

Organizer:
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From Tupinambá anthropophagi to 'bloodthirsty Aztecs' or 'child-killing Incas', American (human) sacrifices flooded the European imagination in the sixteenth century. In Europe, these images interacted with a heated debate about salvation, the Eucharist, and the role of sacrifice within Christianity. Far from being restricted to universities, monasteries or courts, this debate penetrated European societies at every level and informed the violent struggles of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

This conference will address the various ways in which images and discourses on American sacrificial practices impacted the religious debates taking place in Europe in the sixteenth century and, conversely, how these debates affected the perception and interpretation of American sacrifice. At the same time, it will examine the extent to which European conceptions of these sacrificial practices influenced projects and processes of Christian conversion.



This conference has been generously funded
by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation

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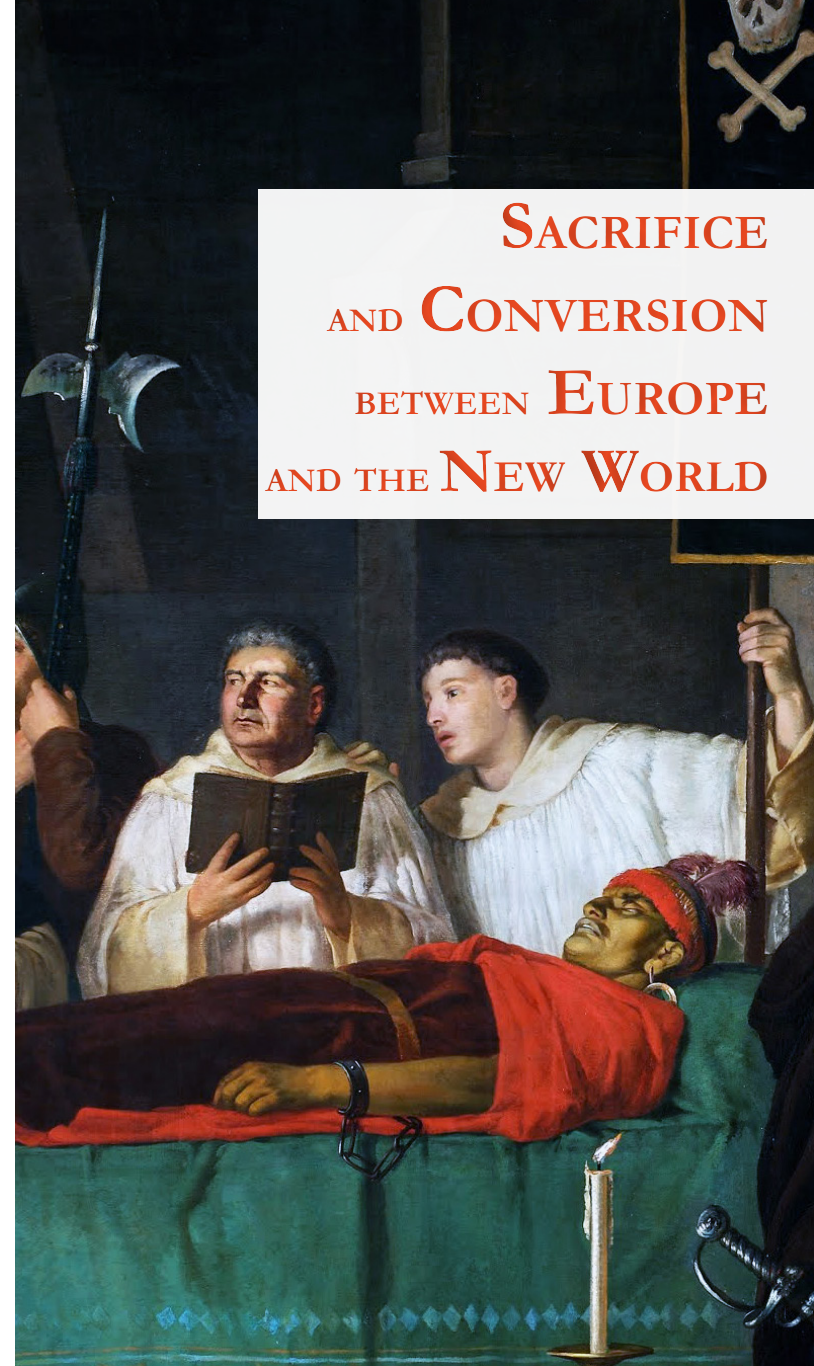
Front cover image:
Luis Montero,
The Funerals of Inca Atahualpa, 1867,
Lima Art Museum

Back cover image:
Aztec Priest Holding a Beating Heart, from
Bernardino de Sahagún,
La Historia Universal de las Cosas de Nueva España
("Florentine Codex", Biblioteca Medicea Laurenziana)

This conference is open to the public with no charge

 Villa I Tatti
The Harvard University Center
for Italian Renaissance Studies

SACRIFICE AND CONVERSION BETWEEN EUROPE AND THE NEW WORLD



AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

APRIL 19 - 20, 2018

VILLA I TATTI, FLORENCE

THURSDAY, 19 APRIL 2018

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

- 09.45 Alina Payne (Villa I Tatti / Harvard University)
10.00 Maria Berbara (Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro)

THE CONCEPT OF SACRIFICE AND THE PRE-HISPANIC WORLD

Chair: Alexander Nagel (Villa I Tatti / New York University)

- 10.15 Tom Cummins (Harvard University)
Images of Sacrifice in Peru: The Dead and Dying before and after European Arrival
10.45 Coffee break
11.00 Emilie Carreón Blaine (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México)
Old World Christian Ritual and Sacrifice in the New World: Symbolization Processes in Sixteenth-Century Central Mexico

- 11.30 Patrick Hajovsky (Southwestern University)
The Luxury of Sacrifice and the Sacrifice of Luxury: Aztec Economies of Reciprocal Exchange

- 12.00 Discussion

- 13.00 Buffet lunch

SACRIFICE AND MARTYRDOM

Chair: Elizabeth Cohen (Villa I Tatti / York University, Toronto)

- 14.30 Maria Berbara (Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro)
Representation of Catholic and Protestant Martyrdoms during the European Wars of Religion: The Antarctic France as an Ambivalent Visual Repertoire

- 15.00 Carmen Fernández Salvador (Universidad San Francisco de Quito)
Prints Crossing Genres: Imaging Punishment, Sacrifice, and Martyrdom

- 15.30 Discussion

- 16.00 Coffee break

- 16.15 Margit Kern (Universität Hamburg)
Transcultural Negotiations on Body Images of Martyrs: Gender Issues and Concepts of Sacrifice in the Sixteenth Century

- 16.45 Patricia Zalamea Fajardo (Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá)
Narratives of Sacrifice in the Nuevo Reyno de Granada: Doubting Sugamuxi

- 17.15 Discussion

FRIDAY, 20 APRIL 2018

SACRIFICE, CONVERSION, AND IDOLATRY

Chair: Carlo Taviani (Villa I Tatti)

- 10.15 Jens Baumgarten (Universidade Federal de São Paulo)
Idolatry and Conversion in the Portuguese Empire

- 10.45 Philippe Canguilhem (Université de Toulouse II)
Music as a Problematic Means of Conversion in the New World in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries

- 11.15 Coffee break

- 11.30 Adam Jasienski (SMU Meadows School of the Arts)
Images of Conversion and the Conversion of Images

- 12.00 Discussion

- 13.00 Buffet lunch

THE MATERIALITY OF SACRIFICE

Chair: Maria Loh (Villa I Tatti / CUNY Hunter College)

- 14.30 Anselm Schubert (Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg)
Foreign Substances, Strange Representations. The Material Culture of the Eucharist in Early Modern Christianity

- 15.00 Byron Hamann (Ohio State University)
The Anthropology of Sacrifice and the Materiality of the Host

- 15.30 Stephanie Kirk (Washington University in St. Louis)
Global Circulations of Jesuit Relics: Martyrdom and the Materiality of the Sacred

- 16.00 Discussion

- 16.30 Coffee break