

NEW ENGLAND RENAISSANCE CONFERENCE

BOSTON COLLEGE

Friday & Saturday, October 29-30, 2021

2101 Commonwealth Ave, Brighton, MA 02135

(BC Conference Center, next door to McMullen Museum)



(Still life by Anon 17th-cent. Leiden artist, Alte Pinakothek, Munich)

"Pandemics and Renaissances"

Humanity as a whole has faced an especially challenging past year (and more), and it seems fitting to approach this autumn's reconvening of NERC as an opportunity to reflect on the different ways that pandemics have affected both physical life and the life of the mind, then and now.

NERC-2021 will begin on Friday at 5 pm. with a KEYNOTE LECTURE, under the auspices of the Annual Josephine von Henneberg Lecture Series in Italian Art. Reception to follow; lecture details & RSVP information coming soon.

On Saturday, we envision a two-part structure for the conference day: in the morning, a roundtable discussion of Covid-19's impact on our scholarship, followed by a general conversation on this theme with all attendees; then, in the afternoon, two panels featuring more traditional scholarly papers drawn from research that presenters have managed (somehow!) to develop during the pandemic. While papers for the afternoon session could focus on any Renaissance-era topic, we would especially welcome submissions that reflected in some fashion on the problematics of disease, medicine and healing, or the formation of community across distances and physical barriers.

Those interested in speaking at the morning ROUNDTABLE (i.e., sharing their experience of how the pandemic has affected their research), please send a CV and brief summary (ca. 100 words) of your proposed contribution. Those interested in presenting a PAPER in the afternoon, please send a CV and an abstract (ca. 200 words). Send materials to: mormando@bc.edu by Sept. 7th. (If you submitted a proposal to the cancelled 2020 NERC, you would need to re-send it.)

On Saturday, a continental breakfast, lunch, & afternoon refreshments will be served. There is no registration fee or other charges; but pre-registration will be required. Free parking nearby. Registration instructions & detailed conference schedule will be forthcoming.

BC Organizing Committee: Stephanie Leone (stephanie.leone@bc.edu), Sarah Gwyneth Ross (sarah.ross@bc.edu), Franco Mormando (mormando@bc.edu)