The Centre for Reformation and Renaissance Studies
is proud to present a 50th Anniversary Conference

Rethinking Early Modernity:
Methodological and Critical Innovation
since the Ritual Turn

A Conference in Honour of Edward Muir

25-27 June 2014

Emmanuel College
Victoria University in the University of Toronto
Unlike his beloved Chicago Cubs, Edward Muir has enjoyed an illustrious career over the past thirty years. This conference celebrates Edward Muir’s many contributions to the scholarly landscape of early modern European studies. Muir’s creative fusion of archival scholarship with conceptual insights from cultural anthropology, microhistory, and behavioural science played an influential role in the field’s larger interdisciplinary turn over the past thirty years. His books—on the rise of opera, the savagery of factional strife, and Venetian political ceremony, among other topics—are characterized by the microhistorian’s fascination with the local, the particular, and the variable and the anthropologist’s pursuit of the biggest possible questions about the structure of society and the variable meanings of human activity. He has devoted the same energy to students as to his own work, supervising dissertations at Syracuse University, Louisiana State University, and Northwestern University, where he continues to train students. His curiosity, intellectual openness, and consistent good cheer have been at least as influential as his scholarship for the many graduate students who have been fortunate to study with him. We thank Ed for his participation at this conference and for his loyal support of his students. We also thank all our conference participants—Ed’s friends, students, and fellow travellers in all matters early modern—without whose support this event would not be possible. We hope that the breadth of topics and disciplines discussed here are a fitting tribute to the diversity of Muir’s interests and his considerable accomplishments in scholarship and teaching.

Mark Jurdjevic & Rolf Strom-Olsen
Conference Organizers
Conference Schedule Overview

Wednesday June 25
(Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, 120 St. George St.)

17:00 Registration & Information

18:00-20:00
Opening Cocktail Reception

Thursday June 26
(Emmanuel College, 75 Queen's Park Crescent)

8:45 Registration & Information (First Floor Foyer)

9:00-9:30
Breakfast (West Entrance Foyer)

9:30-9:40
Conference Opening (Room 119)
  • Welcoming Remarks
    Holger Schott Syme (University of Toronto)

9:40-10:10
Conference Keynote Address (Room 119)
  • “Early Modern as a Category of Analysis”
    Natalie Zemon Davis (University of Toronto)

10:30-12:00
Panel 1: Religion and Belief (Room 302)
  • Chair: Nicholas Terpstra (University of Toronto)
  • “Taking Belief Seriously? An Early Modern Perspective”
    Ethan Shagan (UC Berkeley)
  • “Emotion Rituals in Early Modern Germany”
    Susan Karant-Nunn (University of Arizona)
  • “The History of Religious Ideas: Beyond Quentin Skinner”
    David Manning (University of St. Andrews)
Panel 2: Humanism and Education in the Renaissance (Room 319, Chapel)

- Chair: Mark Jurdjevic (York University)
- “Changing Semantic Places: Cyriac of Ancona, Polybius and Democracy in the Fifteenth Century”
  James Hankins (Harvard University)
- “Rituals of Love from Sigismondo Malatesta’s Court”
  Anthony D’Elia (Queen’s University)
- “The 1591 Closing of the Padua Jesuit School Revisited”
  Paul Grendler (University of Toronto)

Panel 3: Historiographical Perspectives on the Renaissance (Room 108)

- Chair: Karl Appuhn (New York University)
- “The Question of a Secular Renaissance”
  Regina Schwartz (Northwestern University)
- “A Not So New Paradigm for the Italian Renaissance as the Rinascimento”
  Guido Ruggiero (University of Miami)
- “History after the Anecdote”
  Caroline Castiglione (Brown University)

12:00-13:30
Catered Lunch (Burwash Dining Hall)

13:45-15:15
Panel 4: Social Life in the Renaissance (Room 108)

- Chair: Brian Maxson (Eastern Tennessee State University)
- “Gender and Emotions: Female and Male Expression of Grief in Medieval and Early Modern Sicily”
  Fabrizio Titone (Universidad del País Vasco)
- “Deep Play in Renaissance Italy: Risk, Chance and Fortuna”
  Nicholas Baker (Macquarie University)
- “Midwife Chiara’s Run-ins with the Criminal Tribunal of Rome”
  John Christopoulos (York University)

Panel 5: Public and Private in the Ottoman World (Room 319, Chapel)

- Chair: Monique O’Connell (Wake Forest University)
- “To remove the occasion for scandal’: A Same-Sex Venetian-Ottoman Love Affair in Early Modern Istanbul”
  E. Natalie Rothman (University of Toronto)
- “The Performance of Power in an Early Modern Empire: Ottoman Public Ceremonies under Suleiman the Magnificent (1520-1566)”
  *I. Kaya Şahin (Indiana University)*
- “Archiving the State: The Elaboration of Islamic Law as a Critical Mode in Ottoman Administrative Genres”
  *Heather Ferguson (Claremont McKenna College)*

Panel 6: Meanings of Space in Early Modernity (Room 302)

- Chair: *Patricia Fortini Brown (Princeton University)*
- “Ghetto Urbanism in Renaissance Venice”
  *Dana Katz (Reed College)*
- “Places of the Dead in Early Modern Europe”
  *Thomas Laqueur (UC Berkeley)*
- “Dining with Veronese: Art and Ritual in the Refectory of San Giorgio Maggiore (Venice)”
  *Pascale Rihouet (Rhode Island School of Design)*

15:15–15:30
Cookies & Coffee Break (Third Floor Lounge, West Entrance Foyer)

15:30–17:00
Panel 7: Theatre and Representation in the Renaissance (Room 108)

- Chair: *Tom Cohen (York University)*
- “American Indians as Spectacle on the Early Modern Stage”
  *I-Chun Wang (Kaohsiung Medical University)*
- “El Roverso Mondo: The Nexus of Commedia dell’Arte and Venetian Opera”
  *Claudia Wier (York University)*
- “Ritual, Texts and Bodies: Where do We Go from Here?”
  *Maria Galli Stampino (University of Miami)*
- “Inventing Kinship, Performing Humanism: The Andreini Family and the Republic of Letters in Counter-Reformation Italy”
  *Sarah Gwyneth Ross (Boston College)*

Panel 8: Ritual & Violence in Early Modern Rome (Room 319, Chapel)

- Chair: *Elizabeth Cohen (York University)*
- “The Revival of Roman Ritual and the Paradox of Papal Ceremonialists”
  *Jennifer Mara DeSilva (Ball State University)*
- “Ritual Assaults against Papal Statues and the Moral Economy of Early Modern Rome”
John Hunt (Utah Valley University)
- “Taking Another Look at the Sack of Rome: Representation and Innovation in Popular Literature”
Jessica Goethals (University of Pennsylvania)

Panel 9: Ritual, Culture and Contact in Maritime Empires (Room 302)
- Chair: Konrad Eisenbichler (University of Toronto)
- “Ritual Geographies in Venice’s Stato da Mar”
  Patricia Fortini Brown (Princeton University)
- “Myth, Ritual and Reception in Venice’s Empire”
  Monique O’Connell (Wake Forest University)
- “Rethinking Fluidity: Contact Zones in the Eastern Mediterranean”
  Antonis Hadjikyriacou (Princeton University) and Daphne Lappa (Columbia University)
  Paul Cohen (University of Toronto)

Friday June 27
(Emmanuel College, 75 Queen's Park Crescent)

10:00-10:30
Light Breakfast (West Entrance Foyer)

10:30-12:00
Panel 10: Technology of Image and Object in the Renaissance (Room 108)
- Chair: Leslie Geddes (Princeton University)
  Natalie Lussey (University of Edinburgh)
- “Communication Breakdown (It’s Always the Same): Broken Bells in Late Medieval Lucca”
  Daniel Jamison (University of Toronto)
- “Marco Boschini’s Island Navigations”
  Bronwen Wilson (University of East Anglia)

Panel 11: Recovering Rural Voices (Room 302)
- Chair: Edward Muir (Northwestern University)
- “The Literate Farrier: A Renaissance in the Stables?”
  Karl Appuhn (New York University)
Panel 12: Ritual and Kingship in Early Modern France and England (Room 319, Chapel)

- Chair: Heather Ferguson (Claremont McKenna College)
- “Paris 1610: From the Ritual to the Affective Turn”
  John McCormack (University of Notre Dame)
- “How to Bring Back a King to France”
  Lana Martyseva (Université Paris-Sorbonne)
- “The Treasonous Hat: Authenticity of Authority in Early Modern England”
  Greg Koabel (University of Nottingham)

12:00-13:30
Catered Lunch (Burwash Dining Hall)

13:45-15:15
Panel 13: Machiavelli (Room 108)

- Chair: Rolf Strom-Olsen (IE University, Madrid)
- “Machiavelli and the Medici Revisited”
  Mark Jurdjevic (York University)
- “Machiavelli and Venice: Toward a ‘Modelo Nuovo’”
  Mauricio Suchowlansky (University of Toronto)
- “On the Quarrel Between the Few and the Many in Leo Strauss’s Interpretation of Machiavelli”
  John P. McCormick (University of Chicago)

Panel 14: Text in the Renaissance (Room 319, Chapel)

- Chair: Regina Schwartz (Northwestern University)
- “Il grasso legnaiuolo: The History of a Story”
  Albert Russell Ascoli (UC Berkeley)
- “Real Absences: Books and Texts in Early Modern Italy”
  Antonio Ricci (York University)
- “The Advent of Early Modern Information History”
  Paul Dover (Kennesaw State University)
Panel 15: Representations Near and Far (Room 302)

- Chair: Dana Katz (Reed College)
- “The Myth of Irene Spilimbergo in Isola d’Istria”
  Vesna Kamin Kajfež (University of Primorska)
- “Men at Work: The Netherlandish Male Nude c.1560”
  Tianna Uchacz (University of Toronto)
- “Visual Literacy in History: Reconstructing the Past Using Aristotelian Induction”
  Noa Yaari (York University)

15:15-15:30
Cookies & Coffee Break (Third Floor Lounge, First Floor Foyer)

15:30-17:00
Panel 16: Punishment and Pardon in the Early Modern Period (Room 119)

- Chair: Natalie Zemon Davis (University of Toronto)
- “The Chronicler and the Count: Law, Libel, and History in the Early Modern Atlantic World”
  Richard Kagan (Johns Hopkins University)
- “The Body and the State: Torture and the Limits of Sovereignty in Early Modern Jurisprudence”
  John Martin (Duke University)
- “Archives in the Fiction: Pardon Letters in the Burgundian Netherlands”
  Peter Arnade (University of Hawaii at Manoa)

Panel 17: The Politics of Florentine Literature (Room 108)

- Chair: Nicholas Baker (Macquarie University)
- “Rituals of Poetry and Politics in Renaissance Florence”
  Brian Maxson (Eastern Tennessee State University)
- “The Critique of Marriage in Machiavelli’s The Mandrake Root”
  Konrad Eisenbichler (University of Toronto)
- “Know Thyself: Spiritual Combat and Politics in the Writing of Marsilio Ficino”
  James Sommerville (Queen’s University)

Panel 18: Renaissance Science: Literature, History and Art (Room 302)

- Chair: E. Natalie Rothman (University of Toronto)
- “Circulating Secrets: Women and Scientific Culture in Sixteenth-Century Italy”
  Meredith K. Ray (University of Delaware)
• “Creating Alessandra: Imagining the Medieval Anatomist in Early Modern Italy”
  Paula Findlen (Stanford University)
• “Aldrovandi’s Ostriches”
  Una Roman D’Elia (Queen’s University)
• “To Make Beautiful Spectacles:’ Leonardo da Vinci on Thinking Visually”
  Leslie Geddes (Princeton University)

17:15-17:45
Closing Remarks (Room 119)

• “The Shape of Early Modern”
  Edward Muir (Northwestern University)

18:00-20:00
Closing Reception (Room 319, Chapel)

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