

EMPERORS AND IMPERIAL DISCOURSE IN ITALY, C. 1300 - 1500. New Perspectives

Describing the Holy Roman Empire after the death of Frederick II as an empty formula in a changed world, historians have long obscured the impact of the imperial presence in late medieval Italy. However, orations, histories, treatises, and letters show that many Italian intellectuals, including important humanists, remained fascinated by the medieval continuation of the Roman empire. The contemporary Holy Roman Emperor was still generally considered as the lawful leader of the Christian world and the supreme defender of peace. Contrary to what is commonly thought, humanists added to the imperial myth by applying a classicizing vocabulary to the Holy Roman Emperor.

This conference sheds light on contemporary discourses on the imperial presence in Italy in a period that saw the breakthrough of the humanist movement: 1300-1500. It aims to increase our understanding of the perception of the contemporary Holy Roman Emperors in Italy and pays special attention to humanists who imitated a classical vocabulary. The imitation of Roman emperors is both a sign of the Renaissance and a central aspect in medieval political thought. The two came together when the German *rex Romanorum* descended into Italy for his imperial coronation. How is this described by contemporaries, especially by those with humanist tastes? To what extent did they break with medieval modes of imperial representation?



5-7
NOVEMBER
2018

ROYAL DUTCH
INSTITUTE IN
ROME

ISTITUTO
STORICO
ITALIANO PER
IL MEDIO EVO

EFR
ROMA
PIAZZA
NAVONA
62



ORGANISATION

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Moyen Âge

COLLOQUE

MONDAY 5 NOVEMBER

17.00 - 20.00
ROYAL DUTCH INSTITUTE IN ROME
VIA OMERO 12

Welcome Arno WITTE - KNIR

Introduction Anne HUIJBERS - Radboud University
Nijmegen

Opening lectures

Alexander LEE - University of Warwick
Humanism, republicanism, and empire: a reappraisal

Len SCALES - Durham University
*Emperors of Rome: Italy in imperial politics and
imagination, 1308-1452*

Reception

TUESDAY 6 NOVEMBER

9.30 - 17.45
ISTITUTO STORICO ITALIANO PER IL MEDIOEVO
PIAZZA DELL'OROLOGIO 4

Welcome Massimo MIGLIO - ISIME

Session 1: Imperium and Res publica: conflict or harmony?

Moderator: Daniela RANDO - Università di Pavia

Carole MABBOUX - EFR
*Cicero and the use of the term res publica in fourteenth-
century Italy*

Anna MODIGLIANI - Università della Tuscia
*Imperium e res publica nelle lettere di Cola di Rienzo e nel
racconto delle cronache*

Juan Carlos D'AMICO - Université de Caen
Fazio degli Uberti, il Dittamondo e l'ideologia imperiale

12.00 - 14.15 LUNCH BREAK

Session 2: Emperors, jurists and humanists

Moderator: Andreas REHBERG - Deutsches
Historisches Institut in Rom

Wolfgang DECKER - Heinsberg
*Der Rex Romanorum als Advocatus Ecclesiae: die
Vorverhandlungen des Constantiense in Italien 1413-1414*

Daniela RANDO - Università di Pavia
*La forza vitale di un'idea: l'impero insegnato all'università
al tempo dei concili, 1414-1449*

15.45 - 16.15 COFFEE PAUSE

Veronika PROSKE - Corvinus University of Budapest
*Rom 1433: Ein Papst-Kaiser-Treffen und seine
humanistische Rezeption*

Riccardo PALLOTTI - Archivio di Stato di Modena
Federico III in Italia tra politica e retorica

WEDNESDAY 7 NOVEMBER

9.30 - 13.30
ÉCOLE FRANCAISE DE ROME
PIAZZA NAVONA 62

Welcome Catherine VIRLOUVET - EFR

Session 3: Empire and historiography

Moderator: Dario INTERNULLO - Università Roma Tre

Heike Johanna MIERAU - Friedrich-Alexander-
Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg
Emperor and empire in late-medieval universal chronicles

Anne HUIJBERS - Radboud University Nijmegen
*The professionalisation of imperial history: Giovanni
Mansionario's Historie Imperiales and Benvenuto da
Imola's Augustalis Libellus*

11.15 - 11.45 COFFEE PAUSE

Rino MODONUTTI - Università di Padova -SISMEL
Gli imperatori di Albertino Mussato

Discussion and closing