

HAGIOGRAPHY SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



HAGIOGRAPHY SOCIETY BOOK PRIZE 2018

Hagiography Society is delighted to announce the winner of the 2018 Book Prize. This year the prize has been awarded to Catherine Mooney (Boston College) for her monograph *Clare of Assisi and the Thirteenth-Century Church* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2016). We congratulate Prof. Mooney warmly for her achievement. We also thank all scholars who sent their books for consideration. This year's award committee consisted of Janine Peterson (Marist College), Sara Ritchey (University of Tennessee-Knoxville) and Karen A. Winstead (The Ohio State University). We thank the members of the committee very much for taking on this service to scholarship. Here is the committee's comment on the prize-winning book: "Catherine Mooney's *Clare of Assisi and the Thirteenth-Century Church* stakes a powerful intervention into the historiography of women religious in the thirteenth century. By piercing through the sanctity of Clare, Mooney succeeds in exposing the circumstances that religiously-inclined women like Clare navigated as they strove to carve out communities and livelihoods, to maintain networks of mutual support, while

facing near-constant adversaries who sought to impose on them the reigns of ecclesiastical conformity. Through extremely careful attention to philological, contextual, and documentary detail, Mooney is able to pull back the layers of hagiographic ideal that were imposed onto Clare's

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official image and often served to erase the actual conditions in which Clare and other women like her lived. *Clare of Assisi and the Thirteenth-Century Church*, then, is a work of recovery, of restoring forms of women's religious life in late medieval Italy; it is a model for how scholars of the premodern might seek out marginalized or suppressed presences in our canonical texts."

THE SHERRY L. REAMES GRADUATE
STUDENT TRAVEL AWARD
RECIPIENTS

The Hagiography Society executive committee is very happy to announce two award recipients for the Sherry L. Reames Graduate Student Travel Awards:

Niamh Kehoe (English, University College Cork, Ireland), “Fools and Sinners: Pedagogy in Two Anonymous Anglo-Saxon Saints’ Lives”

Kortney Stern (English, Indiana): “Future Perfect”

We look forward to hearing their papers at Kalamazoo in May!

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

Nominations Extended to January 25th

The Hagiography Society is now soliciting nominations for two positions on the executive committee: President and Secretary/Treasurer. The position of President will be open, while the Amy Ogden will be running again for Secretary/Treasurer. Both positions carry a three-year term beginning at the International Medieval Congress at Kalamazoo, Michigan in May 2019. Descriptions for both positions can be found in the constitution on the society’s website. Those interested in running for the presidency are welcome to contact the current president, Neslihan Şenocak (ns2495@columbia.edu) for more information, while those who are interested in the position of Secretary/Treasurer may contact Amy Ogden (avo2n@virginia.edu). It should be noted that all officers are expected to attend the society’s business meeting and executive committee meeting at Kalamazoo the year they are elected and the two following years during their term.

If you would like to nominate either yourself or someone else, please do so by **Jan. 25th** by emailing the Nominations Chair, Nikolas Hoel at n-hoel@neiu.edu .

GIFTS TO THE H.S. IN 2019

As you pay your dues for the upcoming year, consider contributing to either our graduate student travel Reames fund, the book subvention fund, the first book prize award fund, or the general fund. Your generosity will ensure the HS’s ability to continue these important initiatives in support of young scholars and all scholarship on hagiography. https://www.hagiographsociety.org/?page_id=112

HS AT THE RSA 2019 TORONTO

Thanks to the work of our programming officer, Barbara Zimbalist (University of Texas at El Paso), we excited to have the following four Hagiography Society sponsored panels at this year’s Renaissance Society of America annual meeting:

Gendered Sanctity in Early Modern Art History, Monday, March 18, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM, Sheraton Centre Toronto - Grand West

Katherine Tolmie Brown, “Viewing Veronica through the Lens of Gender”

Alexandra Dodson, “Chariots of Fire and Men in White: The Prophet Elijah, the Carmelites, and Mendicant Ideals”

Amy Millicent Morris, “Joslyn’s “Virgin and Child with Saints Catherine and Agnes” and Female Spirituality”

Michelle A. Erhardt, Respondent

Sacred Objects on the Move in the Early Modern Mediterranean, Monday, March 18, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM, Sheraton Centre Toronto - Osgoode Ballroom West

A. Katie Stirling-Harris, "Bridging the Material and the Spiritual in an Early Modern Relic Manual"

Daniel Hershenzon, "Religious Artifacts and Slaves between Early Modern Spain and Morocco"

Erin Kathleen Rowe, "On Corpses and Contact Relics: Rethinking the Circulation of Religious Devotion in the Western Mediterranean"

Literature and Sanctity in England and Beyond, Monday, March 18, 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM, Sheraton Centre Toronto - Pine East

Ashley O'Mara, "'Married chastity': Catholic Celibacy and Platonic Desire in Shakespeare's 'The Phoenix and the Turtle'"

Mathilde Zeeman, "*Apostola Apostolorum*: Memory, Rhetoric, and Sanctification in the Preaching of Lancelot Andrewes"

Caroline R. Sherman, "The Two Faces of the Desert Fathers in Early Modern England and Europe"

The Evolution of Sanctity in Early Modern Italy, Tuesday, March 19, 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM, Sheraton Centre Toronto - Willow East

Marianne Ritsema van Eck: Helena and Rome

Isabel Harvey: The Candidacy to Sanctity of Suor Paola Maresca: Gendered Discourses and Writings

Anne H. Muraoka: The Triumph of the Church through Humilitas: San Carlo Borromeo in Post-Canonization Imagery

For more information or to register for the RSA conference see: <https://www.rsa.org/>.

CALLS FOR PAPERS

Montreal, Canada, 13th-15th April 2019

McGill University will host a conference on "Angelical Conjunctions: Crossroads of Medicine and Religion, 1200-1800." "Angelical Conjunction" was the term coined by the seventeenth-century New England Puritan Cotton Mather to denote the mutual affinity of medicine and religion. Indeed, medical and spiritual practices have a long history of coexistence in many religious traditions. This connection took many forms, from the pious provision of health care (in person or through endowed charity), to the archetypal figure of the healing prophet. Yet despite decades of specialized research, a coherent and analytical history of the "angelical conjunction" itself remains elusive. This conference therefore aims to explore the connection between medicine and religion across the time-span of the late medieval and early modern eras, and from an intercultural perspective. Taking as our focus the Mediterranean, the Islamic World and Europe, and the various Christianities, Islams and Judaisms that flourished there, we aim to develop methodological and theoretical perspectives on the "angelical conjunction(s)" of these two spheres. How did the entanglement of religion and medicine shape epistemologies in both of these spheres? What are the conceptions of the body and its relationship to the soul that these entanglements assumed or envisioned? What were the limits to coexistence? We invite papers on a range of themes that include, but are not limited to:

- The relationship between spiritual charisma and medical practice
- The involvement of medical practitioners in theological debates
- Medicine and "fringe" religious traditions (e.g. Hermetic, heretical, "occult" ...)

- Representations of the healer-prophet or healer-saint in art
- Debates on body and soul informed by medical and theological knowledge
- Spiritualization of physical illness
- Devotion as therapy, and (the provision of) therapy as devotion

Accommodation and meals will be provided. We are seeking grant support to subsidize travel. Please submit an abstract of 300 words and a CV to Dr. Aslıhan Gürbüzel by January 10, 2018 at angelicalconjunctions@gmail.com.

Paris, France, 8-10 July 2019

For its 16th annual symposium, the International Medieval Society Paris invites scholarly papers on any aspect of time in the Middle Ages. Papers may deal with the experience or exploitation of time, its reckoning or measuring, its inscription, its theorization, or the question of how or why or whether we should demarcate the “Middle Ages.” Papers focusing on historical or cultural material from medieval France or post-Roman Gaul, or on texts written in medieval French or Occitan, are particularly encouraged, but compelling papers on other material will also be considered. The annual symposium of the International Medieval Society Paris is an interdisciplinary, international, bilingual meeting of faculty, researchers, and advanced graduate students. We welcome submissions in French or English from art history, musicology, studies of ritual or liturgy, history of dance, literature, linguistics, philosophy, theology, anthropology, history, history of science and technology, or archaeology. An abstract of no more than 300 words (in French or English) for a paper of 20 minutes should be sent, along with a CV, to communications.ims.paris@gmail.com by 30 November. Abstracts will receive a preliminary blind review before the final selection and should give a

clear idea of the topic and anticipated argument of the paper. Presenters will be notified of their selection in January 2019.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

University of Pennsylvania, 7-9 March 2019.

The 94th Annual Meeting of the Medieval Academy of America will take place in Philadelphia on the campus of the University of Pennsylvania. The meeting is jointly hosted by the Medieval Academy of America, Bryn Mawr College, Delaware Valley Medieval Association, Haverford College, St. Joseph’s University, the University of Pennsylvania, and Villanova University. This year’s meeting spotlights the “global turn” in medieval studies, treating the Middle Ages as a broad historical and cultural phenomenon that encompasses the full extent of Europe as well as the Middle East, southern and eastern Asia, Africa, and the Americas. The program will feature three plenary addresses and seventy concurrent sessions, representing a range of threads, including “Expanding Geographies of the Middle Ages,” “Approaches to Historiography,” “Interfaith Encounters: Real and Imagined,” “Gender Matters,” “Intersections Across Disciplines and Borders,” Digitizing the Global Middle Ages,” “Transmission and Technologies of Knowledge,” and cover topics addressing the natural world, the arts, material culture, literary studies, legal traditions, race and ethnicity in the global Middle Ages, to name a few. Roundtables, hands-on workshops, and lightning talks will highlight concepts and practices in K-12 education, diversity and race in the medieval studies, pedagogy and research in global medieval contexts, and practices

and ethics of digital scholarship. Online registration will close 1 February.

Fordham University, 30-31 March 2019.

The 39TH Annual Conference of the Center for Medieval Studies is on “Ritual and Religion in the Medieval World,” and in honor of Professor Richard F. Gyug. Long regarded as among the most esoteric and static aspects of premodern civilizations, religious ritual is now the focus of probing and evocative studies of medieval governmental, social, intellectual, spiritual, and domestic life. Rituals of purification and petition, birth and death, friendship and war are now seen as essential to our understanding of everything from the drama of high politics to the rhythms of quotidian life. Moreover, scholars recognize that practitioners and participants in such rituals were not exclusively members of closed communities of specialist performers preserving ossified rites, but also creative and subversive agents who often sought to effect change in public and private spheres.

Saint Louis, MO, 17th -19th June 2019.

The Annual Symposium on Medieval and Renaissance Studies provides a convenient summer venue in North America for scholars in all disciplines to present papers, organize sessions, participate in roundtables, and engage in interdisciplinary discussion. The goal of the symposium is to promote serious scholarly investigation of the medieval and early modern worlds. The plenary speakers for this year will be John J. Contreni, of Purdue University, and Maureen C. Miller, of the University of California, Berkeley.

<https://www.smrs-slu.org/cfp.html>

BOOK ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jansen, Katherine Ludwig. *Peace and Penance in Late Medieval Italy*. Princeton, Princeton University Press 2018. ISBN : 9780691177748

Elders, Leo. *Thomas Aquinas and His Predecessors : The Philosophers and the Church Fathers in His Works*. Washington, D.C., The Catholic University of America Press 2018. ISBN : 9780813230276

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Sara Ritchey, our former programming chair, has received an NEH fellowship for the coming year. This prestigious award will support her project, “‘Salvation is Medicine’: Gender and the Caregiving Communities of Late Medieval Europe.”