



Nouvelles *NOUVELLES*

Center for Medieval
and
Renaissance Studies

The
Ohio State University
November 2009



Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies

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Greetings

Greetings,

It has not been my custom to include pictures with my introductory remarks, but today I'm making an exception. Far too often recently we seem to have been saying farewell to distinguished and long-standing members of the Center so it is with particularly great pleasure that I take this opportunity to welcome a new member to our community. On Monday November 9, my stalwart Associate Director, Sarah-Grace Heller, gave birth to a 7 pound 8 ounce daughter, Athena Marguerite, and I'm sure you will all wish to join me in congratulating her and wishing them both well. So stalwart indeed



is Sarah-Grace that I half expected a note from her apologizing for missing our staff meeting on Tuesday, so you will not be at all surprised to learn that even the charms of a new daughter can't keep her from teaching "Gothic Paris" for us next quarter!

Speaking of farewells, it is now over three years since Nick Howe, the much loved former director of CMRS, died, and by tradition the November issue of *Nouvelles Nouvelles* has become the place where we take stock of the fund established in his name. The news is both good and bad. Thanks to donors from every stage of academic life, from distinguished emeriti to public-spirited graduate students, we have now reached a total of almost \$35,000, a sum that seemed unthinkable three years ago. We are particularly grateful to those whose monthly contributions ensure the fund's steady growth, and to those who have supported our "donate your honorarium to Nick" program, which has resulted in some gratifying leaps forward. This year we are delighted to welcome Sarah-Grace Heller and Sebastian Knowles to this select group.



Now the bad news: 2008-09 saw a clear leveling off in contributions. We are approximately \$5,000 further ahead than we were this time last year, and at this rate we will fall short of our target of \$50,000 by the end of 2011. For the Nicholas Howe fund to become part of our regular endowment and to preserve Nick's name for posterity, we are obliged to reach this total in two years' time. The cause is a very good one (to support travel and research for Graduate Students associated with CMRS), so even in these straightened times I do hope you can find the means to help keep us on track.

It has been some time since I reported on the progress of our proposed GIS (Graduate Interdisciplinary specialization) in Medieval or Early Modern Studies. The news here is promising; the proposal has passed the Graduate Studies review process and has now only one more hurdle to jump. I fully expect that in the next issue of *Nouvelles Nouvelles* I will be able to announce its formal inauguration and invite our graduate students to sign up for it. Of course, the main beneficiaries will be graduate students studying medieval or early modern subjects, but we are also hoping that students in other areas who might want to develop a secondary qualification will consider signing up for it as well. Out thanks are especially due to Sarah-Grace Heller for acting as midwife (if I may continue the obstetrical theme) to this new program.

Though the quarter's activities are winding down (by the time this goes to press we will have enjoyed the final movie in one of our most successful series, *The Spanish Golden Age*), there is still one more lecture in our *Keepsakes, Mementoes, and Tokens* series to come: on Friday December 4th, Peter Stallybrass of the University of Pennsylvania will be here to speak on "Fetishism and Funerals"; judging by the enquiries I have already received Peter's lecture promises to be one of the most popular of the quarter. And finally, looking further ahead, next quarter's Film Series is being run in conjunction with our friends in NELC and will be based on the *Thousand and One Nights*

Best wishes for the coming holiday season.

Richard Firth Green

Director, Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies



Just Around

**"I don't teach a
how-to course!"**

**Says OSU's resident vampirologist,
Dr. Daniel E. Collins**

Dr. Daniel Collins of the Department of Slavic and Eastern European Languages and Literatures does not strike you as a Gothic man. That is, of course, until he dons his cape and delivers one of his signature lectures on vampires, vampire lore, vampire identification techniques, vampire research methodology, morning-after-the-bite remedies, and vampire-related trauma. His lectures, commonly known as "vampire talks", never fail to attract the attention of a small group of neophyte vampires and a larger group of nervously intrigued OSU students, faculty, and staff. This October 29, he gave one such "vampire talk," entitled "The Envious Living and the Envious Dead: Eastern European Beliefs in Vampires and Evil Eyes," to a combined audience of the Arts and Humanities Dean's Student Advisory Group and the Center for Slavic and East European Studies.



Dr. Collins in his favorite cape with a dead forest, vampires' common habitat, in the background.

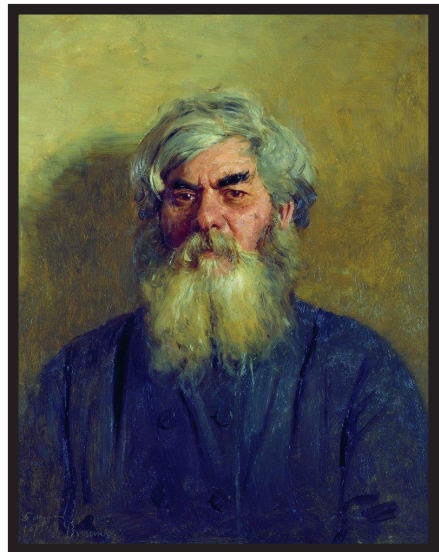


Anti-Evil Eye talismans and amulets have been popular in many cultures throughout the ages.

There are strong links between Evil Eyes and vampires in Eastern European folklore. Not only were vampires (corpses reanimated by their own souls or by demons) thought to have the power of the Evil Eye, but people with the Evil Eye in life were believed to become vampires after death. The unifying thread, ac-

cording to Dr. Collins, was envy: Eastern European peasant communities feared and demonized unusual greed in many ways. Thus people demonstrating unusual miserliness, the very old (for their greediness of life), womanizers, prostitutes, and heavy drinkers were all thought to become vampires after death.

Dr. Collins asked his audience what they imagined vampires should look like. The response mirrored films like *Dracula* and *Twilight*: vampires should be as thin, pale, dressed in black, and aristocratic. But, as Dr. Collins revealed, in Eastern European folklore vampires are likely to be fatter than in life, red in the face, dressed in white clothes, and invariably are peasants (like those in the Romanian news stories of 2002 and 2005 that Dr. Collins shared with the audience).



Ilya Repin, "Muzhik with an evil eye" (1877),



The phenomenon of vampirism occurs exclusively in peasant communities where vampires, instead of “just moving on” to the expected afterlife, begin to steal dowries, wound the cattle, ruin the crops, and vandalize whole house-

holds. Hence, they have to be neutralized or completely destroyed... The most popular methods include luring them out of the village, giving them something to drink or to chew on (like the plague victim found in Venice in the illustration), burning them, driving a stake through their hearts, piling rocks on them or decapitating them (so that they lose their sense of direction).

Sometimes, the “neutralization” of the unruly cadaver involves participation of its close relatives in such obscure and unlawful activities as the digging up of the grave, the burning of the half-decomposed remains, and the subsequent consumption of the ashes. (It was believed that vampire victims could be cured by drinking the blood of the destroyed vampire or consuming its ashes. These efforts make perfect sense, for one has to get back the blood or life force that the vampire had, presumably, stolen.) Furthermore, with the introduction of Christianity in Eastern Europe (ninth to the eleventh centuries), church authorities, preparing for the physical resurrection of the dead, prohibited cremation; this left villagers with a whole bunch of potentially dangerous cadavers on their hands.

After the talk, as the stunned audience left the hall with their blood effectively chilled, Dr. Collins agreed to reveal his life-long fascination with the trouble-making boundary-crossers. It turned out that, as a child he was forbidden from watching horror movies, but once he came of age, he confronted his fears and became fascinated with the subject. As an undergraduate at the University of Virginia, he enrolled in a “Vampire Lore” course taught by a Harvard-trained linguist and folklorist, Jan Louis Perkowski, thus predetermining one of his scholarly interests for many years to come.

The vampires of Ohio were happily preying on unsuspecting victims until Dr. Collins, our expert vampirologist (among other things) joined OSU faculty ranks in 1993. Concerned about the safety of OSU undergraduates, he offered his own “vampire course” -- **Slavic 130: Slavic Languages and Cultures: The Vampire in Eastern European and American Culture.** The course is radically different from the one he took himself as an undergraduate: instead of just concentrating on vampire lore, Dr. Collins presents vampires as a gateway to Slavic ethnology and ethnography. Also, he examines the changing perceptions of vampires in Western European and American culture as reflections of the evolving history of ideas.



The most notorious vampire of them all – Vlad III, Prince of Wallachia, aka Vlad the Impaler, aka Vlad Dracula. 15c portrait, Castle Ambras, Innsbruck, Austria



Mindy Bayko, a double major in Fashion and Retail and Political Science, a lovely Slavic vampires, and also one of the winners of the Slavic Halloween costume competition.

During his sixteen years at OSU, Dr. Collins has become a respected scholar in Slavic linguistics and has also offered his service to the university in many ways, including acting as the Slavic Department Chair for eight years. Despite all his responsibilities, he still managed to give twenty-two lectures on Slavic vampires, dying rituals in Medieval Rus', *Nosferatu* (the first film vampire), *Dracula*, and other supernatural blood-sucking monsters. Recognized nationwide as a "Slavic Vampire expert,"

Dr. Collins has drawn on his expertise to write about the origin of the word "vampire," and he is working on a book entitled *The Envious Dead: Evil and Monstrosity in Slavic Folk Traditions*.

Obviously, a scientific interest of this kind might cause family tensions but Dr. Collins' family proved to be pretty supportive: his wife's reaction is best described as "amused toleration," while his sons' views of their father giving yearly vampire talks to their elementary and middle school classmates range from "everyone said that you were cool" to "plain embarrassment." Regardless, Dr. Collins keeps "digging up" the truth and we are all safer for it.

CMRS special correspondent,
Daria Safronova

Upcoming Lectures

Fetishism and Funerals

*A lecture by
Peter Stallybrass
University of Pennsylvania*



Friday, 4 December 2009
Science and Engineering Library, Room 090
2:30 pm

The third lecture in our 2009-10 lecture series
“Mementos, Keepsakes and Tokens”

Introducing New Faculty



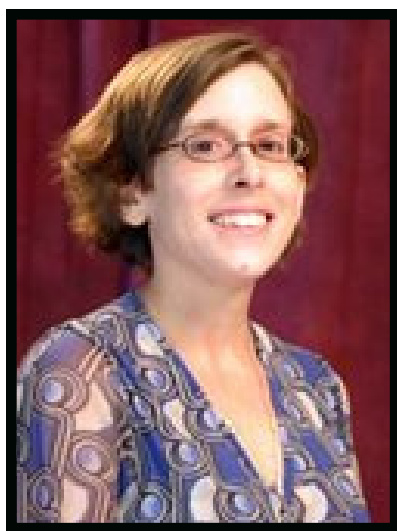
Elizabeth Zeman Kolkovich
Assistant Professor of English
Mansfield Campus

I earned my PhD at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2009. My research and teaching interests include early modern literature (especially drama), Shakespeare, history of the book, and gender studies. An article taken from my dissertation (article title: "Lady Russell, Elizabeth I, and Female Political Alliances through Performance") was published in the spring 2009 issue of *English Literary Renaissance*, and I have published book and performance reviews in *Renaissance Quarterly* and *Shakespeare Bulletin*. I am currently working on a book-length study of entertainments performed at aristocratic estates during Elizabeth I's royal progresses that I am tentatively calling "The Politics of Performance in Elizabethan Progress Entertainments."

We have sixteen extant entertainments performed at country houses for Elizabeth I on progress, 1575-1602. Because this genre facilitates female authorship and performance, it challenges the assumption that Elizabethan women were excluded from court politics and the production of drama. Additionally, progress entertainments' emphasis on their regional locations reveals that a unified national identity did not emerge steadily in the period, but coexisted with local authorities and loyalties. I analyze individual performances in conjunction with archival records to reveal the specific negotiations they enact between entertainment devisers and Elizabeth. I also examine their afterlives in print and manuscript; these new contexts expand the entertainments' reach to more diverse audiences and sometimes change their meaning. Although progress entertainments are usually considered obscure works of literature today, my project demonstrates that they circulated widely in the period and functioned as a key venue for Elizabethan political and literary debate.



The enclosed courtyard of Kenilworth Castle in Warwickshire, England, the site of the oldest known and most famous Elizabethan progress entertainment. Queen Elizabeth stayed in the building on the far left during her 1575 visit. Picture taken by Elizabeth Zeman Kolkovich during her own 2008 "Elizabethan Progress" to entertainment sites.



Lisa Beth Voigt

Associate Professor of Spanish and Portuguese

Director of Graduate Studies

Department of Spanish and Portuguese

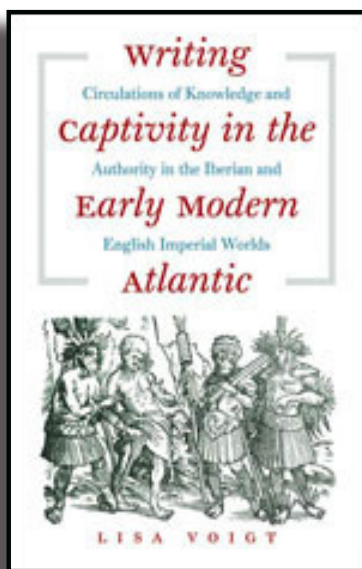
Professor Voigt was Associate Professor at the University of Chicago before joining OSU's Department of Spanish and Portuguese in 2009. She holds a BA in Hispanic Studies from Northwestern University and an MA and PhD in Hispanic Studies from Brown University. Her book, *Writing Captivity in the Early Modern Atlantic: Circulations of Knowledge and Authority in the Iberian and English Imperial Worlds*, was published by the University of North Carolina Press for the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture in 2009. She wrote the book with support from an NEH Fellowship at the Newberry Library (2002-2003) and a Mellon Postdoctoral Research Fellowship at the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture in Williamsburg, Virginia (2005-2006).

Her teaching and research on colonial Latin American literature and culture address transatlantic and comparative

issues, and include such topics as captivity and shipwreck narratives in the Spanish and Portuguese empires, mestizo historiography in New Spain, and Baroque festivals and creole identity in the Andes and Brazil. She has published on these and other topics in *Colonial Latin American Review*, *Early American Literature*, *Revista de Estudios Hispánicos*, *Revista Iberoamericana*, *MLN*, and *Renaissance Quarterly*, among other journals and collected volumes.

The title of her current research project is "Relations of Empire: Early Modern Novelty, News, and New Worlds," which studies the cultural and political relations between the early modern empires by examining the written relations of those empires: accounts of discovery, conquest, and shipwreck, civic and religious festivals, and other noteworthy current events at home and abroad. Utilizing a diverse body of texts, from sixteenth-century exploration accounts to eighteenth-century news pamphlets, this project investigates how "true relations" articulate concerns with establishing authority and conveying novelty, concerns which are tied to European attempts to represent a variety of "new worlds" in the early modern period.

"Drawing on texts written by and about European and Euro-American captives in a variety of languages and genres, *Writing Captivity in the Early Modern Atlantic* explores the role of captivity in the production of knowledge, identity, and authority in the early modern imperial world. ...Voigt demonstrates how the flexible identities of captives complicate clear-cut national, colonial, and religious distinctions. Using fictional and nonfictional, canonical and little-known works about captivity in Europe, North Africa, and the Americas, Voigt exposes the circulation of texts, discourses, and peoples across cultural borders and in both directions across the Atlantic." (Source: official website of The University of North Carolina Press).



Among Us

Barbara Becker-Cantarino (Graduate Chair and Research Professor, Spanish and Portuguese) gave three lectures: "Newly Discovered Eden? German Migrants in the English Colonies of North America around 1700," at international Congress "Raum in der Frühen Neuzeit" at the Herzog August Bibliothek, Wolfenbüttel, Germany, August 2009; "Paul Fleming's *Schreiben vertriebener Frauen Germanien*. Iconography and Ideology of Germania in the Seventeenth Century," at the international conference on "Poetry of the Baroque," University of Erlangen, Germany, September 2009; and "Glaube, Aberglaube, Wissen: Zum 'Hexensabbat' bei Pierre de Lancre und Johannes Praetorius," at the research conference "Diskursivierung von Wissen in der Frühen Neuzeit" at the University of Kiel, Germany, November 2009. She also published four articles:



Jerusalem: Jane Lead, the Philadelphian Society, and Visions of Religious Renewal during the 1690s," in *Alter Adam und Neue Kreatur. Pietismus und Utopie*, ed. Udo Sträter et al. Halle: Verlag der Franckeschen Stiftungen, 2009, pp. 151-65; "The Concept of a "Volkskönig." Bettina von Arnim's Transformation of Romantic Ideas in "Dies Buch gehört dem König," in: *Einheit der Romantik? Zur Transformation frühromantischer Konzepte im 19. Jahrhundert*, ed. Dirk von Petersdorf and Bernd Auerochs. Paderborn:

Schöningh, 2009, pp. 67 – 80; "Sophie von La Roche," in: *Frauen-Gestalten Weimar-Jena um 1800. Ein biobibliographisches Lexikon*, ed. Stefanie Freyer et al.. Heidelberg: Winter, 2009, pp. 221-27; and "Christian Weise's Poetry: "Der grünenden Jugend überflüssige Gedanken," in: *Christian Weise. Poet und Praeceptor*, ed. Peter Hesse. Zittau: Neisse Verlag, 2009, pp. 279-96. Finally, she published three reviews: "Erdmut Jost. *Sophie von La Roche's Travel Journals*," reviewed for *Das Achtzehnte Jahrhundert* 32, 2 (2009); "Julia di Bartolo. *Selbstbestimmtes Leben um 1800. Sophie Mereau, Johanna Schopenhauer und Henriette von Egloffstein in Weimar und Jena*," reviewed for *Monatshefte* 101, 3 (2009); and "Helen Fronius. *Women and Literature in the Goethe Era 1770-1820*" reviewed for *Modern Language Review* 104, 1 (January) 2009.

Bob Davis (Professor, History) recently published a book (the second in his on-going series on Mediterranean slavery, 1500-1800), *Holy War and Human Bondage: Tales of Christian-Muslim slavery in the Early-Modern Mediterranean* (Praeger, 2009).



David Hahm (Faculty Emeritus, Greek and Latin) published an article "The Mixed Constitution in Greek Thought," in R. Balot, ed., *A Companion to Greek and Roman Political Thought* (Oxford–Malden MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2009) pp. 178-98.

Barbara Hanawalt (Professor, History) delivered a lecture at Western Michigan University for the history department series on "Peace, Power, and Conflict in World History." Her paper was entitled "Cultivating and Enforcing Civic Culture in Medieval London." She also read a paper at the "Texts and Contexts" conference in a session honoring Joseph Lynch. Her paper was "Doodlers and Minute Takers in Fifteenth Century London."

Ali Bakr Hassan (Assistant Professor, Library and Arabic and Islamic Studies) gave a presentation "The Early Sources about Islam of Edward Gibbon," at the Middle Eastern Studies Association Conference in Boston 2009.

Ryan Judkins (PhD Candidate, English) presented "Ethical Conflicts and Monkish Veneries: The Aristocratic Background of Chaucer's Monk," at the Pacific and Modern and Ancient Language Association, San Francisco State University, San Francisco, CA. November 7-9, 2009.

Colleen E. Kennedy (PhD Student, English) is having an article "The Old Woman in the Cave of Lust: Edmund Spenser's Silenced Feminine Voices in the 'Faerie Queene,'" published soon in *FORUM: The Edinburgh Postgraduate Journal of Culture and the Arts*. She also has a book review "Carole Levin. *Dreaming the English Renaissance: Politics and Desire in Court and Culture*," in the new issue of *The Journal of British Studies* (October 2009): 989-990.

Lisa J. Kiser (Professor, English) has published two articles, "'Mak's Heirs': Sheep and Humans in the Pastoral Ecology of the Towneley First and Second Shepherds' Plays," in *JEGP* 108 (2009), 336-59 and "Margery Kempe and the Animalization of Christ: Animal Cruelty in Late Medieval England," in *Studies in Philology* 106 (2009), 299-315.

Aaron Pratt (PhD student, English) presented a paper "Sorry, Bale: Revisiting Tudor Apocalypticism," at the Tudor Symposium 6 at the University of Sheffield, UK, on 15 September 2009.

Karen E. Spierling (Visiting Associate Professor, History) presented "Making Marriages, Breaking Boundaries in Reformation Geneva" at the University of Toronto's Centre for Reformation and Renaissance Studies' 2009 conference and "To Have and To Hold: Marriage in Pre-modern Europe (1200 - 1700)," on October 17. She also delivered a talk, "Loving God and Neighbor: John Calvin's Vision for a Christian Society," at Broad Street Presbyterian Church in downtown Columbus on October 25.



Georges Tamer (Professor, Near Eastern Languages and Cultures) gave a lecture on "The Qur'an and History" at an international conference on Islamic Historiography held at the Friedrich-Ebert-Foundation in Berlin on 10/22-24/2009. And three lectures dealing with the religious, cultural, political and economic situation on the Arab Peninsula and the Mediterranean at the time of Muhammad in Bonn, Cologne and Düsseldorf on 10/26-28/2009.

Adena Tanenbaum (Associate Professor, Near Eastern Languages and Cultures) published an article "Kabbalah in a Literary Key: Mystical Motifs in Zechariah Aldahiri's '*Sefer Hamusar*,'" in *The Journal of Jewish Thought and Philosophy* vol. 17, no. 1 (2009): 47-99.

Heather J. Tanner (Associate Professor, History) presented "Dominae: Inheriting Countesses of Boulogne (1125-1260)," at the Western Society of French History annual conference (Boulder, CO., 24 October 2009).

Lisa Voigt (Associate Professor, Director of Graduate Studies, Spanish and Portuguese) presented "'*Nos pretos como no prelo*': The Black Brotherhood of the Rosary and Festival Accounts in Colonial Brazil," at the Early Modern Studies Institute-Huntington Library Colonial Latin America Seminar on Oct. 24, 2009.

Christin Wilson (PhD Student, Linguistics) presented a paper about the survival of Gothic in medieval France and Spain, "A Closer Look at Early Language Contact through Troubadour Poetry," at the International Conference on Historical Linguistics in August in Nimejen, the Netherlands.

On October 19-21, 2009, the **Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures** hosted an international workshop entitled "Ancient Ornamentalism: Sacred Poetry and the Aesthetics of Late Antiquity." The workshop was organized by **Michael Swartz** of the Department of NELC, in cooperation with Susan Harvey of Brown University, Derek Krueger of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and Ophir Münz-Manor of the Open University of Israel. Its purpose was to establish "comparative hymnography" as a new area of study and thus advance our knowledge of sacred poetry in late antiquity and how it sheds light on the complex relationships between Jews and Christians and between Aramaic-speaking and Greek-speaking communities.

The workshop brought together the leading experts in three specialties for the first time: Hebrew liturgical poetry of the Talmudic period, known as *piyyut*; the Greek hymnic literature of the early Byzantine Empire; and the voluminous corpus of sacred poetic literature in Syriac. The sessions consisted of guided readings and text workshops, in which an expert introduced a text briefly, after which the participants discussed the text with an eye to comparative questions. In conjunction with the workshop, Michael Roberts, Robert Rich Professor of Latin at Wesleyan University, presented a lecture entitled "*Pompa Verborum*: Style and Ceremony in Late Latin Poetry" at the Thompson Library on October 19, 2009. The workshop and lecture were sponsored by the Arts and Humanities at OSU with support from the Melton Center for Jewish Studies, the Center for the Study of Religion, the departments of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, Greek and Latin, and the Institute for Collaborative Research and Public Humanities.



Upcoming Courses

MEDIEVAL ALLEGORY

Medieval and Renaissance Studies 695
Winter 2010|Central Classroom Bldg 0248|TR 9:30-11:18|#010-25926

Professor
Ethan Knapp



Medieval allegory was a remarkable literary device, and it was one that produced several of the most exciting works of the period. This course will look at both the theory and practice of medieval allegory, drawing together works from a large time span and diverse traditions. We will be asking several questions about allegory: What is the dividing line between Allegory and literary realism? What is the dividing line between literary Allegory and philosophy? Why was Allegory so attractive in the medieval period? This class will have a midterm, final, and a research paper.

Readings will include: Macrobius, *Commentary on the Dream of Scipio*; Bernard Silvestris, *Cosmographia*; Alan de Lille, *Complaint of Nature*; De Meun/Lorris, *Romance of the Rose*; Dante, *Divine Comedy*; Langland, *Piers Plowman*.

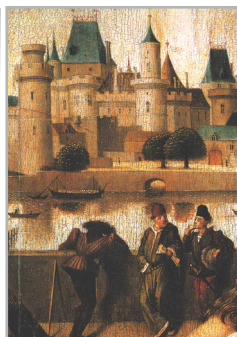
Upcoming Courses



Winter 2010

Medieval and Renaissance Studies 215
Professor Sarah-Grace Heller

Gothic Paris



"By the books that we have, we know the deeds of the ancients, and of centuries past. In our books we learn that Greece had the first age of chivalry. Then that chivalry and learning came to Rome, and now it has come to France..."

So says the author of *Lancelot*, Chrétien de Troyes, in the 12th Century, when Paris became a center of learning, beauty, political power, and commerce. Meet the man behind the first Gothic cathedral, the abbot Suger, whose ideas for attracting pilgrims to the church favored spaces full of light, dazzling color, and miraculous relics. Meet Abelard, the great teacher who first shocked the Parisian university world with his philosophy, then with his secret marriage to his gifted female student, Heloise. Read tales of Courtly Love, King Arthur's justice, and wayward students. Explore the streets of Paris and its monuments, both those lost to time and those still standing.

GEC Arts and Humanities
Cultures and Ideas Course



MW 1.30-3.18
CALL # 010-25925
5 CREDIT HOURS

Course website: http://www.pupuplatters.com/ohiostate/gothic_france/

At the Library

The Great Move Is Over!

The recent opening of **The Thompson Memorial Library** brought along some important and long-awaited changes for the OSU Medieval and Renaissance community: **The Hilandar Research Library (HRL)** and **The Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies (RCMSS)** and **The Rare Books and Manuscripts Library (RBMS)** are now housed under the same roof, on the first floor of the main library building. Being located in the heart of the campus and with the help of the adjoining exhibition space inside the main hall makes the presence of the two libraries highly visible, attracting the attention of OSU faculty, students, and guests.

The Hilandar Library is a unique institution founded by the father of Dr. Predrag Matejic, the Very Rev. Dr. Mateja Matejic. In 1969, monks from Hilandar Monastery, an ancient Serbian monastery on Mount Athos in Greece, concerned about the preservation of their priceless artifacts, invited a small team of OSU researchers to visit the monastery. Just a couple of years later, photographic images of ancient manuscripts, icons, and frescoes became the core of HRL's collection,



A historic handshake: the Associate Curator for RBMS Eric Johnson (right) and the Curator for HRL and the Director of RCMSS Predrag Matejic (left) in the main hall of Thompson Library.



Predrag Matejic with the images of Hilandar Monastery and St. Sava, one of the founders of the monastery in the background. In his hands is the most recent acquisition – 19c Russian musical manuscript presented by Dr. Daniel Collins on the occasion of the move to a new location.

which in forty years grew into what is now considered to be the largest collection of Slavic manuscripts on microfilm in the world. Generous donations from the Serbian National Federation as well as from private benefactors help to acquire new manuscripts and books on the history of Christian Orthodoxy and also make it possible for scholars

from all over the world to come to OSU campus and conduct their research.

In its turn, **The Rare Books and Manuscripts Library** is notable for its many unique collections: multiple editions of *Don Quixote* in various languages from the first Madrid printing to contemporary editions (**The Talfourd P. Linn Cervantes Collection**); a rich collection of Renaissance drama (**The Stanley Kahrl Drama collection**); a rich collection of John Foxe's *Book of Martyrs*;



Eric Johnson and Rebecca Jewett, the Assistant Curator of RBMS. In the background are the most recent acquisitions, *Summa de virtutibus et vitiis* by Guillelmus Peraldus (1494) and two manuscript leaves from a 15c German Diurnal.

Anglican, Puritan and Catholic religious books; a collection of writings of early Protestant reformers (**The Harold Grimm History of Reformation Collection**); various Medieval and Renaissance books and manuscripts and approximately one hundred incunabula (books, printed in Europe before 1501). RBMS tries its best to integrate the collections with OSU academic curricula: all of the materials make frequent and regular appearances in classes across disciplines. The most recent example is a course in manuscript studies (CMRS 610), team-taught by Dr. Richard Green (Director of CMRS) and Dr. Eric Johnson.



In the background: bookshelves with reference books from HRL collection in the Special Collections reading room. Standing: Dr. Matejic with Liubomira Parpulova-Gribble, the Assistant Curator of HRL (left) and Helene Senecal, the Center Coordinator at RCMSS (right).

Overall, both Drs. Matejic and Johnson are really happy with the new location. In addition to the books and manuscripts secured in the limited access vaults beneath the library, there is also the spacious **Jack and Jan Creighton Special Collections Reading Room**, located right next door to HRL and RBMS offices. Shelves with reference books from both collections and a beautiful view of the Oval turn this room into a perfect place for meticulous research. Another modern feature, a big, glass-walled seminar room makes holding future Medieval Summer

Slavic Institute sessions and Manuscript Classes inside the library possible.

And, most important, the doors of both Hilandar and Rare Books and Manuscripts Libraries are wide open to visitors and friendly staff is always ready to help.

Library Hours:

Hilandar Research
Library

<http://cmrs.osu.edu/rcmss/>

Rare Books and
Manuscripts Library

<http://library.osu.edu/sites/rarebooks/>



Special Collections seminar room: Eric Johnson demonstrates RBMS treasures to the participants of CARA conference.

Hours of opening for the special collections located at the Thompson Library, 1858 Neil Avenue, have been extended through the remainder of fall quarter. The extended hours for the Hilandar Library, Rare Books and Manuscripts Collection and the Theatre Research Institute are:

Sundays, 1-5 p.m. (Nov. 8, 15, 22, Dec. 6; closed Nov. 29)

Mondays, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Tuesdays, 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Wednesdays, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. (closed Nov. 11)

Thursdays, 9 a.m. - 8 p.m. (closed Nov. 26)

Fridays, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. (closed Nov. 27)

It is advisable to make an appointment so that materials can be prepared in advance, since not all collection materials are on site, and not all special collections units will have staff available during extended hours.

Books New to the Fine Arts Library

List compiled by
Amanda Gluibizzi

Assistant Professor & Fine Arts Librarian

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The Nicholas Howe Fund

End-of-Year Report (Year Three)

The Fund currently stands at \$34,282 thanks to the great generosity of the following donors:

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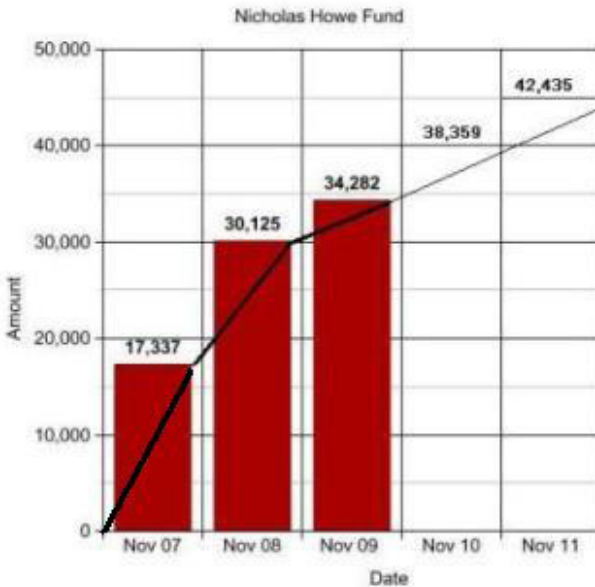
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- Barbara A. Hanawalt:
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The Nicholas Howe Fund

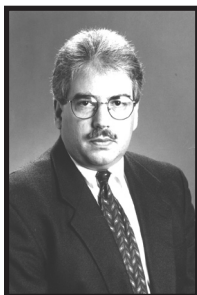
As the following graph makes clear, at this point, three-fifths of the way into our campaign, we are comfortably over three-fifths of the total required. Nevertheless, projected forward at the current rate the fund must fall some \$7,500 short by the end of five years.



Despite this, the generosity of Nick Howe's friends and colleagues in the past gives me great hope that this goal is still well within our reach. To all of you who have given so liberally CMRS extends its sincerest thanks and wishes you all the best for the holiday season,

Richard Firth Green
Director, CMRS
13 November, 2009

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If you wish to contribute to the *Nicholas G. Howe Memorial Fund* yourself, you can do so in three ways:

You can donate online at <https://www.giveto.osu.edu/igive> (the fund number is #480256); or you can send a check to

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Graduate Students

MRGSA:

The Medieval and Renaissance Graduate Student Association was created to provide both an academic and a social forum for graduate students. As an interdisciplinary association, MRGSA is designed to give students the opportunity to meet one another and to discuss their research and other related topics, such as the status of the current job market, research strategies, grant information and the like. The association also works closely with CMRS in order to facilitate meetings with visiting scholars and make them available to students. Notably, MRGSA, along with support from the CMRS, MFC, and many other departments at OSU, hosted *Vagantes* in March 2008. *Vagantes* is the premiere graduate medieval conference in the U.S. Please contact the Center for a list of meetings and dates, or visit <http://cmrs.osu.edu/mrgsa>.

Medieval Feminist Collective:

The Medieval Feminist Collective was created to provide a forum for the discussion of gender studies among interested graduate students. Despite its name, both medieval and Renaissance students are welcome, as are examinations of femininity, masculinity, and broader ideas of gender. Please contact the Center for a list of meetings and dates.

Reading Groups

The CMRS sponsors reading groups for Medieval Latin (contact Prof. Richard Firth Green (green.693@osu.edu)) and Medieval Occitan (contact Lisa Bevevino (bevevino.1@osu.edu)). Reading groups have already started, but in most cases, members are welcome to join at any time.

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Advisory Committee
2008-2009**

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