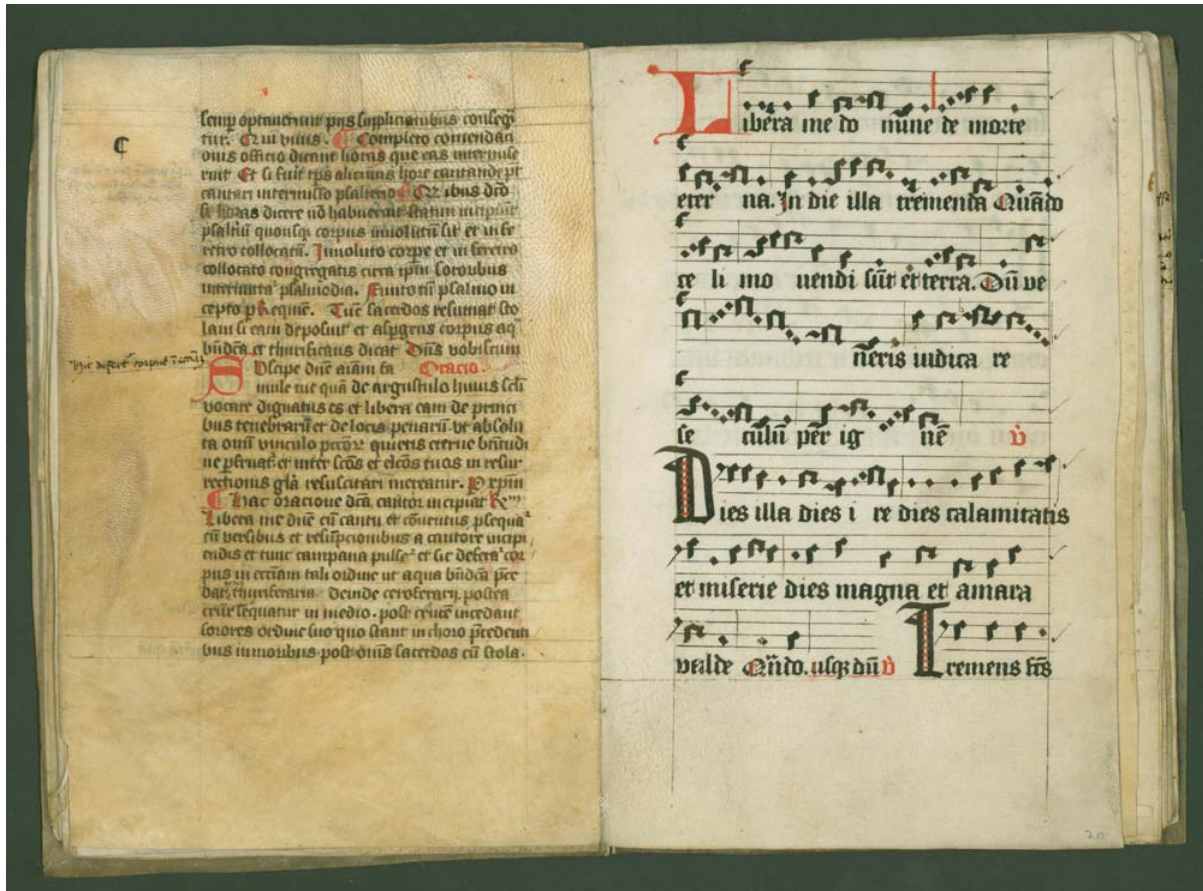


Medieval Memoria Research in the Low Countries

Newsletter



February, 2010
Issue 4

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We would like to thank the Regionaal Archief Leiden and Het Utrechts Archief for giving us permission to publish images of the manuscripts in their collections.

Frontpage: The responsory *Libera me, domine*, in the *Agenda mortuorum*, from the convent of Mariënpool, near Leyden (parchment, end of the fifteenth century, added page on parchment (RAL Kloosterarchieven 887).

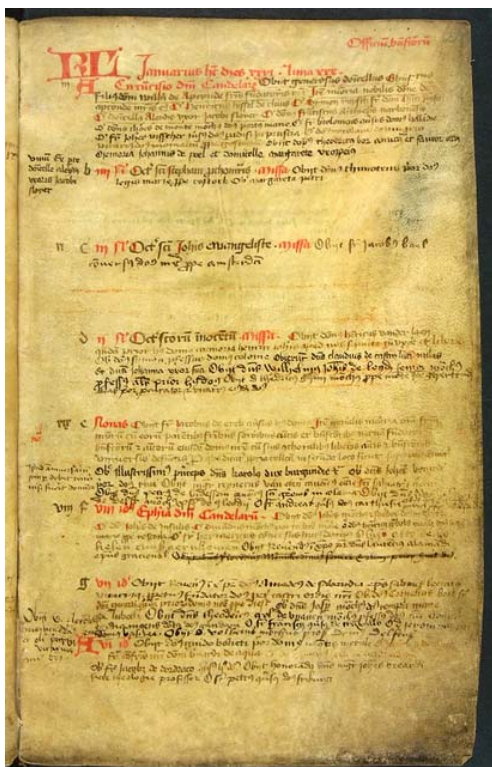
Welcome to the fourth issue of the newsletter *Medieval Memoria Research in the Low Countries* (MMR). In this online newsletter you will find information on the work of scholars who research medieval *memoria* in the broad sense of the word. *Medieval Memoria Research in the Low Countries* contains three sections: ‘publications’, ‘symposia and congresses’, and ‘other news’. In the section ‘other news’, you will find information about for instance new Ph.D. researchers, new projects or other new initiatives concerning medieval *memoria* research.

This newsletter is created to inform scholars and other interested people of current developments concerning the research of the commemoration of the dead, and of commemorative practices in the Low Countries. We do not wish to impose strict limitations upon the newsletter and its contents. For instance, Dutch and Belgian Ph.D. researchers, looking into *memoria* and related subjects outside of the Low Countries, can also present their work in this newsletter.

As was the case in previous issues of MMR, the current issue contains announcements for a wide variety of research projects, new publications and upcoming congresses. This issue also contains several announcements of international conferences and other events. The aim of these events is to enhance international contacts between European scholars of *memoria* and related subjects.

In this issue we also celebrate the launch of the brand new MeMO website: <http://memo.hum.uu.nl/>. While the MMR website will continue to host the MMR newsletter, this new website will be the hub for all of activities related to the MeMO-project. It contains links to other *memoria* related websites, and you can also find the project’s agenda here. Be sure to bookmark the new website, as it will be your one-click-stop for all MeMO related news. In addition, it also features a PDF archive on various *memoria* related subjects. One of the newest additions is the *Memoria* bibliography compiled by Viera Bonenkampová and Kim Ragetli, which is also announced in this issue of MMR (see ‘Other news’).

The MMR newsletter has been set up as part of the Utrecht research project *The functions of art, ritual and text in medieval memoria*. Charlotte Dikken, who is a Ph.D. researcher (AIO) at Utrecht University, is the newsletter’s editor-in-chief.



Readers are invited to inform us of news about congresses, publications, projects and other related subjects, so that these subjects may be included in our future issues. Please consult the colophon for our contact information.

Truus van Bueren

Project leader of *The functions of art, ritual and text in medieval memoria*

Memorial register from the Nieuwlicht Charterhouse in Utrecht. This necrology is part of a miscellany containing more than twenty different texts that were all related to commemorative practices. Among them are chronicles, grave lists, gift lists and this necrology, from which this is the first page. (Het Utrechts Archief, Utrecht, Het kartuizerklooster Nieuwlicht, inv.nr. 4, p. 21).

Recent publications

The following list of publications does not represent a complete bibliography about medieval *memoria* and related subjects, but is only intended to provide the reader with the most recent titles. This list is an addition to the original list published in the first newsletter. For the complete list of publications featured in MMR, please visit our website: <http://mmr.let.uu.nl/pages/archive-publications.html>. For the newly released *memoria* bibliography please visit: <http://memo.hum.uu.nl/pdf/Bibliography-Memoria.pdf>. This new bibliography renders the former one on MMR's main site obsolete. Therefore, MMR's publication list will eventually be removed from the site. MMR will continue to feature recent publications in each individual newsletter.

2009

- Bini Biemans-van der Wal, 'De Nicolaikerk te Utrecht, het geestelijk huis van betrokken parochianen', in: Henk Verhoef (red.), *Het oude orgel van de Nicolaikerk te Utrecht. Kroongetuige van de Nederlandse muziekgeschiedenis* (Zutphen, 2009), 154-185.
- Truus van Bueren, Fenna Visser, 'De website *Memoria in Beeld*. Een hulpmiddel bij het onderzoek van memorievoorstellingen', in: *Madoc* 23 (2009), 102-108.

2010

- Liesbeth M. Helmus, *Schilderen in opdracht. Noord-Nederlandse contracten voor altaarstukken 1485-1570* (Utrecht, 2010).

Review: Arnoud-Jan A. Bijsterveld, *Do ut des. Gift Giving, Memoria, and Conflict Management in the Medieval Low Countries*

- R. I. A. Nip, 'Bijsterveld, A.-J.A., *Do ut des. Gift Giving, Memoria and Conflict Management in the Medieval Low Countries*', web review of: *BMGN* 124 (2009), 1-2. <http://www.knhg.nl/>

Books (tables of contents)

Liesbeth M. Helmus, *Schilderen in opdracht. Noord-Nederlandse contracten voor altaarstukken 1485-1570* (Utrecht, Centraal Museum, 2010). ISBN 978-90-5983-021-9, for sale at www.centraalmuseum.nl (€ 49,95)

Although the relationship between patrons and painters has attracted the interest of many art historians over recent decades, *Painting on Commission* is the first study of surviving contracts in the Northern regions. In the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, altarpieces were among the most prestigious commissions. Because of the large sums of money these assignments involved, it was of great importance that proper agreements were made, and that these were consolidated in written documents. The written contract is thus the most important source underlying the genesis of the painted altarpiece. The study addresses whether altarpieces can justifiably be seen as a distinct functional category, and how many altarpieces are likely to have been created. It examines what an artist's contract consisted of, and in which ways it was comparable with other contracts. The contracts for the painted altarpieces in the northern Netherlands are examined in depth. As the return of Jan van Scorel from Italy in 1524 is generally regarded as a turning point in painting 'north of the rivers', Scorel and his pupil Maerten van Heemskerck are central to this study. It will be demonstrated that there is a significant change in the relationship of both artists with their patrons – a relationship that was characteristic of the new artistic era brought by the Renaissance.



For additional information, please consult the following website:
<http://dare.uva.nl/record/325910>

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- Noord- en Zuid-Nederlandse contracten voor altaarstukken
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- Schilderen in opdracht

DEEL I

Noord- en Zuid-Nederlandse contracten voor altaarstukken

Hoofdstuk 1

Het altaarstuk in de Nederlanden

- Categorie
- Terminologie

- Ontstaan en functie
- Aantallen

Hoofdstuk 2

Contracten met schilders en beeldsnijders

- Het kunstenaarscontract als juridisch document
- De contractspartijen
- Arbeidscontracten en koopcontracten
- Opdracht per opbod

Hoofdstuk 3

Aannemingscontracten voor altaarstukken

- Rechten en plichten van de contractspartijen
- De inhoud van de opdracht
- Nakoming en sancties
- Beëindiging van het contract

DEEL II

Noord-Nederlandse contracten met schilders voor altaarstukken

Hoofdstuk 4

De overgang van de middeleeuwen naar de vroegmoderne tijd. De gebroeders Simonsz van Waterlant en Athonis Jansz van der Goude

- 1485/1487/1489/1490 de gebroeders Simonsz van Waterlant en Haarlem
- 1489 en 1497 Anthonis Jansz van der Goude en Veere 179

Hoofdstuk 5

De vroegmoderne tijd. Jan van Scorel en Maerten van Heemskerck

- 1537 Maerten van Heemskerck en Amsterdam
- 1538/1539/1541 Maerten van Heemskerck en Alkmaar
- 1546 Maerten van Heemskerck en Haarlem
- 1550 Jan van Scorel en Delft

Hoofdstuk 6

De vroegmoderne tijd. Jan Deys, Ernst Maler en Chrispijn van den Broeck

- 1557 en 1570, en 1559/1561 Jan Deys en Culemborg
- Elisabeth, gravin van Hoogstraten en Culemborg (1475-1555)
- Het altaarstuk voor het Sacramentsaltaar in de Sint-Barbarakerk te Culemborg
- Het altaarstuk voor de kapel van het weeshuis te Culemborg
- 1564 Ernst Maler en Nijmegen
- 1570 Chrispijn van den Broeck en Schoonhoven

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1570 Chrispijn van den Broeck en Schoonhoven

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Upcoming symposia and congresses

Workshop on *Memory, Re-writing, Adaptation* for Ph.D. students

Date	Thursday, 20 May 2010. Further information will be available in March on the MeMO website http://memo.hum.uu.nl/ .
Location	Utrecht
Organisation	Jesseka Batteau (OSL); Truus van Bueren (Med.); Dennis Kersten (OSL), Liedeke Plate (OSL), and Els Rose (Med.)

As a follow-up to the workshop *Does Memory have a History* of October 2008 the Netherlands Graduate School for Literary Studies (Onderzoekschool Literatuurwetenschap; OSL) and the Research School for Medieval Studies (Onderzoekschool Mediëvistiek; OZSMed) are organizing a workshop for Ph.D. students on *Memory, Re-writing, Adaptation*.

In the workshop we shall approach the concepts of memory, re-writing and adaptation from the perspective of (modern) literary studies and medieval studies.

Please note that this is a closed workshop for Ph.D. students.

Symposium on Problems and Challenges in medieval *Memoria* Research

Date	Wednesday, 26 May 2010
Location	Utrecht
Organisation	Kim Ragetli and Truus van Bueren

On Wednesday 26th of May the MeMO-project will host a symposium in Utrecht dealing with recent developments in the *memoria* field of research. National and international experts in the field will be discussing themes and theses concerning methodological and content-related problems and challenges in *memoria* research. An article by the organizers will be used as a starting point for discussion. A limited number of places is still available for this symposium.

More information and the possibility of registering will be offered on the MeMO website (<http://memo.hum.uu.nl>) in March.

Sixth Symposium on *Memoria* Research

(organized by the University of Duisburg-Essen and Utrecht University)

The *Sixth Symposium on Memoria Research* will take place in September 2010. Further information shall be available in the next issue of MMR (May 2010).

The MeMO-project at IMC Leeds 2010

During the International Medieval Congress in Leeds, 12-15 July 2010, the MeMO-project will host three consecutive sessions.

Session I. Medieval Commemoration: Narrative Sources and Memorial Registers

What can different types of written sources tell us about medieval memorial culture? The first lecture by Koen Goudriaan addresses two types of sources, namely historiographical and necrological sources, in order to analyze how Geert Grote of Deventer, the 'founder' of the *Devotio Moderna*, was remembered. The second speaker, Annemarie Speetjens, discusses some issues concerning the use and function of pittance books. The development of the foundation of meals and bread distributions for the poor will be reconstructed, using the research of a 16th-century provisor and his medieval sources. The memorial practices of an abbey in Thorn are the point of departure for the third paper, presented by Hartwig Kersken. This session will be chaired by Dick de Boer.

Session II. Medieval Commemoration: Funerary and Memorial Art

The first paper by Charlotte Dikken sheds light on six stained glass windows which together form a portrait series representing a male ancestral line going back six generations. Why were these windows created and what were the intended functions? In the second paper Laura Stefanescu will address the issues of gift-giving and *memoria* in medieval sources from the Principalities of Walachia and Moldavia in Romania. She will focus on the functions and meaning of the votive portraits of princes and their wives as founders of churches and monasteries. The final paper in this session, presented by Kim Ragetli, will deal with the visualizations of travels to the hereafter. This session is chaired by Truus van Bueren.

Session III. Medieval Commemoration: Medieval *Memoria* Online, New Research Tools

In this session MeMO DS, an internationally approved description standard to enhance the exchangeability of both the research data and the research infrastructure, will be presented by Rolf de Weijert. MeMO DS offers a standard to describe sources that are essential for the study of medieval commemoration practices, namely 1) *memoria*-related narrative sources; 2) memorial registers, 3) sepulchral monuments and gravestones and 4) memorial pieces. Secondly, Truus van Bueren will introduce the Rich Internet Application (RIA) 'Prayer and Politics' to show how new media can assist in mapping out and understanding the complexity of the medieval commemoration of the dead. Finally, Anna Adamska will reflect in a final presentation on the papers presented in the three sessions. This final session is chaired by Arnoud-Jan Bijsterveld.

Call for papers: "Death, Commemoration and Memory: An Exploration of Representation, Concept and Change"

Thursday 24th and Friday 25th June 2010

The Death, Commemoration and Memory (DCM) Research Group is based within the School of Arts, Culture and Environment at the University of Edinburgh. Founded in 2008, DCM provides a forum for postgraduates and staff whose research engages with any aspect of the Group's remit, attracting junior and senior scholars from a variety of academic disciplines. Building upon the Group's success, a two-day conference is planned in Edinburgh for June 2010 to provide a platform for further interdisciplinary discussion and to create new networks between researchers across the UK.

Topics for discussion may include, but are not limited to:

- Acts of commemoration, mourning practices and rituals
- The social aspects of individual memory, collective memories and cultural attitudes towards memory
- The ethics and etiquette of death studies: the treatment of human remains in archaeology, pathology and museum practice
- Death in the visual arts: commemoration through architectural and artistic practices
- Poetic, literary and musical interpretations of death
- The dichotomy between history and memory
- Psychological and sociological studies of bereavement

We welcome abstracts of 300 words on any aspect of the conference's themes, accompanied by a short academic resume of 200 words maximum. While the focus of the conference lies with the UK, **we are very keen to attract a broad range of international scholars and would also be more than happy to accept papers which concentrate on *Memoria* in the Low Countries.** Applications should be sent to dcm.ed@hotmail.co.uk with 'DCM CONFERENCE' as the email's subject.

Submission deadline: 12 March 2010

Introduction to the Bibliography Medieval *Memoria* Research for the Low Countries

- by Viera Bonenkampová and Kim Ragetli

Since the early 1990s the study of commemoration has become an important field of research in the Netherlands and Belgium. With increasing regularity, researchers and scholars are publishing articles and books, staging exhibitions, and organizing conferences and symposia dealing with the concept of medieval commemoration. As a result the number of publications on medieval *memoria* has become so voluminous, that a specialized bibliography is needed.

This month the first edition of the 'Bibliography Medieval *Memoria* Research for the Low Countries' was published on the internet. This bibliography includes publications from Dutch and Belgian authors on research concerning *memoria* in the Low Countries. In doing so, this bibliography aims to give greater publicity to the activities of *memoria*-researchers in the Low Countries. Apart from articles and monographs this bibliography also contains a separate list of editions of registers of memorial services (necrologia) and of registers of gifts and foundations, arranged alphabetically by city or town.

The 'Bibliography Medieval *Memoria* Research for the Low Countries' is compiled to aid the researcher in studying various aspects of medieval commemoration. Therefore the bibliography incorporates a range of subjects related to memorial culture. There are studies concerning the remembrance of the dead, as well as literature that focuses on deathbed and funeral practices, on gift giving and poor relief in relation to the commemoration of the dead, on funerary art and stained glass windows, on *ars moriendi*, wills, and other related subjects. Apart from case studies, more general literature regarding medieval commemoration has also been added.

In the database *Memoria in Beeld* (<http://www.let.uu.nl/memorie>) over 500 memorials (*Memorialbilder*), all from the area of the present-day Netherlands, are described in detail. The relevant literature per memorial can be consulted on the website of the database and is therefore not included in the present bibliography.

The bibliography will be regularly updated. We aim for completeness, and would therefore welcome any suggestions and additions from our users. You may send your contributions to K.Ragetli@uu.nl. The newest updates of the bibliography can be consulted on the MeMO website (<http://memo.hum.uu.nl/>).

Latest update: January 2010

Launch MeMO website

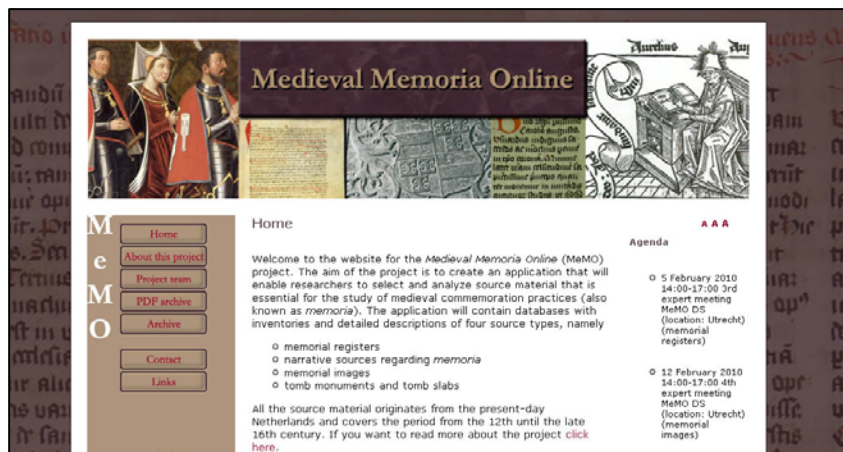
The MeMO project now has its own project website (<http://memo.hum.uu.nl/>). While MMR offers information on *memoria* research in general for the Netherlands and Belgium, the new website *Medieval Memoria Online* presents specific information on the MeMO project. It was launched on the internet in December 2009 and it will be updated at irregular intervals.

Contents of the website:

- The article on the MeMO project which appeared in the special issue of MMR (May 2009): *Medieval Memoria Online (MeMO): New research possibilities*.
- An agenda.
- Links to websites related to the MeMO project.

- A bibliography with publications of Dutch and Belgian researchers on *memoria*, commemorations practices, death and burial, etc. This bibliography will be updated regularly.

Scholars on the mailing list of MMR will be kept posted on the updates of the website.



Home page of the new MeMO website

The *Monumenta quaedam* by Buchelius published on the internet

Het Utrechts Archief has published a new digital edition of one of Aernout van Buchel's (Buchelius) famous manuscripts, namely the *Monumenta quaedam* which can be consulted on their beautiful website (<http://www.hetutrechtsarchief.nl/collectie/handschriften/buchelius>).

This is the third manuscript by Buchelius, to be published by *Het Utrechts Archief*. The *Monumenta passim* and the *Inscriptiones* were published in 2002 and 2007 respectively. All three manuscripts may prove useful to *memoria* researchers.

Commemoration and convention

– by Sophie Oosterwijk

There are many ways of studying medieval commemoration besides the historical, art-historical and genealogical approach. Religion obviously played an important role: medieval monuments did not just display status and lineage, but were intended to prompt the beholder to pray for the deceased.

While epitaphs conveyed information about the deceased to the reader, there was also the visual language. Yet artistic conventions can pose problems for modern viewers. Childhood studies are still hampered by a lack of understanding about child memorials, which according to the French historian Philippe Ariès did not exist in the Middle Ages because 'it was thought that the little thing which had disappeared so soon in life was not worthy of remembrance'. While this claim was plainly false, the presentation of children on medieval monuments can indeed be confusingly inconsistent. For example, some effigies for deceased infants actually resemble young adolescents, but these apparently clashing Ages of Man may instead reflect medieval theological

thinking about the perfect age in heaven. Likewise, the ‘childlike’ size and appearance of miniature effigies have frequently led to their misinterpretation as child memorials, a famous case being that of the so-called ‘Stanley boy’ in Elford (Staffordshire), which is probably a post-medieval forgery of a medieval heart memorial (see the Monument of the Month for February 2010 on http://www.churchmonumentsociety.org/Monument_of_the_Month.html).

Conventions and modern misunderstanding can likewise obscure aspects of commemoration in other contexts. The *danse macabre* is traditionally regarded as a typical example of medieval morality and estates satire, with authors and artists using the conventional encounter with death to satirise emperor and pope, doctor and pauper, and other social stereotypes. However, the king in Hans Holbein’s woodcut series (published in 1538) closely resembles Jean Clouet’s portrait of Francis I, while in the Dresden *Totentanz* relief (1534-37) the emperor probably portrays Charles V, the king Ferdinand I, and the duke George the Bearded of Saxony followed by his then sole surviving son Johann, both wearing the Order of the Golden Fleece. The origins of such *danse macabre* cryptoportraits may lie in the text and imagery of the two dying and dead kings in the famous (but lost) 1424-25 mural in Paris, which was created after the deaths in 1422 of Henry V of England and Charles VI of France. The words and image of the *roy mort* are moreover reminiscent of the type of ‘speaking’ *transi* effigy that was spreading across northern Europe at this time. Historical circumstances may thus have lent a hitherto ignored commemorative character to a conventional didactic theme and thereby inspired the rapid dissemination of the *danse*.

A groundbreaking article on medieval child monuments will be published in the *Journal of the History of Childhood and Youth*, while the discovery of portraiture and commemoration in the *danse macabre* is discussed in ‘Of Dead Kings, Dukes and Constables: the Historical Context of the *Danse Macabre* in Late Medieval Paris’, *Journal of the British Archaeological Association*, 161 (2008), pp. 131-62, and in a forthcoming paper in the 2008 Harlaxton Symposium Proceedings *Memory and Commemoration in Medieval England* edited by Caroline Barron and Clive Burgess. A monograph on the commemorative aspects of the medieval *danse macabre* is in preparation. Sophie Oosterwijk will also be presenting her research into the iconography of child monuments at Kalamazoo in session 375 on 14 May 2010 (see next announcement).

Dr Sophie Oosterwijk FSA teaches art history at the University of St Andrews and is Editor of the peer-reviewed journal *Church Monuments*.

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Website: <http://www-ah.st-andrews.ac.uk/staff/sophie.html>

Medieval *memoria* at Kalamazoo!

– by Christian Steer

At this year’s International Congress on Medieval Studies, there are two sessions focussed on the study of ‘Tomb Monument Commemoration in Medieval Europe’. Organised by Dr David Griffith from the University of Birmingham, with the joint support of the Monumental Brass Society and Church Monuments Society, six speakers will present papers on their current research into medieval monuments and memory. The sessions not only include current research on British studies, but also on matters of commemoration throughout Europe in the Middle Ages. Research into both memory and commemoration has grown considerably in recent years, with new ideas being discussed by the membership of MeMO and also within both the MBS and CMS. The intention of these sessions is to share new ideas and research with a much wider audience and to promote research into medieval *memoria*.

The programme of speakers is as follows:

Friday 14 May 1.30-3.00 (Session 312):

Tomb Monument Commemoration in Medieval Europe I:
Monumental Brasses and Incised Slabs

Sponsor: Monumental Brass Society
Organizer: David Griffith, University of Birmingham
Presider: David Griffith

The Import of Choice: Flemish Incised Slabs in Fourteenth-Century Britain
Paul D. Cockerham (Independent Scholar)

The Brass of Sir John de Creke (d. 1328×1332) and His Wife Alyne at Westley Waterless, Cambridgeshire: Its Audience and Context
Robert Kinsey (University of York)

The Canons of Saint Paul's Cathedral, London, and Their Brasses
Christian Steer, (Royal Holloway, University of London)

This session seeks to take the study of incised slabs and monumental brasses into a much broader context. Who were commemorated and why? What can be said on patterns of design and composition? What did the *memoria* contain both in terms of iconography and personal representation and biography?

The first paper in this session will discuss the use of incised slabs in the fourteenth century, which was a popular form of commemoration. Evidence remains on the popularity of the slabs, in particular in the east of England where slabs were readily available through import from the Low Countries. The analysis of fourteenth century *memoria* will lead on to the next paper and the remarkable brass to Sir John de Creke. Although widely studied, the context of this brass will be reviewed in terms of the intended audience, and of what it can reveal of Sir John's commemorative expectations. In contrast to this village study, the extent of urban brasses and tombs will be discussed with a case study on the memorials formerly found in St Paul's Cathedral in London. This paper will also discuss the use of written records which evidences the extent of clerical *memoria*.

Friday 14 May 3.30-5.00 (Session 375):

Tomb Monument Commemoration in Medieval Europe II:
Church Monuments

Sponsor: Church Monuments Society
Organizer: David Griffith, University of Birmingham
Presider: Paul D. Cockerham

The Material Word: The Corpus of Vernacular Inscriptions on Late Medieval English Monuments
David Griffith (University of Birmingham)

Commemoration and Cultural Exchange: English Patrons, French Workshops, and Funerary Art in the Fifteenth Century
Rachel Canty (University of Birmingham)

Deceptive Appearances: The Presentations of Children on Medieval Monuments
Sophie Oosterwijk (University of St. Andrews)

This second session on tomb monument commemoration seeks to look at different aspects of *memoria*. The opening paper will focus on the language of the tomb as evidenced through inscriptions, both surviving and also those from written sources. It has often been assumed that Latin texts dominated late medieval epitaphs and this paper will challenge this assumption by looking at the extent and significance of vernacular usage. The influence of commissioners of tombs will also be discussed in the second paper of this session, which will examine the relationship between English patrons and French workshops, as with the exquisite monument to Alice Tyrell in East Hornden church. This influence is taken further with the final paper of the session which will examine the representation of children. Many medieval monuments include children both as individual representations and also as adjuncts to a family memorial. Representations of children can often be overlooked and the meaning and purpose of their tombs will be examined in this paper.

Readers of this newsletter, who may be attending this year's congress, are warmly invited to attend the sessions. For further information: <http://www.wmich.edu/medieval/congress/>

Colophon

Webmaster and editor-in-chief
Editorial staff

Charlotte Dikken
Truus van Bueren, Charlotte Dikken, Bram van den Hoven
van Genderen and Andrea van Leerdam

This newsletter is part of the project *The functions of art, ritual and text in medieval memoria*, OGC, Utrecht University.

Contributions to this newsletter, names and e-mail addresses of researchers wishing to be included on the mailing list, etc. can be sent to Charlotte Dikken, using the following e-mail address:

C.P.A.Dikken@uu.nl

The next issue of *Medieval Memoria Research in the Low Countries* will appear in May 2010.
<http://mmr.let.uu.nl/>