Words & Deeds

Actions Enacted, Re-Enacted & Restored

From Late-Antique Theater to the Legacy of Otto Ege,
By Way of, inter alia, Saint-Denis and Gutenberg

A Symposium of the Research Group on Manuscript Evidence

Friday & Saturday, 25–26 March 2016
106 McCormick Hall
Princeton University

Our theme engages with the realms of manuscripts, documents, seals, inscriptions, and other means of authentications or attestations, regarding deeds in material forms as well as deeds in action. Narratives (both real and imagined) have their part in the story, too, along with illustrations in a variety of media. The interrelationship, tensions, or outright conflicts between words and events, actual or planned, may come into focus as well. The span for consideration welcomes a range of dates, languages, regions, materials, forms of activities, and interactions.

Likewise, we address some issues of objects which carry within the confines of their present borders most of the evidence, apparently, to reveal their purposes through words and/or images. Such is the case, poignantly, given the vagaries of history (from whatever causes, natural or not), with fragments dispersed from former whole objects or groups of objects, as with collections or individual monuments.

Our sessions will focus on these and other predicaments, challenges, and opportunities. For example, we celebrate the research and discoveries facing the study and recovery of manuscript remnants from the collection of Otto F. Ege. Original materials from other collections will be on view.

Sponsors

The Research Group on Manuscript Evidence
The Department of Art & Archaeology
The Index of Christian Art at Princeton University

James Marrow & Emily Rose
Barbara A. Shailor
The Samuel H. Kress Foundation

Information and updates appear on our website:
http://manuscriptevidence.org/wpme/2016-symposium-on-words-and-deeds/

Please let us know if you will attend. Responses to director@manuscriptevidence.org
Welcome & Introduction 9:00‒9:15 am

Mildred Budny (Research Group on Manuscript Evidence)

Session 9:15‒11:00 am

1. “Strategies for Acting, Re-Enacting & Redeeming”

Moderator: Charles E. Barber (Department of Art & Archaeology, Princeton University)

Andrew Walker-White (Stratford University, Woodbridge, Virginia)
“Modes of Presence, Modes of Authenticity: The Interaction of ‘Artifact’ and Persona in Late Antiquity”

Karl Morrison (Rutgers University Emeritus)
“Oscar’s Paradox: Deadly Love in Western Christian Liturgy”

Sarah Celentano (University of Texas at Austin)
“Fragmentation in the Transmission of the Hortus deliciarum”

Break 11:00‒11:30 am

Session 11:30 am ‒ 1:00 pm

2. “Records of Moments & Monumentality”

Moderator: Alan Stahl (Firestone Library, Princeton University)

Genevra Kornbluth (Kornbluth Photography)
“Words, Objects, and Deeds: Sixth-Century Amulets With and Without Inscriptions”

Brigitte Bedos-Rezak (New York University)
“Contact and Contract: Sealing the Deed in the Central Middle Ages”

Eric White (Firestone Library, Princeton University)
“Good Words for Misdeeds: Gutenberg’s Typographic Indulgences of 1454‒55”

Lunch 1:00‒2:00 pm
Session 2:00–3:30 pm

3. “Texts, Inscriptions & Intentions at the Abbey of Saint-Denis”

Moderator: Catherine Fernandez (Index of Christian Art)

Paula Gerson (Florida State University Emerita)
“When a Door is More than a Door: The Bronze Valves for Abbot Suger’s Central Portal”

Thomas Waldman (University of Pennsylvania)
“The Date of Bibliothèque Mazarine, MS 2013, and Why Does It Matter”

Elizabeth A.R. Brown (The City University of New York Emerita)
“The Contents of Mazarine MS 2013 (and also Bibliothèque nationale de France, MS latin 12,710) and Why They Matter”

Break 3:30–4:00 pm

Session 4:00–5:30 pm

4. “Words and Misdeeds: The Ege Family’s Commitment to Manuscript Studies”

Moderator: Barbara A. Shailor (Yale University)

Raymond Clemens (Beinecke Library, Yale University)
“The ‘Family’ Portfolio: A Key to the Ege Collection”

Katherine Philbin (Simmons College)
“Picking Up the Pieces: How Fragmentology Saved the Day for LIS 464”

Lisa Fagin Davis (The Medieval Academy of America)
“IIF, Mirador, and Otto Ege: The Pedagogical Possibilities”

Reception 5:30–7:00 pm
Index of Christian Art

Demonstration/Display 5:30–7:00 pm
Seminar Room, Index of Christian Art

Exhibition 9:00–5:00 (Index opening hours) + 5:30–7:00 pm (Reception)

“Words and Deeds of Charles Rufus Morey at the American Embassy in Rome (1945–1950)”

A new exhibition, curated by Jessica L. Savage (Index of Christian Art), of materials in the Charles Rufus Morey Archive at the Index of Christian Art
Saturday, 26 March
106 McCormick Hall

Session 9:00–10:30 am


Moderator: Henry Schilb (Index of Christian Art)

Jessie Dummer (SIMS, University of Pennsylvania)
“OPenn: Digital Primary Sources hosted by Penn Libraries”

Dot Porter (SIMS)
“Collation: A Tool for Virtually Taking Apart Manuscript Books”

Lynn Ransom (SIMS)
“The New Schoenberg Database of Manuscripts”

Break 10:30–11:00 am

Round Table Discussion 11:00 am – 12:20 pm

“Fragments as Essence in the Recovery of Evidence”

Moderator: Beatrice E. Kitzinger (Department of Art & Archaeology, Princeton University)

Panelists:

Barbara Shailor (Yale University)
Lynn Ransom (University of Pennsylvania)
Pamela Patton (Index of Christian Art)
Lisa Fagin Davis (Medieval Academy of America)
Celia Chazelle (The College of New Jersey)
Mildred Budny (Research Group on Manuscript Evidence)

Concluding Remarks 12:20 –12:30 pm

Giles Constable (School of Historical Studies Emeritus, Institute for Advanced Study)

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