

Saints, empresses, mothers, seductresses: medieval authors and artists were fascinated with the shapes women's power could take. This workshop uses charisma as a key to thinking through women's power in medieval Europe. While some medieval women enjoyed official authority, women could also influence others through a range of strategies not necessarily dependent on their public status. Over the three days of this international workshop, we will consider how theories of charisma, and the related concepts of enchantment, charm, celebrity and sacrality, allow us to understand modes of women's influence. Thirteen scholars will come together from the fields of medieval literature, history, art history, performance, religious studies, and gender studies to examine how medieval European literary texts, art works and historical documents represent influential or fascinating women. Speakers will discuss Byzantine, Carolingian, English, French, Italian and Spanish sources spanning the early and late middle ages.

Venue

SFB 1167 „Macht und Herrschaft“
Poppelsdorfer Allee 24 | Room 0.001
53115 Bonn



Contact

SFB 1167

Dr. Emma O'Loughlin Bérat
Poppelsdorfer Allee 24
53115 Bonn
E-Mail: eoloughl@uni-bonn.de

Interested audience and discussants are welcome.
Please register no later than 15.11.2017 at
eoloughl@uni-bonn.de

www.sfb1167.uni-bonn.de

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Charisma: Imagining women's power in medieval Europe

International Workshop of the SFB 1167
"Macht and Herrschaft – Pre-modern
Configurations in a Transcultural
Perspective", University of Bonn

30.11. – 02.12.2017



picture © The British Library, London, Royal 16 G v, f. 3v. Public Domain. Queen with four women

Programme

Thursday, November 30 2017

13.00–13.15

Welcome and Introduction.

Greeting from **Elke Brüggem** (Vice chair of SFB 1167)

Session I Chair: Emma O’Loughlin Bérat (Universität Bonn)

13.15–14.30

Irina Dumitrescu (Universität Bonn)

“Charismatic Properties in Medieval Literature”

14.30–15.45

Gaia Gubbini (Freie Universität Berlin)

“Fantastic, Fantasmatic, Supernatural: The Imaginary Woman in Langue d’Oc and Langue d’Oil Literatures”

15.45–16.00

Coffee break

16.00–17.15

Nicola McDonald (University of York)

“Romance Antinomies: The Good, The Bad and Beulybon”

Friday, December 1 2017

Session II Chair: Ricarda Wagner (Universität Bern)

9.30–10.45

Emma O’Loughlin Bérat (Universität Bonn)

“Charismatic childbirth and female genealogies in late medieval romance”

10.45–12.00

Stavroula Konstantinou (University of Cyprus)

“The Charisma of the Mother Martyr: Motherhood and Self-Sacrifice in the Passion of Perpetua and Felicity”

12.00–13.30

Lunch

Session III Chair: Emma O’Loughlin Bérat (Universität Bonn)

13.30–14.45

Katherine Jansen (Catholic University of America)

“Constructing the Charisma of Saint Catherine of Siena: Is Gender a Useful Category of Analysis?”

14.45–16.00

Peggy McCracken (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor)

“The Charisma of Stone: Pygmalion’s It Girl”

16.00–16.30

Coffee break

16.30–17.45

Stephen Jaeger (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign)

“Eros and Charisma”

Saturday, December 2 2017

Session IV Chair: Linda Dohmen (Universität Bonn)

9.30–10.45

Clare Lees (King’s College London)

“The Allure of Anonymity in the Early Middle Ages”

10.45–12.00

Elisabeth Dutton (Université de Fribourg)

“Theatrical Women Beyond the Bible. Women in non-scriptural drama in the late-medieval period”

12.00–13.30

Lunch

Session V Chair: Irina Dumitrescu (Universität Bonn)

13.30–14.45

Racha Kirakosian (Harvard University)

“The Last Empress. Saint Richgard and the End of the Carolingian Dynasty”

14.45–16.00

Roland Betancourt (University of California, Irvine)
“Slut-Shaming an Empress: Shame and Historiography in Byzantium”

16.00–16.30

Coffee break

16.30–17.45

Theresa Earenfight (Seattle University)

“Dynastic Power, Charisma, and the Exotic Foreign Spanishness of Catherine of Aragon”

17.45–18.15

Wrap up, **Irina Dumitrescu** (Universität Bonn)