

Can objects convert? Exploring the relationship between objects and conversion can usefully complicate the usual distinctions between subjects and objects. From sacramental materials to holy wells, human hands to books, new kinds of food and drink to precious metals and forms of currency, objects can both convert and be converted, tangling any linear chain of causality. Objects are also purposes, inviting us to ask not only the how but also the why of conversions.

This conference, organized by Professor Robert N. Watson (English, UCLA), Professor Holly Crawford Pickett (English, Washington and Lee University) and Professor Bronwen Wilson (Art History, UCLA), and presented in conjunction with the Early Modern Conversions project, headquartered at McGill University and directed by Professor Paul Yachnin (English, McGill) and Dr. Marie-Claude Felton (History, McGill), brings together specialists from a variety of fields in the humanities to discuss these questions in the context of early modern Europe.

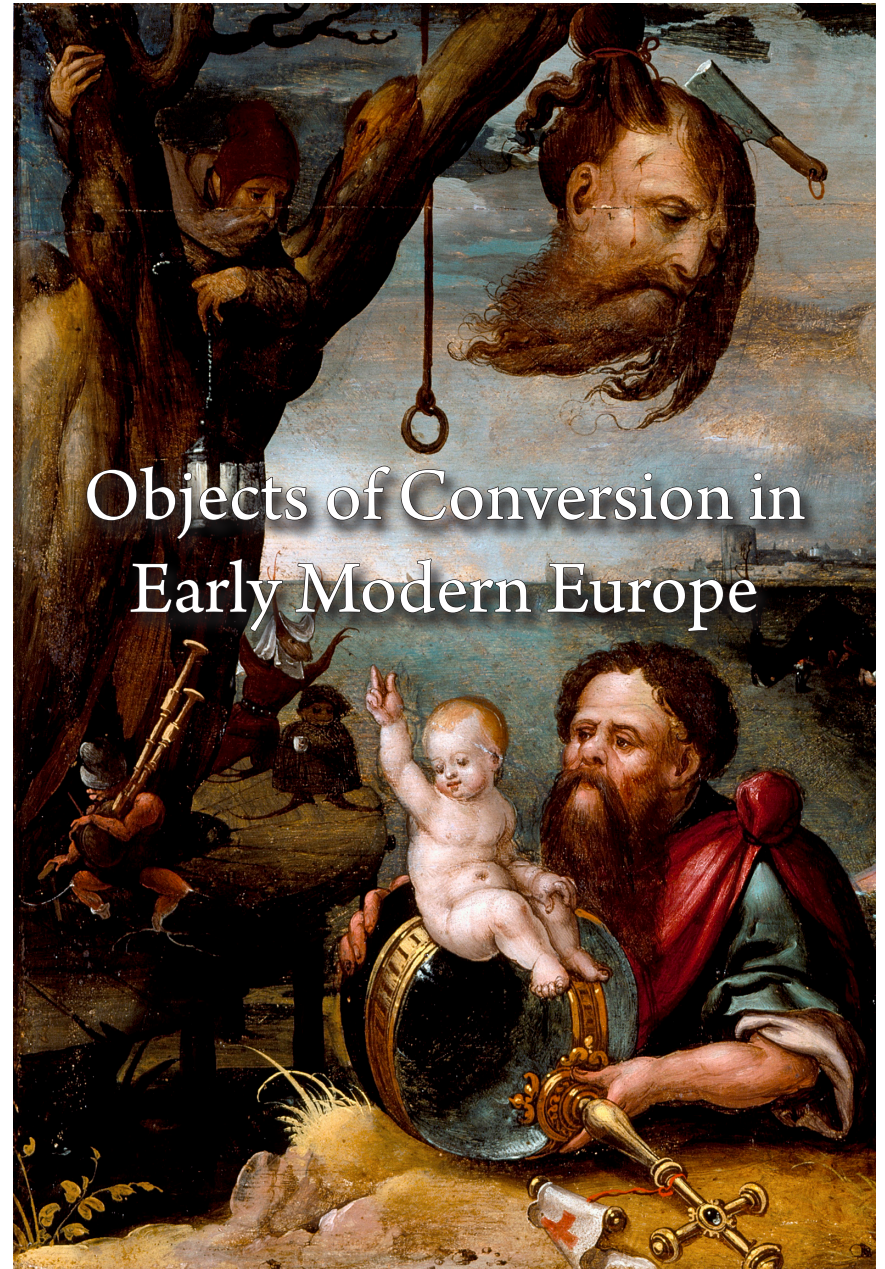
Advance registration on the CMRS website is requested. No fee. Limited seating.

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UCLA Center for Medieval & Renaissance Studies



Objects of Conversion in Early Modern Europe

February 15-17, 2018
University of California, Los Angeles
Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies

Objects of Conversion in Early Modern Europe

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2018

UCLA Grunewald Center Collection at the Hammer Museum – *Closed session*

2:00 – 3:30 Ornamental Prints Workshop

UCLA Royce Hall 314 – *Public Session*

4:30 – 5:45 Opening Remarks

Keynote lecture: **Joe Moshenska** (English, Cambridge & Oxford Universities)

“Dolls and Idols: Iconoclasm as Child’s Play in the Early Modern World”

5:45 Reception

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2018

UCLA Royce Hall 306 – *Closed session*

9:00 – 11:00 Seminar led by **Carla Nappi** and **Paul Yachnin**, with **Anna Lewton-Brain**, **Juan Luis Burke**, **Carla Benzan**, **Sarah Crover**, **Devin Fitzgerald**, **Gül Kale**, **Ashley O’Mara**, **Romina Wainberg**, **David Mitchell**

UCLA Royce Hall 314 – *Public session*

11:15 – 12:45 Panel I: Animal Conversions

Chair: **Robert N. Watson** (English, UCLA)

Karen Raber (English, The University of Mississippi)
“Meat’s Wounds”

Bruce Boehrer (English, Florida State University)
“Four Centuries of Puppy Play; or, Our Doggies, Ourselves”

Keith Botelho (English, Kennesaw State University)
“Hives of Glass: Apian Conversions”

12:45 – 2:00 Lunch

2:00 – 3:30 Panel II: Objects and Religion

Chair: **Robin Kello** (English, UCLA)

Julian Yates (English, University of Delaware)

“Burn Before Reading”

Allison Stielau (History of Art, University College London)

“Liquid Conversions”

Molly Murray (English & Comparative Literature, Columbia University)

“Read No Further”

3:30 – 3:45

Break

3:45 – 5:15

Panel III: Theatra Deorum

Chair: **Debora Shuger** (English, UCLA)

Victoria Yeoman (History, University of North Carolina)

“Conversion as Continuity: Rock Crystal and Materiality in Early Modern Europe”

Torrance Kirby (Ecclesiastical History, McGill University)

“Conversion of object or subject? The question of presence in Reformation sacramental controversy”

Holly Pickett (English, Washington and Lee University)

“Converting Relics, Converting Senses”

5:15

Closing Remarks

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2018

Los Angeles County Museum of Art – *Closed session*

10:00 – 11:30 Visit to the Ahmanson galleries featuring “object lessons” presentations

LACMA Brown Auditorium – *Closed session*

12:00 – 1:30 Roundtable: “The Things They Carried”

Moderator: **Bronwen Wilson** (Art History, UCLA)

Stephanie Cavanaugh (Conversions Postdoctoral Fellow, McGill University)

Carla Nappi (Canada Research Chair in Historical Pataphysics, University of British Columbia)

Benjamin Schmidt (History, University of Washington)

Kathleen Perry Long (French, Cornell University)

1:30 – 2:30

Lunch