

D A M S L A B

EMPIRE OF ROLE MODELS?

CHAMPIONING AND CHALLENGING GLOBAL IDEALS IN THE EARLY MODERN IBERIAN WORLDS

Organized by Maria Vittoria Spissu (DAR, UNIBO)

Sponsored by Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions COMCON Project
and DAMSLab UNIBO

With the support of the Center for Renaissance Studies – The Newberry Library,
Chicago and the Center for Iberian Historical Studies – Saint Louis University

This symposium addresses the issue of global connections by focusing on the circulations of world views, distributed agency, the transformation of models, transcultural/transformative objects, nomadic ideals, utopian objects promising salvation, objects embodying conflicts or aspiring to heal division, weaponized objects, and images visualizing redemption, negotiation or idealized pacification.

It focuses on the globalizing networks that strove toward universal unity and the synergy generated by the imperial colonial system of sovereignty, hegemony, hierarchy, and local authorities. It explores role models, heroes, moralizing values, and normative virtues within Global Catholicism while embracing the rhizomatic/polyphonic reality that resisted controlling and unifying ambitions.

The symposium examines constellations of images and devotional cults, connected histories, the mobilization of knowledge and ideologies, the fabrication of ideas and narratives, and the imposition or contestation of ideals and social emotions within the Habsburg Empire in Europe, the Iberian Americas, Africa, and Asia during the Global Renaissance and the Global Baroque.

It considers ideas and objects representative of multiple places and communities, but it also aims to give a voice to images and stories that endeavored to escape such a totalizing perspective. This symposium investigates works and actions embedded within collective ideals while delving into objects and encounters/clashes that reveal distance and closeness, sharing and erasure, possession and resistance.

19 JUNE 2025, 10:30-17:30

20 JUNE 2025, 9:15-12:40

UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA
DIPARTIMENTO DELLE ARTI
PALAZZO MARESCOTTI

VIA BARBERIA 4
SALONE MARESCOTTI

ComCon
Communities of Concord



Funded by
the European Union

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No 101028785

Global Empires
GEAMCH
Artistic Mobilities
Connected Histories

 THE NEWBERRY



SAIN T LOUIS UNIVERSITY
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HISTORICAL STUDIES



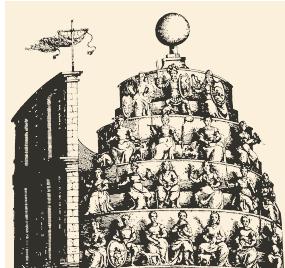
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D A M S L A B



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ComCon

Communities of Concord:
Building Contentment and Belonging
through Emotional Images
in Early Modern Europe and Beyond



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SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY
—
CENTER FOR IBERIAN
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19-20 JUNE 2025

Università di Bologna
Dipartimento delle Arti, Palazzo Marescotti
Via Barberia 4, Salone Marescotti

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THURSDAY, JUNE 19, SALONE MARESCOTTI

10:40-11:00 | Welcome & Opening Address

Maria Vittoria Spissu, Department of the Arts, University of Bologna

Marian Guerilla, Mines of Hearts, Giant Rhizomes, and Rivers of Idealized Pacification: 'A Brave New World'

Session 1 *Pioneering ~ Reframing ~ Envisioning*

Chair: Lia Markey, Center for Renaissance Studies, The Newberry Library, Chicago

11.00-11.20 | **Alessandra Russo, Columbia University, New York**

Ars in a Novus Orbis: Inceptions of a Newly Found Term

11.20-11.40 | **Shannah Rose, Institute of Fine Arts, New York University | American Academy in Rome**

Lorenzo Pignoria and the Remediation of Mexican Deities in Early Modern Rome

11.40-12.00 | **Vanessa A. Portugal, Trinity College Dublin**

A Cosmological Model from the New World. Reflections from Saint Augustin in the *Tierra Caliente* of Michoacán

12.00-12.20 | Q&A

12.30-14.10 | Lunch

Session 2 *Performing ~ Unfolding ~ Fabricating*

Chair: Alessandra Russo, Columbia University, New York

14.20-14.40 | **Marta Albalá Pelegrín, California Polytechnic State University, Pomona**

Empire on Display: Staging Iberian Monarchs in Papal Rome

14.40-15.00 | **Lia Markey, Center for Renaissance Studies, The Newberry Library, Chicago**

Urbano Monte's World Map in Spanish Milan: Materiality, Circularity, and Imagery

15.00-15.20 | **José Joaquín Araneda Riquelme, Università Roma Tre**

Colonial Objects on Board! Augustinian Agents and Political Communication from the Andes to Rome and Madrid (1640-1700)

15.20-15.40 | Q&A

15.40-16.00 | Break

Session 3 *Championing ~ Enlightening ~ Striving*

Chair: Christine Göttler, Universität Bern

16.00-16.20 | **Raphaële Preisinger, Kunsthistorisches Institut, Universität Zürich**

Constructing Missionary Heroism: The Martyrs of Japan in a Transcontinental Perspective

16.20-16.40 | **Antonin Liatard, Université Paris Nanterre**

Spotless Mirror and Jesuit Aesthetic Models between Spanish Netherlands and Latin America

16.40-17.00 | **Fernando Loffredo, Stony Brook University, New York**

Global Eruptions: New Devotions and the Ecologies of Fear across the Spanish Empire

17.00-17.20 | Q&A

FRIDAY, JUNE 20, SALONE MARESCOTTI

Session 4 *Melting ~ Refounding ~ Transforming*

Chair: Raphaële Preisinger, Kunsthistorisches Institut, Universität Zürich

9.20-9.40 | **Christine Göttler, Universität Bern**

Sites of Conversion: Rubens's Studio, the Antwerp Mint, and the Spanish Empire

9.40-10.00 | **Katherine Mills, Harvard University | Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz**

How to Recover from Disaster: Local Stonemasons Rebuild Cuzco in the Aftermath of the 1650 Earthquake

10.00-10.20 | **Francisco Montes González, Universidad de Sevilla**

Tempesta en México: Una interpretación iconológica de los enconchados de la Conquista

10.20-10.40 | Q&A

10.40-11.00 | Break

Session 5 *Challenging ~ Uprooting ~ Regenerating*

Chair: Marta Albalá Pelegrín, California Polytechnic State University, Pomona

11.00-11.20 | **Nicolás Kwiatkowski, Universidad de San Martín – CONICET | Universitat Pompeu Fabra**

Elephants, Drugs, Books and the Inquisition. García de Orta, from the Iberian Peninsula to Goa

11.20-11.40 | **Fabien Montcher, Center for Iberian Historical Studies, Saint Louis University**

El Arte Nuevo of Natural History: Revealing the Power of 'Local Nature'

11.40-12.00 | **Javier Patiño Loira, University of California, Los Angeles | I Tatti, The Harvard University Center for Italian Renaissance Studies**

A World Without Models: Truffles' Impossible Families in Early Modern Italy

12.00-12.20 | Q&A

12.20-12.40 | Closing remarks

Maria Vittoria Spissu, DAR – UNIBO

12.40 | Lunch