Portuguese)** participated in a roundtable discussion, “Periodization—Fact or Fiction?: A Roundtable Discussion” at the *Translatio* conference in Columbus, Ohio on 5 October 2013.

**Jonathan Combs-Schilling (French and Italian)** gave the Plenary Lecture “Untying the Knot Between ‘Medieval’ and ‘Renaissance’: The Uses and Dangers of Literary Periodization” at the *Translatio* conference in Columbus, Ohio on 4 October 2013. Jonathan also participated in a roundtable discussion, “Periodization—Fact or Fiction?: A Roundtable Discussion” at *Translatio* on 5 October 2013.

**Richard Dutton (English)** presented the Keynote Address at *The Ohio Valley Shakespeare Conference* in Cleveland, Ohio, titled “‘Rehearsed, Perfected, and Corrected’: the Cases of *Merry Wives* and *Hamlet*,” on 11 October 2013.

**Darrell Estes (French and Italian, PhD Student)** presented “The Remaniement of the Old French *Vie de Saint Alexis*: Enhancements in the Text from the 11<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup> Centuries” at the *Translatio* conference in Columbus, Ohio on 5 October 2013.

**Alan B. Farmer (English) and Zachary Lesser (UPenn)** collaborated on “What Is Print Popularity? A Map of the Elizabethan Book Trade” published in *The Elizabethan Top Ten: Defining Print Popularity in Early Modern England*. Edited by Andy Kesson and Emma Smith (Farnham: Ashgate, 2013). Alan also presented “‘Gross Errors’: The Myth of Shakespeare’s Indifference to Print” at the European Shakespeare Research Association Conference in Montpellier, France on 27 June 2013.

**Hannibal Hamlin (English)** participated in a roundtable discussion, “Periodization—Fact





or Fiction?: A Roundtable Discussion” at the *Translatio* conference in Columbus, Ohio on 5 October 2013.

**Reid Hardaway (English, PhD Candidate)** was the moderator of the panel “Textual Humors: Exploring the Role of Comedy and Religion” at the *Translatio* conference in Columbus, Ohio on 5 October 2013.

**Tryntje Helfferich (History, OSU Lima)** edited and translated *On the Freedom of a Christian: with Related Texts* by Luther Martin (Indianapolis/Cambridge: Hackett, 2013).

**Christopher Highley (English)** presented “Charles Stuart: A Wanderer of Uncertain Religion” at the Stuart Successions Colloquium at Jesus College in Oxford on 28 September 2013.

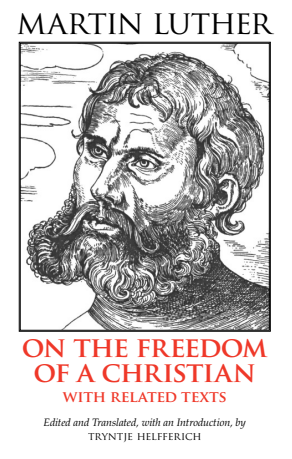
**Eric J. Johnson (Rare Books and Manuscripts Library)** presented the lecture “Teaching How to Hate: Uncle Hansi’s Pedagogical Polemic and the Question of Alsatian Nationalism” at the international conference “Putting the Figure on the Map: Imagining Sameness and Difference for Children,” hosted by the Cotsen Children’s Library at Princeton University, 11-13 September 2013.

**Mira Assaf Kafantaris (English)** presented two papers, “The Project of a Spanish Match, English Catholicism, and Royal Policy in John Fletcher’s *The Island Princess* (1621)” and “Performance and Shakespeare” at *The Ohio Valley Shakespeare Conference* in Cleveland, Ohio on 12 October 2013.

**Colleen Kennedy (English)** published “Civet and Rose: (Early) Modern Perfume Ingredients Fit for a King” with the online journal *The Recipes Project* on 24 October 2013; as well as a review, “When Shall We Three Meet Again? Alan Cumming in *Macbeth*” with the online journal *Upstart: A Journal of English Renaissance Studies* on 17 October 2013. Colleen presented “Do You Smell a Fault?: Deodorizing King Lear’s Feminine Odours” at the *Translatio* conference at The Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio on 7 October 2013; “Base Excrement of Earth: The Paradox of Early Modern English Perfume” at the *Ohio Valley Shakespeare Conference* in Cleveland, Ohio on 12 October 2013; and “The World is a Stage: Global Shakespeare and the Social Studies” with Jason R. Harshman (PhD candidate, Global Education, Ohio State) at the *Ohio Council for Social Studies* in Columbus, Ohio on 1 October 2013. She also received *The M. Rick Smith Memorial Graduate Student Essay Prize* for the essay “Base Excrement of Earth: The Paradox of Early Modern English Perfume” as presented at *OVSC* on 12 October 2013.

**Sarah Peters Kernan (History)** published a review of “*Cockatrice and Lampray Hay: Late Fifteenth-Century Recipes from Corpus Christi College Oxford* edited by Constance B. Heatt” in *Comitatus: A Journal of Medieval and Renaissance Studies* 44.1 (2013): 244ff.

**Predrag Matejic (Hilandar Research Library)** gave a professorial lecture “LETTER → WORD | WORD → TEXT | TEXT → MANUSCRIPT” at the OSU Thompson Library on 23 October 2013.





**Victoria Muñoz (English, PhD Student)** was the moderator of a panel titled “Textual Anatomies: Exploring the Role of the Body” for the conference *Translatio* in Columbus, Ohio on 5 October 2013.

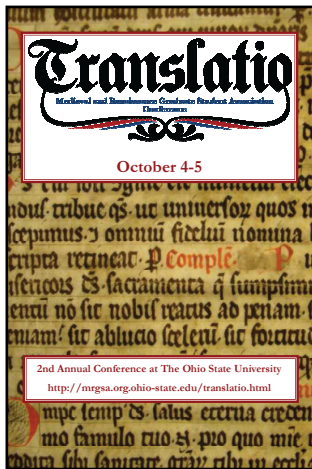
**Robey Clark Patrick (Spanish and Portuguese, PhD Candidate)** presented “Race and *Risa* in a Spanish *Comedia*: Andrés de Claramonte’s *El valiente negro en Flandes*” at the *Translatio* conference in Columbus, Ohio on 5 October 2013. Robey also was the moderator for the roundtable discussion, “Periodization—Fact or Fiction? A Roundtable Discussion” at *Translatio* on 5 October 2013.

**Ashley Powers (French and Italian, PhD Student)** presented the paper “From Redemption to Restoration: The Reestablishment of Pre-commercial Values in Rutebeuf’s *Le Miracle de Théophile*” at the *Translatio* conference in Columbus, Ohio on 5 October 2013.

**Kristina Sessa (History)** participated in a roundtable discussion, “Periodization—Fact or Fiction?: A Roundtable Discussion” at the *Translatio* conference in Columbus, Ohio on 5 October 2013.

**David Sweeten (English, PhD Candidate)** was the moderator of a panel titled “Textual Economies: Exploring the Role of the Object” for the conference *Translatio* in Columbus, Ohio on 5 October 2013.

**Erin Wagner (English, PhD Candidate)**, President of MRGSA, organized and oversaw the successful execution of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference of the Medieval and Renaissance Graduate Student Association, *Translatio*, held in Columbus, Ohio on 4-5 October 2013.



## Game of Thrones Day: Popular Culture and the Deep Past

A day-long event, sponsored and produced by CMRS, intended as a means to bring together faculty, graduate students, undergraduates, and local communities to explore, celebrate, and critique the diverse historical and cultural themes that relate to the *Game of Thrones* novels and television show. The multiple spaces reserved will allow for simultaneous academic panels, culinary demonstrations, arts and crafts presentations, live-action demonstrations, and other exhibits or activities, reflecting the juxtaposition of historical and cultural constituencies to fantasy and creative invention that characterizes the *Game of Thrones* itself.

This is projected as the first in a yearly series of events under the broader CMRS theme of “Popular Culture and the Deep Past,” in which contemporary pop-cultural manifestations will be explored and celebrated with attention to their profound and wide-ranging historical and cultural contexts. A guiding principle of the series is to bring diverse communities together in and around Ohio State, including the academic and non-academic, scholarly and performative, creative, educational, and reflective communities.

If you would like to participate, present, or obtain more information, contact either David Sweeten at [sweeten.6@osu.edu](mailto:sweeten.6@osu.edu) or Robey Clark at [patrick.161@osu.edu](mailto:patrick.161@osu.edu).

To join the discussion of panel construction and content, see the Facebook group at <http://tinyurl.com/CMRSGOTD>.

## NEW FACULTY AFFILIATES



**J**onathan Combs-Schilling joins the Department of French and Italian of The Ohio State University this academic year of 2013-2014 as an Assistant Professor of Italian. Dr. Combs-Schilling received the BA in Italian *summa cum laude* from Columbia University (2002), MA in Italian Studies from The University of California at Berkeley (2006), and PhD in Italian Studies from The University of California at Berkeley (2012). During the academic year of 2012-2013, he was an Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in Italian at Bowdoin College, Maine.

Dr. Combs-Schilling's primary research interests include the history of pastoral and its position within medieval Italian literary culture, as well as later developments in its history, both in and beyond Italy; Dante, Petrarch and Boccaccio and the construction of the Italian canon; the Italian lyric and *novella*; chivalric epic and romance ideologies; literature of the sea; the classical tradition in Italy and the discourse of *translatio imperii*; and representational economies between narrators and characters. His doctoral dissertation, *Pastoral at the Boundaries: The Hybridization of Genre in the Fourteenth-Century Italian Eclogue Revival*, focuses on the work of the celebrated late-medieval Italian authors Dante, Petrarch, and Boccaccio. He has two academic publications, "Weaving the Crusades: Bodies of Interlace in Tasso's *Gerusalemme liberata*" in *Modern Language Notes* 127.1 (2012): 1-22; and "Navigating the *Furioso*: Sea Thematics and the Ariostan Narrator in the College Writing Classroom" which is forthcoming in *Approaches to Teaching the Orlando furioso* (MLA Publications); and is currently working on an article about the influence of Dante and the discourse of *translatio imperii* in Petrarch's Latin eclogues, a chapter on pastoral and epic in the works of Luigi Pulci for a collected volume, and a monograph, *Pastoral at the Boundaries: Dante, Petrarch, Boccaccio and the Transformation of Genre*.

Along with his most recent award as an Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, Dr. Combs-Schilling was twice before a Mellon Fellow (2004-05, 2007-08), a Discovery Fellow with the Townsend Center for the Humanities at The University of California at Berkeley (2004-07), a recipient for a Fullbright Grant for Research in Italy (2002-03), and the winner of the Helen & Howard R. Marraro Prize for Italian Scholarship at Columbia University (2001). Apart from his academic accomplishments, Dr. Combs-Schilling was an opera critic in Turin, Italy from 2003 to 2005 for *L'Opera*, and twice performed the role of Orlando in theatrical adaptations of Boiardo's *Orlando innamorato* during summer productions in Emilia-Romana and Puglia, Italy during the summers of 2000 and 2001.

Within his few months here at OSU, Professor Combs-Schilling has become a highly active member of the university community and affiliate of the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies. In October he gave the Plenary Lecture at *Translatio*, the 2nd Annual Conference at The Ohio State University organized by the Medieval and Renaissance Graduate Student Association, titled "Untying the Knot Between 'Medieval' and 'Renaissance': The Uses and Dangers of Literary Periodization," and also participated in the concluding session of the conference, "Periodization-Fact or Fiction? A Roundtable Discussion," along with Dr. Kristina Sessa (History), Dr. Hannibal Hamlin (English), and Dr. Jonathan Burgoyne (Spanish and Portuguese). We are greatly pleased to be able to welcome Professor Jonathan Combs-Schilling to The Ohio State University, and it is with equally great joy that we welcome him as an affiliate of CMRS.



# BUILDING OSU'S RARE BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS LIBRARY

by Eric J. Johnson

Associate Curator, Rare Books and Manuscripts

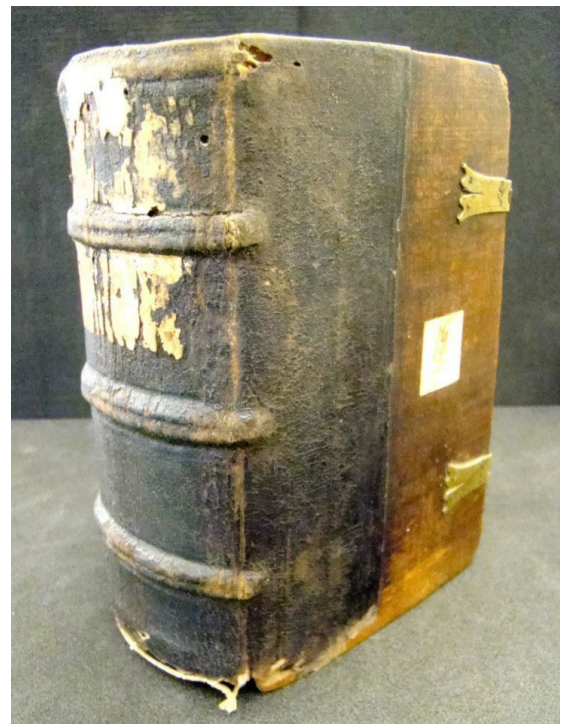
Although we are now firmly entrenched in the Fall 2013 semester, I'd like to backtrack several months to the end of our last fiscal cycle. As in past years, *Nouvelles Nouvelles'* publishing schedule prevented me from providing you all with a complete accounting of RBMS' new acquisitions during 2012-13. When the April 2013 issue of *NN* hit the streets, in fact, we had just over six weeks left to track down and add new old things (or old new things, depending on your perspective) to our collections. Acquiring items at the end of the fiscal year is always an exciting prospect. The international New York Antiquarian Book Fair convenes, inspiring dealers to entice curators and collectors (as well as outdo their own mercantile colleagues) by assembling impressive book-lists full of attractive, rare, and eminently desirable volumes. Other savvy dealers, realizing that many institutions will soon be entering into an enforced "acquisitions hibernation" as budgets recycle over the summer, offer a wonderful assemblage of titles—medieval to modern—perfectly designed to meet the needs of curators, students, collectors, and scholars. Personally, I find the end of the fiscal year to be a most interesting, but also frustrating, time when it comes to building RBMS' collections. Generally speaking, so much good stuff is out there to be had, but there's never enough funding to acquire it all. Needless to say, this forces one to be somewhat creative and flexible. This year proved no different, and I'm happy to report that we were able to "tag and bag" many of the targets of opportunity that popped up unexpectedly during the final weeks of our acquisitions cycle.



Volvelle woodcut from *Libellus de sphaera* (1558) by Johannes de Sacrobosco. THO Special Collections, copy being processed.

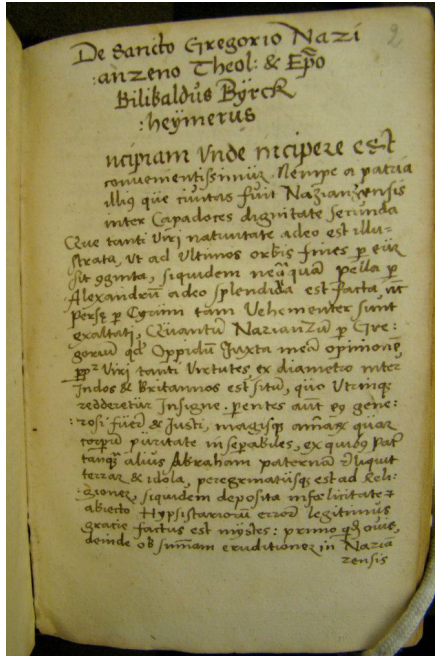
1561. Peucer's text is enlivened by the inclusion of three volvelle woodcuts that interactively demonstrate the movement of the planets, while Sacrobosco's well-known *Libellus*—a popular text with printers from the fifteenth century on—also includes a pair of volvelles, two folding tables, and a preface by the famous German reformer, Philipp Melanchthon. Appended to Melanchthon's edition of Sacrobosco are Johannes Regiomontanus' *Epitome in Almagestum Ptolemaei* and Erasmus Reinhold's *Themata quae continet methodicam tractionem de horizonte rationali ac sensibili*. Our second new *Sammelband* contains three individual texts: the collected works of St. Gregory of Nazianus printed by Eucharius Cervicornus in 1530; a manuscript life of St. Gregory written by Wilibald Pirckheimer (1470-1530), a prominent Renaissance humanist, lawyer, politician, and friend of Albrecht Durer (an edition of this manuscript was printed in Basle in 1550, but we're not sure whether the MS included here is a copy of or predates this printed text); and Timan Smeling's *De septem sacramentis*, printed in 1546 by the Cologne-based printer, Melchior Novesianus. Our third *Sammelband*, bound tidily in a recycled fourteenth-century liturgical manuscript leaf, contains Achilles Perman Gasser's abbreviated universal history, *Historiarum et chronicorum totius mundi epitome* (1535) and a 1518 printing

Amongst our haul was a trio of three sixteenth-century *Sammelbände*. The first includes a pair of astronomical treatises by Caspar Peucer (*Elementa doctrinae de circulis coelestibus*, 1558) and Johannes de Sacrobosco (*Libellus de sphaera*, 1558) housed in a blind-stamped pigskin binding dated



Cover image of the *Sammelband* containing the collected works of St. Gregory of Nazianus, among other works. THO Special Collections, copy being processed.





Manuscript text depicting the life of St. Gregory written by Wilibald Pirckheimer (1470-1530), a prominent Renaissance humanist, lawyer, and politician. THO Special Collections, copy being processed.

of Johannes Climacus' early-seventh century ascetically-themed *Scala celestis*.

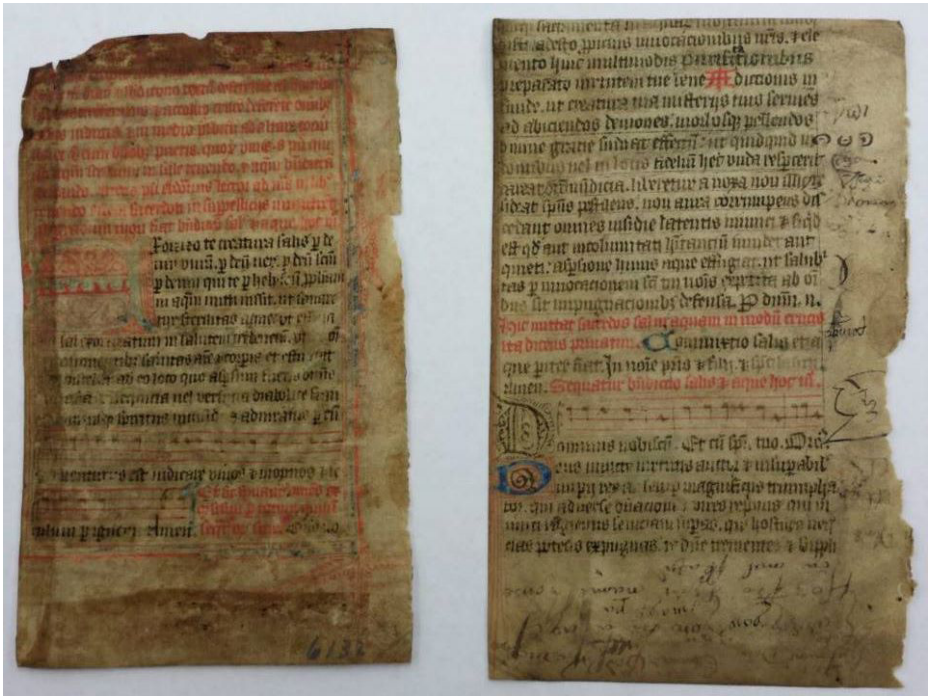
Other early-printed books that we acquired include a copy of Nicholas de Hannapes' *Exempla sacre scripture* printed in Paris by Petrus Levet in 1495 (this volume accompanies nicely the earlier manuscript copy of the epitome of this work that I described in the April 2013 issue of *Nouvelles Nouvelles*); a first edition of Martin Luther's *Von den Concilijis und Kirchen* (1539), in which the arch-reformer describes the historical councils of Nicea, Constantinople, Ephesus, and Chalcedon, remains skeptical about the possibility of a future general Christian council, and introduces notions of a Christian ethics based on the three hierarchies of state, school, and family; Melanchthon's *Moralis philosophiae epitome* (1542) and a copy of Justus Jonas' 1537 German translation of Melanchthon's massively influential *Loci communes* bound in a rare contemporary, limp-vellum latched wallet binding; a collection of eleven late-sixteenth century treatises by the noted Puritan William Perkins; and, finally, Erasmus Sarcerius' treatise, *Dialectica multis ac variis exemplis illustrata...* (1540), bound in a fourteenth-century manuscript lectionary leaf.

A range of interesting manuscripts also joined our collections during the final weeks of the acquisitions year. Leading the way was a substantial late-fifteenth century, northern Italian liturgical manuscript codex of 344 vellum folios containing a substantial portion of a Ferial Psalter as well as a complete secular Breviary prepared according to the Use of the Papal Curia, but with decided Franciscan influences. Following not far behind was a fascinating array of manuscript fragments, including two leaves from a Parisian monastic Psalter produced ca. 1220; an earlier fragment of ca. 1200—also French—bearing instructions for liturgical celebrations for particular days of the week, as well as feast days from the first through the twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost; a fragmentary bifolium featuring a portion of Peter Lombard's *Magna glos-*



This northern Italian liturgical manuscript contains a complete secular Breviary, prepared according to the Use of the Papal Curia. THO Special Collections, copy being processed.





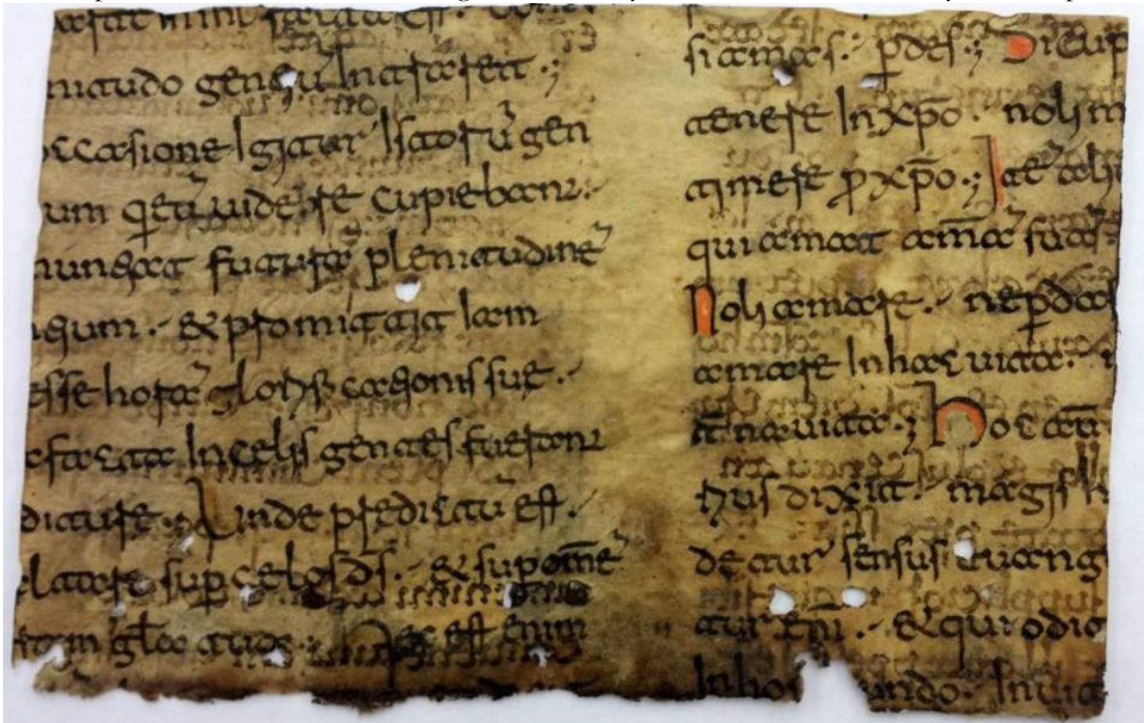
Two consecutive leaves from a late-fourteenth century English Sarum Missal regarding the confectio of Holy Water. THO Special Collections, copy being processed.

*satura* on the Psalms; a portion of a bifolium originally part of a thirteenth-century biblical concordance (likely from the third recension of the St. Jacques Dominican concordance); a single leaf from a mid-fourteenth century French Breviary; and two consecutive leaves from a late-fourteenth century English Sarum Missal conveying instructions for the exorcism of the salt and water used to con-  
fect Holy Water. Our two oldest manuscript additions of the year take us all the way back to the later eleventh century. The first is a bifolium that was once part of a Missal likely produced in Germany sometime in the late-eleventh or early-twelfth century. Our fragment includes masses celebrating the feasts of the Common of One Martyr—a sort of “template” for a sequence of readings that could be used to commemorate any single sainted martyr, thereby allowing the Missal to be somewhat flexible in accommodating different liturgical needs—and the feasts of St. Nicomedes, Erasmus (also known as Elmo), Marcellinus, and Peter the Exorcist, and the Apostles. Our oldest fragment,

although rather small (104 x 160 cm), is nevertheless a significant piece, and not just because it is amongst our oldest medieval holdings, dating, as it does, from ca. 1075. Most importantly, this lovely item at long last gives RBMS its first original example of a manuscript written in Beneventan script. The fragment preserves a small portion of St. Augustine’s “Tractates on the Gospel of John” written in a beautiful Bari-style script, a regional form of Beneventan that first emerged in southwestern Italy during the tenth century.

Given the variety and quality of the early books and manuscripts we managed to acquire in the final weeks of the past fiscal year, I can definitively state that this crop of “last-minute” books was a good one. Many of these items have already featured promi-

nently in courses across the CMRS curriculum, and I anticipate growing demand for more of these pieces by students and researchers in the months and years to come. Please don’t hesitate to contact me should you have any questions about the items I’ve outlined above. And don’t forget to take a look at RBMS’ Facebook page (<http://www.facebook.com/RBMSatOSU>) where you can read more about these items and see plenty of photographs to whet your appetite for excursions across the Oval to RBMS!



A newly acquired Beneventan fragment, containing part of St. Augustine’s “Tractates on the Gospel of John.” Dated at ca. 1075, this fragment is one of the library’s oldest medieval manuscript holdings, as well as being the library’s only original example of manuscript written in Beneventan script. THO Special Collections, copy being processed.

# SPRING 2014 COURSES

OFFERED BY THE

## CENTER FOR MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE STUDIES

### **MEDREN 2610** Science and Technology in Medieval and Renaissance Culture

Karl Peter Whittington, whittington.1@osu.edu  
WeFr 11:10am-12:30pm, 0120 Baker Systems  
Course #30373

This course investigates the history of science and technology in Europe between the years 1000 and 1600 – the Middle Ages and Renaissance. We will explore topics such as medicine and anatomy, alchemy, vision and optics, botany, map-making, city planning, and machinery and technology through images, texts, and material culture. How did people before the modern era think that the body worked? What were their conceptions of chemistry and biology? Of the movements of the stars and planets? This course is ideal for students pursuing majors in both the sciences and the humanities, as it explores their intersection, seeking out the ways that scientific methods and questions are culturally constructed. GE cultures and ideas course.

### **MEDREN 2526** Constantinople: the Imperial Capital of Byzantium

Anthony Kaldellis, kaldellis.1@osu.edu  
MWF 9:10am-10:05am, 0371 Journalism Bldg  
Course #30645

Washington, DC, was not the first “imperial” capital designed to evoke the power of ancient Rome. In late antiquity, the Romans themselves had built a New Rome in the East, which was also named Constantinople after its founder, Constantine the Great, the first emperor to convert to Christianity. This city – the Queen of Cities, as it was known – was destined to become the capital of two powerful empires, Byzantium and the Ottoman empire. This course will examine the making of this new Roman capital in the context of late antique history and culture (roughly from 300 to 600 AD). What do “capitals” do in the context of imperial political economies? How do their monuments “speak” to subjects and to posterity? How is history turned into a reservoir of “usable pasts” from which to construct new messages and identities? As we investigate these questions, we will also learn how to handle the different kinds of sources that have survived. Most sessions will combine literary sources, archaeology, art history, and modern scholarship. We will focus on the development of critical skills for analyzing sources and of informed imagination for what our sources do not tell us.

### **MEDREN 2520** Christians, Muslims, and Jews

Jonathan Burgoyne, burgoyne.10@osu.edu  
TuTh 2:20pm-3:40pm, 0209 Campbell Hall  
Course# 30436

An introduction to Mediterranean studies examining relationships between the cultures of the three Religions of the Book (Jews, Christians, Muslims) through art, literature, and history. GE culture and ideas course.



### **MEDREN 2618** Travel and Exploration

Lisa Beth Voigt, voigt.1@osu.edu  
TuTh 9:35am-10:55am, 0388 Arps Hall  
Course #30437

In this course we will explore narratives of travel and intercultural contact—not only victorious accounts of discovery and conquest, but also tales of failed expeditions, shipwreck, and captivity—produced by some of the main competitors in European imperial expansion: the Portuguese, Spanish, and English. We will study the relationship between literature and empire as we examine how such narratives shaped Europeans’ perceptions of their own and other cultures, and how the texts reflect, implement, and/or challenge imperial and colonial discourses. This course examines intercultural contact between Europe (Spain, Portugal, and England) and the ‘New Worlds’ through early modern narratives of travel, conquest, shipwreck, and captivity.

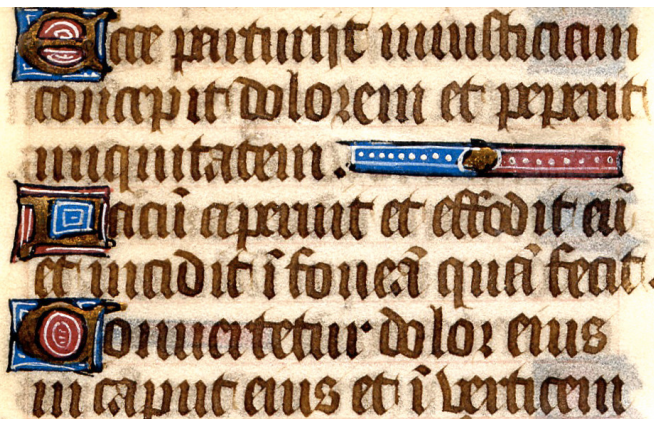


## COURSES

### **MEDREN 5631** Medieval and Renaissance Latin Literature

Richard Firth Green, green.693@osu.edu  
WeFr 12:45pm-2:05pm, 0171 Caldwell Lab  
Course# 22686(UG), 22685 (Grad)

This course will sample the major genres of medieval and early modern literature in Latin (including epic, romance, drama, satire, saints' lives, exempla, and historical writing). Some previous knowledge of Latin will be expected, but material will be selected to accord with the general reading-level of the class. Typically, those familiar with classical Latin will find medieval and early-modern Latin syntactically more straightforward, though it has its own distinctive grammar and vocabulary. Assignments: translation tests and one essay.



### **MEDREN 5695** The Literature and History of Early Modern London (1485-1660)

Christopher Frank Highley, highley.1@osu.edu  
TuTh 2:20pm-3:40am, 0313 Holtz Hall  
Course #22688 (UG), 22687 (Grad)

This interdisciplinary course will explore roughly one and a half centuries of the history, politics, and culture of London, beginning with the religious upheavals of the Protestant Reformation, moving onto a civil war that saw King Charles I lose his head, and culminating with the devastating plague and Great Fire of London in 1666. We will begin by studying the factors behind London's phenomenal growth in the sixteenth century, a growth that quickly made London an unrivalled center of economic and political life in Britain. By reading a range of primary documents including urban surveys, parish registers, plays, and pamphlets we will consider the opportunities and problems spawned by urbanization (social mobility, poverty, disease) as well as the institutions and structures that regulated the life of the city. In our tour of this vibrant world, we will encounter an extraordinary range of figures: alongside the great and the good like monarchs and Lord Mayors, we will also encounter prostitutes, vagabonds, and gallants. We will become familiar with the topography and built environment of London, its churches and cathedrals, its palaces and thoroughfares, and of course its iconic river Thames. We will linger especially over religious controversies, public spectacles, and the burgeoning commerce of theater.

## CMRS Affiliated Courses

For course descriptions,  
please visit <http://cmrs.osu.edu/curriculum/courses>

### **ARCHITECTURE**

5120: History of Architecture II: Ancient to Contemporary  
Jacqueline Joyce Gargus, Course # 7488, 7493E, 10716 (G)

### **CLASSICS**

2201 (H): Classical Civilization: Greece  
Staff, Course # 30503, 17982 (H)

2202 (H): Classical Civilization: Rome  
Staff, Course # 17983, 30504 (H)

2220 (H): Classical Mythology  
Staff, Course # 17985, 17999 (H)

2526: Constantinople: The Imperial Capital of Byzantium  
Anthony Kaldellis, Course #30719

### **Greek**

2110: The Greek New Testament  
J. Albert Harril, Course #21317

### **COMPARATIVE STUDIES**

5691: Topics in Comparative Studies\*  
Nada MOUNTAZ, Course # 29449 (UG), 29448 (G)  
November 2013 *Nouvelles Nouvelles* 14

5957.01 – Comparative Folklore\*

Sabra Jean Webber, Course # 29420 (UG), 29419 (G)

8872 – Seminar in Religious Studies\*

Isaac Amitai Weiner, Course # 29466

### **DANCE**

2401 – Western Concert Dance: Renaissance to Present  
Jessica Lynn Cavender, Michael James Morris, Course #18663

### **EAST ASIAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES**

#### **Chinese**

4402: Traditional Chinese Fiction in Translation\*  
Mengjun Li, Course # 17890

#### **Japanese**

5381: History of the Japanese Language  
James M Unger, Course # 29927 (UG), 21583 (G)

7453: Studies in Japanese Drama\*  
Shelley Fenno Quinn, Course # 29933

8477: Topics and Problems in Japanese Literature\*  
Naomi Fukumori, Course # 30067

**Korean**

5400: Performance Traditions of Korea  
Chan Eung Park-Miller, Course # 29940

5453: Readings in Korean Literary and Classical Texts  
Chan Eung Park-Miller Course # 29941

**ENGLISH**

2201: Selected Works of British Lit.: Medieval to 1800  
Karen Anne Winstead, Course # 20414

2201H – Selected Works of British Lit.: Medieval to 1800  
Richard Firth Green, Course # 20421

2220 (H) – Introduction to Shakespeare  
Staff, Course # 20423; Erin Katherine Kelly, 29480 (H)

2280 (H) – The English Bible  
Staff, Course # 20457; James Anthony Fredal, 29484 (H)  
4515 – Chaucer  
Lisa J Kiser, Course # 29488

4520.01 – Shakespeare  
Alan Bryan Farmer, Course # 20496  
Erin Katherine Kelly, Course # 20497  
Luke Andrew Wilson, Course # 29489

4521 – Renaissance Drama  
Jennifer K Higginbotham, Course # 20499

4523 – Special Topics in Renaissance Literature and Culture  
Erin Katherine Kelly, Course # 29490

4562 – Studies in Literature and the Other Arts  
Karen Anne Winstead, Course # 29521

4590H – The Renaissance (seminar)  
Christopher Frank Highley, Course # 20527

5723.01/.02 – Topics in Renaissance Lit. & Culture (seminar)  
Hannibal Hamlin, Course # 29560 (UG), 29559 (G)/ 29561

7817.01/.02 – Seminar in Early Medieval English Literature  
Leslie Claire Lockett, Course # 29547/29549

7820.01/.02 – Seminar in Shakespeare  
Jennifer K Higginbotham, Course # 20672/20673

7872.01/.02 – Studies in the English Language\*  
Gabiella Modan, Course # 20684/20685

**FRENCH AND ITALIAN**

**Italian**

5331 – History of the Italian Language  
Janice Marie Aski, Course # 28076, 28075 (G)

8222 – Studies in Italian Literature: Genre\*  
Marisa Giorgi, Course # 28079

8242 – Studies in Italian Literature: Gender and Genre\*  
Dana Renga, Course # 28077

**GERMANIC LANGUAGES & LITERATURES**

**German**

4600: Senior Seminar in German: Ling./Lang. \*  
Anna Anita Grotans, Course # 30962

8200 – Seminar in Literature and Literary Culture\*  
Staff, Course # 21278

8300 – Seminar in Intellectual History and Cultural Studies\*  
Kai Hammermeister, Course # 21280

8300 – Seminar in Film, Visual Cult., & the Performing Arts\*  
John Ellsworth Davidson, Course # 29584

8600 – Seminar in Linguistics and Applied Linguistics\*  
Anna Anita Grotans, Course # 21282

**Yiddish**

4721 – Studies in Yiddish Literature\*  
David Neal Miller, Course # 27644

7721 – Studies in Yiddish Literature\*  
David Neal Miller, Course # 27645

**HISTORY**

2201 – Ancient Greece and Rome  
Staff, Course # 1240, 1241

2202 – Introduction to Medieval History  
Rebecca Marie Favorito, Course # 1242  
Staff, Course # 1243

2203 – Introduction to Early Modern Europe  
Daniel James Watkins, Course # 1244

2240 – Elizabethan England  
Staff, Course # 1255

2280 Introduction to Russian History  
Ian Ona Johnson, Course # 1257  
Ian Thomas Lanzillotti, Course # 28269

2391 – Islamic India  
Stephanie Honchell , Course # 28155

2401 – History of East Asia in the Pre-Modern Era  
Ying Zhang, Course # 30296

2451: Medieval & Early Modern Jewish History, 700-1700 CE  
Staff, Course # 1262

3216 – War in the Ancient Mediterranean World  
Nathan Stewart Rosenstein, Course # 1254



# COURSES

3223 – The Later Roman Empire  
Anthony Kaldellis, Course # 1296

3226 – The Later Byzantine Empire  
Timothy E. Gregory, Course # 1297

3239 – Medieval England  
Staff, Course # 32403

3403 – History of Early modern China: 14th-18th century  
Ying Zhang, Course # 1304

4245H: Research Seminar in Early Modern European History  
Robert Charles Davis, Course # 1203

4550 – Readings in Military History\*  
John Francis Guilmartin, Course # 1317

7350 – Studies in Islamic History\*  
Jane Hathaway, Course # 1325

7600 – Studies in the History of Women and Gender\*  
Birgitte Soland, Course # 1328

## HISTORY OF ART

2001 – Western Art I: Ancient and Medieval Worlds  
Barbara Joan Haeger, Course # 21388

2002 – Western Art II: The Renaissance to the Present  
Christian K Kleinbub, Course # 21398

5531 – 17th-Century Dutch Art  
Barbara Joan Haeger, Course # 30429, 30428 (G)

5815 – The Lyric Journey: Chinese Painting of the Tang and Song  
Periods (618-1279)  
Julia Frances Andrews, Course # 30431, 30430 (G)

## LINGUISTICS

5901 – Introduction to Historical Linguistics  
Brian Daniel Joseph, Course # 21866, 21886 (G)

7902 – Historical Linguistics: Morphology  
Brian Daniel Joseph, Course # 21869

## MUSIC

2240 – Music History I  
Lois Ann Rosow, Course # 24003

5650 – History of Choral Music  
Charles Mercer Atkinson, Course # 24032, 24031 (G)

8950 – Seminar in Musicology\*  
Graeme M Boone, Course # 24580

## NEAR EASTERN LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

7402 – Cultural Currents of late Antique Middle East: The Arabs,  
Byzantines and the Sasanians  
Parvaneh Pourshariati, Course # 24806

## Arabic

5611 – History of the Arabic Language  
Gergana Stefanova Atanassova-Boft  
Course #29442, # 29441(G)

8891 – Seminar in Arabic Studies\*  
Joseph TufEEK Zeidan, COurse # 15458

## Hebrew

2700 – Biblical and Post-Biblical Hebrew Literature in Translation  
Daniel Frank, Course # 21346

## PHILOSOPHY

3220 – History of Medieval Philosophy  
Staff, Course # 29865

8200 – Seminar of History in Philosophy\*  
Julia Jorati, Course # 24930

## SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE

### Spanish

2300 – Reinventing America  
Staff, Course # 30666

4551 – Spanish Golden Age Literature  
Elizabeth B Davis, Course # 30682

4555 – Indigenous, Colonial, & National Lit. & Cult. of Span. Am.  
Staff, Course # 26789

5650 – Seminar in Iberian Literatures and Cultures\*  
Rebecca Lee Casey Haidt, Course # 26796

5680.02H – Honors Seminar in Iberian Lit. & Cult.\*  
Elizabeth B Davis, Course # 26786

5680.03H – Honors Seminar in Latin American Lit. & Cult.\*  
Ignacio Corona, Course # 30732

8390 – Seminar in Spanish Linguistics\*  
Rebeka Campos-Astorkiza, Course # 30671

8510 – Seminar in Medieval Iberia  
Jonathan D Burgoyne, Course # 30734

## THEATRE

3731 – Theatre Histories and Literatures  
Karen A Mozingo, Course # 27389

5441 – Period Styles for Production  
Daniel Gray and Kristine Anne Kearney, Course # 29640, 29639  
(G)

5771.06 – International Theatre and Performance  
Shilarna Stokes, Course # 27386, 27385 (G)

# Translatio

Medieval and Renaissance Graduate Student Association  
Conference

The Ohio State Medieval and Renaissance Graduate Student Association held its second Annual Conference, *Translatio*, on October 4 and 5, 2013. Dr. Eric J. Johnson opened the conference with a display of items from the Rare Books and Manuscripts Library in the Thompson Library. Friday evening, Dr. Jonathan Combs-Schilling gave the Plenary Lecture, “Untying the Knot Between ‘Medieval’ and ‘Renaissance’: The Uses and Dangers of Literary Periodization,” which stimulated a great question and answer session that served as an excellent introduction to what proved to be a very active conference. The first evening ended with a casual reception with refreshments hosted by MRGSA in the Library.

The second day was filled with excellent panel presentations from graduate students from both OSU and beyond. The first panel focused on “Textual Anatomies: Exploring the Role of the Body” with presentations by Karen Bruce Wallace (English) and Colleen Kennedy (English). The afternoon included two more panels, “Textual Economies: Exploring the Role of the Object” and “Textual Humors: Exploring the Role of Comedy and Religion,” with papers by Ashley Powers (French and Italian), Darrell Estes (French and Italian), and Robey Clark Patrick (Spanish and Portuguese). The conference concluded in the evening with a discussion featuring four professors from Ohio State titled, “Periodization-Fact of Fiction? A Roundtable Discussion.” It was moderated by Robey Clark Patrick of MRGSA with Dr. Jonathan Combs-Schilling (French and Italian), Dr. Kristina Sessa (History), Dr. Jonathan Burgoyne (Spanish and Portuguese), and Dr. Hannibal Hamlin (English) graciously participating.

MRGSA would like to thank all of the contributors who made the Annual Conference of *Translatio* possible this year and such a success, especially, Dr. Jonathan Combs-Schilling, Dr. Jonathan Burgoyne, Dr. Hannibal Hamlin, Dr. Eric J. Johnson, and Dr. Kristina Sessa for their generous time and participation.



Dr. Jonathan Combs-Schilling giving his Plenary Lecture to the audience of *Translatio* in the Thompson Library.



The **Medieval and Renaissance Graduate Student Association** (MRGSA) is an organization created to provide graduate students in CMRS-affiliate departments with opportunities for professionalization, skills development, and networking. Membership is open to anyone pursuing a relevant graduate degree at The Ohio State University, and we charge no dues or fees for involvement. If you are interested in joining MRGSA or learning more about upcoming events, please contact us at [mrgsaosu@gmail.com](mailto:mrgsaosu@gmail.com) or visit our website at <http://mrgsa.org.ohio-state.edu>.

#### 2013–2014 MRGSA OFFICERS\*

President: Erin Wagner (English)  
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 Vice President: David Sweeten (English)  
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 Media Officer: David Sweeten (English)  
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 Faculty Advisor: Jonathan Burgoyne (Spanish)

\*Elections for officers occur during the Spring Semester of each academic year.

MRGSA thanks the following sponsors:

The Center for Epigraphical & Palaeographical Studies, The Center for Medieval & Renaissance Studies, The Center for the Study of Religion, The Melton Center for Jewish Studies, The Humanities Institute, The College of Arts & Sciences, The Ohio State University Libraries, Rare Books & Manuscripts at The Ohio State University, The Office of Student Life at The Ohio State University, and the Departments of Classics, English, French & Italian, Germanic Languages & Literatures, History, Music, Near Eastern Languages & Cultures, and Spanish & Portuguese.



# NICHOLAS G. HOWE MEMORIAL FUND

## Javier Berzal

### PhD Candidate, History of Art Department

“The Spectacle of Space: Visual Experiences in the Early Modern Scenography of Italy”

**J**avier Berzal is a PhD Candidate in his fifth year with the History of Art Department here at Ohio State. He comes to Ohio from CUNY Queens College, where he obtained a BA/MA in Philosophy and a BA in History of Art. His field of expertise is early modern Italian art and architecture, and contemporary critical theory and his research and writing addresses early modern intersections of art, architecture, and theory with a focus on space and spatiality. A central concern of his is the relationship between active modes of visual engagement and spatial environments.



Ferdinando Ghelli’s “Model of the 1539 Scenography for the wedding of Cosimo I and Eleonora.” Palazzo Medici Riccardi, Florence.

Javier’s dissertation, *The Spectacle of Space: Visual Experiences in the Early Modern Scenography of Italy*, studies visual art and architecture created for the theater in fifteenth- and sixteenth-century Italy, exploring the neglected performative aspects of theatrical spaces, and considering the complexities of audience experience. In his project he refutes the traditional emphasis on the progress of illusionism and linear perspective, showing that artists, patrons, and audiences highly valued artistic experimentation and even transgression. In examining the heterogeneous, innovative practices of the period, his dissertation investigates and explains overlooked elements such as spatial paradoxes, displacements, and other neglected strategies that sought active and collective visual engagements from early modern spectators. Javier works with Professor Christian Kleinbub.

Javier found the support from the CMRS through the Howe Research Grant very encouraging and, in practical terms, the Howe (along with other grants) made it possible for him to conduct research in Italy. In his own words, “This fieldwork has proven enormously valuable in writing my dissertation, both because I was able to study in person spaces such as the Teatro all’antica in Sabbioneta and the *Sala delle Prospettive* in Rome, and because I conducted bibliographical research in Italian libraries and archives. My main goal was to study theatrical spaces and scenographic drawings in person. It is incredibly problematic to understand spatial relationships through reproduced photographs, as photographs isolate elements that are otherwise at play with their surroundings.” What is more, Javier recounts that a number of preparatory drawings that are central to his arguments are seldom reproduced, and it was thus vital to study those materials in person. He states, “Perhaps I have been fortunate, but fieldwork, though often demanding, has always been a fruitful experience for me. This trip was especially profitable.”

In the upcoming years, his goal is to prepare his dissertation for publication, acknowledging that the research conducted thanks to the Howe will have a rather lasting effect on his scholarship. Javier’s most imminent academic goal is to finish writing the dissertation and, so far, he admits that his research has obtained positive professional feedback in conferences such as The Sixteenth Century Society and the Renaissance Society of America, and that his article “Conjuring the Concept of Rome: Alterity and Synecdoche in Peruzzi’s Design for *La Calandria*” will be published by the *Sixteenth Century Journal* in 2014.

## DONATE TODAY!

**You can still donate to the Nicholas G. Howe Memorial Fund (#643306).**

- A. Donate online** at <https://www.giveto.osu.edu/igive>
- B. Send a check** payable to the Ohio State University and designated to the fund to either:

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or

Emily Alonso-Taub, Sr. Director of Development  
College of Arts and Sciences  
The Ohio State University  
1501 Neil Avenue, Suite 020Q  
Columbus OH 43201-2602

# NICHOLAS G. HOWE MEMORIAL FUND

**Andrew Richmond**

**PhD Candidate, Department of English**

“Concepts of Romance in Middle English Romance”

**A**ndrew Richmond is a fourth-year PhD candidate in the Department of English here at Ohio State. His research focuses on representations of landscape in late-medieval insular romance, with a concentration on Middle English texts. He’s a New England native, and grew up in Monson, Massachusetts. He received his BA in English Literature from the University of Massachusetts - Amherst in 2009, and earned his Masters of Philosophy in Medieval and Renaissance Literature at the University of Cambridge in 2010.

Funded by a Howe Research Grant, Andrew spent the past summer performing archival and on-site dissertation research in the United Kingdom. In particular, he consulted different manuscripts containing romances that are conclusively linked to specific patrons and places, or that contain large numbers of romances traceable to specific locations of composition. Manuscripts so consulted included: Cambridge, Cambridge University Library MS Kk.1.5.vii; Cambridge, Cambridge University Library MS Ff.1.6; Cambridge, Gonville and Caius College MS 175; Cambridge, Trinity College MS O.5.2; Lincoln, Lincoln Cathedral MS 91; London, British Library Additional MS 35288; London, British Library MS Cotton Caligula A.ii; Oxford, Bodleian Library MS Ashmole 61; and Oxford, Bodleian Library Rawlinson Poetry 14. He examined these codices for evidence of particular interest in landscape features, as demonstrated by: marginalia, illustration, rubrication, and other elements of each



manuscript’s layout. In order to anchor such observations in the physical countryside, he observed the remains of medieval fields or estates at the real-world sites near the locations of origin for some of these written works, so as to verify whether landscape descriptions in any of the romances seem to echo common (if not specific) topographical features of their areas of provenance. For example, he was able to examine the moorland area north of York near where the fifteenth-century gentryman Robert Thornton created his now famous miscellanies of romances and religious works.



York Castle, erected in 1068 after the Norman conquest of York. The keep, built between 1245 and 1270 under Henry III, was renamed Clifford’s Tower at the end of the 16th century.

After taking advantage of this opportunity, Andrew has spent the fall beginning to incorporate his findings into his dissertation project. For instance, it appears that the passages of terrain details that emerge in some of Robert Thornton’s unique romance witnesses do in fact reflect some common topographical features of mid-fifteenth-century Yorkshire - even when the texts purport to be describing foreign settings. Building from this and other research, Andrew hopes to advance our understanding of how the contemporary readers and writers of Insular romance conceived of their own relationships with the natural world - and to examine how the desires and anxieties which color the landscapes of fantasy texts are ultimately grounded in late medieval English landscapes.

*The Nicholas G. Howe Memorial Fund was established to honor the memory of the distinguished medievalist. As a respected scholar of the literature and culture of medieval England and former Director of the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies (1995–2002), he demonstrated leadership, devotion, and excitement in all his teaching and scholarly endeavors. Established in 2006, the fund is dedicated to supporting travel costs for graduate students pursuing studies in medieval and early modern topics at The Ohio State University. Annual distribution from the fund began during the 2010–2011 academic year; a total of sixteen graduate students have now received grant support from the fund. Meet more of the most recent recipients in future publications of *Nouvelles Nouvelles* and learn about their experiences made possible by the fund.*





CENTER FOR MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE STUDIES  
THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY  
455 HAGERTY HALL  
1775 COLLEGE ROAD  
COLUMBUS OH 43210-1361



Soneto XXIII

En tanto que de rosa y de azucena  
se muestra la color en vuestro gesto,  
y que vuestro mirar ardiente, honesto,  
con clara luz la tempestad serena;

y en tanto que el cabello, que en la vena  
del oro se escogió, con vuelo presto  
por el hermoso cuello blanco, enhiesto,  
el viento mueve, esparce y desordena:

coged de vuestra alegre primavera  
el dulce fruto antes que el tiempo airado  
cubra de nieve la hermosa cumbre.

Marchitará la rosa el viento helado,  
todo lo mudará la edad ligera  
por no hacer mudanza en su costumbre.

-Garcilaso de la Vega