

## 1 Session at ICMS (Kalamazoo, 9–14 May 22)

ICMS Kalamazoo, May 9–14, 2022

Deadline: Sep 15, 2021

[icms.confex.com/icms/2022am/cfp.cgi](https://icms.confex.com/icms/2022am/cfp.cgi)

Erik Gustafson

"Encountering the Sacred in Medieval Italian Spaces"

Sponsored by the Italian Art Society at the 57th International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, 9-14 May 2022

Organized by Meredith Fluke & Erik Gustafson

Recent scholarship has increasingly attended to the spatiality of material objects, considering how paintings, sculpture, and manuscripts impact the viewer through both formal and ritual means. Moreover, the potential of objects to convey the sacred presence – whether that of a saint or of God – has been given a renewed emphasis through the anthropological turn in art history. Taken together, these approaches prompt a series of questions addressing broader spatial awareness for the localized relationships between places, objects, and the divine.

This session seeks papers which investigate how medieval Italian spaces impacted experiences of the sacred. How did Christians, Jews, and Muslims experience the sacred in the spaces of medieval Italy? In what ways did navigating through medieval religious spaces, homes, governmental spaces, streets and squares, or the countryside inform encounters with the sacred? Did the spatial setting carry ramifications for how different media manifested sacrality? Could space itself articulate a sense of the divine, either through architecture, the presence of sacred objects, or the wilds of nature? In what ways did gender, class, or wealth impact audiences' ability to engage in different spaces?

Please submit a 300 word proposal by September 15, 2021 through the online portal at:

<https://icms.confex.com/icms/2022am/cfp.cgi>

For any questions, please contact [mfluke@holycross.edu](mailto:mfluke@holycross.edu) and [egustafson.phd@gmail.com](mailto:egustafson.phd@gmail.com).

Reference:

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