



# Time and Early Modern Thought

## Northern Renaissance Roses Seminar, 2014

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May - Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2014, in the Humanities Research Centre - University of York Campus, and York Minster Old Palace Library

Run jointly by the universities of Lancaster and York, with support from the SRS, this conference will look at 'time' in the renaissance. We will consider this broadly, addressing such questions as:

- Was there a 'concept of time', distinct to the period? What ideas of time were inherited from antiquity?
- How was time related to music and poetics, measure and proportion? How was it perceived, on the pulse, in the heart and on the brain?
- How was time related to timelessness, quotidian time to divine time? What did it mean, as Plato has it, to suppose time is a moving image of eternity?
- Was the relationship between time and mortality – emblematised in the Renaissance hour-glass and skull – terrifying or mere renaissance kitsch?
- What were the functions of early modern antiquarianism and the obsession with chronologies?
- How does renaissance theatre figure time, and what is the relationship between dramatic time and quotidian time?
- What was the relationship between time and space, eternity and infinity?
- Who were the Renaissance theorists of time?

The conference will be held over two days, the first in the Treehouse, Humanities Research Centre, and the second in the beautiful surroundings of York Minster Old Palace Library, and will conclude with a concert given by the Minster Minstrels, a renaissance-baroque early music wind group.

The seminar particularly encourages early career and post-graduates working in any Renaissance discipline: literature, history, music, art, philosophy.

The conference is organised by Kevin Killeen ([kevin.killeen@york.ac.uk](mailto:kevin.killeen@york.ac.uk)), Liz Oakley-Brown ([e.oakley-brown@lancaster.ac.uk](mailto:e.oakley-brown@lancaster.ac.uk)) and Sam Ellis ([se654@york.ac.uk](mailto:se654@york.ac.uk))

<http://www.york.ac.uk/crems/>

## Provisional programme

**Friday: Treehouse, HRC, Berrick Saul, University of York**

**10.00-11.30**

**Drama and Clocks**

Zoe Gibbons, Objectified Time in Shackerley Marmion's *The Antiquary* (Princeton University)

Denise Kelly, 'Lose and neglect the creeping hours of time': 'Keeping' Time in Early Modern English Theatre and Culture (Queens, Belfast)

Robert Stagg, Shakespeare's Clocks (Southampton University)

### **11.30-12.00 Coffee**

### **12.00-1.30**

#### **Horology and Technology**

Jane Desborough, The Clock and Watch Dial as a Reflection of Perceptions and Experiences of Time (Leeds University)

Natalie Kaoukji, Writing, progress and the history of inventions (Cambridge University)

Alexander Cummins, Time and Magic in Early Modern England (Bristol University)

### **1.30-2.30 (lunch)**

### **2.30-4.00**

#### **Philosophy and Time**

Emily A.E. Thomas, On the Emergence of 'New' Early Modern Metaphysics Time (University of Groningen)

Oliver Dubouclez, Time and Contemplation in Francesco Piccolomini's *Naturae Totius Universi* (Université de Liège)

Grigol Gegelia, The Machiavellian Occasion (European University Institute)

### **4.00-4.15 (brief break)**

### **4.15-5.45**

#### **Chronotopes and the Time to Come**

L.D. Haydon, Milton and the Problem of Epic Time (University of Kent)

Helen Davies, 'Tyrants expect no time': constructing the temporally impaired body of

Richard III in the ableist space of Tudor England (Lancaster University)

Lawrence Green 'Back to the Future': Notions of Future Time in Shakespeare's Plays and Poetry (Warwick University)

**Reception: Treehouse**

## **Saturday: York Minster Old Palace Library**

### **9.30-11.00**

#### **Eternity and Oblivion**

Lucy Razzall. 'Nothing is permanent in temporall things': John Donne, Time, and the Material (Cambridge University)

Sam Ellis, A Measure of Methuselahs: Counting out Time in Thomas Browne's *Hydriotaphia* (York University)

Harriet Phillips, Knowledge and Oblivion in *Pseudodoxia Epidemica* (Queen Mary, London)

### **11.00-11.30 Coffee**

### **11.30-12.20**

#### **Antiquarianism and Biblical Chronology**

Lydia Janssen, Time and the writing of history. Antiquarianism and the treatment of time in early modern historiography (KU Leuven)

Michal Choptiany, Bartholomaeus Scultetus and chronology: An inquiry into the scholarly workshop of an Upper Lusatian astronomer (University of Warsaw)

### **12.30-1.30**

## **Time and Visual Art**

Isabella Augurt, Painted Polychronicities in Early Netherlandish Typology (Freie Universitat, Berlin)

Mathew Champion, Contemplating Time and Eternity in Early Modern Louvain (Queen Mary, London)

**1.30-2.30 (lunch)**

**2.30-4.00**

### **Poetry**

Rachel White, Manipulating Metre: Revelations of Poetic Temporality in the Areopagus (Lancaster University)

Florence Hazrat, 'Time and the Tide wait for no Man': Rivers, Refrains and Poetic Eloquence in Spenser's Works (University of St Andrews)

Sharon Galbraith, Short Death, Long Sleep: Timing Mortality in Early Modern Perceptions of *Piers Plowman* (Lancaster University)

**4.00-5.00**

**Keynote: Michael Edwards (Cambridge)**

**5.00-5.30 Coffee**

**5.30 Concert by the Minster Minstrels**

**6.30 Finish**