New York 2004
by Martin Elsky
Co-Chair, New York 2004

I am happy to report that the program for the 2004 conference is complete. We have approved 305 panels, fifty percent more than we have ever had. Since Florence 2000, we have been running about 200 panels each conference. The number of panels alone suggests we can expect about 1000 attendees. The great success of the conference is especially gratifying since we are celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the RSA in the city where it was founded.

CUNY faculty have organized a number of special events. In addition to an exhibition organized by Janet Cox-Rearick, “Splendors of the Renaissance: Princely Attire in Italy,” Joseph Wittreich has arranged for a dramatic presentation of John Milton's Samson Agonistes, performed by the New York based group, Lark Ascending. Admission is free and open to the public. Conferees are invited to an opening night reception at the CUNY Graduate Center on Wednesday, 31 March, when they will also have a special viewing of the costume exhibit and be entertained by the Queen's College Vocal Ensemble.

As always there will be two plenary sessions. The first, organized by Martin Elsky, will be about “Studying the Renaissance: A Retrospective Commemorating the Fiftieth Anniversary of the RSA.” Speakers include Rona Goffen, Richard Kagan, and Eugene F. Rice Jr.. The Bennett Lecturer, Benjamin...
New York 2004, continued from page 1

Ravid, will speak on “Hebraica, Judaica, and the Renaissance”

The topics of the panels reveal two encouraging facts about RSA membership: there are many new, young Renaissance scholars in the RSA, and the range of interests of RSA members is extremely varied. All the disciplines are represented in the panels, which also include many interdisciplinary papers. There are papers and panels on Florence, Venice, and Rome as well as Spain, England, France, The Netherlands, and Croatia. There are papers and panels on cultural relations between Spain and France as well as between Europe, Africa, Islam, and the Americas. There are papers and panels on humanism, rhetoric, neo-Platonism, bibliography, art history, as well as performance theory, literary theory, travel narrative technologies, and sexualities. There are papers and panels on Erasmus, Shakespeare, Montaigne, Titian, Bruno, and Lipsius, as well as Cavendish, Wroth, Lucy Hutchinson, and Gadamer. Panels will be sponsored by Renaissance societies from the US, Canada, France, and Israel.

Be prepared for an exciting few days in New York.

Renaissance News & Notes

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Editor: Tonya Knudsen

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New York 2004: “Splendors of the Renaissance: Princely Attire in Italy,” an Exhibition at the Art Gallery of The Graduate Center, CUNY

by Janet Cox-Rearick, CUNY, The Graduate Center

An exhibition that will interest all Renaissance scholars and students is planned to coincide with RSA 2004. “Splendors of the Renaissance: Princely Attire in Italy” will be shown 10 March to 24 April in the Art Gallery of The Graduate School and University Center of The City University of New York, the host institution of the RSA. The show is presented in collaboration with King Studio of Codisotto di Luzzara (near Mantua) and is the creation of its director, Fausto Fornasari. Since 1994, Fornasari’s exhibition has toured museums in major cities in Italy (beginning with the Palazzo Ducale, Mantua) and Spain, as well as being shown in five South American capitals in 2002–03. The show makes its United States debut at the Graduate Center, where it will be curated by Janet Cox-Rearick.

The exhibition displays Fornasari’s carefully researched and executed reconstructions of fifteen spectacular court costumes dating mainly from the mid-sixteenth to the early seventeenth centuries. It is introduced by a didactic section which explains and illustrates some of the techniques used to make the reconstructions. All of them are based on Renaissance portraits and other paintings, large reproductions of which are displayed next to costumed mannequins. Some of these are by Florentine artists such as Bronzino (Eleonora di Toledo and Her Son Giovanni) and Jacopo da Empoli (The Marriage of Vincenzo Gonzaga and Eleonora de’ Medici), both in the Uffizi Gallery, Florence, while others are based on portraits of Mantuan court figures. Jacopo’s painting portrays the linking of the courts of the Medici in Florence and the Gonzaga in Mantua. Costumes of various members of the Mantuan ducal family were reconstructed from portraits such as Giulio Romano’s famous one at Hampton Court (the so-called Isabella d’Este) and Titian’s Duke Federicol Gonzaga in the Prado, Madrid. Also in the show is the sumptuous coronation attire of Duke Vincenzo Gonzaga in a complex reconstruction based on paintings by Giovanni Bahuet (Private Collection, Mantua), and Rubens (Palazzo Ducale, Mantua). Finally, the show includes a costume never previously exhibited: a magnificent reconstruction of the dress of a “princess,” which is based on a mid-fifteenth-century drawing by Pisanello (Musée Bonnat, Bayonne).

A pair of sessions on costume at the RSA 2004 meetings will focus on late Quattrocento to early Seicento court attire in Italy. Cox-Rearick, who organized the sessions, will present a paper, as will five costume historians who will explore subjects ranging from Florentine and Mantuan court costume to sumptuary laws, the role of tailors in the design of court costumes, and the indigenous styles of dress of various Italian centers vs. those styles influenced by the fashion of other European countries.

The Graduate Center exhibition, the court costume sessions, and two other sessions, “Representations of Material Culture: New Research on Paolo Veronese” and “Cesare Vecellio and Venice History, Physiognomy, and the 1590 Costume Book” will give a sharp profile of the history of Renaissance costume and textiles at RSA 2004.

Future Conferences:

San Francisco, California — 23-25 March 2006

Miami, Florida — 22-24 March 2007

Chicago, Illinois — 2008
We would like to remind members that we do reserve the right to edit and cut reviews before publication. It is always difficult to see a carefully prepared but lengthy review edited. On the other hand, many reviewers work equally hard to stay within the limits. If a review is going beyond the word limit, the reviewer should contact me. I may agree that the volume under review merits a longer review, but sometimes a second pair of eyes can see where deletions can be appropriately made without affecting the high quality of a review.

Members will notice that there will be many more reviews published in the fall and winter than in past issues. We have been receiving a greater quantity of books and the reviews have been coming in. I am grateful to our reviewers who have been so prompt in submitting their reviews. But one result has been a backlog of unscheduled reviews. We have decided to increase the number of reviews we print until the backlog is under control.

I enjoy hearing from members and getting to know people in the RSA. Please feel free to contact me.

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**THE RSA CONFERENCE IN CAMBRIDGE, ENGLAND, 7-9 APRIL 2005**

by John Monfasani, RSA Executive Director

We go abroad in 2005. Florence 2000 was a tremendous success. We try again in 2005. If Cambridge 2005 is a success, then we shall have to think seriously about visiting a European site every five years. Everything is set for Cambridge. We have reserved sleeping rooms at Queens, Clare, and Fitzwilliams Colleges. We’ll run a shuttle service between Fitzwilliams and a point close to the Sedgwick Avenue block of breakout rooms. In each College registrants will receive a full English breakfast as well as a multi-course dinner as part of their room charges. Accommodations should prove a bargain as well as an enjoyable experience. We shall also supply information about Cambridge B&B’s and hotels in the event that demand for rooms exceeds supply at the Colleges.

The conference plenaries and the concurrent breakout sessions will take place at the Music Faculty, the Sedgwick Avenue block of rooms, Clare College, and, if we need more breakout rooms, elsewhere. The distances between the different sites of our breakout room involve only a few minutes walk, but to ensure that everyone gets to them in plenty of time, we’ll leave a half-hour between sessions, as we did in Florence. Philip Ford of Cambridge will give the Josephine Waters Bennett Lecture. Craig Harline is organizing a Trends Panel on religion in the Renaissance.

The British Society for Renaissance Studies has graciously decided to suspend its annual meeting in 2005 and join us instead in Cambridge. SRS members will form part of the program committee.

Finally, we shall see if we can arrange a discount price from an airline for members flying from North America to England.

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**New York 2004: Booking a Room at the Grand Hyatt in New York**

The RSA negotiated a good price for an upscale hotel in springtime in midtown Manhattan, $179 a night. But when one adds state and city taxes of 13.65% plus the extra security fee of $2 per night since 9/11, the effective cost of one night's stay at the Grand Hyatt rises to $205.43 ($179 + $24.43 + $2). So we have decided to have the RSA actually make the booking at the hotel for conference registrants. As a not-for-profit, tax-exempt organization incorporated in New York State, the RSA can spare registrants all these taxes. We have contracted with the conference specialists Connections Inc. in Atlanta, GA, to handle most but not all of the details for us. Since we have to pay Connections for this service, cover the credit card fees, absorb the cost of extra help in the office, and create a certain cushion for any losses from bad transactions, we have fixed the RSA charge at $189 per night plus a one-time, non-refundable $10 handling fee. The result is that if one books through the RSA, the cost of a four-night stay is $766 ($756 + $10) as opposed to $821.72 if one booked directly through the hotel, which is a saving of $55.72, or $13.93 a night.

The best and simplest way to make a booking is to go to the RSA website (www.rsa.org), click the New York conference, and then click the hotel booking link. You will be taken to a secure website where you can make your booking. If you prefer to pay by check, you can fill out the form included in this issue of RN&N and mail the form and check to Connections/RSA, 820 Church Street, Decatur, GA 30030.

Please book early. Once we exceed the negotiated block of rooms set aside for the conference (we have exceeded the negotiated room block every year since 2000 and New York 2004 will be 50% larger than any previous RSA conference), we cannot guarantee a room at the Grand Hyatt. The hotel is under no obligation to keep vacant for late conference booking any rooms beyond the negotiated room block. Nor do the hotel have to honor the special rate for any bookings after 15 March 2004. We shall not run any credit card or cash any checks until 1 March 2004. So booking early does not mean you have lost your money if some problem were to force you to drop out of the conference before March 2004. And if you were to drop out after 1 March, you would lose only the cost of the first night’s booking. But by booking early you have guaranteed yourself a room at the conference rate.

The room rate is the same whether you take a room by yourself or share it with someone else (one king-size bed or two beds). Smoking and non-smoking rooms are also options. We shall set up a bulletin board on the RSA website so that those who are looking for a roommate can contact each other.

— John Monfasani

SEE FORM ON PAGE 10
Announcing Research Grants for the Year 2004 for Renaissance Society of America Members

The Renaissance Society of America will award ten grants for a total amount of $20,000 in the year 2004. The grants will be available to applicants in all fields.

There are two series of grants: (1) RSA Research Grants, and (2) RSA-Istituto Nazionale di Studi sul Rinascimento in Florence (RSA-Istituto). The RSA-Istituto award should indicate that they wish to be considered for this award. No applicant will receive more than one award. Please note that all applicants must be members of the Renaissance Society of America for the required number of years (see below). The following rules apply for all awards.

Research Grants will be awarded in three categories according to the career stage and employment circumstances of the applicants. Applicants will compete for grants in one category only.

1. NON-DOCTORAL: These awards will support doctoral candidates, pre-university teachers, and other applicants lacking doctorates.
2. YOUNGER SCHOLAR: These awards will support assistant professors, associate professors in the first two years of appointment at that rank, and/or part-time professors and independent scholars holding the Ph.D.
3. SENIOR SCHOLAR: These awards will support senior professors with more than two years at that rank, full professors, and retired professors.

The primary purpose of the Research Grants is to enable scholars to study research materials, such as archival documents, manuscripts, rare printed editions, works of art, and major collections of primary and secondary sources essential to their research but unavailable locally or nearby. A Research Grant will typically enable a scholar to travel to research materials in continental Europe, England, and/or depositories in the United States and Canada.

Research projects in all subjects and language areas within Renaissance Studies are eligible for support. Graduate students must be members of the RSA for at least one year at the time of application. All other applicants must be members of the RSA for at least three years at the time of application.

The Executive Board will appoint a jury drawn from different disciplines within Renaissance Studies. The criteria for judgment will be the scholarly excellence of the project and applicant, and the demonstrated need for access to research materials. The jury reserves the right to award fewer or more grants in one category, but only if there are insufficient applications of merit in another category. The deadline for applications will be 1 January 2004. The Executive Board will announce their awards as soon as possible after 1 January 2004.

The Paul Oskar Kristeller Fund

by John Monfasani, RSA Executive Director

The Executive Board of the Society voted in Toronto in March 2003 to solicit member donations for a new fund dedicated initially to help with completing the cataloging of the papers, microfilms, and photographs that Paul Oskar Kristeller left to Columbia University’s Rare Book and Manuscript Room and then, once that task is done, to support Renaissance manuscript research and what Kristeller once described as “depth bibliography.”

Kristeller gave a large quantity of material to Columbia in the 1980s, and using money from his MacArthur fellowship, he was able to pay for its cataloging. Thus, for instance, one can consult today at Columbia the fifty-nine boxes of his correspondence from the 1920s to the 1980s in order to study his relationship not only with the likes of Martin Heidegger and Werner Jaeger but also with many living figures. To give another example, the Rare Book and Manuscript Room has recently also created a database running forty-four legal sized pages in printed form of the microfilms of manuscripts and printed books that Kristeller accumulated over the years as he worked on Iter Italicum and other projects.

The consignment of materials turned over to Columbia after the completion of the 1980s project, along with the large quantity of printed materials, manuscripts, correspondence, and related items received by the Library after Kristeller’s death remain to be processed (142 boxes covering 171.5 linear feet). Since the generous bequest left by Professor Kristeller is earmarked for acquisitions and academic events only, funds are being sought to speed up the cataloging of these materials. Such cataloging is expensive because its technical nature requires professional expertise. One cannot expect, as study students to understand Vatican fondi or to be able to read Kristeller’s German gothic cursive script.

I have come to an agreement with Jean Ashton, the head of the Rare Book and Manuscript Library, that the RSA would assist the Library with the cataloging project by providing matching funding through the Paul Oskar Kristeller Fund. Although completion of the catalog may take a year or more after it begins, a sum of $4,000 would help to get the work underway.

If this appeal is successful, we hope to see the cataloging of all the Kristeller material completed in the next several years. Thereafter, the RSA will use any remaining money and the contributions that we hope will continue to flow into the fund to support the sort of fundamental technical scholarship reflected by Iter Italicum. The Executive Board has yet to decide the specific form or forms of this support, but research grants and publication subsidies are, of course, the most likely.

Those who wish to contribute to the Paul Oskar Kristeller Fund will find a new line added for that purpose in the membership form, starting with this issue of RNN. See the form on page 11. - -
New RSA Website and Events Module
by William R. Bowen, Electronic Media Chair, and John Manfahi, Executive Director

By the time you read this, the new RSA website should be up and running. We hope you find it attractive and easy to navigate. One part of the website, however, will not go live until later in the fall, namely, an Events and Announcement Module. Once this module is active, you may enter your announcements. We shall filter the input, but in essence all the announcements will be in your own words and available for viewing within a day or so of inputting. This module will replace the events and prizes calendar in RNN. The latter is missing from this issue because we thought the new website module would be available. We'll send out an announcement when the new Events Module is available.

Paula Sommers
by Charles G. Nauert, University of Missouri

Paula Sommers, professor emerita of French at the University of Missouri-Columbia, died on 24 July after an extended illness. She taught at Missouri for thirty-five years and served two terms as chair of the Department of Romance Languages. She received her B.A. degree in French from the University of California at Berkeley, and she held M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Stanford University. She was a member of the Renaissance Society of America, the Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, the Modern Language Association, and several other professional organizations. Her publications included a book on the spiritual poetry of Marguerite de Navarre and many conference papers and articles on Marguerite de Navarre and other French authors of the Renaissance, including Guillaume du Bartas, Louise Labé, Catherine des Roches, Gabrielle de Coignard, Agrippa d'Aubigné, Pierre de Ronsard, and François Rabelais.

Renaissance Society of America Reprint Texts (RSART)

Designed to keep in print valuable works for your college classroom and for your bookshelf

1. The Treatise of Lorenzo Valla on the Donation of Constantine, text and translation by Christopher B. Coleman. $21.95
2. The Italian Renaissance, edited by Werner L. Gundersheimer. $15.95
4. The Ash Wednesday Supper (La Cena de la ceneri), by Giordano Bruno, edited and translated by Edward A. Gosselin and Lawrence S. Lerner. $22.95
5. Vittorino da Feltre and Other Humanist Educators, by William Harrison Woodward, with a forward by Eugene F. Rice Jr. $17.95
6. Habits of Thought in the English Renaissance, by Debora Kuller Shuger. $19.95
7. The Vespasiano Memoirs, by Vespasiano da Bisticci, translated by William George and Emily Waters, with an introduction by Myron P. Gilmore. $22.50
8. The Society of the Renaissance Florence, edited by Gene Brucker. $19.95
9. On Assistance to the Poor, by Juan Luis Vives, translated with an introduction and commentary by Alice Tobriner, SNJM. $12.95
10. Dido's Aretino and Venetian Art Theory of the Cinquecento, by Mark W. Roskill. $27.95
11. More's Utopia, by Dominic Baker-Smith. $21.95
12. Venice: A Documentary History, 1450 – 1630, edited by David Chambers and Brian Pullan. $29.95
13. Jews in the Canary Islands, translated from the Spanish and edited with introduction and notes by Lucien Wolf. $24.95 (pbk), $65 (d)

For further information contact
The University of Toronto Press
1 800 565 9523
UTPBOOKS@UTPRESSUTORONTO.CA
Call for Chairs at New York 2004

Every year the RSA creates panels out of the many isolated papers that have been accepted for the annual conference. These panels prove to be some of the most interesting and stimulating of the conference, but every year we also have the problem of finding chairs for these panels. We are calling for chairs. If you wish to come to the conference and need an official function in the program in order to receive funding from your institution, and the RSA office an email message at rsa@rsa.org
(1) giving your institutional position and
(2) briefly describing your area of specialization.

Preliminary Program for New York 2004 Online

The preliminary program for New York 2004 will be available at the RSA website (www.rsa.org). Please do visit the site. You will find a plethora of interesting panels. Participants especially should consult the preliminary program to confirm the information that it contains. If there is anything you wish changed, please email the office at rsa@rsa.org.

Plenaries, Talks, and Special Events

Wednesday, 31 March — CUNY, The Graduate Center, Concourse Level

Opening Reception
Sponsored by the Renaissance Society of America and CUNY, The Graduate Center
Queens College Choir, Organized by José M. Martínez-Torrelón, CUNY, Queens College

Thursday, 1 April, 5:45-6:45 PM — Grand Hyatt New York

Josephine Waters Bennett Lecture
Sponsored by the Renaissance Society of America
Benjamin C.I. Ravid, Brandeis University, “Hebraica, Judaica, and the Renaissance”

Thursday, 1 April — CUNY, The Graduate Center, Elebash Recital Hall

A Dramatic Reading of Samson Agonistes by John Milton
Sponsored by CUNY, The Graduate Center, Complimentary, Open to All
Organized by Joseph Wittreich, CUNY, The Graduate Center
Performed by The Lark Ascending, www.thelarkascending.org
Richard Edelman as Samson, Maurice Edwards as Chorus, Alfred Hyslop as Manoa and Samson’s father, Carlotta Sherwood as Dalila, Peter Ludwig as Public Officer, and George McGrath as Messenger

Friday, 2 April, 6:00 PM — The Library of New York Academy of Medicine, Fifth Avenue and 103rd Street

Reception
Complimentary, Open to All
Alain Touwaide, Smithsonian Institute, “The Western Re-invention of Hippocrates”

Saturday, 3 April

Plenary Session: Studying the Renaissance: A Retrospective Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the RSA
Sponsored by the Renaissance Society of America
Organized by Martin Elsky, CUNY, The Graduate Center
Eugene F. Rice Jr., Columbia University, Emeritus, “The Early Years of the RSA”
Rona Goffen, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, “Seeing Things”

Saturday, 3 April — Grand Hyatt New York

Closing Reception
Sponsored by the Renaissance Society of America
RSA Annual Meeting Registration Form
New York City, 1-3 April, 2004

LAST NAME: ____________________________________________________________________________
FIRST NAME: ____________________________________________________________________________
MAILING ADDRESS: ______________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
EMAIL: _________________________________________________________________________________
AFFILIATION FOR BADGE: __________________________________________________________________

REQUIRED FEE
RSA Member Registration Fee (Non-refundable) $125
RSA Student Registration Fee (Non-refundable) $100
Registration at the Door $150
Non-RSA member Registration Fee (Non-refundable) $150 (for guests/spouses)
(A non-participant)

THE REGISTRATION FEE INCLUDES:
1 copy of the Program / Abstract Booklet
Entry to all sessions (including the Bennett Lecture and Plenary Session)
Entry to the Opening and Closing Receptions
(Wednesday evening, 31 March and Saturday evening, 3 April)

METHOD OF PAYMENT:
If payment is by check mail to: RSA 2004 New York City Meeting
C/O CUNY, The Graduate Center
The City University of New York
365 Fifth Avenue, Room 5400
New York, NY 10016-4309

If payment is by credit card, (the RSA only accepts VISA/MASTERCARD and you must include the EXPIRATION
DATE OF THE CARD, fill out this form and mail to the above address or fax to 212-817-1544 or go to the website
(www.rsa.org) and pay online.
VISA No.__________________________________________  EXP. DATE (Month/Year): _______________
MASTERCARD No.__________________________________  EXP DATE (Month/Year): _______________
Hotel Reservation Form
New York City, 1-3 April, 2004

LAST NAME: __________________________
FIRST NAME: __________________________
EMAIL: ________________________________
PHONE: ________________________________
FAX: _________________________________

The RSA and the Grand Hyatt Hotel will extend this discounted rate from Saturday, March 27th through Monday, April 5th based upon availability. Deadline for making reservations is March 10th, 2004.

ARRIVAL DATE: __________________________
DEPARTURE DATE: __________________________
Number of Nights: __________________________
Arrival Date __________________________  Departure Date __________________________
Number of Nights ________

Smoking: _______ Non-Smoking: _______: Based upon availability.
Single / Double Occupancy Room: $189 per night: Based upon availability.
Specify Bed Type: Queen:____ King:____ Double (2 bed):____
Rollaway: $25 per night
There is a $5 cancellation fee.

$189 per night x (number of nights) = ______ + $10 one time handling charge (non-refundable)
TOTAL: _______

Sharing With: __________________________
Email: ________________________________
Phone ________________ Fax: __________________________

Credit Card online via RSA website www.rsa.org or check (drawn on US Bank)

Mail form and check to:
Connections, RSA 2004 Reservations
820 Church Street, Decatur, GA 30030
(Tel.): 404-842-0000 (Fax): 404-842-0954

ADDITIONAL HOTEL INFORMATION: GRAND HYATT NEW YORK
Park Avenue at Grand Central, New York, NY 10017 www.grandnewyork.hyatt.com

9 miles from La Guardia Airport; 18 miles from JFK International Airport; 20 miles from Newark International Airport; adjacent to Grand Central Terminal on the North side of 42nd Street.

Guest Room Features: TV with remote control, cable movie channels, in-room pay movies; Voice mail, telephone w/message light, computer hookup; Video messages, video account review, video checkout; Daily newspaper delivery upon request; Individual climate control; Full bath amenities; Turn-down available on request; Iron, ironing boards on request; and AF/AM alarm clock hair dryer.
Call for Papers: Cambridge, England 2005

7-9 April
Accommodations include breakfast and dinner at Queens’ College, Clare College, and Fitzwilliams College

Josephine Waters Bennett Lecturer:
Philip Ford, Clare College

The program committee invites abstracts for individual papers as well as proposals for panels. Submit individual papers and or panels via the website: www rsa org

Deadline for Submissions:
23 May 2004