

# Renaissance News & Notes

Volume XVII.2

*The Renaissance Society of America*

Fall 2005

## San Francisco 2006: March 23-25

by John Monfasani, Co-Chair,  
Program Committee

San Francisco 2006 promises to be as successful a conference as any the RSA has ever had. With 296 panels covering art and architecture, global studies, history, humanism, Judaica, law, literature, manuscripts, music, numismatics, performing arts, philology, philosophy, printing, religion, rhetoric, science, technological applications, and women and gender studies dealing with almost every part of Europe, the Americas, the Middle East, and even Asia, the conference reflects the breathtaking variety of scholarship on the Renaissance. Our Plenary Trends Panel this year, with Maureen Quilligan, Sheila ffolliott, and Sharon Strocchia, will be our first in women studies. Randolph Starn will deliver the plenary Josephine Waters Bennett Lecture, and in what is now a tradition for even numbered years, The Erasmus of Rotterdam Society will sponsor its Margaret Mann Phillips Commemorative Lecture, this year delivered by Edward George. We shall even have a Renaissance costume exhibit (something else that is almost becoming a tradition), with a live fashion show (a first at a RSA conference!) organized by Costanza Gislon Dopfel. The bountiful closing reception, of course, remains *de rigueur* for an RSA conference. The room rate of \$189 plus tax at the Renaissance Parc 55 is for a double room. We have on at the RSA website ([www.rsa.org](http://www.rsa.org)) a room share module for those interested in finding a roommate to split the cost. Paul V. Murphy, the co-chair of the San Francisco conference, spoke of the multiple attractions of "the City by the Bay" in the previous *RNN*. Though I am sure that no attendee will succumb to such temptations while the conference is in session, checking guide books and the Web before coming is well advised. ♣

## Miami 2007: Renaissance Society of America Meeting

by Guido Ruggiero, Co-Chair, Program Committee

I have been asked to write a short column on the attractions that Miami will offer visiting members of the RSA when our annual meeting is held here on 22-24 March 2007 and I do so hesitantly as a recent arrival myself to this lively and cosmopolitan city. Real Miamians would warn March visitors immediately that they are still in the city's winter season with frequent blasts of near arctic air that can cause the temperature to dip into the high sixties at night (although normally the evening temperatures hover in the low seventies) and force the natives to bring out their furs and parkas. And although the days tend to be boringly sunny and dry, the thermometer has trouble surpassing the low eighties with light seas breezes that cause the wind chill temperatures to often drop into the high seventies.

One particularly trying corollary of these adverse weather conditions is that the many beautiful beaches of the city and its environs will be somewhat less crowded than normal. Just a short bus or taxi ride from downtown Miami and the New Radisson Hotel Miami, 1601 Biscayne Boulevard, where the convention will be held, famed South Beach with

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water temperatures in the low to mid seventies, will only have a smattering of the local youthful flash crowd that normally cover the white sands with enviable toasting flesh. For those who are willing or able to venture forth a bit further the acres of palm studded white sands that are Key Biscayne Beach will be deserted, as will be long stretches of North Beach and the less well known beaches that run up to Fort Lauderdale and beyond. Undoubtedly the hotel pool will still be heated and water temperatures there will be more acceptable. Yet another negative sidelight of the season is that many of the outdoor cafés and restaurants that dot the city will be less crowded in the evenings — as the locals find that eating with their parkas on makes it difficult to display to the best effect their tanned and sleek bodies. Still eating in Miami is a definite plus. At the moment the widely trendy fusion cuisine reigns here as well. But here that fusion has been much influenced by the availability of tropical fruits and vegetables, local fresh fish, and the many waves of Caribbean, Latin American, European, and African immigrants that have made the city such a cosmopolitan place. At the moment, perhaps the most “in” fusion mix is Peruvian/Japanese, but Italian/Cuban continues to have its perverse fans and purer forms of Argentine, Brazilian and Spanish fare are gaining ground. Undoubtedly, however, as Miami is nothing if not a “flash” city the moment of these styles will be long gone by 2007 and RSA members will be forced to sample new cuisines at the hottest spots in town.

The New Radisson, located in the very heart of the city, is well placed for culinary and other explorations. The center of the city, once noted primarily for its discount shops for foreign visitors interested in buying American/Japanese appliances and electronics of every type from palm pilots to side-by-side refrigerators, has recently undergone a “renaissance.” Now along with those older stores one can visit the Bayside Marketplace, a relatively short stroll from the hotel, and shop until you come into the more familiar atmosphere of an outdoor mall along the waterfront equipped with all the required chain restaurants and kitschy souvenir shops. This renaissance has also brought to the center of the city a new basketball stadium for the Miami Heat and

their thyroid challenged but successful basketball team (for those interested in such things) and a promise of a new lively night scene which is beginning to materialize with a number of exciting new restaurants, tapas bars, and clubs mixing well with some older suitably sleazy blues and jazz joints again not far from the hotel where the Biscayne corridor of luxurious high-rise condos intersects with the old heart of the city. Still the best eating, nightlife, and cultural activities are to be found in the three smaller urban centers that surround the old city center. South Beach across the bay with its art deco architecture and its Miami Vice feel is definitely the youngest and flashiest of these centers. It helps to be barely twenty one, have the requisite plastic surgery and drive a Ferrari to really make the scene there, but the locals tend to be forgiving or uninterested in sorry examples of our species over the age of thirty, so visiting is permitted. And as the real action begins there after midnight, giving the scene a try will not interfere with the conference. Lincoln Road Mall at the northern end of South Beach is an outdoor pedestrian area (beware of the flying inline skaters, however) which features outdoor cafés, a few of the best restaurants in the area, and even a first class symphony along with a few shops that sell art and non-standard mall-wares.

Just to the south of the city center is Coconut Grove, once a bohemian village literally hidden in the jungle-like vegetation along the coast. Although still very popular with locals, it has lost much of its bohemian flavor to chain restaurants and bars and has been successfully malled with Cocowalk — another outdoor/indoor mall which features the required multiplex cinema and the familiar stores of such places. Prices are somewhat more reasonable there, things begin and end at an earlier hour, and the crowd is slightly less young, with occasionally even a hippy relic or two left over from earlier days. Finally to the West of the city center lays the somewhat quieter Coral Gables. Home to the University of Miami, it has the feel of a flat Beverly Hills with old Spanish houses from the twenties interspersed with fifties style executive ranches that have weathered the years better than in most parts of the States. The nightlife of Coral Gables has two poles: the old center and the newer area of Merrick

Park Mall. The shops and restaurants in the latter tend to be so expensive and upscale that aside from a couple of incredibly “in” spots at the moment things can be rather quiet in the evening. The old center of Coral Gables is flush with good restaurants and offers a free trolley service to help explore the area. The university also features non-commercial foreign films at the Cosgrove Cinema, a wide range of musical performances, and several venues for live theater, including the highly regarded Ring Theater. In Coral Gables it is acceptable to be of a certain age and occasionally a sport jacket or even a suit can be seen on the street or in a restaurant. It should be noted that all three areas also have serious local theater companies, are eminently walkable at virtually all hours, and are a relatively short taxi ride from the hotel.

A fourth more trendy yet district has recently begun to emerge just north of the city center and our hotel. Known as the Design District it offers the newest international art and design initiatives and a small group of ultra-chic restaurants and bars. Everything there is moving and developing at literally light speed, Miami flash again. What you will find there in 2007 is uncertain given its rate of change, but what is clear is that given its creative approach to urban renewal where classes, races and sexual orientations seem to be living together in a productive mix that is truly typical of Miami, it will be interesting. Just to the South of the hotel is another attraction that for once is not young and is not going anywhere, Villa Vizcaya, an Italian renaissance villa. Early in the century it moved fairly fast for a villa: it was dismantled and shipped with much of its furnishings and art work from Italy to its present site along the Biscayne corridor that connects the center city with Coconut Grove. Its tranquil jungle-like setting and gardens on the bay in the middle of the rush of the city give it a slightly surreal feel — one almost expects to find Machiavelli and Madonna discussing theology on a marble bench under the flowering bougainvilleas there.

So if you are ready for the trying climate, comfortable with your years, and ready for a bit of excitement, bring your flashiest gear, review your Miami Vice videos, and plan to join us for the RSA in Miami in 2007. ♡

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## Discipline Representatives

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Comparative Literature (Select 1)	_____ Fritz Levy	_____ Scott Blanchard
_____ Victoria Kahn	_____ David Peterson	_____ Christopher Celenza
_____ Walter Stephens	_____ Pauline Moffitt Watts	_____ Charles Nauert
_____ Raymond Waddington		
Emblems (Select 1)	History of Art and Architecture (Select 3)	Italian Literature (Select 1)
_____ Monica Calabritto	_____ Laurinda Dixon	_____ Linda Carroll
_____ Elizabeth Hill	_____ Sarah McHam	_____ Armando Maggi
_____ Maria R. Wade	_____ Bonnie Noble	_____ Michael Sherberg
	_____ Alina Payne	_____ Jane Tylus
English Literature (Select 3)	_____ Larry Silver	Music (Select 1)
_____ Donald Beecher	_____ Diane Wolfthal	_____ Anthony Cummings
_____ Bruce Boerer		_____ Ruth I. DeFord
_____ Patricia Cheney	History of Classical Tradition (Select 1)	_____ Robert Holzer
_____ Carol Kaske	_____ William Stenhouse	
_____ Richard McCoy	_____ Robert W. Ulery, Jr.	Neo-Lating Literature (Select 1)
_____ Arthur Marotti		_____ Jeanine De Landtsheer
French Literature (Select 1)	History of Medicine and Science (Select 1)	_____ Luc Dietz
_____ Ullrich Langer	_____ James J. Bono	_____ Terence Tunberg
_____ Jeffrey Persells	_____ Nicholas Clulee	
	_____ Robert Goulding	Performing Arts & Theatre (Select 1)
Germanic Literature (Select 1)	History of Political and Legal Thought (Select 1)	_____ Joe Falocco
_____ James Parente	_____ Thomas Kuehn	_____ Frederick Tollini
_____ Helmut Puff	_____ John Najemy	Philosophy (Select 1)
Hebraica (Select 1)	_____ Zachery S. Schiffman	_____ Michael Dougherty
_____ Bernard Cooperman		_____ Joseph Freedman
_____ Arthur Lesley	History of Religion (Select 1)	_____ Lodi Nauta
_____ Ilana Zinguer	_____ Irena Backus	Rhetoric (Select 1)
Hispanic Literature (Select 1)	_____ Susan Wabuda	_____ Judith Henderson
_____ Anne Cruz		_____ Jean Dietz Moss
_____ Georgina Dopico-Black	History of the Book, Paleography, and Manuscript Tradition (Select 1)	_____ Jennifer Richards
_____ Elizabeth Rhodes	_____ Martha Driver	_____ Lawrence Green
History (Select 3)	_____ Nancy Gutierrez	Women & Gender Studies (Select 1)
_____ Peter Arnade	_____ William H. Sherman	_____ Maria Boes
_____ P. Renee Baernstein		_____ Valeria Finucci
_____ James Boyden	Humanism (Select 1)	
_____ Sarah Covington		
_____ Norman Jones		

### Discipline Representative Voting Procedures

Voting is exclusively online. This page is meant to be informational. Please go to the RSA website at [www.rsa.org](http://www.rsa.org) to vote. Members who do not use a computer may mark their choices on this page and mail it to the RSA office for the RSA staff to input their vote online.

**Deadline for Voting: 1 November 2005**

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## Renaissance News & Notes

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sent to the RSA for inclusion.

Deadline: 1 August 2005

## Future Conferences

Miami, Florida — 22-24 March 2007

Chicago, Illinois — 3-6 April 2008

Los Angeles, California — 2009

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## Research Grants for the Year 2006

The Renaissance Society of America will award eleven grants for a total amount of \$25,000 in the year 2006. The grants will be available to applicants in all fields.

There are three series of grants:

- (1) RSA RESEARCH GRANTS (9)
- (2) RSA-INSR GRANT / FLORENCE (1)
- (3) SAMUEL H. KRESS FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIP IN RENAISSANCE ART HISTORY (1)

(1) The Renaissance- Society of America will award up to nine RSA Research Grants in amounts ranging from \$1,000 to \$3,000, with the average amount expected to be about \$2,000, for a total amount of \$18,000. Three grants will be awarded in each of the three categories of Non-doctoral Scholar, Younger Scholar, and Senior Scholar. These Research Grants are available to applicants in all disciplines and topics dealing with the Renaissance.

(2) RSA-INSR GRANT FOR FLORENCE – The RSA has entered into an agreement with the Istituto Nazionale di Studi sul Rinascimento in Florence to award one research grant for research in Florence or the environs. The purpose of the grant is to enable a scholar to use the archival, manuscript, and printed book collections of Florence and/or study the works of art in Florence and the surrounding area. The RSA will award the recipient \$2,000 toward travel and other costs. The Istituto Nazionale will provide lodging in a *pensione* in Florence for up to four weeks and access to its collections. For 2006 the grant will be available to applicants in all three categories.

(3) Samuel H. Kress Foundation Fellowship in Renaissance Art History of \$5,000, designed as a mid-career research fellowship for a scholar in art history. Consequently, this grant is open only to applicants in the Senior Scholar category.

There will be a single competition for all eleven awards. Please note that all applicants must be members of the Renaissance Society of America for the required number of years (see below for the minimum requirement in each category).

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

CATEGORIES:

-NON-DOCTORAL: These awards will support doctoral candidates, pre-university teachers, and other applicants lacking doctorates.

-YOUNGER SCHOLAR: -These awards will support assistant professors; associate professors in the first two years of appointment at that rank; temporary, adjunct, and/or part-time professors; and younger independent scholars holding the Ph. D. Younger scholars will normally hold the Ph. D.

-SENIOR SCHOLAR:- These awards will support associate professors with more than two years at that rank, full professors, retired professors, and senior independent scholars.

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, i.e. since the year preceding the application. All other applicants must be members of the RSA for at least three years at the time of application, i.e., at the time of application they must be at least in their fourth year as members of the RSA.

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 one category.

The deadline for applications will be 31 December 2005. Awards will be announced as soon as possible after 1 January 2006. APPLICATIONS for a grant MAY ONLY be made ONLINE at the RSA website: [www.rsa.org](http://www.rsa.org). ☛

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**Special Events at  
San Francisco 2006**

**Wednesday, 22 March**

1:00-4:00 PM

**RSA Executive Board Dinner and Meeting**

Location: TBA

*by invitation*

**Thursday, 23 March**

6:00-7:00 PM

**Plenary Session**

*Sponsor: The Erasmus of Rotterdam Society*

Location: TBA

Margaret Mann Phillips Commemorative Lecture

Edward V. George, *Texas Tech University*

Title: "Islam, Judaism, and Vives's Theological Rhetoric"

**Friday, 24 March**

6:00-7:30 PM

**Plenary Session: Renaissance of Women**

*Sponsor: Renaissance Society of America*

Location: TBA

Organized by: Anne Lake Prescott, *Barnard College*

Maureen Quilligan, *Duke University*

Sheila Ffolliott, *George Mason University*

Sharon Strocchia, *Emory University*

**Saturday, 25 March**

12:00-1:45 PM

**RSA Council Luncheon and Meeting**

Location: TBA

*by invitation*

6:00-7:30 PM

**Awards Presentation**

**Josephine Waters Bennett Lecture**

*Sponsor: Renaissance Society of America*

Location: TBA

Randolph Starn, *University of California, Berkeley*

Title: "A Postmodern Renaissance?"

7:30-9:30 PM

**Closing Reception**

*Sponsor: Renaissance Society of America*

Location: TBA

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**THE RONA GOFFEN SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

This new endowment, when funded, will support scholarship on Venetian Renaissance Art. Rona Goffen was one of the outstanding art historians of her generation. This fund will permanently associate her memory with the advancement of scholarship in a field which she loved and in which she excelled. Contributions to the Rona Goffen Scholarship for the Study of Venetian Renaissance Art can be designated in the membership form of the Renaissance Society of America.

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**THE PATRICIA H. LABALME FUND**

The Renaissance Society of America announces a memorial Scholarship for Venetian Studies in honor of Patricia H. Labalme, an outstanding scholar and generous friend. Her dedication to the Renaissance Society of America and her passion for Venice and Venetian studies have inspired us to strive for the excellence that her life and work represented.

Contributions to the Patricia H. Labalme Memorial Scholarship for Venetian Studies can be designated in the membership form of the Renaissance Society of America. ›

**UPDATING MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION**

Please browse the RSA website: [www.rsa.org](http://www.rsa.org) and the online membership directory.

If the information under your name is incorrect or you are about to relocate, please email the RSA office ([rsa@rsa.org](mailto:rsa@rsa.org)) with your new university address, mailing address and especially your email address.



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❧ Registration Form ❧  
San Francisco, 23-25 March 2006

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LAST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

FIRST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

AFFILIATION FOR BADGE: \_\_\_\_\_

REQUIRED FEE INCLUDES:

**1 copy of the Program/Abstract Booklet**

**Entry to all sessions (including the Bennett Lecture and Plenary Sessions)**

**Entry to the RSA (Renaissance Society of America) sponsored reception (Saturday, 25 March)**

**RSA Member Registration Fee : \$130**

**RSA Student Registration Fee: \$100**

**Non-RSA member Registration Fee: \$150 (for guests/spouses)**

**All Registration Fees are NON-REFUNDABLE. Non-RSA Member Fee is for those who are not Chairing, Organizing, Presenting or Responding.**

METHOD OF PAYMENT:

**By a check drawn on a USA bank and mailed to the RSA Office, Rm. 5400, CUNY Graduate Center, 356 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10016-4309, USA.**

**By credit card (Mastercard or Visa) at the RSA website ([www.rsa.org](http://www.rsa.org)) or by an email message sent to [rsa@rsa.org](mailto:rsa@rsa.org), with relevant information (card number and date of expiration).**

**By cash and by check at the registration desk at the time of the conference.**

**Hotel Information**

Room rate per night: \$189 + 14% tax Single or Double  
Please make your room reservations directly with the hotel.

**Renaissance Parc 55 Hotel**

55 Cyril Magin Street

Market at Fifth

San Francisco, CA 94102

Reservations: 800-650-7272

Telephone: 415-392-8000

Fax: 415-403-6602

*Need to find someone to split the cost of a room? Go to the room share module at the RSA website [www.rsa.org](http://www.rsa.org)*

# Call for Papers: Miami 2007

22-24 March 2007

The New Radisson Hotel Miami

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](http://www.rsa.org)

**Deadline for Submissions:**  
**21 May 2006**



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