THE SENSES, COGNITION, AND THE BODY
IN MEDIEVAL DEVOTIONAL PRACTICES

CONFERENCE
2ND INTERNATIONAL MULTIDISCIPLINARY
CONFERENCE OF THE SERIES
‘EXPERIENCING THE SACRED’

Padua, 5-7 June 2024
Palazzo Bo, Aula Nievo and Archivio Antico

This conference is organised and sponsored by
the ERC research project SenSArt – The Sensuous Appeal of the Holy. Sensory Agency of Sacred Art and Somatised Spiritual Experiences in Medieval Europe (12th-15th century), Grant Agreement nr. 950248, PI Zuleika Murat, Università degli Studi di Padova.

Organising Committee
Zuleika Murat, Università di Padova
Pieter Boonstra, Università di Padova
Micol Long, Università di Padova
Davide Tramarin, Università di Padova

To attend online, please register at:
https://forms.gle/peW9Eqav6D7jZWq19

7 JUNE 2024
Padua - Palazzo Bo, Aula Nievo

9.00 Session IX
TRANSCENDING REALITY
chaired by Ludovica Galeazzo, Università di Padova

Blair Apgar, Elon University: Beyond the Physical: Understanding Virtual Pilgrimage in Virtual Reality
Lieke Smits, Universiteit Antwerpen: A Letter from Heaven: Late Medieval Devotion as Augmented Reality Experience
Ingrid Falque, Université Catholique de Louvain - UCLouvain – FNRS: Imagination, Cognition and Meditation in Geert Grote’s ‘De quattuor genebus meditabilium’

Discussion
Coffee Break

11.00 Session X
REALISING DEVOTION
chaired by Jason Crow, Monash University

Vittorio Frighetto, Università di Padova: Carved Sensations: Body, Cognition, and Meditation in Netherlandish Representations of ‘Christ Sitting on the Cold Stone’
Marika Räisänen, University of Turku, Finland: From the Body to ‘Aromatum apotheca’ – Fragrance as a Relic

Discussion

12.45 Conclusions
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5-7 JUNE 2024  -  PADUA

5 JUNE 2024
Padua - Palazzo Bo, Aula Nievo
9.00 - 9.15 Welcome and introduction

9.30 Session I
IMAGES AND THEORIES
chaired by Pieter Boonstra, Università di Padova
Jeffrey Hamburger, Harvard University: The Birth of God in the Soul in a Newly Discovered Devotional Drawing from St. Walburg in Eichstätt
Simon Breitenmoser, Universität Zürich: The Body as a Diagram. Cognition in the 'Ars memorandi per figuram Evangelistarum'
Luca Defendi, Università di Padova: Il corpo come strumento esegetico: il 'De statu interioris hominis' di Riccardo di San Vittore
Discussion
Coffee Break

11.15 Session II
PERFORMING THE SACRED
chaired by Francesca Manzari, Sapienza Università di Roma
Federica Toniolo, Università di Padova: Il corpo miniato tra esperienza devozionale e trascendenza
Cristiano Zanetti, California Institute of Technology - Caltech: Automata and Late Medieval Devotion: The Blurred Boundary between Spectacle and Ritual
Jill Stevenson, Marymount Manhattan College: Sensing the Sacred Void
Discussion
Coffee Break

14.15 Session III
MEDIEVAL COGNITION, MODERN SCIENCE
chaired by Kathleen Neal, Monash University
Zuleika Murat, Università di Padova: Visualizing Sound: Late Medieval Paintings as Multimedia

6 JUNE 2024
Padua - Palazzo Bo, Archivio Antico
9.30 Session V
WEARING THE SACRED
chaired by Chiara Ponchia, Università di Padova
Valentina Baradel, Università di Padova: Crowning the Mind: A Sensorial Approach to French Mitres (13th-15th century)
Melanie N. Reiter, Goethe-Universität, Frankfurt am Main: Sacred Space and Jewelry. The Cognitive Function of Triptych-Pendants in the Middle Ages
Discussion
Coffee Break

16.15 Session IV
EMBODIED TEACHING
chaired by Micol Long, Università di Padova
Pieter Boonstra, Università di Padova: Seeing the Word in the Flesh: The Physicility of Late Medieval Preaching
Maxime Kamin, Université Catholique de Louvain - UCLouvain: Gymnastics for the Pious Souls: Sport and the Experience of Sacred in the ‘Jeu de la paulme moralisé’
Discussion
Short Break

17.30 Keynote Lecture - Michelle Karnes, University of Notre Dame: Images, Imagery, and Medieval Devotion

11.00 Session VI
THE DEAD AMIDST THE LIVING
chaired by Fabio Massaccesi, Alma Mater Studiorum Università di Bologna
Christien Schrover, Universiteit Utrecht: Dying Bodies, Suffering Bodies: The Depiction of the Suffering Body in the Beaune Altarpiece
Davide Tramarin, Università di Padova: Living among the Dead in German Cathedrals
Lucía Rodríguez Navarro, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid: Reflections, Senses and Apprehension of Time in San Isidoro of León
Discussion
Lunch Break

14.00 Session VII
MULTISENSORIAL INTERACTIONS
chaired by Zuleika Murat, Università di Padova
Kathryn M. Rudy, University of St Andrews: Tactile Devotion: The Role of Touch in Medieval Prayerbook Interactions
Marina Vidas, Kongernes Samling, Copenhagen: Multisensory Experiences of Painted Devotional Images from Tuscany, 1330-1420
Hila Manor, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem: Smelling, Seeing, Touching: Entanglements of Bodies, Senses, and Objects in the Ritual of Havdalah
Teresa Martínez Martínez, Università di Padova: Appealing to the Body. Deciphering the Sensuous Iconography of the Romanesque Capitals in Santiago el Viejo (Zamora, Iberian Peninsula)
Discussion
Coffee Break

16.45 Session VIII
BODILY AND SPIRITUAL HEALTH
chaired by Constant Mews, Monash University