

Gender and Sainthood, c. 1100–1500

Conference Programme

5-6 April 2024, University of Oxford, History Faculty



[Register for the conference here](#)

Organisers: Antonia Anstatt (University of Oxford, antonia.anstatt@history.ox.ac.uk) and Edmund van der Molen (University of Nottingham, edmund.vandermolen@nottingham.ac.uk)



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FRIDAY, 5TH APRIL

9 **CONFERENCE START, REGISTRATION**

9.15 **WELCOME**

9.30-11 **PANEL 1: TRANSGRESSING GENDER**

Marita von Weissenberg (Xavier University, Cincinnati): Husband-saints and Secular Masculinity as a Tool for Religious Pursuit

Caitlín Kane (University of Oxford): Womanly Bridegroom, Manly Bride: Gender Transgression in the Visions of Saint Catherine of Siena

Maria Pieschacon-Raffael (Ludwig-Maximilian-University Munich): *La Pucelle*: The Significance of Gender in the (After-)Life of Joan of Arc

11.30-13 **PANEL 2: (TRANS)CENDING GENDER**

Verity Bruce (University of Exeter): Death Becomes They/Them? Christina Mirabilis' Post-Death Gender State

Genevieve Caulfield (University College London): Desire Has No Gender: Styles of Seeing in Franciscan Hagiography

Davide Tramarin (University of Padua): Transcending Gender in Mystical Devotion: Images of Christ and St John the Apostle in Late Medieval Germany

14-15.30 **Keynote Lecture: Who's Afraid of Trans and Genderqueer Saints?**
Alicia Spencer-Hall (University College London)

16-17.30 **PANEL 3: QUEERING SAINTHOOD**

Michael Eber (Georg-August-University Göttingen): *Sancta virgo / sicut pater*: Homosociality and Gender Transgression in the Latin Lives of St Marina/us

Shay Pertler (Friedrich-Alexander-University Erlangen-Nürnberg): *Oblita sit sexum*: Life and Death of Joseph of Schönau

Roan Runge (University of Cambridge): *Fúair comartha bandachta ann* ([He] Found the Sign of Womanhood There): The Construction of Gender in the Medieval Irish 'Story of the Abbot of Drimnagh'

SATURDAY, 6TH APRIL

9.30-11 PANEL 4: WRITING GENDER

Isabel Kimpel (Ludwig-Maximilian-University Munich): *Famula Christi et Mulier fortis*: The Writings of Caesarius of Heisterbach on Saint Elisabeth of Thuringia

Georgie Crespi (University of Reading): 'We're All Born Naked, and the Rest is Drag': The Concept of Drag in 'Christina of Markyate' and 'Revelations of Divine Love'

María del Carmen Muñoz Rodríguez (University of Seville): *In ure lauerdes luue*: The Spaces of Female Sanctity in the Middle English 'Seinte Iuliene'

11.30-13 PANEL 5: VISUALISING GENDER

Rosalind Phillips-Solomon (University of York): 'Miraculous Aged Virgin' or Quintessential Virgin Martyr? Late Medieval Imaginings of Saint Apollonia

Sarah Wilkins (Pratt Institute, New York): A Preaching Woman: Mary Magdalen in Late Medieval Italian Art

Elisabet Trulla Serra (Trinity College Dublin): Gender Configuration in Byzantine Art Through Saint Mary of Egypt

14-15.30 PANEL 6: FAMILIAL AND SPIRITUAL RELATIONSHIPS

Jessica Troy (Independent Scholar): Unequal Treatment: The Power Struggle of Medieval Chaste Couples

Laura Moncion (University of Toronto): 'Be My Spouse': Spiritual Partnership in the Life of Pirona the Recluse

Michaela Granger (Catholic University of America, Washington DC): 'And It Was Accounted to Him (or Her?) as Righteousness ...': The Value of Childrearing in the Construction of Late Medieval Sanctity

16-17.30 PANEL 7: MODERN PERSPECTIVES

Dannelle Gutarra (University of Warwick): Medieval Sainthood and Scientific Racism: Race, Gender, and Sexuality in 'History of the Female Sex' by Christoph Meiners

Maria Zygianni (Swansea University): Saint Athanasia of Aigaleo: An Entrepreneur Saint

Myrna Nader (American University of Beirut): The Cult of Marina the Monk: Faith, Discourse and Sexuality in Contemporary Lebanon

17.30-18 CLOSING REMARKS

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