

Seminar Series: Intersexuality in Pictures (online, 3 Nov 22–8 Jun 23)

online, Nov 3, 2022–Jun 8, 2023

Deadline: Apr 1, 2022

Prof. Carla Rossi

Our research centre has been organising an annual seminar on codicological topics since 2019, attracting students and experts from all over the world. For the academic year 22-23, we are organising a seminar on

INTERSEXUALITY IN PICTURES: GENDER FLUIDITY IN MEDIEVAL ILLUMINATED MANUSCRIPTS

Dates: The seminar will be held via Zoom every Thursday from 3 November 2022 to 8 June 2023 (taking into account intersemester breaks and various academic holidays).

Presentation: Despite what one might think, Middle Ages or, more generally, the premodern period, were quite familiar with the idea of 'gender fluidity' and with hermaphrodite and androgynous figures, as well as with a range of physiological aspects of sexualities that cannot easily and clearly be categorized in a bipolar system of male and female. Examining the concept of 'gender fluidity' during the Middle Ages means delving deep into the history of a fundamental notion in the Judeo-Christian society, in which our culture is embedded, i. e. the idea of intersex.

The following topics are requested:

- God with Our Lady's attributes
- The femininity of Christ (we do not accept interventions either on the Vagina Christi, or on Christ giving birth to the Church, topics that have been investigated at length at our research centre)
- Transgender Saints
- Transgender Monks
- The hermaphrodite Adam „... fecit ipsum masculofeminam“
- The iconography of queer characters in ancient French, Italian, German, English or Spanish literary texts of the Middle Ages
- The iconography of ambiguous bodies in medieval medical texts
- The iconography of ambiguous bodies in Canon and Roman law Mss
- Alchemical gender fluidity (such the Mercurial hermaphrodite)
- Hebrew manuscripts

Papers can be presented in English, French, Spanish and Italian.

Applications in one of these languages will be accepted until the deadline on the 1st of April 2022 to Prof. C. Rossi [info\(at\)receptio.eu](mailto:info@receptio.eu)

Further information: <https://www.receptio.eu/>

Reference:

CFP: Seminar Series: Intersexuality in Pictures (online, 3 Nov 22-8 Jun 23). In: ArtHist.net, Dec 13, 2021 (accessed Sep 16, 2025), <<https://arthist.net/archive/35531>>.