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Representations of animals in early modern Europe (Intersections 6, 2006)

J.L.

CALL FOR PAPERS

INTERSECTIONS. Yearbook for Early Modern Studies 6 (2006)

Call for Papers for volume 6
Representations of animals in early modern Europe

In the humanities, early modern zoology is still a little disclosed field of research. Therefore volume 6 of Intersections intends to present a discussion of the representation of animals in literary, pictorial and scholarly discourses, set against the background of the historical and material context of early modern Europe. How does man define his relation to the animal world? Which aspects are considered important, which are suppressed? Which scholarly, literary and pictorial conventions (rules of discourse) and parameters are involved in texts on and images of animals? How do such scholarly and literary conventions and preoccupations influence the ways in which animals are represented? Particular interest will be focused on contributions that cut across different areas of research or that trace long trends through different historical periods and that illuminate the different modes and functions of such representations.

When discussing scholarly and theological discourses the following matters are of special interest: the modification of old systems of classification and the creation of new ones, the development of anatomy and the discovery of the microscope, the increased interest in insects, scientific registration and artistic rendering of the fauna of the new world, the creation and organization of zoological collections (e.g. in the framework of the Wunderkammer) and menageries as precursors of the present day zoos, the relative position of man and animal in divine creation, changing ideas about the presence of a soul in animals, the changing perceptions of man's right and duty towards animals. Another field of inquiry is the extent to which scientific material and historical principles have influenced the representation of animals in literary and pictorial discourses. Possible topics in literature are the various genres of poetry, the novel, emblem literature, fables, proverbs or exempla miscellanies, sermons, contemplative writings, Physiologus; in book history: the disclosure of zoological texts through indexes, the

use of classification systems like chapters or paragraphs, the use of animal illustrations, the animal in cartography, the animal in the illustrated Pliny; in art history: the creation and use of model books; the functions of animal representations, differences in genre and media (painting, drawing, printmaking, sculpture); in history: the history of collecting dead and/or living animals, the keeping of domestic animals, hunting and its cultural settings, the different use of animals in different walks of life.

The volume is scheduled to appear in 2006. Proposals, about 300 words, should be sent to before june 15th 2004 to:

Karl Enenkel Institute of Classical Studies Department of Latin and Neo-Latin Literature University of Leiden P.O.Box 9515 2300 RA Leiden e-mail: K.A.E.Enenkel@let.leidenuniv.nl

<mailto:K.A.E.Enenkel@let.leidenuniv.nl>

tel.: 0031 71 - 5272668 or 0031 71 - 5414610

For more information on this volume please contact Karl Enenkel.

General Information on Intersections:

This series of publications brings together new material on well considered themes within the wide area of Early Modern Studies. Contributions may come from any of the disciplines within the humanities: history, art history, literary history, book history, church history, social history, history of the humanities, of the theatre, of cultural life and institutions. Each yearbook addresses a single theme and articles are selected for the freshness of their approach and for the extent to which they elucidate aspects of the theme of the volume. The themes are carefully selected on the basis of a number of criteria, the most important of which are that they should address issues about which there is a lively and ongoing debate within the international community of scholars and that they should be of interest to a variety of disciplines. Although it is to be expected that in each volume a fair amount of attention will be paid to the Low Countries, it is a matter of editorial policy that the theme of each yearbook will be approached with an eye to its European dimension.

General editor: Dr. Karl Enenkel Institute of Classical Studies Department of Latin and Neo-Latin Literature University of Leiden P.O.Box 9515

ArtHist.net

2300 RA Leiden

e-mail: K.A.E.Enenkel@let.leidenuniv.nl <mailto:K.A.E.Enenkel@let.leidenuniv.nl>

tel.: 0031 71 - 5272668 or 0031 71- 5414610

Editorial secretary: Dr. Jan L. de Jong
Institute for the History of Art and Architecture,
Groningen University,
P.O. Box 716,
9700 AS Groningen,
The Netherlands,
e-mail: J.L.de.Jong@let.rug.nl

tel.: 0031 50 - 3636091, fax: 0031 50 - 3637362

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