

SYMPOSIUM ON MEDIEVAL AND EARLY MODERN SOCIETY
AT RICE UNIVERSITY

Feb. 7, 2015

New Directions in the History of Gender and Sexuality: Self, Family, and the Social

This international, interdisciplinary symposium will explore new directions in the history of gender and sexuality. Specialists in art history and literature will examine the representation of sex with slaves, serial marriage, adultery, incest, the eroticized maternal breast, sacred eroticism in Caravaggio, the metamorphosis of the body, envy, and the intersection of possession and sexuality in medieval and early modern culture.

9:00-9:15

Welcome, Acknowledgments, and Introduction

9:15-10:45

Session 1: Possession

Ian Frederick Moulton, Arizona State University: “‘To Make the Good His Own’: Possession, Sexuality, and Paternity in the Sixteenth Century”

Juliann Vitullo, Arizona State University: “Enslaved by Love: Love Lyrics and Domestic Slaves”

10:45-11:00

Coffee Break

11:00-1:00pm

Session 2: Religious Sex

Anne Derbes, Hood College: “Gender, Sexuality, and Visual Rhetoric in the Baptistery of Padua”

Lindsay E. Sherrier, Rice University: “The Eroticized Maternal Breast: *Madonna lactans* and Other Nursing Women”

Evan Choate, Rice University

“Sacred Eroticism, Erotic Spirituality: Sex and Religion in Caravaggio”

1:00-2:00pm

Lunch

2:00-4:00

Session 3: Body, Sex, Species

Robert Mills, University College London: The Boars and the Bees: Animal Sex in Medieval Art

Cary Howie, Cornell University: “Transformation, Time and Truth: What the Body Shows”

Jessica Rosenfeld, Washington University: “The Gender of Envy”

4:00-4:30

Coffee Break

4:30-6:00

Session 4: Sequence and Sexuality

Joseph Campana, Rice University: “Spenser’s Friends and Family Network: Incest, Kinship, and the Numbers of Sexuality”

Diane Wolfthal, Rice University: “Remembering Serial Marriage in Medieval Europe”