Organizer

Thomas Cummins (Harvard University)

This conference brings together scholars from different disciplines to analyze the economic and artistic values of gold and their place in the interconnected world of Early Modern European, African, Asian and American cultures. Although gold is recognized as a "beguiling" universal equivalent as recently discussed by Zorach and Phillips (2016), the values of gold are also historically specific. The early modern world represents one of gold's crucial transformative moments when its various meanings and roles were reaffirmed and/or transformed. The focus of the conference will be on articulating specific instances of the shifting uses, roles, and values of gold within the artistic, economic and symbolic arenas of world cultures. Changes as well as continuities in local cultures are in part conditioned by new global contacts that are sustained by gold's importance within imperial ambitions and mercantile capitalism.



GOLD

THE UNIVERSAL EQUIVALENT OF GLOBAL DREAMS, DESIRES, ARTS, AND VALUES IN EARLY MODERN HISTORY



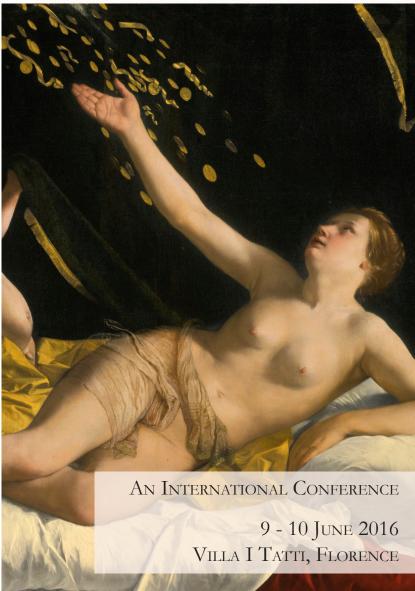
This conference is open to the public with no charge

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Front Cover image: Orazio Gentileschi, *Danaë (detail)*, c. 1621 Back Cover image: Inca *Gold Llama*, c. 1400 - 1550

Inside image: *Textile, c.* 1370 - 1430, Venice © Victoria and Albert Museum, London



THURSDAY, 9 JUNE 2016

Introductory Remarks

09.45 Alina Payne (Director, Villa I Tatti)
Thomas Cummins (Harvard University)

Gold in the Arts of Renaissance Italy

Chair: Estelle Lingo (Villa I Tatti, University of Washington)

10.00 Carlo Taviani (Istituto Storico Germanico di Roma)

The Genoese and Gold During the Renaissance

10.30 Anne Dunlop (University of Melbourne)

On Gold and Goldbacks

11.00 *Coffee*

11.30 Cecilia Frosinini (Opificio delle Pietre Dure)
The Gold Experience in Italian Artisan
Tradition between the Middle Ages and the
Renaissance in Florence

12.00 Discussion

13.00 Buffet lunch

16.00

Discussion

The Circulation of Gold in the Arts of the World

Chair: Hannah Baader (Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz)

14.30 Craig Clunas (Oxford University)

Gold: a Mongol Legacy in Ming China?

15.00 Suzanne Preston Blier (Harvard University)

Gold! Art and the African Trade

15.30 Kris Lane (Tulane University)
In the Shadow of Silver: The Gold of New Granada under the Habsburgs





FRIDAY, 10 JUNE 2016

The Magic and Science of Gold

Chair: Paola D'Agostino (Museo Nazionale del Bargello)

10.00 Chiara Crisciani (Università degli studi di Pavia)

Oro potabile tra alchimia e medicina (secoli XIII-XV)

10.30 Noam Andrews (Harvard University)
"Mysterium Cosmographicum": Johannes Kepler's
Gold Rush

11.00 *Coffee*

11.30 Yukio Lippit (Harvard University)

The Emergence of the Gold Screen in 16th/17th

Century Japan

12.00 Discussion

13.00 Buffet lunch

The Geo-Religious Politics of Gold in Spain and the World

Chair: Carl Strehlke (Philadelphia Museum of Art)

14.30 Abigail Balbale (Bard Graduate Center)

Gold, Islam, and the Spanish "Reconquista"

15.00 Maria Lumbreras (Johns Hopkins University)

Luminous Relics: Material Mimesis in the Early Modern
Iberian World

15.30 Thomas Cummins (Harvard University)
"By means of Gold even the doors of paradise can be opened to the soul:" God's golden mines in America and what they wrought in Early Modern Images and Texts

16.00 Discussion