

# Durham-Münster Workshop

1 - 2 November 2019, WWU Münster



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**Date:** Friday, 1 November 2019**Venue:** Fürstenberghaus, Domplatz 20-22, F 073

Time	Activity	Details
10:00	Welcome and introduction	Martin Kintzinger (Münster) Christian Liddy (Durham)
10:30	<b>Session 1: Knowledge</b>	Chair: Graeme Small Comments: Dembsky, Leonard
11:45	<b>Session 2: Visuality</b>	Chair: Colin Arnaud Comments: Guo, Jansen, Bühner
14:00	<b>Session 3: East and West</b>	Chair: Sita Steckel Comments: Durben, Harkes

**Venue:** Landesarchiv NRW, Abteilung Westfalen, Bohlweg 2

18:00	<b>Keynote</b>	Chair: Christian Liddy Speaker: Marcel Bubert
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**Date:** Saturday, 2 November 2019**Venue:** Fürstenberghaus, Domplatz 20-22, F 073

Time	Activity	Details
10:00	<b>Session 4: Protest and Rebellion</b>	Chair: Anne Heffernan Comments: Bader, Cronin, Kluger
11:45	<b>Session 5: Ideology and Propaganda</b>	Chair: Chris Courtney Comments: Miejluk, Norman, Meer
15:30	<b>Session 6: Guilds, Courts and Councils</b>	Chair: André Krischer Comments: Perna, Fausch
18:00	<b>Keynote</b>	Chair: Martin Kintzinger Speaker: Anne Heffernan

## Sessions

### Session 1: Knowledge

Chair:	Graeme Small
Comments:	Dembsky (Cronin), Leonard (Jansen)
James Cronin	John Flete's <i>History of Westminster Abbey</i> : Historical research in a late medieval English Benedictine monastery
Hanno Jansen	Elections of principals at medieval universities: A comparative study on European cultures of decision-making

### Session 2: Visuality

Chair:	Colin Arnaud
Comments:	Guo (Meer), Jansen (Norman) Bühner (Miejluk)
Marcus Meer	Loving It, Hating It: The Ambiguity of Urban Visual Culture in the Later Middle Ages
Matthew Norman	Indirect Evidence: The portrait project of John Bacon the Younger (1777-1859) through his writing
Antonia Miejluk	Identities in focus: Snapshot photography in the interwar Soviet Union

### Session 3: East and West

Chair:	Sita Steckel
Comments:	Durben (Bader), Harkes (Fausch)
Kathy Bader	John of Worcester and the Introduction of Arabic Science into England
Benedikt Fausch	Transformation of British-Persian relations, 1763-1841

## Session 4: Protest and Rebellion

Chair:	Anne Heffernan
Comments:	Bader (Perna), Cronin (Dembsky), Kluger (Leonard)
Antonia Perna	'Young as we are': Juvenile Patriotism and Identity in Revolutionary France, 1789-1794
Fergal Leonard	'Addicted to a Dacre': Leonard Dacre, the Rising of the North, and the Politics of Rebellion (1569 – 1570)
Kerstin Dembsky	Victims and Rebels: Anti-Semitism within the Context of Feminist Identity-Building in the Federal Republic of Germany from the 1970s to 1990s

## Session 5: Ideology and Propaganda

Chair:	Chris Courtney
Comments:	Miejluk (Bühner), Norman (Kluger), Meer (Guo)
Julia Bühner	What do we do about the 'constant instability of truth'? Ideologies and historiography in 20th century's Spain
Anne Kluger	'Slavic archaeology' and its ideological and political 'penetration'. The examples of Witold Hensel (PPR) and Joachim Herrmann (GDR)
Yundi Guo	'Berlin als die Hauptstadt der DDR': Anglo-GDR classical music communication in East Berlin's celebration of Berlin's 750th anniversary

## Session 6: Guilds, Courts and Councils

Chair:	André Krischer
Comments:	Perna (Durben), Fausch (Harkes)
Alexander Georg Durben	All by word of mouth? The role of written documents in oral courtroom proceedings before English courts of Common Law around 1800
Rachel Harkes	A Royal Connection: the influence of the Prince of Wales and the Council of the Marches on the Palmers' Guild of Ludlow

## Keynotes

Chair:	Christian Liddy
Marcel Bubert	The Order of Creatures. Perspectives on Human-Animal Relations in the European Middle Ages
Chair:	Martin Kintzinger
Anne Heffernan	Africanisation, Transformation, or Decolonization? Discourses of change at South African Universities, c. 1972-2016

## List of Participants

Arnaud, Colin	Jansen, Hanno
Bader, Kathy	Kintzinger, Martin
Bubert, Marcel	Kluger, Anne
Bühner, Julia	Krischer, André
Courtney, Chris	Leonard, Fergal
Cronin, James	Liddy, Christian
Dembsky, Kerstin	Meer, Marcus
Durben, Alexander Georg	Miejluk, Antonia
Fausch, Benedikt	Norman, Matthew
Guo, Yundi	Perna, Antonia
Harkes, Rachel	Small, Graeme
Heffernan, Anne	Steckel, Sita

## Staff participants

Dr **Colin Arnaud** has been lecturer at the University of Münster since 2016. He studied history and literature at the universities of Bielefeld (Germany), Paris 7 Denis Diderot (France) and Bologna (Italy). He wrote his doctoral thesis at the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin (Germany) about the social topography of Bologna and Strasbourg around 1400. He is now working on a research project about male weavers in the Middle Ages in Europe and the Middle East.

Dr **Marcel Bubert** is a medievalist with a strong interest in theories and intellectual history. His thesis, *Kreative Gegensätze*, was recently published in the Brill series *Education and Society in the Middle Ages and Renaissance* and deals with the use of philosophy which was extensively discussed between the scholastics at the university of Paris. Moreover, his research focuses on discourses of hypocrisy, conspiracy theories, cultural transfers and the relationship between humans and animals.

Dr **Chris Courtney** is a social and environmental historian of modern China. His monograph on *The Nature of Disaster in China*, considered the 1931 Central China Flood. He has published on a range of other topics including the (mis)management of disasters under Mao Zedong, the fate of environmental religion in modern China, and the impact of industrialization on urban fire. His current research focusses on the problem of heat in modern Chinese cities, using a combination of archival and oral history. This is part of a broader collaborative project with historians and other urban researchers in Singapore, India, and China, which is designed to examine the problem of urban heat islands in the past, present and future.

Dr **Anne Heffernan** is an historian of modern South and Southern Africa. Her work focuses on the role of students and young people in influencing political trends and changes, particularly during apartheid. She is especially interested in protest politics and the development of new forms of political ideology and practice. Her forthcoming book, *Limpopo's Legacy: Students & Democracy in South Africa* (Boydell & Brewer, 2019) explores many of these themes from a regional perspective. Her next project will consider the role of South African students in the late 20th century through a transnational lens.

Professor **Martin Kintzinger** works on the history of universities and knowledge, intellectual history, the history of international relations, foreign policy, and diplomacy and the beginnings of international law in the Middle Ages. He is professor of Medieval History at the University of Münster and President of the Gesellschaft für *Universitäts- und Wissenschaftsgeschichte*.

PD Dr **André Krischer** is a lecturer of British and Early Modern History at the University of Muenster. In the winter term 2019/20 he is a guest professor at the University of Frankfurt. He is interested in diplomatic, urban and legal history. His most publications include a history of English treason trials (1554-1848) and cultural history of treason from the antiquity to the present. Forthcoming are two books on the social practice of secular behaviour in London (1700-1900) and a microhistory of Anglo-Moroccan relations in the middle of the 18th century.

Professor **Christian Liddy** trained as an urban historian. He has written on relations between major provincial cities and the English crown during the Hundred Years War and on other kinds of semi-autonomous and privileged spaces, notably the palatinate of Durham, on which he wrote his second book. His most recent research project was

on the meanings of citizenship in late medieval English towns, leading to a third book, *The Politics of Citizenship*. He is currently developing a project on dynasties of urban elites.

Junior Professor **Sita Steckel** works on the cultural history of learning and religion. She has held positions at LMU Munich, WWU Münster, Harvard University and Oslo University. Currently she is Junior Professor for the History of the High and Late Middle Ages at Münster and a member of the excellence research centre „Religion and Politics. Dynamics of Tradition and Innovation“.

Professor **Graeme Small** has published books on Late medieval France and on Valois Burgundy, and has published also on late medieval Scotland and England. He is interested in political and historical culture in the late Middle Ages. Current projects concern vernacular chronicles (French), the origins and spread of town council minutes (Europe), and medievalism. He is now editing the new English translation of Johan Huizinga's *Herfsttij der Middeleeuwen* for Leiden University Press.

## Keynote Speakers and Abstracts

Marcel Bubert (Münster)

### **The Order of Creatures. Perspectives on Human-Animal Relations in the European Middle Ages**

In the last decades, human-animal relations have been a subject of contentious debates in various contexts. Particularly encouraged by the interdisciplinary efforts of the “human-animal studies”, historians have turned their focus to questions of animal agency, interactions between human and non-human animals as well as to perceptions and representations of animals in narratives or images. In philosophy and cognitive psychology, however, the discussion about the demarcation of animals and humans is especially related to fundamental challenges of traditional notions of the human mind by recent developments in neuroscience and artificial intelligence. In this context, the older concept of ‘mind’ is often seen in the light of two major traditions of European intellectual history, the Cartesian dualism of matter and mind and the theological doctrine of the (immortal) soul which is regarded as a relic of medieval theology that has been overcome by present-day scientific results. Contrary to what one might think, however, the perspectives of medieval authors on the human mind and the human nature were by far more differentiated and diverse, particularly insofar as the demarcation of humans and animals is concerned. The

intellectual dynamics between conflicting interpretations could lead to highly original views. With regard to these demarcations (and their criteria), my paper will analyse medieval “orders of creatures” in their specific social and epistemic contexts and discuss them against the background of contemporary debates.

Anne Heffernan (Durham)

### **Africanisation, Transformation, or Decolonization? Discourses of change at South African Universities, c. 1972-2016**

Since 2015 student protests on South African campuses have demanded the decolonization of the academy – by increasing access, and transforming both the professoriate and curricula. Student-led protest movements have criticized the current university system as being a relic of a white-dominated past. But a deeper look at the history of higher education in South Africa reveals that this generation of activists are not the first to raise many of the ideas now being articulated as decolonization. This paper considers the University of the North (Turfloop), one of South Africa’s historically black universities, where in the 1970s a battle over ‘Africanisation’ of the university was waged. Africanisation was a contested idea, and students, staff, and administrators differed over how it should be achieved. Language, leadership, philosophy, and politics were at the core of the debate. Adherents of Black Consciousness clashed with proponents of the quasi-independence provided by the Bantustan system. This paper explores debates around Africanisation at Turfloop, and their reflection of political contestations over apartheid itself during the mid-1970s. It considers the paths that were taken - and those that were not - and how understanding these may inform current debates on decolonizing South African universities.

## Speakers and Abstracts

Kathy Bader (Durham)

### **John of Worcester and the Introduction of Arabic Science into England**

In the early 12th Century, John of Worcester, a monk of Worcester, was one of the first scholars to own the newly translated Arabic scientific texts and to use them in his own writing. In this paper, John's work will be used to explore the reception of Arabic Science into England.

Julia Bühner (Münster)

### **What do we do about the 'constant instability of truth'? Ideologies and historiography in 20th century's Spain**

Francisco Franco was beside António de Oliveira Salazar the dictator with the longest rulership (1939-1975) in Europe. The influence of Francoism on academic research, instrumentalised to serve the goals of the regime, is a topic inevitable for every scholar working on Spanish history.

In the context of my dissertation project, the conquest of the Canary Islands and its impact on the development of international law, the long shadows of Francoist dictatorship reveal themselves in two ways. On the one hand did international legal historians from the 1930s onwards form a narrative that is still common in the history of international law. On the other hand, there are various distortions in the historiography on the Canary Islands. With my paper I would not only like to offer some explanations for these distortions on the background of Francoist ideology. I would also like to raise and discuss a broader question of interest: What are proper ways to handle politically-manipulated research?

James Cronin (Durham)

### **John Flete's *History of Westminster Abbey*: Historical research in a late medieval English Benedictine monastery**

This paper will focus on the historical writing of John Flete, a monk at Westminster Abbey between c.1422 and 1466. Flete's history is one of a number of historical texts that were composed in the Benedictine monasteries of late medieval England. This body of historical writing represents a new historiographical period that is distinguished from earlier traditions by a distinctive methodology employed by the

late medieval Benedictine historians in the writing, or rewriting, of the histories of their communities.

Kerstin Dembsky (Münster)

## **Victims and Rebels: Anti-Semitism within the Context of Feminist Identity-Building in the Federal Republic of Germany from the 1970s to 1990s**

In the past 30 years, research on antisemitism has focused increasingly on leftist politics as a study subject, to the extent that today, the West German student movement of 1968 and the political groups that succeeded it in particular, can be said to have been well documented. Studies conclude unanimously that after the Six-Day War between Israel and the alliance forces of Egypt, Jordan and Syria in 1967 a “reversal of opinions”<sup>2</sup> can be observed. Whereas the former pro-Arabic approach of West German society swung in favour of Israel, a large number of the previously pro-Israel radical leftists adopted a hostile stance towards Israel, seen now as a proponent of imperialism. However, within this abundance of research, the West German Women’s Movement, which developed from student protests, receives no mention. Therefore, my research project tasks itself with exploring if and in what way antisemitism can be traced within West German feminism from the 1970s to the beginning of the Third Wave in the 1990s, as well as answering questions such as: Was there a specific form of feminist antisemitism? And if so, what function did it fulfil? For this purpose, I analyse several feminist key works as well as journals from different groups such as anarchistic, theological, esoteric, ecological, and peace promoting ones. To evaluate the impact of the theory on the political practice this discourse analysis will be complemented by oral history interviews with Jewish feminists who were protagonists of the movement.

Alexander Georg Durben (Münster)

## **All by word of mouth?**

### **The role of written documents in oral courtroom proceedings before English courts of Common Law around 1800**

There is one custom observed in the English administration of justice, it is claimed in a letter to the editor published in *The Times* in 1788, which “has brought Great Britain to its present standard of eminence in Europe”: That English courtrooms “be open to every comer; and the reason is, that each person present may know in what manner justice is administered” (*William Williamson*, To the Editor of the Times, in: *The Times*, 14.08.1788, p. 1).

This contemporary perspective on juridical decision-making stresses the importance of the public oral proceedings central to a suit at Common Law: A spectator observing what is said and done in the courtroom, it is implied, is fully able to perceive how juridical decisions are made. But how is this particular episode in a lawsuit linked to other episodes in it, how are participants in courtroom interaction able to both build on the results of antecedent operations and provide a basis for subsequent operations in the suit?

This paper argues that, while public communication in the courtroom itself is strictly oral, written communication plays an important part in providing links to other episodes. This is explored by examining several types of documents used in or based on courtroom interaction, ranging from unobtrusive memory aids to written evidence presented in a demonstrative fashion and from unofficial reports to official recordings of results

Benedikt Fausch (Münster)

### **Transformation of British-Persian relations, 1763-1841**

The Ph.D. project aims to explain how and why British-Persian diplomatic practice changed between 1763 and 1841. Focusing on Persia, it enhances current research on the transformation of intercultural diplomacy circa 1800. Previous scholarship on the British-Persian relations has focused on the imperial policies of the European powers towards Persia. Therefore, it has generally neglected practices of symbolic communication, such as ceremonial interaction, gift-giving and letter-writing. By focusing on these everyday practices, the project highlights the status struggles of diplomats at the Persian court and thus examines the remodelling of diplomatic practice itself, rather than the shifting power relations between the two states.

Since the foundation of the East India Company's settlements in Persia in the early 17th century, Persian rulers treated British representatives as members of a local British trade community rather than as agents of an independent foreign power. When the British Government began to seek a political alliance with the Shah of Persia at the beginning of the 19th century, its representatives attempted to override the Persian image of the British as subordinate merchants by sending high-ranking diplomats to the Persian court. However, the ceremonial reception of envoys sent by the communities, tribes, and petty rulers that formed the Persian Empire was barely distinguishable from the reception of foreign diplomats. Thus, one of the project's main questions is how the British envoys managed to establish themselves as diplomats at the Persian court, as part of their aim to create state-level diplomacy with Persia.

Yundi Guo (Durham)

### **'Berlin als die Hauptstadt der DDR': Anglo-GDR classical music communication in East Berlin's celebration of Berlin's 750th anniversary**

This presentation focuses on Anglo-GDR classical music contacts on the occasion of the celebration of Berlin's 750th anniversary in East Berlin in 1987. Through looking at how different participatory actors such as political authorities, cultural institutions and musicians used this occasion for their own ends, I argue that Honecker's use of this celebration in boosting up East Berlin's international credibility as the GDR's capital achieved limited success among the British public.

Rachel Harkes (Durham)

### **A Royal Connection: the influence of the Prince of Wales and the Council of the Marches on the Palmers' Guild of Ludlow**

It was not unusual for large fraternities in medieval England to count among their members nobles who might be considered 'token' patrons. The Ludlow Palmers' Guild operated much in the same vein until their local lord, the Earl of March, became King Edward IV in 1461. Edward instituted his eldest son as Prince of Wales and set up a council in his name in Ludlow – a tradition that would continue under Henry VII, when his son Arthur moved to Ludlow in 1502. This paper charts the changing nature of the Palmers' Guild after the establishment of the Prince's council in Ludlow and the prolific membership of Arthur, his councillors and their households.

Hanno Jansen (Münster)

### **Elections of principals at medieval universities: A comparative study on European cultures of decision-making**

My Ph. D. project sets the decision-making during the election of a new head of university in the center of the analysis. The principal, who governed and represented the university, was – like other executive officers – chosen by election. As head of university, the election of the principal was the most important ballot. The modes, which framed the process of decision-making in the institutional context of the university, could vary. It is the aim of my study to bring out different practices of electing a principal and highlight connections between the different modes by a Europe-wide comparison. Working on the elections of principals, I hope for deeper

insights into the university self-government and a better understanding of the university as an institution of education, which was established in the high and late middle ages and still exists in our modern times.

In my study, I will focus on the different types of elections. Which ways of decision-making were possible in medieval universities? Furthermore, I will investigate other aspects, which are necessary to form a more precise picture of the complex process of electing. These aspects are the communication and the representation of the decision-making process – including the use of religious symbols – and the use of normative and cognitive resources. At last, I wish to include the results of the election into my considerations. Therefore, I want to compare the demands and expectations linked with the modes of election with selected examples, which represent the practical experience lived at the universities.

Anne Kluger (Münster)

### **‘Slavic archaeology’ and its ideological and political ‘penetration’. The examples of Witold Hensel (PPR) and Joachim Herrmann (GDR)**

When he is asked in 2008, whether the political and ideological environment during the communist period had any impact on his scientific activities, Polish prehistorian and medievalist Witold Hensel answers evasively: “Rather no”. While the current research on prehistory in the ‘Eastern bloc’ calls this statement into question, there is no sound basis for evaluation, since no in-depth study on ‘Slavic archaeology’, Hensel’s main research interest, in this context exists. In the communist regimes, ‘Slavic archaeology’ meant the historical-archaeological research on the supposed ‘Slavic people(s)’ in prehistorical and early medieval times. Although treating ‘the Slavs’ as a historically relevant category technically contradicted Marxist-Leninist premises, ‘Slavic archaeology’ received at times remarkable support by the communists – which points even more to the need for further research.

Therefore, my dissertational project exemplarily examines if, or respectively to what extent we can assume a political and ideological ‘penetration’ of ‘Slavic archaeology’ in communist Poland and East Germany. Two protagonists of this discipline – Witold Hensel (cited above) and Joachim Herrmann, who both held influential positions as heads of the prehistorical institutes at the Polish and East German academies of sciences – serve as case studies. By analysing Hensel’s and Herrmann’s scientific argumentations as well as their administrative activities, I aim to dissect and compare the interrelations and entanglements between scholarly work, politics, and ideology in the PPR and GDR. Furthermore, I intend to reflect on the general epistemological potential of this biographical-comparatist approach and thereby contribute to the theoretical-methodological discourse of the history of science.

Fergal Leonard (Durham)

### **‘Addicted to a Dacre’: Leonard Dacre, the Rising of the North, and the Politics of Rebellion (1569 – 1570)**

My paper will explore the rebellion of Leonard Dacre, who played an ambiguous and contradictory role in the Rising of the North (1569). Instead of broader social or religious change, Dacre was motivated by his ambition to reclaim his family’s ancestral estates. He was nevertheless able to raise a sizable force of local tenantry to fight against government forces at the Battle of Hell Beck (1570). By examining Dacre’s actions and his local following, my talk will explore popular agency and political participation in what has traditionally been understood as the last great feudal rebellion in England.

Marcus Meer (Durham)

### **Loving It, Hating It: The Ambiguity of Urban Visual Culture in the Later Middle Ages**

The late medieval city was a display area for a wide range of signs which communicated social status as much as claims to power. But while coats of arms, banners, badges, and liveries, for example, were cherished as outward expressions of identity, their presence also gave rise to conflicts that deepened or caused divisions. Looking at cities in the Holy Roman Empire, the Low Countries, and England, this talk will highlight this ambiguous nature of (urban) visual culture, which served not only as a mirror but as a tool of social, political, and religious discourses in the later Middle Ages.

Antonia Miejluk (Durham)

### **Identities in focus: Snapshot photography in the interwar Soviet Union**

This paper will examine snapshot photographs as a means of exploring processes of self-representation in the interwar Soviet Union. The paper will argue that surviving snapshot collections —largely neglected before now—can shed light on both the diversity of experience of Soviet life and the complex processes of identity-construction.

Matthew Norman (Durham)

### **Indirect Evidence: The portrait project of John Bacon the Younger (1777-1859) through his writing**

Other than being described as a ‘record of friendship’, Bacon’s extensive portrait project generated only limited textual evidence. Despite this, the artist left a large and diverse body of written work, and this paper examines how these indirect sources might help frame the context in which the portraits functioned.

Antonia Perna (Durham)

### **‘Young as we are’: Juvenile Patriotism and Identity in Revolutionary France, 1789-1794**

This paper explores children and adolescents’ conceptions of their place in society, in Revolutionary France. Using juvenile public speeches in local and national assemblies and festivals, I discuss how they expressed various layers of identity—based on age, gender and citizenship—and how these intersected. How did these complex conceptions of identity influence juvenile expressions of patriotism and engagement in civic life? To what extent did youths absorb adult ideas about childhood and their roles in society? How did they understand and utilise their affective power as children? These questions speak to problems of agency in the history of childhood, and contribute to our understanding of French Revolutionary citizenship.