

## Description

The conference will attempt to re-examine the essence of Panofsky's influential 1944 article, where he stated the Renaissance

"looked upon classical Antiquity from a historical distance; therefore, for the first time, as upon a totality removed from the present; and therefore, for the first time, as upon an ideal to be longed instead of a reality to be both utilized and feared."

Despite its profound influence, however, Panofsky's definition of 'Renaissance' has recently come under question. Was it really the case that classical Antiquity was viewed as having been forgotten in the Middle Ages? Was the medieval period actually viewed as a distinct period, separating individuals from the pure culture of the classical past? Was there ever a sense of conceptual continuity stretching from the ancient world through the Middle Ages to the 'Renaissance'? Was there really a Renaissance in the south whilst the rest of the continent continued to exist in a medieval cultural mindset?

These are vitally important questions for our perception of Europe during these centuries, questions that also affect every aspect of the past. Questions about perceived continuity and change are as relevant to Art History as to the history of Christianity. A more refined understanding of the influence of Classical Antiquity on the politics, economics, and culture of Europe in the period between 1300 and 1550 should challenge many of the preconceptions which dominate our view of the Renaissance.

## Conference venue:

All session will take place at the Playfair Library, Old College, South Bridge



## Conference organisers:



The School of  
History, Classics  
and Archaeology

The Medieval and  
& Early Renaissance  
Studies Programme

## Our Partners:



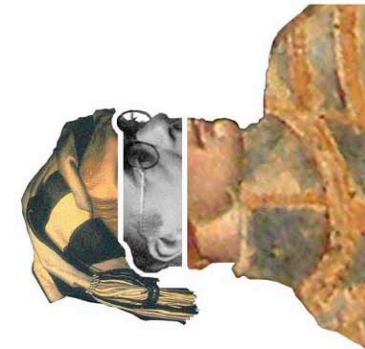
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THE ACADEMY  
OF SCIENCES  
OF THE CZECH  
REPUBLIC

# Renaissance?

## Perceptions of Continuity and Discontinuity in Europe, ca. 1300-1550



# Programme:

Friday 31st August

Registration (9.00)  
Welcome (9.15)

## 1. The Classical Tradition (9.30-11.30)

Dr. Catherine Keen (University College London)  
Ovid's *Tristia* and Italian lyrics of exile from c.1300  
Dr. Robin Sowerby (University of Stirling)  
Humanitas renata  
Prof. Robin Kirkpatrick (University of Cambridge)  
Shakespeare and the "Tragedy" of the Renaissance

Plenary Lecture (11.30-12.30)  
Prof. Robert Black (University of Leeds)  
The Renaissance and the Middle Ages:  
chronologies, ideologies and geographies

Lunch (12.30-2.00)

## 2. Art History (session one: 2.00-3.15)

Dr. Rhys Roark (Louisiana State University)  
Panofsky: Linear Perspective and Perspectives of  
Modernity  
Prof. Jeffrey Chipps Smith  
(University of Texas at Austin)  
The 'invention' of Dürer as a Renaissance artist

Tea 3.15-3.45

## (session two: 3.45-5.00)

Miss Erika de Young (Texas State University)  
A clash of cultures? Images of Hercules and David  
in Florentine statuary  
Dr. Maria Ruvoldt (Fordham University)  
Michelangelo's Mythologies

Plenary Lecture (5.00-6.00)  
Mr. Michael Bury (University of Edinburgh)  
History in Italian Renaissance art

Dinner (from 7.00)

Saturday 1st September 2007

## 3. The Northern Renaissance (9.30-11.30)

Prof. Michael Lynch (University of Edinburgh)  
Visual displays of classical rhetoric in Scotland,  
c.1500-c.1625  
Dr. Hanno Wijsman (University of Leiden)  
Aristocratic manuscript collections in England,  
France and Burgundy  
Dr. Malcolm Vale (University of Oxford)  
A Northern Renaissance? Panofsky and Huizinga  
reconsidered.

Plenary Lecture (11.30-12.30)  
Prof. Andrew Pettegree (University of St. Andrews)  
A new world of the mind? Renaissance  
self-perception and the invention of printing.

Lunch (12.30-1.30)

## 4. The Wider Renaissance (1.30-3.30)

Dr. Klara Benesovska  
(Institute of Art History, Czech Academy of Sciences)  
Forgotten approaches to a different kind of  
Renaissance: Prague and Bohemia, c.1400  
Dr. Ingrid Ciulisova (Slovak Academy of Sciences)  
Jacob Burckhardt and Jan Bialoscocki's *The Art of  
the Renaissance in Eastern Europe*.  
Prof. Ian Blanchard (University of Edinburgh)  
Out of the Postan neo-classical strait jacket: a new  
look at the concept of the Middle Ages.

Tea (3.30-4.00)

## 5. Italy (4.00-6.00)

Dr. George Steiris (University of Athens)  
Machiavelli's appreciation of Greek antiquity and  
the ideal of the 'Renaissance'  
Dr. Matteo Burioni (University of Basle)  
Vasari's 'rinascite'  
Dr. Monica Azzolini (University of Edinburgh)  
The transmission of the astrological tradition in the  
Middle Ages and the Renaissance

Plenary Lecture (6.00-7.00)  
Prof. Rob. C. Wegman (Princeton University)  
The State of the Art

## Registration:

Please register online on our Web site, or by filling  
out the following form and sending it by post.  
(See below for contact details.)

Name .....

Institutional Affiliation .....

E-mail Address .....

Correspondence Address .....

Please tick:

Full-price ticket (£40)

Concessions (students, SRS members) (£20)

Dinner (£35), to be held on the evening of  
Friday 31st August, wine included

A cheque for the sum of £ ..... is included  
(made payable to 'the University of Edinburgh')  
The deadline for registration is 15th August 2007.

## Contact:

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