

19e Mediëvistendag / 19th Medieval Studies Day

Deventer, Town Hall (Burgerzaal), Grote Kerkhof 4

15 November 2013

City Culture and the Transmission and Exploitation of Knowledge

From its development in the High Middle Ages to its transformation in the Late Middle Ages, urban society is inseparably linked to the rise of literacy and new ways of exchanging knowledge. Late medieval European cities saw an explosive growth of the number of individuals and social groups participating in processes of communication of knowledge, as well as a diversification of modes and patterns of knowledge exchange involving oral as well as written, and formal as well as informal forms of communication. Particularly important for the development and transformation of urban society is the use of the vernacular in administrative and commercial communication. Influenced by the religious reform movements of the late Middle Ages and by the growing participation of lay believers, also the transmission of religious knowledge increasingly took place in the vernacular. Think of preaching activities by the Mendicants, advisory and visionary appearances of recluses and visionaries, and collations organised by the Brethren of the Common Life. The newly developed strategies of knowledge transmission in the late medieval period gave way to significant changes and developments in the participation to cultural, social, political and religious life.

Communication, dissemination, and uses of knowledge in urban society are at the heart of many research projects that are carried out in the context of the Netherlands Research School for Medieval Studies and the Flemish network of medievalists. The theme of 'Communication and Exploitation of Knowledge' has also been chosen for the research programme of the Research School itself. The school was awarded a Graduate Programme grant of NWO, which makes it possible to appoint four PhD students in the research programme. During the 19th Mediëvistendag this programme and some other new projects, which embrace the theme of the transmission and exploitation of knowledge in an urban environment, will be presented and discussed.

Programme

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| 10:15-10:45 | Registration and coffee (location: Town Hall, Burgerzaal) |
| 10:45-11:00 | Word of welcome by Prof. Dr Catrien Santing, Academic Director of the Netherlands Research School for Medieval Studies |
| 11:00-11:45 | Dr Suzan Folkerts, University of Groningen
<i>Bibles on the Market. Towards a New Approach of Urban Religiosity in the Late Medieval Low Countries</i> |
| 11:45-12:30 | Dr Samuel Mareel, Ghent University
<i>Writing on the Wall. Religious Instruction and the Posting of Poems in Pre-Reformation Places of Worship</i> |
| 12:30-14:00 | Lunch, Guided tour in Deventer |
| 14:00-15:00 | Prof. Dr Sita Steckel, Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster
<i>Gravis et Clamosa Querela. Moving Academic Debate into the Urban Public Space in the Thirteenth Century</i> |
| 15:00-17:00 | PhD presentations |
| 17:00-18:00 | Drinks |

PhD presentations

- Session 1** **Civic Culture** (location: Town Hall, Oude Raadzaal)
- 15:15-15:35 Jelten Baguet (VU Brussels, Dept. of History)
The Forging of a Pre-Modern Urban Elite. Political Networks and Social Change in Sixteenth-Century Ghent
- 15:40-16:00 Milan Pajic (Ghent University, Dept. of History)
Flemish migration to England in the 14th century and cultural transfers (with a specific focus on the city of Colchester)
- 16:00-16:15 Break
- 16:15-16:35 Janna Coomans (University of Amsterdam, Dept. of History)
Negotiating Cleanliness in the Premodern City: the Body and the Urban Environment in the Low Countries 1400-1600
- 16:40-17:00 Eliane Fankhauser (Utrecht University)
Late medieval court culture in the Low Countries: Visualizing, interpreting, and contextualizing music fragments
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- Session 2** **Civic Identities** (location: Stads- en Athenaeumbibliotheek)
- 15:15-15:35 Ewoud Waerniers (Ghent University, Dept. of History)
Perception and performance of social identity in the nascent urban societies of the High Middle Ages
- 15:40-16:00 Marina Musurok (KULeuven)
The Iconography of imaginary cities in the French-Flemish illumination art of the 15th century (Troy, Babylon, Carthage, Sodom, Jericho). The example of Troy
- 16:00-16:15 Break
- 16:15-16:35 Peter Bakker (VU Amsterdam, Dept. of History, external PhD)
Urban historiography in the Northern Low Countries (with a specific focus on the town chronicle of Kampen)
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- Session 3** **Literatures and Knowledge** (location: Stads- en Athenaeumbibliotheek)
- 15:15-15:35 Lianne Vroomen (University of Antwerp, Ruusbroecgenootschap)
In tune with eternity: Song and spirituality of the Modern Devotion
- 15:40-16:00 Alexia Lagast (University of Antwerp, Dept. of Literature)
Travel narrative truth: literary techniques for authentication in 'Tvoyage van Mher Joos van Ghiste' (ca. 1490)
- 16:00-16:15 Break
- 16:15-16:35 Alisa van de Haar (University of Groningen, Dept. of Dutch Language and Culture)
A Tale of Two Tongues: The Interplay of Dutch and French in the Literary Culture of The Low Countries, 1550-1600
- 16:40-17:00 Richard Calis (Utrecht University, ReMa Ancient, Medieval and Renaissance Studies)
The lure of allegory and interpretations of Greek literature (1400-1600)

Locations

Town Hall (Burgerzaal and Oude Raadzaal), Grote Kerkhof 4, Deventer (near the Lebuïnus Church)
Stads- en Athenaeumbibliotheek, Het Klooster 12, Deventer