

SHAC Spring Meeting Programme

'From Antique to Early Modern Alchemy: New Approaches, New Horizons'

28-29 May 2024, Maison Française d'Oxford

28-May

- 09:00-09:30 **Participant registration**
- 09:30-11:00 **Panel 1: Fire and Heat in an Alchemical Context | Chair: Rob Iliffe**
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| Thijs Hagendijk & Hannah Elmer | Spaces for Fire. Early Modern European Furnaces and the <i>Regimen Ignis</i> |
| Peter Oakley | 'How to Regulate the Fire': Early Modern Cupellation and Furnace Management |
| Gary Patterson | Boerhaave and Ponderous Heat |
- 11:00-11:30 **Coffee Break**
- 11:30-13:00 **Panel 2: The Evolution of Early Modern Metaphors of Alchemical and Encyclopaedic Knowledge | Chair: Howard Hotson**
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| Petr Pavlas | From Metaphors of Theosophical Alchemy to the New Book of Books. The Framework and an Illustration of Evolutionary Metaphorology |
| Vojtěch Kaše | Computational Explorations of Early Modern Metaphors of Knowledge: Diachronic Word Embeddings and Cultural Evolution in Scientific Texts |
| Jo Hedesan | Metaphors of Knowledge in the Printed Corpus of Latin Alchemy |
- 13:00-14:00 **Lunch (provided)**
- 14:00-15:30 **Panel 3: Ancient Alchemy | Chair: Mark Edwards**
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| Sean Coughlin & Victor Golubev | Perfumery and Alchemy in Greco-Roman Egypt |
| Eduardo Escobar & Giacomo Montanari | Contemporary Tools for Bronze Age Perfumery: Reconstructing the Role of Water in Ancient Assyrian Perfume Recipes |
| Joshua Werrett | 'An Investigation Governed by the Moon': Astrology and Alchemy in Late Antique Egypt |
- 15:30-16:00 **Coffee Break**
- 16:00-17:30 **Panel 4: Medieval Alchemy | Chair: Stephen Clucas**
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| Carmen Schmechel | On Ferment in Hortulanus' Commentary on the <i>Emerald Tablet</i> |
| Athanasios Rinos | Aristotelianism and Medieval Alchemy in the 13th Century: A Janus-faced Relationship |
| Stefania Buosi Moncunill | The Infiltration of the Catalan Carmelite Guillem Sedasser's Alchemy in Italian Glass Making |
- 17:00-17:45 **Break**
- 17:45-18:45 **Keynote Lecture: Jennifer M. Rampling, "Alchemical Monsters"**

29-May

09:30-11:00 **Panel 5: Reinterpretation in Early Modern Alchemy | Chair: Frank James**

Elisabeth Moreau

Stones, Salts, and Calculi in Early Modern Chymical Medicine

Eugenio Villa

How (not) to Forge an Ancient Alchemical Treatise: the *Liber Mariae sororis Moysi*

Farzad Mahootian

The History of Alchemy in Global Context: A Machine Learning Approach

11:00-11:30 **Coffee Break**

11:30-13:00 **Panel 6: Alchemical Images and Symbols | Chair: Jennifer M. Rampling**

Zoe Screti

The Problem of Purgatory: Alchemical Symbolism During the English Reformation

Tom Fischer

From Paper Grimoires to Stone Books

Sergei Zotov

Zoo-Anthropomorphic Evangelists and Christ in the Wine Press: Alchemical Reinterpretation of Sacred Art in a German Illuminated Manuscript

END OF CONFERENCE

The conference is followed up by the Oxford Seminar in the History of Alchemy and Chemistry, 'Meissen Coloration and Pacific Chemical Medicine', featuring Nicholas Zumbulyadis (Delaware) and Mariana Sanchez (Paris), from 3pm to 5pm at Maison Française d'Oxford

Conference Organisers: Jo Hedesan (Oxford) and John Christie (Oxford).