THE ROLE OF THE SENSES
IN MEDIEVAL LITURGIES AND RITUALS

CONFERENCE
Padua, 21-23 September 2022
Palazzo Bo - Aula Nievo

Sponsored by the ERC StG Project “The Sensuous Appeal of the Holy. Sensory Agency of Sacred Art and Somatised Spiritual Experiences in Medieval Europe (12th-15th century) - SenSArt”. This project has received funding from the European Research Council (ERC) under the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme (grant agreement No 950248).

Organising Committee
Zuleika Murat, Università di Padova
Valentina Baradel, Università di Padova
Sara Carreño, Università di Padova

Scientific Committee
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Sara Carreño, Università di Padova
Matteo Cesarotto, Université de Tours / Centre d'études supérieures de la Renaissance (CESR)
João Luís Inglês Fentes, Universidade NOVA de Lisboa
Zuleika Murat, Università di Padova
Salvador Ryan, St Patrick's Pontifical University, Maynooth

To attend online please register at https://forms.gle/S6tMjNQnCxoxWpHc6
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21 - 23 SEPTEMBER 2022 - PADUA

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9.00 Opening and Welcome: Jacopo Bonetto, Head of the Department of Cultural Heritage, Università di Padova

Introduction: Zuleika Murat, PI of the ERC SenSArt Project, Università di Padova

9.30 Session 1
(Chair: Zuleika Murat)

Holly Flora, Tulane University, The “Meditaciones Vitae Christi” and Sight and Sound in Female Religious Experiences

Valentina Baradel, Università di Padova, “Un bien petit livre d’orisons”. Sight, Sound, and Touch in the “Hours of Jeanne d’Evreux”

Martina Bordone, Università di Firenze, Through Body or Eyes: Experiencing Devotional Books in Late Medieval Italy

11.00-11.30 Coffee break

Laura Slater, University of Cambridge, Liturgical Music and Lay Devotion: Stimulating the Spiritual Senses

Leah R. Clark, University of Oxford, Sensing Devotion: Objects and their Sensory Practices in the Collections of Eleonora d’Aragona, Duchess of Ferrara

12.30 Discussion

14.30 Session 2
(Chair: Valentina Baradel)

Francesc Massip and Alba Knijff Massip, Universitat Rovira i Virgili, Universitat de Barcelona, With the Five Senses: Spectacular Devices for Engaging the Audience in the Middle Ages

Carla M. Bino, Università Cattolica di Milano, Moving Movements: The Relationship Between Animated Crucifixes and the Faithful in the 14th Century Umbria

Sara Carreño, Università di Padova, Bodily Interactions and Sensory Engagement in the Perforative Rites of Late-Medieval Santiago de Compostela

16.00-16:30 Coffee break

Gillian Hurst, University of Bristol, The Sensorium at Syon Abbey as Explored through Five Processionals: Phenomenology and the Expansion of the Sensorial Canon

Marta Simões and Joana Antunes, Universidade de Coimbra, Clad in Black / Bedecked with Flowers: Lent and Holy Week in Portuguese Medieval Churches

17.30 Discussion

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9.00 Session 3
(Chair: Salvador Ryan)

Frederick Paxton, Connecticut College, Engaging the Senses in the Death Ritual at Cluny

Florence Chave-Mahir, Independent Scholar, Exorcism in the Middle Ages: a Performance for All Senses

Sarah Hamilton, University of Exeter, Rites for Travellers

10.30-11.00 Coffee break

Micol Long, Università di Padova, Performances of Contrition and Compassion? An Inquiry Into the Development of a Medieval Ritual of Confession in the 13th Century

Ninon Dubourg, Université de Lille, The “Blind”, the “Deaf” and the “Dumb”: Liturgical Practices of Sensory and Mentally Disabled People

João Luís Inglês Fontes, Universidade NOVA de Lisboa, Liturgy and Religious Experience in Eremetical Communities: The Testimony of Male and Female Communities of Poor Life (Portugal, 14th-16th Centuries)

12.00 Discussion

14.30 Session 4
(Chair: Micol Long)

Zuleika Murat, Università di Padova, Children in Medieval Christianity: Embodiment and the Senses in Liturgies, Rituals, and Prayers

Juliette Day, Helsingfors Universitet-University of Oxford, Blackfriars Hall, The Sensory Impoverishment of Chrismation in the Late Middle Ages

15.30-15.45 Coffee break

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9.00 Session 5
(Chair: João Luís Inglês Fontes)

Brianna Dolce, University of Oxford, Listening and Understanding in the “Acta Synodi Arebatensis”

Eugeen Schreurs and Wendy Wauters, Koninklijk Conservatorium Antwerpen, KU Leuven, Experiencing and Interpreting the Soundscape of the Late Medieval Church of Our Lady in Antwerp

10.15-10.45 Coffee break

Henry Parkes, University of Nottingham, Sight and Vision in the Fleury Night Office

Giovanni Varelli, University of Oxford, Sonorities and Topographies of Medieval Liturgical Processions

Matteo Cesarotto and Lorenzo Barletta E.C., Université de Tours, “Et nullam omnino operis Allusions” Experiencing and Sonic Engagement in Relation to Medieval Devotional Jewelry

12.15 Discussion

14.30 Session 6
(Chair: Sara Carreño)

Hólmarfróur Svendsdóttir, Universitetet i Oslo, Experiencing Miraculous Healing in Medieval Norway. Case Studies from the Museum of Cultural History

Elliott Wise, Brigham Young University, Epiphanies of Flesh and Light: Framing the Elevation with the Chasuble of the Golden Fleece

Katalin Suba, Eötvös Loránd Tudományegyetem, The Crucifixion Scene on the Hungarian Coronation Mantle and its Liturgical Allusions

16.00 Discussion

16.45 Conclusions