

Chivalry and Nobility in Medieval and Early Modern Art (Beersheba, 2 Jan 20)

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel, Jan 02, 2020

Deadline: Sep 15, 2019

Sharon Khalif-Gueta, Ben-Gurion university of the Negev

Images related to chivalry and nobility are found in medieval and early modern art in various contexts, formats, and settings. Whether representing real or fictional figures, portrayals of members of the nobility, heroes, and knights were rendered in accord with contemporary ideas on social structure, codes of behavior, and religiosity. In spite of the development of different versions of aristocratic hierarchy in the various societies around the Mediterranean and north of the Alps, notions of chivalry and nobility were usually influenced by a rich nexus of Roman imperial culture, theological concepts, secular texts, and court literature. Whereas some images evolved into a fixed and traditional iconography, there are deviations from that tradition that are of considerable interest. As most representations of socio-cultural supremacy in this era, images related to chivalry and nobility can imply a range of goals, political propaganda, and religious motivations.

We invite relevant papers from broad points of view that consider the contexts of the production, reception, and interpretation of such art. We encourage interdisciplinary studies that can shed new light on previously well-studied artworks as well as papers that deal with works that are relatively unexplored. Questions on the interplay between secular imagery and religious ideas, on rhetorical devices adapted from literature and applied in art, on the evolution of a mythological image from the antique period until pre-modern times, and on the role of those artworks as agencies in the social arena will be most welcome.

Suggested topics may include, but are not limited to:

- Nobility and Mythology
- Nobility and Gender
- Visual and Textual Sources
- Chivalry, Lineage, and Memory
- Armor and Warfare
- Chivalry, Nobility, and Sainthood
- Education and Socialization
- Chivalry, Animals, and Mythological Creatures

Keynote speaker: Dr. Karen Watts, Curator Emeritus at the Royal Armouries and Professeur de Patrimoine et Archaeologie Militaire at the Ecole du Louvre

The conference will take place on January 2, 2020, at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. Abstracts of no more than 250 words, for a 20 minutes paper to be delivered in English, should be

sent to Dafna Nissim (dafnani@post.bgu.ac.il) or Sharon Khalifa-Gueta (sharonkh@post.bgu.ac.il) no later than September 15, 2019.

Organizing committee: Dr. Sara Offenberg, Prof. Daniel Unger, Dr. Margo Stroumsa-Uzan, Ms. Dafna Nissim, Ms. Sharon Khalifa-Gueta.

Reference:

CFP: Chivalry and Nobility in Medieval and Early Modern Art (Beersheba, 2 Jan 20). In: ArtHist.net, Jul 13, 2019 (accessed Aug 2, 2025), <<https://arthist.net/archive/21347>>.