

Session at SCSC (31 Oct–1 Nov 25)

Portland, OR, Oct 31–Nov 1, 2025

Deadline: Apr 10, 2025

Sandra Cheng

Crafters of Laughter: Innovation in Early Modern Comic Imagery.

Sixteenth Century Society Conference.

Session Organizers: Sandra Cheng (NYC College of Technology) and Kimberlee A. Cloutier-Blizzard (Independent Scholar).

Seeking paper proposals on the artistry of comic representation in the Early Modern period. Humorous imagery has the potential to critique societal norms, behaviors, and institutions via the mode of satire; to foster community by finding common ground through comic laughter; to challenge stereotypes by presenting characters and situations in unexpected and unconventional ways; or to provoke through inappropriate or harmful visual references. This session explores how artists exploited the potential of comic subjects as means to display their own powers of invention by developing new humorous themes and/or by pushing the boundaries of propriety.

Optimally, we desire a range of papers related to all aspects of social class, the genres of portraiture and quotidian life, plus other still-to-be-identified aspects of comic representation. We welcome papers that address a variety of media: prints, drawings, paintings, etc. Topics might include—but are certainly not limited to—Comic Displays of Power and Authority; Self-Portraiture: the Artist as Comedian; Street Theater; and Popular Prints.

Proposals should include the author's name, professional affiliation, and contact information; the paper's title; a brief abstract (150 words or less); keywords; a one-page curriculum vitae; and any A/V requirements. Please send proposals to both organizers by April 10th for submission to SCSC: Sandra Cheng [Sandra.Cheng12@citytech.cuny.edu] and Kimberlee A. Cloutier-Blizzard [kimberlee.cloutier.blizzard@gmail.com].

Notification Date: late May

Reference:

CFP: Session at SCSC (31 Oct-1 Nov 25). In: ArtHist.net, Mar 16, 2025 (accessed Apr 30, 2025),

<<https://arthist.net/archive/44826>>.