

# Texas Medieval Association

## 33rd Annual Conference



Southern Methodist University  
Dallas, Texas

Saturday, September 23, 2023



## Texas Medieval Association

**Conference Organizer:** Bonnie Wheeler (SMU; President, TEMA)

**Co-Organizer:** Donald Kagay (UD, Vice President, TEMA)

**SMU Medieval Assistant and Web Wonderworker:** Chloe White

This 33rd annual meeting of TEMA revives our tradition of in-person conferences. This matches our original and primary purpose of bringing together students and scholars in Texas who focus on medieval studies. Our presenters this year range from dedicated high-school students to independent scholars to revered retired faculty who continue to push the intellectual boundaries of our humanistic fields. We have traditional conference sessions (papers not to exceed 15 minutes each), reading of imaginative works-in-progress, and “Roundups” (in honor of our Texas heritage) that examine the state of a particular question relevant to us and medieval studies. These various panels give participants a chance to collaborate and converse in ways not typically associated with academic conferences.

TEMA is especially indebted to the SMU Provost’s Office for support. In particular, we express our gratitude to our Associate Provost for Faculty Success, Professor Paige Ware, who took this conference under her capacious and thoughtful wings. Without her commitment, the conference literally would not have been possible. All participants are invited to SMU’s Bridwell Library in the Perkins School of Theology for luncheon generously sponsored by the Bridwell Director, Dr Anthony Elia, to whom we also offer our thanks. We are grateful to SMU’s English Department, and its chair Professor Richard Bozorth, for providing significant funding for our meeting, including the sponsorship of The Gilbert Lecture, under which aegis Professor Irina Dumitrescu gives our plenary lecture. Our sole Medieval Studies staff member and recent SMU graduate, Chloe White, has worked tirelessly on our conference and all its moving parts. She is not just an assistant, she is a wonder (web) worker.

Thank you for your current and continued participation in TEMA.

*Bonnie Wheeler*

*TEMA President*

*Director of Medieval Studies, SMU*

# Conference registration in Dallas Hall Room 137

**9:00 A.M. - 10:30 A.M.**

## Session 1: Wild Wests

**Room:** 120 Dallas Hall

**Chair:** Donald Kagay (History, University of Dallas)

**“Why Baldric of Bouraueil’s *Historia Ierosolim* Still Matters”**

Paul E. Chevedden (History, UT Austin)

**“The Wild West in Tarraconesis: Themes in its Medieval History that Resonate with the American West”**

Lawrence J. McCrank (Medieval-Early Modern History, Emeritus, Chicago State University)

**“The Inquisition and the New World: A Lasting Legacy in the American Southwest”**

Isaac Amon (Jewish Heritage Alliance, St. Louis)

## Session 2: The Japanese Court in *Genji monogatori*

**Room:** 157 Dallas Hall

**Chair:** Jo Goyne (English, Southern Methodist University)

**“‘...her sins, of which there were many’: Women and *kegare* in *The Tale of Genji*”**

Rosanne Brooks (English, SMU)

**“Genji Sees Through a Screen: Vision, Gender, and Material Culture in *The Tale of Genji*”**

Laura Martin (Art History, SMU)

**“Wordlessness in Genji: Framing the Kumogakure Chapter”**

Marimac McRae (English, SMU)



9:00 A.M. - 10:30 A.M.

### Session 3: Art, Identity, and Race

**Room:** 138 Dallas Hall

**Chair:** Janis Elliott (Art History, Emerita, Texas Tech)

**“Medieval Tattoos as Markers of Racial and Cultural Identity”**

Katharine Scherff (Art History, Texas Tech)

**“A New Proposal for the Identification of Three Black African Figures in an Adoration Scene”**

Elis Livia Coughlin (Art History, Rice University)

**“The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: Giotto’s Arena Chapel as a Lesson in Physiognomic Viewing”**

Theresa Flanigan (Art History, Texas Tech)

### Session 4: The Force of the Feminine

**Room:** 156 Dallas Hall

**Chair:** Lorraine Stock (English, University of Houston)

**“Water as a Feminine Force: An Eco-Feminist Reading of Chrétien’s *Yvain*”**

Caroline Womack (Independent Scholar)

**“Mary the Egyptian Monster”**

Meg Cotter-Lynch (English, Southeastern Oklahoma State University)

**“St. Margaret of Scotland’s Favorite Book: A Biographical Source?”**

Katie Keene (Independent scholar)



**10:30 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.**

## **Session 5: New Historiographies**

**Room:** 120 Dallas Hall

**Chair:** Kathryne Beebe (History, University of North Texas)

**“Political Fragmentation in Post-Roman Western Britain”**

Hayden Murphy (History, University of North Texas)

**“The Paganism in Christianity”**

Cat Williams (History, University of North Texas)

**“The Black Death after Covid-19: New Scholarly Directions”**

Bianca Lopez (History, Southern Methodist University)



## **Session 6: Literary Cunning and Connections**

**Room:** 157 Dallas Hall

**Chair:** Lorraine Stock (English, University of Houston)

**“Covetise, Langland, Language: The Deadly Sin of Lying in *Piers Plowman*”**

Joshua R. Held (English, Southeastern Oklahoma State University)

**“Richard Coer de Lyon’s Great Cunning: Affective Manipulation through the *Sotilte*”**

Kelly Evans (Library, University of North Texas)

**“The *Qiyān* in the *Libro de los juegos* (RBME Ms. T-I-6) of Alfonso X el Sabio: Castilian Connections with Muslim Courts in the Thirteenth Century”**

Alexandra Montero Peters (History, Texas State University)

10:30 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

**Session 7: *Bisclavret* and Monster Theory****Room:** 156 Dallas Hall**Organizer:** Jennifer Boulanger (English, Hockaday School)**Chair:** Stephanie Amsel (English, SMU)**“Towards Equity in Infamy: Monstrous Double Standards in *Bisclavret*”**

Ava Shipp (Hockaday School)

**“Monster Metamorphosis: *Bisclavret* and the Transformative Powers of Love”**

Jessica Chung (Hockaday School)

**“How to Escape Infamy: *Bisclavret*’s Advocacy for Subservience”**

Harper Tagg (Hockaday School)

**8: ROUND UP: Come and participate****“No more term papers! Alternative assignments for the postmodern classroom”****Room:** 138 Dallas Hall**Katherine Scherff** (Art History, Texas Tech): with **Scott Hendrix** (History, Carroll University), **Elizabeth Ranieri** (Art History, UNT), and **Charles Wuest** (SMU)

**12:15 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.**

## Luncheon at the Bridwell Library

Address: 6005 Bishop Boulevard

Graciously provided by Dr. Anthony Elia, Director of SMU's Bridwell Library

Readings by Adam Jones (Independent Scholar) from his upcoming book *The Once and Future Idiot* (expected release early 2024), and by Jennifer Boulanger (Hockaday School) from her upcoming book *The Knight of the Cart*.

**2:15 P.M. - 3:50 P.M.**

## Session 9: “AI and the Medieval Classroom”

**Room:** 120 Dallas Hall

### “Digital Pedagogies and Medieval Studies”

Kathryne Beebe (History, UNT)

**Round Up with Craig M. Nakashian** (History, Texas A&M University-Texarkana): with **Kyle Lincoln**, (History, Southeast Oklahoma State University), **Erica Buchberger** (History, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley), and **Kathryne Beebe** (History, UNT)



2:15 P.M. - 3:50 P.M.

**Session 10: Reshaping Emptiness in Medieval Iberia****Room:** 157 Dallas Hall**Chair:** Stephanie Amsel (English, SMU)**“Reshaping the Image of the Fornicating Sacristan”**

Paul Larson (Spanish, Baylor University)

**“The Song Remains the Same: Authorial Intent/  
Justification in the *Libro de duen amor* and *Celestina*”**Connie Scarborough (Classical and Modern Languages  
and Literatures, Texas Tech University)**“Urbano-Centrism in Clavijo’s *Embassy to Tamerlane*”**Michael Harney (Spanish & Portuguese / Comparative  
Literature, University of Texas at Austin)**“Royal Celebrities and Tabloid Journalism in Late  
Medieval Iberia”**Samuel Sánchez y Sánchez (Hispanic Studies,  
Davidson College)**Session 11: Old English****Room:** 138 Dallas Hall**Chair:** Dennis Kratz (University of Texas at Dallas)**“Alexander’s (Un)Doomed Companions in the Old  
English *Orosius* and Alexander’s Letter”**

Brian McFadden (English, Texas Tech)

**“Wealhpēow’s Force and Rokujo’s Revenge: Women’s  
Agency in Early Medieval Literature”**

Genevieve McDonald (English, SMU)

**“Reading *Beowulf* in the Post-George-Floyd Era”**

Joel Najera (English, SMU)

**“*Beowulf* in Plague-Time”**

Alexi Decker (English, SMU)

**“A Humble Redemption: Unferth’s Anticlimactic  
Journey in *Beowulf*”**

Kaleigh Langston (English, SMU)

2:15 P.M. - 3:50 P.M.

## Session 12: Medieval Law and its Afterlife

**Room:** 156 Dallas Hall

**Chair:** Bruce C. Brasington (History, West Texas A&M University)

**“Old Ivo: A Pre-Gratian Canonist’s Works in the Religious, Legal, and Political Treatises of Tudor-Stuart England”**

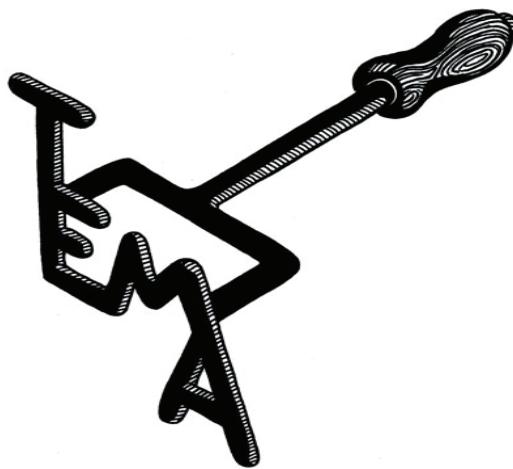
Bruce C. Brasington, (History, West Texas A&M University)

**“Late Thirteenth Century English Legality Making the Transatlantic Voyage: Did *Fleta* Influence the Formation of Common Law in Early Colonial America?”**

John Gooch (University of Texas at Dallas)

**“The Great Victory of Jaime II Over the Aragonese Union, 1300–1301”**

Donald J. Kagay (History, University of Dallas)





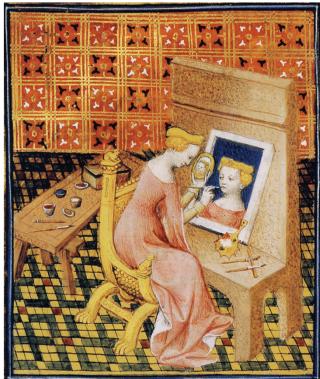
# Texas Medieval Association 2023 Plenary Speaker

## Medieval Divas: The Medieval Prehistory of Celebrity

Irina Dumitrescu

University of Bonn

4 p.m. in Dallas Hall 306



Sponsored by the Gilbert Lecture Series, SMU Department of English

**Post-Lecture:** Business Meeting of TEMA and Election of  
Executive Committee

# DESPEDIDA

## Si Tapas Restaurant

**Address:** 2207 Allen St, Dallas, TX 75204

### Directions from Dallas Hall

1. Head south toward University Blvd
2. Turn left onto University Blvd
3. Turn left onto Airline Rd
4. Continue onto Daniel Ave
5. Turn left onto Hillcrest Ave for 1.2 miles
6. Turn left onto Harvard Ave
7. Continue onto Carlisle Street
8. Slight left onto Allen St
9. Continue on McKinney Ave
10. Turn left onto Allen St. (Si Tapas located on right)



**Thank you for attending TΕMH 2023!**

Visit the **SMU Meadows Art Museum**

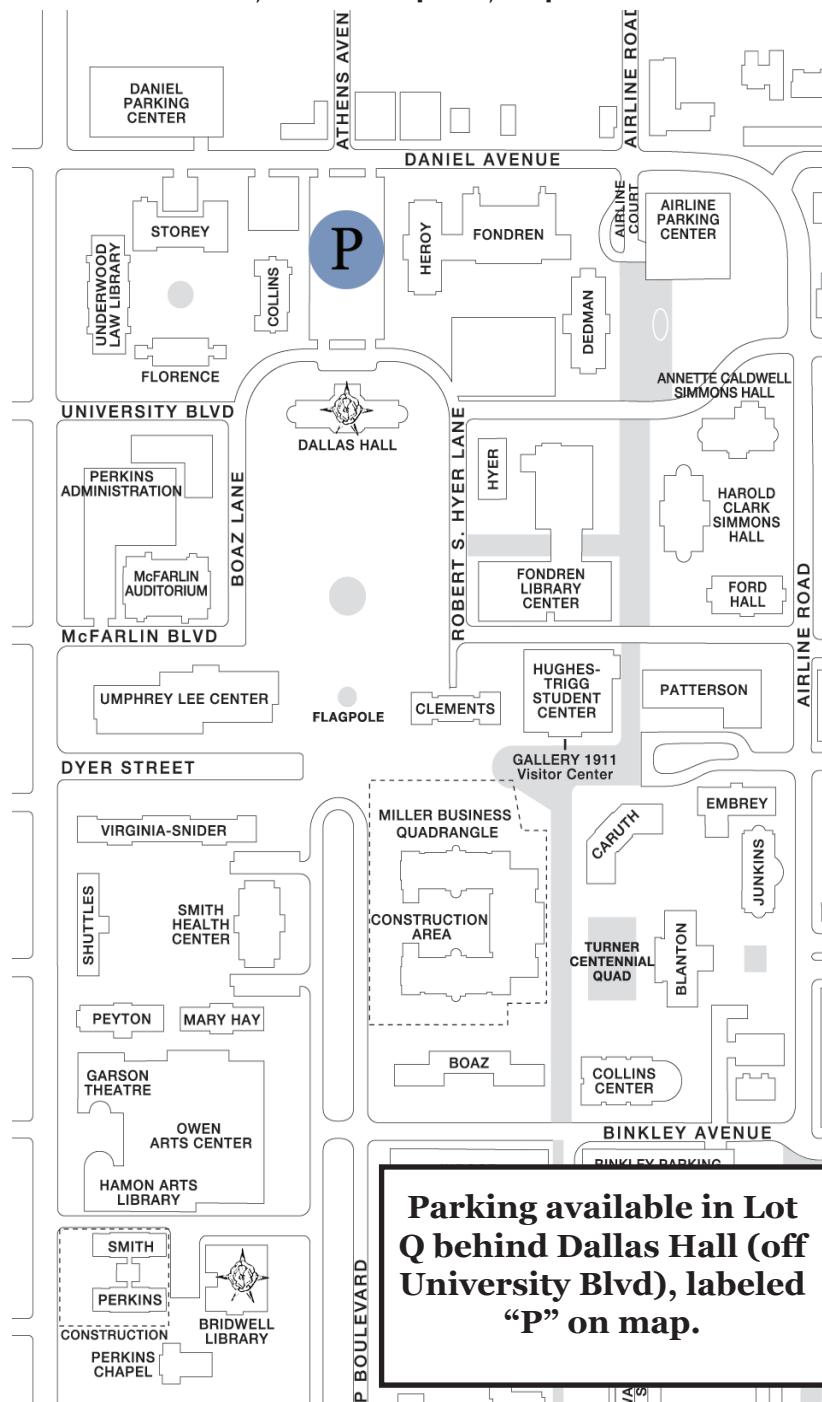
Sunday Hours: 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.



#### **Current Exhibition: Spanish Light: Sorolla in American Collections**

This year marks the centennial of the death of the celebrated Spanish painter Joaquín Sorolla y Bastida (1863–1923). In honor of this important anniversary, the Spanish government has declared 2023 the “year of Sorolla.” Curated by renowned scholar Blanca Pons-Sorolla, the artist’s great-granddaughter, this exhibition features 27 compelling and rarely seen paintings from private collections in the United States, many of which are displayed in a public museum for the first time.

## SMA Campus Map



**Parking available in Lot Q behind Dallas Hall (off University Blvd), labeled "P" on map.**