

## VOCES NOSTRATES LECTURE SERIES

UCLA's Center for Medieval & Renaissance Studies (CMRS) includes world-class scholars of the greatest distinction.

*Voces Nostrates—Voices of Our Own*—is a lecture series presented by CMRS to honor these distinguished members of the Center's global community and bring their voices to the many audiences that CMRS serves.

Gail Feigenbaum - November 16, 2010

Mary Rouse - January 20, 2011

Scott Waugh - February 17, 2011

Michael J.B. Allen - March 10, 2011

Lauro Martines - March 31, 2011

John Carriero - April 28, 2011

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

### PARKING

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More parking information and maps are online at <http://map.ais.ucla.edu/go/portal/1002187>.

### MORE INFORMATION

Write to [cmrs@humnet.ucla.edu](mailto:cmrs@humnet.ucla.edu) or call 310-825-1880.

For driving directions to UCLA and a campus map, visit [www.ucla.edu/map](http://www.ucla.edu/map).

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# Voces Nostrates

Voces Nostrates Lecture Series 2010-2011

Voces Nostrates Lecture Series 2010-2011  
University of California Los Angeles



Tuesday, November 16, 2010  
Royce 314, 5 pm

**GAIL FEIGENBAUM**  
(The Getty Research Institute)

*Perfectly True, Perfectly False:  
Cardsharps and Fortune-Tellers by  
Caravaggio and Georges de La Tour*

Caravaggio's genre paintings of card cheats and gypsy fortunetellers were a new phenomenon in late sixteenth-century Rome. A mania for these subjects swept across Europe, and their appeal may seem so obvious today as to require no explanation. But such pictures coincided with the beginnings of the collecting of easel paintings. Caravaggio's radical and unprecedented naturalistic mode of representation thematizes not only the deception of a painting that purports to be a *tranche de vie*, but also the complicity of the willing victim, the spectator and collector tricked into falling for an illusion that can be only a counterfeit of nature.

Gail Feigenbaum, Associate Director of the Getty Research Institute, is an authority on Baroque art. She was a curator of French painting and head of Academic Programs at the National Gallery of Art, and later head of paintings at the New Orleans Museum. Her extensive publications include forthcoming volumes on provenance and on collecting religious art, as well as numerous important exhibition catalogues. She has been a visiting professor at Georgetown University and Tulane University.



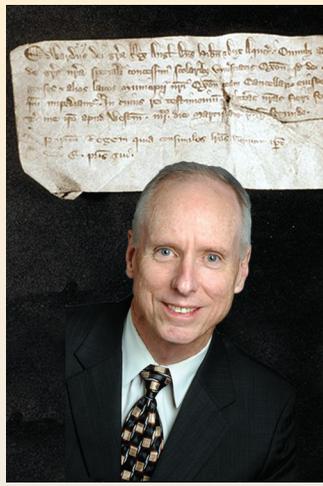
Thursday, January 20, 2011  
Royce 314, 5 pm

**MARY ROUSE**  
(CMRS, UCLA)

*Vanishing Point? The Curious  
Fate of Medieval Illuminators in  
Renaissance Paris*

Common sense tells us to expect manuscript illuminators as a trade group to vanish from the commercial scene after the triumph of the printing press: not instantly of course, but, after a decent interval of attrition, to make a quiet and dignified exit. So who are all these illuminators in sixteenth-, seventeenth-, and eighteenth-century Paris, and how do they manage to put bread on the table?

Mary Rouse is an authority on the book culture of medieval and Renaissance Paris. She has co-authored five books and over sixty articles on medieval florilegia and medieval libraries, and on the production and use of manuscripts in the later Middle Ages. Her book *Renaissance Illuminators Redefined: Parisian Book Artists in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries* has been accepted for publication by Brepols/Harvey Miller. Mary was managing editor of the CMRS journal *Viator* for many years and a co-founder with her husband, Richard Rouse, Professor Emeritus in UCLA's Department of History, of the History of the Book Lecture series.



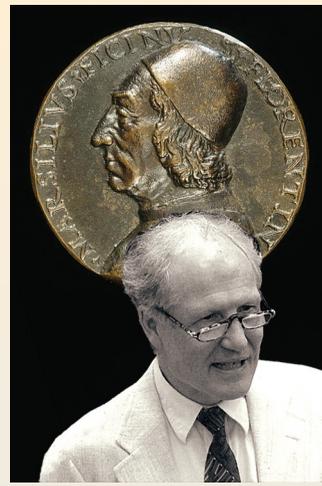
Thursday, February 17, 2011  
Royce 314, 5 pm

**SCOTT WAUGH**  
(History, UCLA)

*"First, kill all the lawyers": Escheators  
and the Development of the English  
State in the Fourteenth Century*

Escheators, little known to modern audiences, were arguably the most powerful and most despised of local royal officials in fourteenth-century England. The basis of their power and the reasons for their unpopularity, based on the authority they exercised over the king's feudal rights or prerogative, cast light on the way in which the English state developed in the Middle Ages as well as on the limitations of that state.

Scott L. Waugh came to UCLA as a student, graduating summa cum laude in 1970 with a bachelor's degree in history. After earning a Ph.D. from the University of London, he returned to UCLA to teach in the Department of History. Today he is Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost of UCLA. Waugh has also served as Acting Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost, and Dean of the Division of Social Sciences. He has received many honors, fellowships, and grants, and is the author of two books, co-editor of a third, and author of numerous articles in scholarly journals.



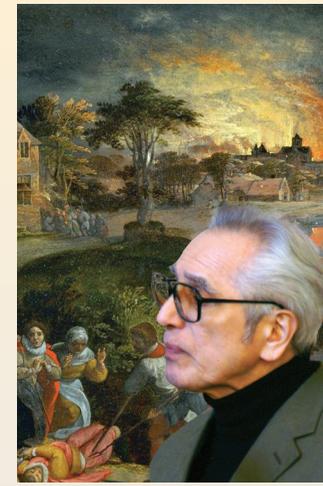
Thursday, March 10, 2011  
Royce 314, 5 pm

**MICHAEL J. B. ALLEN**  
(English, UCLA)

*Cicada-Man: Renaissance  
Platonism's Bad Boy*

The Renaissance was a time of religious questioning and the Platonists revival of a Platonic theology inevitably revived a number of ancient spiritual and magical themes, even as it anticipated the cosmologies of the later Renaissance natural philosophers with their sun-centering of man and their new orders of magnitude. We can still find traditional arguments in abundance, for instance, in Ficino, but we can also detect the pressure of unorthodoxies and re-emergent heresies—the positions associated above all with Hermetism and Gnosticism. Most striking is his emphasis on the light-filled nature of the soul, its antenatal life, its stellar descent and ascent, and its resurrection.

Michael Allen's teaching specialty is English literature from the Anglo-Saxons to Milton, especially Chaucer and Shakespeare. His primary research focus is the philosophical, theological, magical, and mythological issues explored by Marsilio Ficino and Pico della Mirandola. A former director of the CMRS, he is also the past President of the Renaissance Society of America and a winner of Italy's prestigious Galileo Galilei Prize.



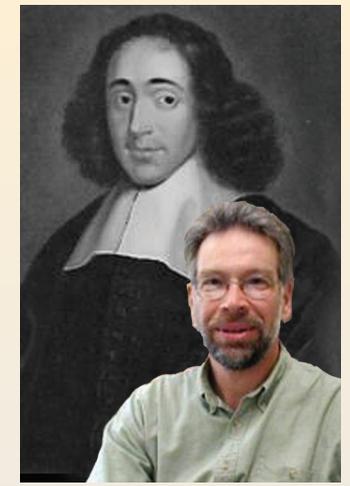
Thursday, March 31, 2011  
Royce 314, 5 pm

**LAURO MARTINES**  
(History, UCLA)

*On the Backs of Civilians:  
War in Europe, 1500–1700*

Cities and towns were the chief ground of warfare in Early Modern Europe, above all in sieges, as armies worked to starve them into submission. In the countryside, soldiers were ordinarily billeted on village people, and here again civilians were bullied into "paying up." An incandescent hatred for soldiers often coursed through town and country. In the background, meanwhile, loomed the continent's princes, ministers, and bankers.

Lauro Martines, Professor Emeritus of History at UCLA, is renowned for his research and numerous publications on the Italian Renaissance. His novel of Renaissance Italy, *Loredana*, won the Sagittarius Prize for 2005. *April Blood: Florence and the Plot against the Medici* (2003) spent several weeks on the best-seller list in London. Professor Martines has a Ph.D. from Harvard University. Currently, he is a regular contributor to *The Times Literary Supplement* and is preparing a book on war in early modern Europe.



Thursday, April 28, 2011  
Royce 314, 5 pm

**JOHN CARRIERO**  
(Philosophy, UCLA)

*The Ethics in Spinoza's "Ethics"*

Spinoza is a transitional figure in the history of ethics. He was one of the first thinkers to grapple seriously with the picture of man emerging from the scientific revolution; yet his ethics contained important traditional elements that are now, for the most part, quite alien to us. This mix of modern and medieval can give his *Ethics* a disappointingly eclectic feel. This talk will try to sift the new from the old. By taking note of a broad intellectual framework that was current in his time, we can appreciate the extent to which Spinoza continued to operate in it and locate precisely where and why he departed from it.

John Carriero was educated at Harvard University and is a leading scholar in the history of early modern philosophy. His research centers on how early modern philosophy, especially seventeenth-century Rationalism, developed from late scholastic Aristotelianism in the wake of the new science. He recently published a book on Descartes, *Between Two Worlds: A Reading of Descartes's "Meditations,"* and is currently working on a book on Spinoza's *Ethics*.