Personifications of the continents of Europe, Africa, Asia, and America abounded in Renaissance and Early Modern Europe. The continents, depicted as female (and sometimes male) figures, appeared in political processions, court performances, ceiling and wall frescos, maps, atlases, frontispieces, poems, travelogues, costume books, prints, paintings, textiles, ceramics, sculptures, wood pulpits, and sculptured tympanums. While the rise in the popularity of these images in the early modern period may well have been related to encounters in the Americas, which increased the number of continents in the European imagination beyond the Ptolemaic three, the tradition of personifying the continents extends back to the early middle ages and has continued to the present day. Throughout the history of this tradition, the number of continents has changed along with their human representations to reflect and reinforce ideas of both self and other.

This conference, organized by Professor Maryanne Horowitz (History, Occidental College and CMRS Associate), brings historians together with art historians, historians of cartography, and literary scholars to explore the full range of the phenomena of continent personifications and their variant significance for cultural history.

Advance registration is requested. Please register online at cmrs.ucla.edu/event/bodies-maps-personification-continents/#regform

No fee. Limited seating.

Self-pay parking in lots 2, 3, and 4. Parking information is at main.transportation.ucla.edu/campus-parking/visitors

Funding for this symposium is provided by the Endowment for the UCLA Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies.

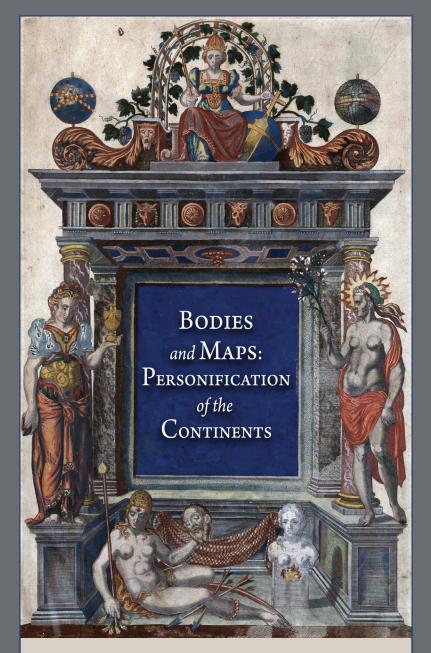
Cover image courtesy of Special Collections, Occidental College.

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A conference organized by the UCLA Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies

January 12-13, 2018



Bodies and Maps: Personification of the Continents

FRIDAI, JANUARI 12, 2016 OCLA ROICE HALL ROOM 514		
9:15	Coffee and light refreshments Slide-show of engravings, contributed by Marcel van den Broecke (Cartigraphica Neerlandica, Bilthoven, Netherlands)	
9:45	Welcoming Remarks Massimo Ciavolella (UCLA), Director, CMRS Maryanne Cline Horowitz (History, Occidental College and CMRS Associate) "Introduction: Rival Interpretations of the Continent Personifications"	
Session I From Cartographical Origins to an American Collection Chair: Teofilo Ruiz (History, UCLA)		
10:30	Chet Van Duzer (Lazarus Project) "The Pre-History of the Personification of Continents on Maps: Earth, Ocean, and the Sons of Noah"	
11:00	Louise Arizzoli (Art History, University of Mississippi) "Collecting the Four Continents: James Hazen Hyde (1876-1959), an American in Paris"	
11:30	Discussion	
12:00	Lunch	
Session II Sixteenth-Century Continent Personifications Chair: Nicoloas Wey-Gomez (History, California Institute of Technology)		
1:30	Elizabeth Horodowich (History, New Mexico State University) "Amerasia: The Venetian Allegories of Giuseppe Rosaccio"	

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 2018 | UCLA ROYCE HALL ROOM 314

	2:00	Mark Rosen (Art History, University of Texas, Dallas) "Worlds Apart: The Four Continents and the <i>Civitates orbis terrarium</i> "	
	2:30	Discussion	
	3:00	Break	
	Session III Transformations Chair: Bronwen Wilson (A. History, UCLA)		
	3:30	Paul H. D. Kaplan (Art History, Purchase College, SUNY)	
		"Magi, Winds, Continents: Dark Skin and Territorial Embodiment in Early Modern Images"	
	4:00	Benjamin Schmidt (History, University of Washington)	
		"The Rearing Horse and Kneeling Camel: When Did Europa 'Race' to Modernity (and Why)?"	
	4:30	Discussion	
	5:00	Reception	
SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 2018 UCLA ROYCE HALL ROOM 314			
	10:00	Coffee and light refreshments	
Session IV Sexualities and Gender Construction Chair: Bronwen Wilson (Art History, UCLA)			
	10:30	Ann Rosalind Jones (Comparative Literature, Smith College)	
		"Dress and Undress: Allegories of the Continents on Costume-Book Title Pages"	
	11:00	Abdulhamit Arvas (Drama, Vassar College) "Converting Boys: Homoerotic Encounters and Embodiment in Early Modern Spatial Imaginations"	
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11:30 Discussion 12:00 Lunch Session V | Seventeenth- and Eighteenth-Century CONTINENT PERSONIFICATIONS | CHAIR: LYNN HUNT (HISTORY, UCLA) Maryanne Cline Horowitz (History, Occidental 1:30 College) "Continuities and Transformation in a Late Seventeenth-Century Tapestry Set" 2:00 Marion Romberg (Austrian Academy of Sciences, Institute for Modern and Contemporary Historical Research) "The Visible Church: Visualization of the Catholic World Order in Parish Churches in the Baroque Era" 2:30 Discussion Break 3:00 Session VI | Personification and Ethnography | Chair: TEOFILO RUIZ (HISTORY, UCLA) Valerie Traub (English and Women's Studies, 3:30 University of Michigan, Ann Arbor) "From Allegory to Ethnography: Sex, Race, and Personification in the Early Modern Period" Michael Wintle (European Studies, University of 4:00 Amsterdam) "Gender and Race in the Personification of the Continents in the Early Modern Period: Building Eurocentrism" 4:30 Discussion Concluding Remarks 5:00

