



ReIReS

Research Infrastructure
on Religious Studies



**Translating and Connecting Worlds.
Missionary Sources, Religious Diversity and Cultural Pluralism.
Experiences from the Past
Work Package 7**

International Online Research Seminar, 16 April 2021, 3:00 pm CET

Contact and Registration

workshopreires@isem.cnr.it

Once registered, shortly before the event, participants will receive an invitation for the Zoom link at the email address provided.



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Event Description

The online international research seminar “**Translating and Connecting Worlds**” aims to highlight and analyze the paramount importance of religious archives and sources connected to the activities of religious orders (in particular of the orders engaged in early modern and modern missions), for the study of several branches of modern cultural history.

“Translating and Connecting Worlds” was specifically conceived and designed in accomplishment with the general goals of **ReIReS (Research Infrastructure on Religious Studies)** to mobilize “the widest range of expertise, sources, resources and facilities of the domain of historical religious studies, by opening up to users a plurality of both documents and sources and research tools and instruments.”

Over the past three decades, a complex and highly articulated set of research projects, doctoral theses and publications, has unequivocally highlighted that both religious archives and documentation prove to be essential for the history of linguistics, the history of books and reading, the history of geography, the history of the European expansion and empires and orientalism, ethnography, art history, the history of cultural encounters, translations and clashes. Altogether, these composite fields of enquiry have demonstrated the great potential of religious archives, libraries and sources beyond more traditional and “internal” religious research perspectives, such as the History of Religion(s) or of Religious Orders.

Religious archives and libraries are aggregators of knowledge that preserve and mediate fundamental sources for the study of several social and cultural processes. At the same time, these processes allow us to understand the persistent pervasiveness of religious phenomena or phenomena connected or mediated by religious practices, in the history of early modern and modern cultures, well beyond the institutional History of the Church or Religious History, and the simplistic claims of the “secularization” *tout court*.

Religious archives are also fundamental to promote reflections on situations where cross-cultural communication worked or broke down in early modern and modern missions.

They are of particular value for understanding the processes of learning each other’s languages, sharing and negotiating systems of beliefs, world views, values and histories, by exchanging languages, visuality and oral traditions.



Event Program

Friday, 16 April 2021, 3:00 pm CET

Gaetano Sabatini (Director, CNR ISEM)
Welcome Note

Marcello Verga (Università degli Studi di Firenze, CNR ISEM - ReIReS WP7 Leader)
Presentation

Angelo Cattaneo (CNR ISEM)
Convenor

- 3:15 pm Alexandra Curvelo (IHA - NOVA FCSH, Lisbon)
The Christian Mission in Early Modern Japan through the lens of an Art Historian
- 3:40 pm Linda Zampol D'Ortia (Ca' Foscari University of Venice)
Tracing Feelings on Paper: Emotions in early modern Jesuit missions in Asia
- 4:10 pm Ana Carolina Hosne (National Council for Scientific Research - CONICET, Argentina)
The question of "barbarism" in the Jesuit missions, from Asia to Spanish America (16th-18th centuries)
- 4:30 pm Angelo Cattaneo (CNR ISEM)
Early Modern Missions and the Creation of the First Global System of Connected Languages. The case of the Portuguese Padroado
- 5:00 pm Sabrina Corbellini (University of Groningen)
Discussant
- 5:20 pm General discussion and conclusions

The webinar "Translating and Connecting Worlds" will be recorded in view to be broadcasted through the CNR ISEM YouTube channel shortly after the event.

Biographical notes

Angelo Cattaneo is a CNR - National Research Council Research Fellow, based at the ISEM - Istituto di Storia dell'Europa Mediterranea. His research revolves around two main research lines spanning from the 13th to the 17th century: 1) the cultural construction of space, studying cosmography, cartography, travel literature, and the spatiality of world languages and religions, and 2) the history of cultural encounters at the interface of the European (in particular Portuguese) and Asian empires with a focus on Catholic missions and trade. He was one of the coordinators of the project "Interactions between rivals: the Christian mission and Buddhist Sects in Japan (c.1549-c.1647)".

Sabrina Corbellini is Rosalind Franklin Fellow and Professor of "History of Reading in Premodern Europe" at the University of Groningen, the Netherlands. She specializes in the reconstruction and study of religious reading activities in premodern Europe, in particular during the "long fifteenth century" (1350-1520). Since 2015, she coordinates the research project, "Cities of Readers. Religious Literacies in the Long Fifteenth Century". Since 2017, together with Wim François (University of Louvain, BE) she also leads the project "In Readers' Hands. Early Modern Dutch Bibles from a Users' Perspective".

Alexandra Curvelo holds a PhD in History of Art from the Universidade Nova de Lisboa (New University of Lisbon, FCSH NOVA) on "Nanban Art and Its Circulation between Asia and America (c.1550-c.1700)". She is an Assistant Professor at NOVA-FCSH and a member of the Art History Institute (IHA) in the same university. Author of several books, chapters and articles, including *Nanban Folding Screen Masterpieces, Japan-Portugal, XVIIIth century* (2016), she was the P.I. of the project "Interactions between rivals: the Christian mission and Buddhist Sects in Japan (c.1549-c.1647)".

Ana Carolina Hosne is Assistant Researcher at the National Council for Scientific Research (CONICET), Argentina. She holds a PhD in History from the Universidad de Buenos Aires. She specializes in cultural exchanges between China, Europe and colonial Latin America in the early modern period, global mission history, and more recently, cultural exchanges between Europe and Tibet. She is author of numerous articles in peer-reviewed journals, book chapters and of *The Jesuit Missions to China and Peru. Expectations and Appraisals of Expansionism, 1570-1610* (Oxon: Routledge, 2013).

Linda Zampol D'Ortia holds a PhD in Religious Studies and History from the University of Otago, New Zealand. She is adjunct lecturer at Ca' Foscari University of Venice, where she teaches early modern Christianity in Japan. She has held research fellowships at the Centre for Religious Studies of Ruhr University Bochum, at the National Library of Australia, and at the Centre for Comparative Studies of Civilisations and Spiritualities of Giorgio Cini Foundation. She is recipient of a 2020 Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellowship (Ca' Foscari University/Australian Catholic University).



Organizers

Istituto di Storia dell'Europa Mediterranea del Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche

CNR ISEM - <<https://www.isem.cnr.it/>>

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A Japanese man holds a conversation with a Jesuit father in a Jesuit residence. Japan, early 17th cent. Lisbon, Museu Nacional de Arte Antiga