In her keynote address at the Annual Meeting of the Medieval Association of the Pacific at UCLA in March 2007, Caroline Walker Bynum discussed the materiality of medieval art as distinct from “what critics call the ‘Work of Art’.” For musicologists this distinction is a familiar one. All of the medieval music that survives today does so as written texts, and the study of these texts has traditionally been separated into two spheres of inquiry: musicological study of the music—the “Work of Art”—itself; and codicology, the study of the manuscripts that transmit these musical works.

This conference, organized by Professor Elizabeth Randell Upton (Musicology, UCLA) addresses the growing awareness among musicologists as well as medievalists in other disciplines that the study of manuscripts and the study of the texts they contain can and should be integrated to a greater degree. Some of the questions to be considered are: How does the act of writing change or shape the musical or poetic texts that are written? How does the nature of the material to be copied change the procedures of scribes and book-makers? How do the desires of composers, writers, readers and patrons affect the composition of works and the writing of books? How were the activities of medieval writers, composers, performers, scribes, and readers interrelated? And how can we, as scholars today, understand both the material that is being communicated to us and the recording technologies that allow us to hear sounds first uttered centuries ago?

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The UCLA Center For Medieval and Renaissance Studies presents a CMRS Ahmanson Conference

Music and the Technology of the Written Text: A New Codicology for the Middle Ages

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2009
Royce Hall 314, UCLA

1 pm  Welcoming Remarks
Brian P. Copenhaver, Director, UCLA Center for Medieval & Renaissance Studies
Elizabeth Upton (Musicology, UCLA)

1:15  Ardis Butterfield (University College London)
“Note on a Note”

2:00  Jan Ziolkowski (Harvard University / Dumbarton Oaks)
“Vergil, Peter Abelard, and the End of Neumes”

2:45  Break

3:00  Cynthia Cyrus (Vanderbilt University)
“We Call Them Sources . . .”

3:45  Jane Alden (Wesleyan University)
“Rhetorical Voices: Secretarial Dialogue in Fifteenth-Century Chansonniers”

4:30  Break

4:45  “Scales Secret: Notation, Notation, Notation”
Concert by UCLA Sounds Early Music Ensemble
Martha Cowan (UCLA, CMRS), Director

5:30  Reception

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2009
Royce Hall 314, UCLA

8:30  Coffee

9:00  Jennifer Saltzstein (University of Oklahoma)
“Masters of Song: Clerical Identity in Songbooks from Thirteenth-Century Artois”

9:45  Alison Stones (University of Pittsburgh)
“Some Thirteenth-Century French Music Manuscripts and their Artistic Context”

10:30  Break

10:45  Judith Peraino (Cornell University)
“Changing the Subject: The Lyric Voice in the Chansonnier de Noailles”

11:30  Anne D. Hedeman (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign)
“Advising France Through the Example of England: Visual Narrative in the Livre de la prinse et mort du roy Richart (British Library Harley 1319)”

12:15  Lunch break

1:30  Dorothy Kim (Vassar College)
“Making English Notes in Thirteenth-Century Multilingual Miscellanies”

2:15  Anne Bagnall Yardley (Drew University)

3:00  Break

3:15  Jennifer Miller (UC Berkeley)
“The cantus of Thomas of Hales”

4:00  Matthew Fisher (UCLA)
“Taunts, Tail-Rhyme, and Thomas Wright: Reconsidering the Politics of Song in England”

4:45  Closing Remarks

REGISTRATION
Advance registration is not required. No admission fee. Seating is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis.

PARKING
Campus parking permits may be purchased for $10 each day from any UCLA Parking Services kiosk.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?
Contact the UCLA Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies by email at cmrs@humnet.ucla.edu or phone at 310-825-1880.