

# MSN

## Medieval Studies Newsletter

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### Inside:

Through Dante's Hell	2
Tomasin on 18th Ct. Italian Autobiography	2
"On the Hunt" in Belgium	3
New CEUS Colloquium	4
Faculty and Student News	5
Upcoming Events	6

## NEW FACES AT THE MEDIEVAL STUDIES INSTITUTE AND THE JOURNALS INITIATIVE

After two years working in graphic design, **Nicholas Hunot** is "very excited" to return to his true passion, medieval history, and the Medieval Studies Institute is delighted to be helping him along that path. Nicholas, a first-year PhD student in History, is the 2008 recipient of the Medieval Studies Fellowship (to fund incoming graduate students in the field of Medieval Studies).

Although he began his academic career at the University of Oregon in Eugene studying pre-fifteenth century art and architectural history, Nicholas dates



his interest in Medieval Studies to a course he took while getting his second BA at Portland State University. In order to

take Latin and Greek courses after completing his work in Eugene, he enrolled at Portland State and happened across a general survey course on the Early Middle Ages offered by Professor John Ott. Professor Ott's enthusiasm for the material proved contagious, and Nicholas was inspired to study Early Medieval Spain as a Master's student at PSU, a path which culminated in his Master's thesis: *Roman influence on the Iberian Rural Peasantry, 19 B.C.E. to 400 C.E.*

Nicholas plans to continue his exploration of Early Medieval Spain for his doctoral work. "What is so fascinating about Spain," Nicholas says, "is that, academically speaking, it is an unexplored, uncharted land because for so long it had been internalized. With Franco's death in the '70s, it has become more open to the English-speaking world."

Nicholas is particularly interested in the question of how the emergence of Christianity had an impact on urban centers in Spain socially, politically, and economically, and how it altered both the topography of the cities and the ways that they were perceived.

Also joining the Institute this year is **Jennifer Cavalli**, a doctoral candidate in History who took over for Holly Silvers as the Journals Initiative Assistant. Jennifer earned a BS in Education and an MA in History at



graduate diploma in historical Studies from the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow before coming to Indiana to study Early Modern Europe. She is currently working on her dissertation, "Humanism in Convents," which examines exchanges between religious and lay women in pre-Tridentine Italy.

Jennifer's entrance into Medieval Studies is proof of the flexible boundary between the "Medieval" and Central Michigan University and a post-

(Continued on Page 2)

### CALL FOR PAPERS

## Making Manifest: Revelation and Illumination in the Middle Ages

21ST ANNUAL MEDIEVAL STUDIES SYMPOSIUM  
MARCH 27-28, 2009

The Book of Revelation captivated the medieval world, providing inspiration for scholarship, theology, art, music, and, of course, eschatological speculation. But the *concept* of revelation had an even broader impact. Literally and metaphorically the term encapsulates many of the developments and innovations of the Middle Ages, whether we're speaking of divinity revealed to humans, ideas dawning upon men, or crimes exposed to public view. From the "eureka moment", to its translation into representation (visual, musical, literary, or scientific) and its reception and influence in the wider world, revelation seeks investigation and interpretation.

We welcome papers that deal with moments of revelation and their effects. For example, papers might address one of the following:

- manuscript traditions of the Apocalypse
- utopian political visions
- revelations made manifest
- technologies of disseminating the revealed
- interpretations or depictions of the Book of Revelation
- reactions to a revelation of any sort
- scenes of revelation in visual, musical, literary or theatrical arts
- moments of disclosure in personal or legal matters

(Continued on Page 3)

**New Faces** (Continued from Page 1)

the “Early Modern.” Her graduate career began with Renaissance Italy: as an undergraduate she had traveled to Italy to attend a course on Renaissance Italian history and culture (for which she later served as an undergraduate teaching assistant). When she decided to go on to graduate school, Renaissance Italy “seemed like the natural choice.” But she found that her interests often led her to the medieval. “The themes and years I am most interested in tend to have more in common with the concerns and scope of medieval studies,” she says. “During my coursework, I found that medieval courses were more relevant to formulating some of the ideas and questions I will be pursuing in my dissertation.”

In addition to working for the Journals Initiative, Jennifer is also currently teaching the Introduction to Western Civilization survey at Indiana University/Purdue University Columbus (IUPUC), preparing to present a paper at a conference in London in January (see announcements page), and working through the material gleaned from her archive work in Venice, Mantua, and Verona this past summer.

**Through Dante’s Hell  
with Professor Theodore Cachey**

October 20th in Bloomington – another beautiful October day in a seemingly unending row. The Federal Room of the IMU filled with a large interested audience, all eager to take Professor Cachey, Professor of Italian and chair of the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures at the University of Notre Dame, up on his promising offer. The expectations were all the higher after Professor Wayne Storey’s warm words of welcome and his introduction of the guest-speaker.

Professor Cachey offered a tour through Dante’s hell and the current discussion of the limits of cartography as a form of knowledge inherent in literature. The lecture aimed to visualize the cartographic impulse in Dante, an approach first authorized by the speaker as a hermeneutical approach

to the Commedia’s infernal mapping. In Canto 11, Virgil himself provides an introduction to the theme of cartography. In both its factual and fictional dimensions, cartography consequently provides a key to understanding Dante’s conception of Hell.

Prof. Cachey, an expert on Dante, focused on the complex topography of the „malebolge“ (the so-called evil pouches that house a series of evil-doers). His lecture began by explaining the concentric cartography of the “malebolge” and the inhabitants of the various trenches, who include panderers and seducers, flatterers and traffickers of offices of the church, diviners and traffickers of offices of the state, hypocrites, thieves and evil counselors, schismatics and, last,

(Continued on Page 5)



***Les chansons de langue  
d’oïl : L’art des trouvères***

Newsletter readers interested in medieval lyric may be pleased to know of the very recent publication of Marie-Geneviève Grossel and Jean-Charles Herbin, eds., *Les chansons de langue d’oïl : L’art des trouvères* (Valenciennes: Presses Universitaires de Valenciennes, 2008). The 13 essays in this collection stem from a conference on trouvère poetry held at the Université de Valenciennes in the fall of 2006. They include one on music in Colin Muset by Indiana University Ph.D. Christopher Callahan and one on the ballette by French and Italian professor emeritus Samuel N. Rosenberg in collaboration with Eglal Doss-Quinby (Smith College), co-author of *The Old French Ballette* (Geneva: Droz, 2006).

-Professor Samuel M. Rosenberg  
Emeritus, French and Italian

**Lorenzo Tomasin:  
Language and Style in 18th-century Italian Autobiography**



Carlo Goldoni

“Scriver la vita”: Language and Style in 18th-century Italian Autobiography” is the title of the lecture Lorenzo Tomasin, Associate Professor of the University Ca’ Foscari in Venice, Italy, gave on November 3rd at the Federal Room.

In this lecture, presented in Italian, Professor Tomasin explored the problem of the language in 18th-century autobiography, a genre which had just begun its existence and independent tradition in Italy in the 1720’s. At this time, Professor Tomasin remarked, Italy was mostly oscillating toward France, the erudite were getting their primary education and academic formation in Latin, and the discussion about the Italian language, the so-called “questione della lingua,” was becoming more vivid as a result of the necessity to express personal views of the unique linguistic experience. In this setting the most important Italian

authors opted to write their autobiographies in Italian vernacular, taking on the problem of the language, and thus making a strong statement about the use of the Italian vernacular instead of Latin, French or any other language. Professor Tomasin pointed out that



Giacomo Casanova

although the Italian authors did not come to consensus on whether or not to use the Tuscan dialect (referred to by Carlo Goldoni as a cage from which it is difficult to get out), and some of them used their own dialects, the tendency to choose the vernacular was omnipresent. In conclusion, professor Tomasin drew attention to the importance of these linguistic accounts also functioning as models for writing autobiography, which Italian literature was lacking at the time.

-Jelena Todorovic



# On the Hunt in Belgium:

## Professor Jacques E. Merceron at the Société de Mythologie Française

### Notes on an International Conference on "Mythology of the Hunt and the Four Aymon Brothers"

The 31st Conference of the Société de Mythologie Française, which was organized in cooperation with the Conseil d'Ethnologie du Ministère de la Communauté Française de Belgique, took place in Borzée-La Roche-en-Ardenne, Belgium, from August 21 to 25, 2008. This year's conference centered on the theme of "Mythology of the Hunt and the Four Aymon brothers."

Nineteen papers were presented on various aspects of the hunt theme in legends and myths (on topics ranging from legends of St Hubert and St Gilles to animals and hunting in medieval Saints' Lives, the Wild Hunt and the Wild Hunter, mythological beasts: white stags, giant wild boars, poachers' and hunters' tall tales and jokes, etc.)

Statue of the Four Aymon brothers and Bayart from Bogny-sur-Meuse



and on the medieval epic poem of the Four Aymon brothers which includes a major episode in the French and Belgian Ardennes. I presented a paper entitled "Du mauvais et du bon usage de la chasse aristocratique selon l'Eglise au Moyen Age et au-delà" ("The Bad and the Good Aristocratic Hunt according to the Church in the Middle Ages and Beyond").

This international conference provided a very stimulating and fruitful forum for the exchange of factual, methodological, and theoretical ideas with the nearly seventy people who attended, especially with our colleagues from Belgium. Although most contributions were centered around the medieval period, some papers also explored the Indo-European, the Celtic and Greco-Roman roots of and parallels to some of the themes and aspects of hunting, and of these mythological beasts. Belgian scholars and specialists of falconry and hunting horn music also provided welcome technical expertise.

The conference also included visits to Bastogne and the town of Saint-Hubert. In Bastogne, the participants were treated to a visit to the wonderful Musée En Piconrue which hosts a magnificent collection of religious art, where they could admire, among many other objects, the statues of many saints with connection to hunt, particularly Saint Hubert, as well as a special exhibit on the epic Four Aymon brothers (including puppets of Charlemagne, the Aymon brothers, and their fairy horse Bayart). Finally, a visit to the cathedral of the town of Saint-Hubert, the historical center of the cult of Saint Hubert, replete with a conference-performance on the trompes de chasse (hunting horns), constituted one the highlights of the conference.

Altogether this was an extremely enriching conference. The Proceedings of the conference should appear in volume form next year (expected in March 2009).

-Prof. Jacques E. Merceron. French and Italian

## Call For Papers

(Continued from Page 3)

We seek papers from both faculty and graduate students in any medieval field of study, East or West. Medievalists of all disciplines are encouraged to participate. Topics may include, but are not limited to, those related to spirituality, philosophy, history, science and learning, art and architecture, music and literature, politics, influential figures, commerce, ideology and belief, or language and power.

Paper proposals should be sent to Diane Fruchtman (mest@indiana.edu), at the Medieval Studies Institute no later than January 15, 2009, but early submissions are especially encouraged.

## Textual Cultures

Texts, Contexts, Interpretation



## Textual Cultures 3.2 (2008)

Of interest to medievalists will be the autumn 2008 issue of *Textual Cultures*, the journal of the Society for Textual Scholarship, edited by Wayne Storey (Indiana University Press). In addition to reviews of Fabio Romanini's 2007 study of Giovanni Battista Ramusio's *Navigazioni et viaggi*, of Gabriele Giannini and Marianne Gasperoni's critical edition of the *Vangeli occitani dell'infanzia di Gesù* (versions I e II), and of Christophe Chaguinian's 2008 *Les albas occitanes* (Champion 2008), volume 3.2 offers studies on the integrative editing of medieval music and lyric (Daniel E. O'Sullivan), the development of square notation for medieval music in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries (John Haines), and the compiler's system for noting assignments of sections of the text to be transcribed in the earliest extant copy of Dante's *Convivio* (Beatrice Arduini).

## New Colloquium in Central Eurasian Studies

On October 15, 2008 Professor **Christopher Beckwith** gave the inaugural lecture of the Central Eurasian Colloquium, "The Central Eurasian Culture Complex: Engine of Dynamic Change in Pre-Medieval Japan, France, and Tibet." The Colloquium, created by Professor Beckwith, will be meeting biweekly on Wednesday afternoons at 4pm, and many of the presentations are expected to be on medieval topics.

The medieval focus is already apparent: on November 12, Professor Beckwith again addressed the Colloquium, this time delivering a lecture entitled "Scholastic Argument Structure in Medieval Central Asian Philosophical Texts." The focus of the lecture was the source of the highly distinctive, unusual argument structure known as the 'scholastic method,' which appears in medieval Latin, Arabic, and Tibetan. Professor Beckwith sought to trace the scholastic method's transmission and to revise current understandings of the structure and purpose of the scholastic-scientific argument.

The next Colloquium will have medieval implications as well. On Wednesday, December 3 at 4pm in the Distinguished Alumni Room of the IMU, Professor **H. Erdem Çýpa** will be presenting a talk for the Colloquium entitled, "Selim 'the Grim': What's in a Nickname?" The talk will address the significance behind divergent historical accounts dealing with Selim I, who ruled the Ottoman Empire from 1512-1520, by focusing on his terrific and terrifying nickname. Selim I's actions in life--including a probable role in his own father's demise--earned him his nickname. Upon his death, however, his son Süleyman I engaged in a grand revisionist historiographical project to restore his father's reputation, a project which resulted in the term "grim" gaining new, and more positive, shades of meaning.

Other future colloquium presentations on medieval topics will be announced to the Medieval Studies Institute.

## "SHIFTING FRONTIERS" COMES TO INDIANA UNIVERSITY "Shifting Cultural Frontiers in Late Antiquity"

Indiana University will play host to the Shifting Frontiers in Late Antiquity conference next April 2-5. Shifting Frontiers, the conference of the international Society for Late Antiquity, has become one of the most important events for scholars of late antiquity and the early medieval world.

Our conference will be the eighth such meeting and will explore how cultural transformation occurred amidst the political decline and religious disruption that can seem characteristic of later Roman



history. It will bring to IU approximately 100 scholars of the later Roman, early medieval, and Near Eastern worlds from at least 11 countries.

As in the past, the conference will

provide an interdisciplinary forum for ancient historians, philologists, Orientalists, art historians, archeologists, and specialists in the early Christian, Jewish, and Muslim worlds to discuss a wide range of European, Middle-Eastern, and African evidence for cultural transformation in late antiquity.

Three core faculty members of the Medieval Studies Institute are organizing the conference: **Edward J. Watts** and **Deborah Deliyannis** in History, and **David Brakke** in Religious Studies. The conference is being

co-sponsored by the Medieval Studies Institute

For more information, please see the conference website:

<http://www.indiana.edu/~sf8/>

## "THING THEORY" SYMPOSIUM:

### "Theorizing the Premodern Thing"

On October 18, the Medieval Institute co-sponsored a one-day symposium on "thing theory" in premodern culture. The event brought a set of distinguished scholars of material objects and culture in medieval literature to Indiana University to present and discuss their work-in-progress. Nearly fifty medievalists from an array of disciplines at Indiana University (including History and Philosophy of Science, English, Religion, East Asian Studies, and Comparative Literature) and other area universities (including



Purdue and the University of Dayton) joined the four panelists, Mary Baine Campbell (Brandeis University), Thomas Hahn (University of Rochester), Kellie Robertson (University of Wisconsin), and Sarah Stanbury (College of the Holy Cross), in a day of invigorating conversations about the social and literary agency of "things."

The day's discussions explored the ways in which medieval culture offers "a particularly vital kind of 'thing theory.'" Although medievalists have long been students of material culture, the panelists demonstrated ways in which the debate about the nature and agency of things in the Middle Ages might inform and enrich current theoretical discussions.

The event was made possible by the support of the Office of the Vice Provost of Research, New Perspectives in the Arts and Humanities, the Medieval Studies Institute, the English Department, Renaissance Studies, and the Cultural Studies Program at Indiana University.

- Prof. Shannon Gayk  
Department of English



# FACULTY & STUDENT NEWS

In May and early June **Christopher I. Beckwith** (Professor, Department of Central Eurasian Studies) was Professeur Invité and Directeur d'Études at the École Pratique des Hautes Études, IVe section (Section des Sciences Historiques et Philologiques), in the Sorbonne, Paris. Of his four lectures there, two were specifically medieval: "The Comitatus and the Barrow: The Central Eurasian Culture Complex in early Japan, Merovingian France, and the Tibetan Empire" (May 15, 2008) and "Central Asian Sources of Thirteenth Century Scholasticism in Paris and Tibet" (June 5, 2008).

In mid-June Professor Beckwith was the Numata Distinguished Lecturer in Buddhism, Oxford Centre for Buddhist Studies, Faculty of Oriental Studies, University of Oxford, and gave two lectures on medieval topics which, in revised form, were accepted this fall for publication next year: the first as "The Central Eurasian Culture Complex in the Tibetan Empire: The Imperial Cult and Early Buddhism" and the second as "The Sarvāstivādin Buddhist Scholastic Method in Medieval Islam and Tibet."

His book *Koguryo, the Language of Japan's Continental Relatives: An Introduction to the Historical-Comparative Study of the Japanese-Koguryoic Languages, with a Preliminary Description of Archaic Northeastern Middle Chinese*. Second Edition (Leiden: Brill, 2007) has sold out and was reprinted this summer.

Meanwhile, Professor Beckwith's article "The Frankish Name of the King of the Turks" has just appeared in *Archivum Eurasiae Medii Aevi* 2006/2007, Vol. 15: 5-11, and his joint article with Gisaburo N. Kiyose (IU Ph.D., 1973), "The Origin of the Old Japanese Twelve Animal Cycle" has appeared in *Arutai-*

*go kenkyū – Altaistic Studies* 2008, 2: 1-18.

In January, **Jennifer Cavalli**, doctoral candidate in History, will be traveling to King's College London to participate in the United Kingdom's Gender and Medieval Studies Group conference, whose theme this year is "Locating Gender." Jennifer will be presenting a paper, "Consoling the Marchesa: letters to Isabella d'Este from Ferrarese nuns."

Assistant Professor of English **Shannon Gayk** gave a lecture at the University of Connecticut in September entitled "Hoccleve's Spectacles." She also published an essay, "Teaching Chaucer's Legacy," in the most recent edition of *Studies in Medieval and Renaissance Teaching*.

Emeritus Professor of French and Italian **Samuel N. Rosenberg**, Editor of ENCOMIA, the annual publication of the International Courtly Literature Society, has just sent the manuscript of double volume 29-30 (2007-2008) to the publisher; the volume should appear in early January. In addition to its very extensive international bibliography of recent works in courtly literature, this issue contains 28 book reviews, including several by medievalists associated with Indiana University.

**Tamara Stasik**, PhD candidate in English, attended a selective Manuscript Master Class at the University of Swansea, Wales, as part of the New Chaucer Society Conference, this past July. This new class covered manuscript description; scribal identification; watermarks, and dialect, as well as provided a chance to meet and work with international experts in the field.

Professor **Wayne Storey's** "Decameron II 4: The Matrices of Voice" was published in October of 2008 in the electronic journal *Heliotropia* 5.1-2 (2008): 1-19 ([www.heliotropia.org](http://www.heliotropia.org)). Also in October he presented his study "Medieval Italian Copyists and Occitan Musical Traditions" at the 35th annual meeting of the Medieval Manuscript Conference at Saint Louis University. And in late November the issue of *Dante Studies* (CXXIV) he guest edited with Michelangelo Zaccarello appeared. In commemoration of Dante's sojourn in the Lunigiana in 1306 and devoted to the topic of Dante's contacts with the Malaspina and the Lunigiana region, the volume is introduced by Emilio Pasquini and contains studies by Paola Allegretti, Beatrice Arduini, John Barnes, Gilda Caiti-Russo, Marcello Ciccuto, Giuseppe Indizio, Zaccarello and Storey. This is the first issue of *Dante Studies* since its founding in 1881 by Henry Longfellow to contain essays solely in Italian.

Emeritus Professor of Musicology **Hans Tischler** gave a paper at the fall meeting of the American Musicological Society's Midwest Chapter in Chicago in October. The title of his paper was: "A Report on the Earliest Polyphonic Art Music." The paper was based on my 2-volume Edition of 2005 of the corpus of 150 substantial works, composed around Paris about 1170 to 1230.

**Jelena Todorovic**, doctoral candidate in French and Italian, presented a paper "Elements of Courtly Love in Poetry by Peter of Blois" at South Atlantic Modern Languages Association (SAMLA) in Louisville, KY on November 8, 2008.

## Cachey (continued from page 2)

falsifiers. The informative handout included cartographic material from both the period of early printing as well as from more recent research literature.

An important aspect of Professor Cachey's lecture was narrative space, i.e., the relation between the space described in Dante's narrative to the literary space occupied by the topographical description. A central perspective, one that was clarified with the help of a diagram, was the chiasmic/chiasm structure of Dante's conception of the evil pouches. One „malebolge“, the sixth, is treated in an entire Canto (Canto 23) and thus represents the

symmetrical center of the entire cartography of Hell. All the other evil pouches are grouped around this central pouch, either singly or in groups of two. The narrative structure of the text and the topography of the evil pouches form an ensemble that mirrors and emphasizes each other. They make clear the author's firm wish to give a clear structure to his poem, one that informs both its narrative and topographic space.

No less interesting was the last part of Professor Cachey's lecture. He illustrated how Dante inscribed some autobiographical traces within the cartography of this underworld landscape – for

example, by inserting the names of rivers that were crucial to his own life. By so doing and, furthermore, by making political allusions, he affirmed the importance of a regeneration of Italy in Dante's days.

The audience – enriched with a feast of food for thought and a no less rich reception hosted by Medieval Studies under the direction of Professor Wayne Storey – stepped out into the last golden shimmer of this gorgeous day.

- Prof. Hildegard Elisabeth Keller  
Department of Germanic Studies

## MEST CONTACT INFORMATION

The members of the administrative staff of MEST are: **Jelena Todorović**, **H. Wayne Storey**, and **Diane Fruchtman**. If you have communications you would like to have distributed as a general announcement in Medieval Studies, please contact Diane Fruchtman at [mest@indiana.edu](mailto:mest@indiana.edu).

**mest@indiana.edu**: for general correspondence with the Institute, or for administrative matters with Jelena, or newsletter and publicity issues with Diane.

**mestdir@indiana.edu**: for direct and confidential communications with the Director; this is an administrative account we have established that will transfer from director to director. Please note that [dirmest@indiana.edu](mailto:dirmest@indiana.edu) is a personal account of another faculty member.

In addition to these two e-mail accounts, we also maintain three distribution lists: `mest_students`, `mest_faculty`, and `mest_instruct`, which are used to communicate with students, general faculty, and medieval faculty, respectively.

-H. Wayne Storey  
[mestdir@indiana.edu](mailto:mestdir@indiana.edu)

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# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Lecture by Dr. Jörn Münkner, Humboldt University at Berlin

Monday, December 8

5pm

Federal Room, Indiana Memorial Union

### “Violation with Spectator: Crime, Crime Scene Investigation, and Crime as Entertainment in Early Modern Broadshets”

Crimes, catastrophes, and their representations can claim a trans-epochal and trans-national interest. A colored *Neue Zeitung* dating from 1573 provides a detailed account of a sex-related crime which occurred in January of that year in a small town in the Oberpfalz (western Germany). The newsprint catches the eye with its colored pictorial part, the print itself communicates by a specific combination of image and text. This talk will provide a close reading of this broadsheet and in addition will investigate pre-modern crime reports from the perspectives of literary and cultural history. Doing so, it sheds light on the modes of medial dramatization as well as of establishing evidence in the early modern period.

## Lecture by Professor John Haines

Musicology, University of Toronto and the Nota Quadrata project

February (date to be confirmed)

Professor Haines is a contributor to *The Journal of Medieval Latin, Early Music, Theoria, Early Music History, and Scriptorium*, and his 2004 book *Eight Centuries of Troubadours and Trouvères: The Changing Identity of Medieval Music* was published by Cambridge University Press. His forthcoming book, to be published next year by Droz in their series “Publications romanes et françaises” is entitled *Satire and Apocalypse in the Songs of Renart le nouvel*.

## 21st Annual Medieval Studies Symposium

### Making Manifest: Revelation and Illumination in the Middle Ages

March 27-28, 2009

## 8th Biennial Conference on Shifting Frontiers

### Shifting Cultural Frontiers in Late Antiquity

April 2-5, 2009