The Sensual World of Late-Medieval Nuns

Working Group “Extraordinary Sensescapes”
October 26-30, 2015
Ebстorf, Wienhausen, Lüne, Gnadenberg, Altomünster
The Sensual World of Late-Medieval Nuns
Symposium Kloster Ebstorf and Birgittenkloster Altomünster
October 25–30, 2015

Organized by Volker Schier, Corine Schleif, and Karin Strinnholm Lagergren

Supported through a grant from Riksbankens Jubileumsfond

Participants

Dr. Mia Åkestam
Art history, Stockholm University
Feel the Heat of the first Days of August - A Discussion of Sensory Experiences and Perception of Space based on Nils Ragvaldsson’s (Nicolaus Ragvaldi) Eyewitness Account in the Narrative of the Enshrinement of St. Katarina of Vadstena in 1489.

Geeske Bakker, M.A.
DeRode3D, Utrecht
Art historian, literary historian, 3D designer of historic buildings
Story Telling – By all Means

Stratton Bull, M.A.
Alamire Foundation, Leuven
Musicologist and singer
Reconstructing Past Sounds. A Performers View

Prof. Dr. David Burn
Musicology, Leuven University und Alamire Foundation, Leuven
Historically Informed Performance and Recovering Lost Soundscapes: Maximizing Gain and Limiting Loss in Recreating the Cantus Sororum

Bevin Butler Blair, M.A.
Ph.D. candidate
Art history, Arizona State University
Sounds of Silk and Wool: An Investigation into the Acoustic Effects of Textiles in Birgittine Monasteries

Ing. Stefan Lindgren
Research Engineer, Humanities Lab, Lund University
3D-Technology in Cultural Heritage: Acquisition, Analysis and Visualization of 3D-Data
Dr. Eva Lindqvist Sandgren
Art history, Uppsala University
Aspects on Light, Sound, Motion and Smell inside the Area Circumscribed by the Iron Grill – Multisensory Aspects on the Pilgrims’ Space in Vadstena Abbey Church

Dr. Magali Ljungar Chapelon
Instructor in Research Methodology, Malmö Academy of Music Lund University
3D design, designer of virtual rituals, choreographer
Virtual Bodies in Ritual Procession.
Towards New Artistic and Interactive Experiences for Time Travelers

Aino Lund Lavoipierre
Singer, Ensemble Gemma, Malmö
Florilegium Birgittae - Music for Office and Mass from the Birgittine Tradition

Prof. emer. Dr. Tore Nyberg
History, University of South Denmark, Odense
Early Interpretations of St. Birgitta’s Design of Church Architecture. Why Were Pirita, Maribo, Marienbrunn, Gnadenberg and Vadstena Planned and Constructed the Way They Are?

Lena Palm
Singer, Ensemble Gemma, Stockholm
Florilegium Birgittae - Music for Office and Mass from the Birgittine Tradition

Jan de Rode, M.A.
DeRode3D, Utrecht
Architectural historian, artist and 3D designer of historic buildings
Evoking the Past through a Virtual Reconstruction of Architecture

Dr. Volker Schier
Institute for Humanities Research, ASU
Musicology
Perceiving Past Perceptions: Combining Testimonia from the Past and Multimedia Technology of Our Day to Explore the Multisensory Environment of a Birgittine Monastery

Prof. Dr. Corine Schleif
Art history, Arizona State University
Speculations on the Multisensory Aspects of (Birgittine) Nuns’ Processional Liturgy in the Cloister: Sights, Sounds, Smells, Synaesthesia – Memory and Mirror Neurons

Prof. Dr. Jane Schulenburg,
History, University of Wisconsin, Madison
Women’s Monasticism and Sacred Space
Anders Sjöström
System Administrator, Mechanical Engineering, Lund University
Real-time Auralization through Acoustic Raytracing - Current Status and Future Prospects

Dr. Karin Strinnholm Lagergren
Alamire Foundation, Leuven; Linnaeus University, Kalmar; director, Ensemble Gemma
New Wine in old Wine skins - What is Unique about the Birgittine Liturgy?
and
Florilegium Birgittae - Music for Office and Mass from the Birgittine Tradition

Michelle Urberg, M.A.
Ph.D. candidate, musicology, University Chicago and instructor, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
How would they Experience the Office on a Feast Day? - The Symbolic Sites, Sounds, and Experiences of the Virgin Mary’s Compassion and Assumption

Dr. Hilkka-Liisa Vuori
Church musician and singer, Sibelius-Academy, Helsinki
Sound and space - Workshop in singing of Cantus sororum

Edmund Wareham, M.A.
Ph.D. candidate, University of Oxford
Spices and Saffron: Sensing the Sacred in a Late Medieval German Cistercian Convent
Schedule

25 October 2015, Sunday

Arrival of participants at Stresemann Institut in Bad Bevensen

26 October 2015, Monday

9:00 Board bus for Ebstorf
9:30 Greetings and introductions, tour of the monastery: cloister, stained glass windows, other monastic buildings, and objects. Remarks about the Ebstorfer Weltkarte by Abbess Erika Krüger

10:30 Coffee break

11:00 Keynote presentation with subsequent discussion
Tore Nyberg: Early Interpretations of St. Birgitta’s Design of Church Architecture. Why Were Pirita, Maribo, Marienbrunn, Gnadenberg and Vadstena Planned and Constructed the Way They Were?

12:00 Anders Sjöström: Real-Time Auralization through Acoustic Raytracing. - Current Status and Future Prospects

12:30 Lunch at Café am Kloster Ebstorf

13:30 Karin Strinnholm Lagergren: New Wine in Old Wine Skins - What is Unique about the Birgittine Liturgy?

14:00 Re-enactment and discussion of a procession in the cloister with processional chants performed by the ensemble Gemma

14:30 Corine Schleif: Speculations on the Multisensory Aspects of Birgittine Nuns' Processional Liturgy in the Cloister: Sights, Sounds, Smells, Synaesthesia – Memory and Mirror Neurons

15:00 Magali Ljungar Chapelon: Virtual Bodies in Ritual Procession

15:30 Coffee break

16:00 Jane Schulenburg: Wondrous to Behold: Medieval Nuns, Embroideries, Relics, and Objects of Gold

16:30 Eva Lindqvist Sandgren: Aspects on Light, Sound, Motion and Smell Inside the Area Circumscribed by the Iron Grill - Multisensory Aspects on the Pilgrims' Space in Vadstena Abbey Church

17:00 Michelle Urberg: How Would they Experience the Office on a Feast Day? - The Symbolic Sites, Sounds, and Experiences of the Virgin Mary's Compassion and Assumption

ca. 18:30 Re-enactment of a procession in the dark cloister and subsequent discussion
20:00 Dinner at Stresemann Institut, Bad Bevensen

27 October 2015, Tuesday
Bus trip to Wienhausen and Lüne

8:30 Board bus
10:00 Kloster Wienhausen
   Tour of monastery, cloister, nuns’ gallery, furnishings, textiles and objects led by
   Max Frhr von Boeselager, restorer at the Klosterkammer Hannover

13:00 Board Bus
   The Stresemann Institut will provide boxed lunches to be eaten on the road

15:00 Kloster Lüne
   Tour and discussion on the nuns’ platform, cloister, and museum

18:00 Dinner Kloster Lüne

22:00 Stratton Bull: Reconstructing Past Sounds. A Performers View
22:30 Bevin Butler Blair: Sounds of Silk and Wool: An Investigation into the Acoustic
   Effects of Textiles in Birgittine Monasteries

28 October 2015, Wednesday
8:15 Bus transfer from Ebstorf to south Germany

14:30 Dinner near Gnadenberg

16:30 Tour of the Birgittine ruins in Gnadenberg
   Discussion about the plan of the cloister and location of the nuns’ platform

20:00 Arrival at Birgittenkloster Altomünster

20:30 Supper in Altomünster

29 October 2015, Thursday
9:00 Volker Schier: Perceiving Past Perceptions: Combining Testimony from the Past
   and Multimedia Technology of Our Day to Explore the Multisensory Environment
   of a Birgittine Monastery

9:30 Mia Åkestam: Feel the Heat of the first Days of August - A Discussion of Sensory
   Experiences and Perception of Space, Based on Nils Ragvaldsson’s (Nicolaus
   Ragvaldi) Eyewitness Account in the Narrative of the Enshrinement of St.
   Katarina of Vadstena in 1489
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<td>Viewing and studying of liturgical manuscripts in Altomünster</td>
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<td>Concert by Gemma in the Monastery Church</td>
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