42nd Annual Medieval and Renaissance Forum

The Sense of Taste in the Middle Ages and the Renaissance

Friday, April 29 and Saturday, April 30, 2022

Keene State College, Keene, NH
Welcome

This welcome has been long coming. Since the early days of 2020, we have lived in the hope of being able to meet again in person soon, very soon, yet always disappointed, always seeing our desires and wishes remain just that. I have ended more emails than I care to recall with a longing “Hoping to see you soon!” Today, the pandemic may be far from over, but that long hoped-for day when we might get to see and hug each other once again has finally come. Here we are, a small, yet determined group braving an ever-mutating global virus to find solace and joy in each other’s conversation and ideas once again.

And so we begin anew, coming together to celebrate medieval and early modern culture, history, and literature. This is the fourth event to be dedicated to the exploration of the five senses in the Middle Ages and the Renaissance. After having devoted ourselves to sight, hearing, and smell in 2018, 2019, and 2021, we now turn to the sense of taste. Complementing last year’s keynote address on herbs and medieval gardens, our keynote speaker this year, Dr. Martha Carlin of the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee, will speak of the connection between medieval and early modern gardens and cuisine, a savory topic indeed.

The hybrid nature of this year’s event enables us to showcase the work of scholars from around the world. Scholars from Canada, Germany, Israel, and the United Kingdom, amongst others, will present on a variety of topics inspired by our conference’s focus on taste. Others will share their ongoing work on timeless medieval and early modern authors such as Geoffrey Chaucer, Thomas Malory, and William Shakespeare.

Lastly, I will simply note that I had to conclude last year’s welcome address by bemoaning the fact that we would not be able to partake of the merriment of the annual Feast due to ongoing COVID restrictions. This year sees us returning to this most beloved of Forum traditions: Saturday will indeed see many of us heading towards Norma Walker Hall in the Alumni Center. May we continue to do so for many, many decades to come.
FRIDAY APRIL 29, 2022

8:00 AM  Coffee and Registration: Morrison 109. Registration available throughout the day.

8:45-9:15 AM Opening Ceremonies, Susan Herman Room, Cohen Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies

Welcome by Meriem Pagès, Forum Director
Welcome by Melinda Treadwell, President of Keene State College
Opening Poem, Phil O’Mara, Poet Laureate of the Forum
Gaudeamus Igitur, everyone—led by Phil O’Mara

Friday Session I: 9:30 – 10:50 AM

Taste, Gluttony, and Sin
Moderator: Emily Robins Sharpe, Keene State College
Morrison 201

The Taste of Lust: The Case of the Dives’s Gluttonous Wife
Mazi Kuzi, Tel Aviv University

‘Food, glorious food’?: The Semiotics of Food Choice in Late Medieval Literature
June-Ann Greeley, Sacred Heart University

Psychosymbolism of the Demon Āz (mirrored in Žahḥāk) in the Shahnameh and Avaritia
(Characterized by Satan) in Paradise Lost
Davood Khazaie, Independent Scholar

Fourteenth-Century England
Moderator: Laura Barefield, University of Massachusetts—Lowell
Morrison 202

Gawain’s Pentangle as Apotropaic Symbol
Richard Firth Green, The Ohio State University

Virtues, Vice, Variety: A Paradox of Passion in Piers Plowman
Philip F. O’Mara, Bridgewater College, Emeritus
Friday Session II: 11:05 – 12:25 PM

Experiencing Food and Drink in the Middle Ages I
Moderator: Dena Hughes Arguelles, Kean University
Morrison 201

  Senses of Taste in the Household of Elizabeth de Burgh, Lady of Clare
  Jerome Gasson, University of Cambridge

  Able Sustenance in Japan during the Middle Ages, with Background
  Regina McIlvain, Independent Scholar

  A Taste of Mead across the Middle Ages and the Renaissance
  Laura Angotti, Independent Scholar

Chaucer
Moderator: Philip F. O’Mara, Bridgewater College, Emeritus
Morrison 202

  Gender, Poetics, and Fame in Troilus and Criseyde and the Aeneid
  Laura Barefield, University of Massachusetts—Lowell

  Chaucer’s Women and the Wife of Bath
  Brian Campbell, Independent Scholar

12:30 – 1:30 PM, Lunch, Susan Herman Room, Cohen Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies (Tickets Required)
Martha Carlin is Professor of History at the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee. Professor Carlin’s research focuses on medieval London and Southwark and on everyday life in medieval England, including food, work, shopping, letters, household technologies, and inns. In recent years, Professor Carlin has turned up new evidence concerning the lives of John Gower, Geoffrey Chaucer, and William Shakespeare. Currently, she is working on a book on the rise of inns in medieval England and a sourcebook of translations from the manières de langage (French language manuals written in England). She is the author of Food and Eating in Medieval Europe, Lost Letters of Medieval Life: English Society, 1200-1250, London and Southwark Inventories, 1316-1650: A Handlist of Extents for Debts, and, amongst many other articles and essays, “Why Stay at the Tabard? Public Inns and Their Amenities, c. 1400,” “The Bard at the Tabard,” and “The Senses in the Marketplace: Markets, Shops, and Shopping in Medieval Towns.”

6:00 – 7:00 PM Dinner, Susan Herman Room, Cohen Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies
SATURDAY APRIL 30, 2022

8:30 AM Coffee and Registration: Morrison 109. Registration available throughout the day.

Saturday Session III: 9:00 – 10:20 AM

Taste and Text
Moderator: Richard Firth Green, The Ohio State University
Morrison 201

Tasting Shakespeare: The Drama of Flavour across Shakespeare’s Work
Danielle Nagler, Bar Ilan University

Tasting as Text: Montaigne’s Alimentary Substance
Dorothy Stegman, Ball State University

Chicken Milk for the Soul: Hypertrop(h)y in the Medieval to Humanist Transit of the Nourishment Metaphor for Literature
Christopher Kuipers, Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Medieval France
Moderator: Miranda Hajduk, The Graduate Center, CUNY
Morrison 202

Heloise and Abelard: Tragic Love or Sexual Abuse?
Laura Marie Grimes, Independent Scholar

Loving the Queer: Queerness and Language Instability in Yde et Olive
Kyle Gaydo, Seton Hall University

Liquids in Le Livre de Caradoc: Water, Milk, and Vinegar
Geneviève Pigeon, Université du Québec à Montréal, Canada/Centre de recherche bretonne et celtique, France
Saturday Session IV: 10:35 – 11:55 AM

**Experiencing Food and Drink in the Middle Ages II**
Moderator: Rachael Warmington, Seton Hall University  
*Morrison 201*

- Global Spicery: Finding the Global in Medieval Cuisine  
  Angela Jane Weisl, Seton Hall University

- Sweets and Savories: What Tasted Good in Thirteenth-Century Languedoc  
  Wendy Pfeffer, University of Louisville and University of Pennsylvania

**Early Medieval England**
Moderator: Brinda Charry, Keene State College  
*Morrison 202*

- The Charter: John and Aethelstan, King of the English  
  Paulette Barton, University of Maine—Orono

- A History of Blame: Archbishop Wulfstan II and the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle  
  Nicholas Schwartz, University of New Mexico

**KSC Presents: Medieval Studies at Keene State College**
Moderator: Meriem Pagès, Keene State College  
*Morrison 203*

- Is There Disability or Race in the Middle Ages?  
  Keagan Watson, Keene State College

- Retribution Is Coming  
  Kiana Sconsoni, Keene State College

- The Function of Animal Symbolism in Medieval Literature: *Beowulf* and *The Mabinogion*  
  Kaitlyn Wilson, Keene State College

12:00 – 1:15 PM, **Lunch**. Susan Herman Room, Cohen Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies (Tickets Required)
Saturday Session V: 1:30 – 2:50 PM

**Taste and Healing**
Moderator: Dorothy Stegman, Ball State University
Morrison 201

- A Drink, Medication, or Perfume? Fragrant Beverages for Body and Mind
  Katarzyna Gromek, Independent Scholar

- What the Pandemic Fear Taught Me about Medieval and Our Continued Obsession (despite the Dangers and Tastes) of Preventative and Curative Medicinals
  Dena Hughes Arguelles, Kean University

**Malory**
Moderator: Forrest C. Helvie, Norwalk Community College
Morrison 202

- Gareth of Orkney: Against All Odds
  James Slocombe, Elmira College, Emeritus

- Malory’s Palomides: The Other as Arthurian Hero
  Peter Schwartz, Elmira College, Emeritus

- Arthur in France: Malory’s Handling of the Three Campaigns
  Gary LaPointe, Elmira College, Emeritus

**Entertainment and Pleasure in the Middle Ages**
Moderator: Paulette Barton, University of Maine—Orono
Morrison 203

- Culinary Labor as Drag in Late Medieval Recipes for Peacock Entremets, c. 1250-1550
  Eileen Morgan, University of Notre Dame

- Tripudium Is Not a Three-Step Dance; Carole Is Not a Round Dance: Visual Correctives for Misunderstood Medieval Dance Terms
  Donna La Rue, Independent Scholar
Saturday Session VI: 3:00 – 4:20 PM

Taste, the Divine, and the Other
Moderator: Eileen Morgan, University of Notre Dame
Morrison 201

Virginal Marvels: The Taste of Food and Feasts in Alfonso X’s Cantigas de Santa María
Brooke Adamski, Temple University

The Taste of God: A Reading of María de Ajofrín’s Mystical Experience through the Lens of Medieval Sensorial Theory
Alba Lara Granero, Brown University

From Panem to Pogrom: The Body of Christ and the Development of a Medieval Persecuting Society
Teagan Hudzik, Keene State College

Re-Imagining the Middle Ages
Moderator: Angela Jane Weisl, Seton Hall University
Morrison 202

Cooking King Arthur: The Medievalism of King Arthur Flour
Meriem Pagès, Keene State College

Populating Dungeons and Peopling Worlds: Navigating the Global Turn in Dungeons & Dragons
Miranda Hajduk, The Graduate Center, CUNY

From Swords to Lasers: The Evolving Arthurian Mythos in Comics and Graphic Novels
Rachael Warmington, Seton Hall University
MEDIEVAL FEAST

Norma Walker Hall

Centennial Hall

Alumni Center

Doors open at 6:00 PM

Tickets Required
SAVE THE DATE!

43rd Annual Medieval and Renaissance Forum

April 14-15, 2023
The Forum Advisory Board would like to thank the following people for their hard work and support of the Forum:

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