Medieval Memories
Researchers from various fields discuss memory in the Middle Ages

Researchers from various fields of medieval studies are invited to discuss memory in the Middle Ages within the transdisciplinary environment of the Center for Theoretical Study. The subject of memory has become popular among medievalists especially after the publication of Mary Carruthers’ The Book of Memory in 1990. On the basis of particular case studies, the workshop aims at discussing, analysing, and perhaps categorizing its various meanings and contexts, such as the art of memory as part of rhetorical training (Kiss Farkas, Wojcik), retelling and manipulation of the past (Herren, Kalous, Németh), role of memory in self-fashioning (Forrai, Piron, Kiséry), memory as a subject of theoretical discourse (Karfiková, Ajvaz, Visi), memory in everyday life (Jaritz), mnemosyné (Agócs), the role of manuscripts (Baylis) and of material culture (Rasson), the cognitive processes (Havel), the practical processes of storing and recovering knowledge (Trlifajová, Silagiová, Doležalová). The workshop which is open to anyone interested, there is not registration fee. Please, contact Lucie Doležalová (dolezalova@cts.cuni.cz) for further details.

September 13 (Wednesday)

10:00-12:00
Opening remarks: Lucie Doležalová
Michael Herren (York University and University of Toronto, Canada): The Memory of Alexander in the 8th Century
Ivan M. Havel (CTS): What Kind of Episodes are Stored in Episodic Memory?
Chair: Sylvain Piron

13:30-15:30
Rafal Wojcik (Poznan): Populus meus captivus ductus est. On the Polish Franciscan’s Mnemonic Treatise from the 15th century
Gábor Kiss Farkas (ELTE Budapest): The uses of ars memoriae in Hungary at the turn of 15th -16th centuries
Zsuzsanna Kiséry (Max Planck Institut für Geschichte, Göttingen, and CEU): Memoria and Poetic Coronations: Humanistic Self-legitimization in Imperial Context
Chair: Cyril Rřha (CTS)
Pauline Baylis (School of Humanities and Languages, University of Western Sydney): Monastic Libraries and Manuscripts: the guardians and repositories of memory – a glimpse of the intellectual life of St. Albans in 12th century England
Judith Rasson (CEU): “Remember Me as You Pass By.” Tombstones and Memory
Chair: Alexandr Matousek (CTS)

September 14 (Thursday)

10.00-12.00 [part of the CTS lecture series]
Sylvain Piron (EHESS, Paris) and Réka Forrai (CEU Budapest): The Philosopher’s Companion: Heloïse’s litterary self-fashioning and the Epistolae duorum amantium
Chair: Lucie Doležalová (CTS)

13.30-15.30
Antonín Kalous (Dept. of History, Palacky University, Olomouc): Matyas Corvinus in Moldavia: Construction of Positive Memories on Problematic Past
Gerhard Jaritz (Austrain Academy of Sciences, Krems and CEU Budapest): The Memory of Thieves
Dávid Falvay (Dept. of Italian, ELTE Budapest): Three levels of memory in cult of saints: Two late-medieval case studies
Chair: Réka Forrai

16.00-18.00
Kateřina Trlifajová (CTS): Remembering Syllogisms
Lucie Doležalová (CTS): Remembering One’s Bible: Summarium Biblie and Biblical mnemonic verses
Zuzana Silagiová (Institute for Classical Studies, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic): Ut parvuli facilius capiant intellectum compotorum: Komputistische Merkverse
Chair: Gábor Kiss Farkas

September 15 (Friday)

8.30-10.00
Peter Agócs (Institute of Classical Studies, University College London): Pindar in Thebes: Memory and forgetting in the seventh Isthmian ode
Michal Ajvaz (CTS): Hölderlin on Memory
Chair: Tamás Visi

10:30-12:30
Lenka Karfíková (Evangelical Theological Faculty, Charles University, Prague): Memory and Language: Augustine’s Analysis of Memory in Confessions X
Csaba Németh (CEU): Recollections of a Medieval Suicide and the Dionysian-Victorine Theology: Hugh of St. Victor on the extracorporeal experiences
Tamás Visi (Cabinet of Jewish Studies, Palacký University, Olomouc): Memory and Immortality: Philosophy and Biblical Exegesis in Medieval Judaism
Chair: Ivan Chvatík (CTS)

14:00-15:30
Final discussion and closing remarks