THE SENSES, COGNITION, AND THE BODY
IN MEDIEVAL DEVOTIONAL PRACTICES

CONFERENCE
2ND INTERNATIONAL MULTIDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE OF THE SERIES
‘EXPERIENCING THE SACRED’

Padua, 5-7 June 2024
Palazzo Bo, Aula Nievo and Archivio Antico

This conference is organised and sponsored by the ERC research project SenSArt – The Sensuous Appeal of the Holy. Sensory Agency of Sacred Art and Somatised Spiritual Experiences in Medieval Europe (12th-15th century), Grant Agreement nr. 950248, PI Zuleika Murat, Università degli Studi di Padova.

Organising Committee
Zuleika Murat, Università di Padova
Pieter Boonstra, Università di Padova
Micol Long, Università di Padova
Davide Tramarin, Università di Padova

To attend online, please register at: https://forms.gle/pwW9Eqav6D7ZWrq19

7 JUNE 2024
Padua - Palazzo Bo, Aula Nievo
9.00 Session IX
TRANSCENDING REALITY
chaired by Ludovica Galeazzo, Università di Padova

Blair Apgar, Elon University: Beyond the Physical: Understanding Virtual Pilgrimage in Virtual Reality
Lieke Smits, Universiteit Antwerpen: A Letter from Heaven: Late Medieval Devotion as Augmented Reality Experience
Ingrid Falque, Université Catholique de Louvain – UCLouvain – FNRS: Imagination, Cognition and Meditation in Geert Grote’s ‘De quattuor generibus meditabilium’

Discussion
Coffee Break

11.00 Session X
REALISING DEVOTION
chaired by Jason Crow, Monash University

Vittorio Frighetto, Università di Padova: Carved Sensations: Body, Cognition, and Meditation in Netherlandish Representations of ‘Christ Sitting on the Cold Stone’
Marika Räsänen, University of Turku, Finland: From the Body to ‘Aromatum apotheca’ – Fragrance as a Relic

Discussion
Coffee Break

12.45 Conclusions
THE SENSES, COGNITION, AND THE BODY IN MEDIEVAL DEVOTIONAL PRACTICES

5 JUNE 2024 - PADUA

9.00 - 9.15 Welcome and introduction

9.30 Session I
IMAGES AND THEORIES
chaired by Pieter Boonstra, Università di Padova

Jeffrey F. Hamburger, Harvard University: The Birth of God in the Soul in a Newly Discovered Devotional Drawing from St. Walburg in Eichstätt
Simon Breitenmoser, Universität Zürich: The Body as a Diagram. Cognition in the 'Ars memorandi per figuras Evangelistarum'
Luca Defendi, Università di Padova: Il corpo come strumento esegetico: il 'De statu interioris hominis' di Riccardo di San Vittore

Discussion
Coffee Break

11.15 Session II
PERFORMING THE SACRED
chaired by Francesca Manzari, Sapienza Università di Roma

Federica Toniolo, Università di Padova: Il corpo miniato tra esperienza devazionale e trascendenza
Cristiano Zanetti, Cal Foscari - California Institute of Technology: Automata and Late Medieval Devotion: The Blurred Boundary between Spectacle and Ritual
Jill Stevenson, Marymount Manhattan College: Sensing the Sacred Void

Discussion
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14.00 Session VII
MULTISENSORIAL INTERACTIONS
chaired by Zuleika Murat, Università di Padova

Kathryn M. Rudy, University of St Andrews: Tactile Devotion: The Role of Touch in Medieval Prayerbook Interactions
Marina Vidas, Kongernes Samling, Copenhagen: Multisensory Experiences of Painted Devotional Images from Tuscany, 1330-1420
Hila Manor, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem: Smelling, Seeing, Touching: Entanglements of Bodies, Senses, and Objects in the Ritual of Havdalah
Teresa Martinez Martinez, Università di Padova: Appealing to the Body. Deciphering the Sensuous Iconography of the Romanesque Capitals in Santiago el Viejo (Zamora, Iberian Peninsula)

Discussion
Coffee Break

16.45 Session VIII
BODILY AND SPIRITUAL HEALTH
chaired by Constant Mews, Monash University


Discussion
Coffee Break

17.30 Keynote Lecture - Michelle Karnes, University of Notre Dame: Images, Imagery, and Medieval Devotion