Medieval and Renaissance Studies in the Twenty-First Century: an Anniversary Celebration

Friday, January 24, 2014 | UCLA Royce Hall 314

8:30 Registration, coffee, pastries

9:00 Welcoming Remarks
   Massimo Ciavolella, Director, UCLA Center for Medieval & Renaissance Studies
   Lee Walcott, Managing Director Emeritus, The Ahmanson Foundation

9:15 A Brief History of the UCLA Center for Medieval & Renaissance Studies
    Henry Ansgar Kelly (UCLA) UCLA-CMRS Director 1998-2003

9:30 Session I: Past Directors of the UCLA-CMRS
   Chair: Geoffrey Symcox (UCLA; past CMRS Associate Director)
   “The Men Whose Heads Do Grow Beneath Their Shoulders”
      Michael J. B. Allen (UCLA)
      UCLA-CMRS Director 1988-93, 2003-04
   “CMRS Meets the Center for Society and Genetics: Medieval Migrations and Genomic History”
      Patrick J. Geary (Institute for Advanced Study)
      UCLA-CMRS Director 1993-1998

10:45 Break

11:00 “Now, Voyager! The Adventures of Starship Viator and its CMRS Fleet”
    Henry Ansgar Kelly (UCLA)
    UCLA-CMRS Director 1998-2003
    “The Death of Humanism: Desideranda”
    Brian P. Copenhaver (UCLA)
    UCLA-CMRS Director 2004-2011

12:15 Lunch Break

1:30 Session II, Part 1: “Medieval”
    Chair: Gail Lentholf (UCLA)

2:45 Break

3:15 Session II, Part 2: “Renaissance”
   Chair: Joseph F. Nagy (UCLA)
   “The Elastic Renaissance: No More Apologies”
      Edward Muir (Northwestern University)
      President, Renaissance Society of America
   “The Religious and Secular Renaissance”
      Regina Schwartz (Northwestern University)

4:30 Reception

Saturday, January 25, 2014 | UCLA Royce Hall 314

8:30 Coffee, pastries

9:00 Session III: Preserving and Marketing the Middle Ages
   Chair: Diane Favro (UCLA)
   “Heavy Mettle: The Deep Past in a Contemporary World”
      Graeme M. Boone, Director, Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, The Ohio State University
   “Paradise Lost, Paradise Regained: The Power of Outreach, Marketing, and Development in Medieval and Renaissance Studies”
      Robert E. Bjork, Director, Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Arizona State University

10:15 Break

10:45 “Will Medieval Ever Rival Monet in the Galleries, and Should It Even Try?”
    Elizabeth Morrison, Senior Curator of Manuscripts, The J. Paul Getty Museum
    “Preserving and Publicizing Collections in the 21st Century”
    Carla Zecher, Director, Newberry Center for Renaissance Studies and Curator of Music, The Newberry Library

12:00 Lunch Break

1:30 Session IV: Looking Forward and Beyond
   Chair: Heather Sottong (PhD candidate, UCLA)
   “Centers and Peripherals: Medieval Studies in American Catholic Universities”
      Thomas F. Madden, Director, Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, St. Louis University
   “Renaissance in the Antipodes”
      Peter Howard, Director, Center for Medieval & Renaissance Studies, Monash University

2:45 Break

3:15 “Celebrating the CMRS and Looking to the Future of Medieval and Renaissance Studies: A Recent PhD’s Perspective”
    Brittany Asaro, PhD 2013, Italian, UCLA
   “Pre-Modern Studies in the Corporate University: the Need for Scholar-Advocates”
      Sean Griffin, PhD Candidate, Slavic Languages and Literatures, UCLA

4:30 Concluding remarks

Advance registration is not required. No fee. Limited seating available on a first-come first-served basis. Self-pay parking in lots 2, 3, and 4. More parking information at map.ais.ucla.edu/go/1002187

Support for this program has been provided by the UCLA Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies and the Ahmanson Foundation.

Photographs of Royce Hall by vidalia_11 on Flickr.
In Fall 2013, the UCLA Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies (CMRS) began its 51st year. It’s a time to consider not only where CMRS has been and what it has accomplished, but also where the Center—and the discipline of Medieval and Renaissance Studies—are headed. In an era when the importance of humanistic studies has been questioned and funding for the Humanities has dwindled, how can we demonstrate the value of studying the Middle Ages and Renaissance and the relevance of such study to our contemporary world? This conference brings together internationally renowned scholars, including the directors and leaders of other distinguished Medieval and Renaissance Studies centers, institutions, and organizations, as well as many of CMRS’s own past directors, to consider these issues.