

Venite filii audite me
timorem dñi docebo vos

MEDIEVAL TEXTS AND THEIR SOCIAL CONTEXTS

Performance, Performativity, Agents and Genres

Thursday and Friday 13–14 November 2025

Sint-Baafshuis, Biezekapelstraat 2, Ghent, Belgium

Day 1

09:00 – 09:30

Opening

SESSION 1

09:30 – 11:00

Moderator: Gowaart Van Den Bossche

Zeynep Aydoğan (Institute for Mediterranean Studies, Rethymno)

Performance and Transmission in Anatolian Turkish Warrior Epics

Organisers

Jeroen De Gussem, Universiteit Gent

Robert Gallagher, University of Kent

Gowaart Van Den Bossche, Universität Zürich

Dinah Wouters, Universiteit Utrecht & Rijksuniversiteit Groningen

Henri Pirenne Institute for Medieval Studies



Literatures
without Borders



Researchers of European Literary
Identities, Cosmopolitanism and the
Schools



Research Foundation
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GHENT
UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF ARTS
AND PHILOSOPHY

HENRI PIRENNE
INSTITUTE FOR
MEDIEVAL STUDIES

Olivia Colquitt (Heinrich Heine University of Düsseldorf)

Textuality, Narrativity, Performativity: Identity Entanglements in the Middle English and Greek Floire et Blancheflor

Stefka G. Eriksen (University of Oslo)

Translating Textuality, Visuality, and Performativity in Medieval Manuscript Culture: A Case-Study of the Story about Yvain, the Knight of the Lion, in Old French and Old Norse Contexts

11:00 – 11:30

Break

SESSION 2

11:30 – 13:00

Moderator: Hind Ayhir

Thom Gobbitt (Karl-Franzens University, Graz)

Saying It and Paying It Threefold: Repetition in the Lombard Law on Arson

Inês Olaia (University of Lisbon)

Performance, Space, Lordship: Assuming Control of a Town in Late Medieval Portugal

Vid Žepič (University of Ljubljana)

Performing Justice: Judicial Gestures, Symbols, and Insignia in Medieval Legal Culture

13:00 – 14:00

Lunch

SESSION 3

14:00 – 15:30

Moderator: Robert Gallagher

Katherine Weikert (University of Winchester)

Dark Objects and Living Books: Agencies of Medieval Insular Cartularies, 1100–1250

Wim Verbaal (Ghent University)

The Performing Book or Why You Do Not Read a Medieval Manuscript

Gowaart Van Den Bossche (University of Zürich)

A Soldier Walks into a Bar: Performative Language Use Between Colloquial and Rhymed Prose in Late Medieval Arabic Historiography

15:30 – 16:00

Break

SESSION 4

16:00 – 17:30

Moderator: Dinah Wouters

Joletta De Smedt (Mozarteum University Salzburg)

The Problem of Text Underlay in Plainchant and Polyphony: The Inherent Quality of the Hexachord Syllables

Robert Flierman (Utrecht University)

Eat, Pray, Love. The (Diverse) Uses of Letters in Post-Roman Europe

Jeroen De Gussem (Ghent University)

Detecting Auditory Features of Prose Style in Anglo-Latin Hagiography (900-1150) with Stylometry: The Case of Folcard of St-Bertin

19:00

Dinner at Knol&Kool, Heilige-Geeststraat 30, 9000 Gent

Day 2

SESSION 5

09:30 – 11:00

Moderator: Jo Van Steenberghe

Suzanne Pinckney Stetkevych (Georgetown University)

Rhetoric and Reliquary: Performance and Reperformance of al-Būṣīrī's Mantle Ode (Burd al-Būṣīrī) to the Prophet Muḥammad

Lorenzo Maria Ciolfi (Complutense University of Madrid)

Liturgical Performance and the Synaxarium of Constantinople

James Drysdale Miller (University of Oxford)

Armarii, Communal Reading and Orthodox Interpretation: Celebrating the Feasts of St Benedict at Eleventh-Century Fleury

11:00 – 11:30

Break

SESSION 6

11:30 – 13:00

Moderator: Jeroen Deploige

Heather Taylor (University of Kent)

Flipping the Social Script: Performative Rituals to Assert Social Agency in Late-Medieval England

Pamela King (University of Glasgow)

Respectability Challenged in Late Medieval York: A Play, a Scotsman, and a Pair of Prosthetic Arms

Kristin Hoefener (University Nova of Lisbon)

Processionals and Processions: Cross-Examining Dominican Practices in the 15th Century and Today

13:00 – 14:00

Lunch

14:00 – 15:00

Roundtable with Wim Verbaal (Ghent University) and Alice Hicklin (King's College London).

Venue information



The venue lies right in front of the ibis hotel, on the other side of the Sint-Baafsplein next to the cathedral. You enter the building via Biezekapelstraat 2. The conference will take place in **Room 1.07**.



Bikes can be placed in the side entrance via the Kapittelstraat.