‘First Do No Harm’: On the Interplay of Folklore, Myth, and Medicine from the Ancient World to the Renaissance and Beyond

FRIDAY, JUNE 1, 2018 | UCLA DENEVE PLAZA B

9:00 a.m. Refreshments

9:45 Welcoming Remarks: Stephanie Jamison (UCLA)

10:00 Rebecca Laroche (University of Colorado, Colorado Springs)
“For the safegarde of our souls, and . . . our bodies: The Story of Angelica in Early Modern England”

11:00 Break

11:15 Valeria Zubieta Lupo (Independent Scholar)
“About the Diseased in the Hittite Kings’ Manly Deeds”

11:45 Joseph F. Nagy (Harvard University)
“Recovering (or not) from Wounds in Medieval Irish Heroic Saga”

SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 2018 | UCLA DENEVE PLAZA B

9:00 a.m. Refreshments

9:30 Anahita Hoose (UCLA)
“Eros Shook My Mind: Disease, Decline and Divinity in the Sapphic Corpus”

10:00 Alain Touwaide (UCLA, The Huntington, and the Institute for the Preservation of Medical Traditions)
“Medical Mythology Across the Ancient and Medieval Mediterranean”

11:00 Break

Hanna Young (UCLA)
“I Grant You Life: On the Psychological Significance of Punishment and Reinforcement Techniques in the Parent Child Relationship, as seen in Pallas et Arachne”

Perry Tran (UCLA)
“Peasants, Priests, and Popular Faith: Healing Through Sacrifice in Accordance with Saints’ Tales”

Davide Ermacora (University of Venice)
“Embedded Pins and Migratory Needles: An Historical Folklore Perspective”

Sarah Alison Miller (Duquesne University)
“Cuts, Illness, Pain, and Joy in the Legenda Aurea”

Scottie Hale Buehler (UCLA)
“Killed by Ignorance? Legends of Midwifery Infanticide in Eighteenth-Century France”

Denise L. Despres (University of Puget Sound)
“The Barber Surgeons and the York Cycle”

Stefanie Matabang (UCLA)
“Afainting Spells, Wailing and Lamentation: Curing Colonial Fatalism in the Philippine Metrical Romance, Florante at Laura”

Doris Valeria Voronca (UCLA)
“Blue Devil Fever: Possession, Depression, and Scottish Demonology”

Closing Remarks: Sara Frances Burdorff (UCLA)
This conference, organized by CMRS Affiliate Dr. Sara Burdorff (Lecturer, English, UCLA), Prof. Stephanie Jamison (Asian Languages and Cultures, UCLA) and Prof. Olga Yokoyama (Applied Linguistics, UCLA), examines the intersections between mythology, folklore, and medicine in literature from the classical through early modern periods. Inspired by UEI’s Freshman Mythology Cluster (GE30) and drawing on sources including hagiography and Celtic folklore, medieval romance and early modern drama, this conference engages the critical interplay between medical and literary ideations of the trans-historical human experience.

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

Registration is requested at cmrs.ucla.edu/events. Please go to the webpage for this event and complete the registration form toward the bottom.

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Background image: Piet Mondrian, Tableau 1; 1921.