



Cornelis de Wael, "To visit the Imprisoned", ca. 1640, oil on canvas, 99x152 cm, ©Musei di Genova

Faculté des lettres
Section d'histoire

International conference

Materiality and Confinements in the Medieval and Early Modern Eras

Objects, Actors, and Experiences

22—24 April 2026
Amphimax 414



Unil.

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 FONDAZIONE
CARITRO
CASSA DI RISPARMIO DI TRIVICO E ROVERETO

Wednesday 22 April

13:15 **Welcome coffee**

13:45 **Introduction**

-14:00 **Nathalie Dahn-Singh**

Université de Lausanne

Anna Clara Basilicò

Istituto Storico Italo Germanico

14:00 **Keynote lecture**

-15:00

Sophie Abdela

Université de Sherbrooke

*If These Walls Could Speak!
An Incursion in Paris'
Jailbreaks (1700–1790)*

15:00 **Coffee break**

15:30 **Panel 1. Spaces, Escapes,
and Power Relations**

-17:00

Chair: Nathalie Dahn-Singh

Université de Lausanne

Lucie Guignet

Université de Paris-Cergy

*Les objets de la résistance:
rescoutes et évasions des
prisonniers du Lyonnais
(XIV^e–XV^e siècles)*

Noëmi Schöb

Universität Bern, Stadtarchiv
und Vadianische Sammlung der
Ortsbürgergemeinde St. Gallen

*Escapes from the Zucht- und
Waisenhaus St. Leonhard
in St. Gallen, 1663–1798*

Vincent Meyzie

Université Paris Nanterre

*Le juge et le prisonnier.
Proximités et promiscuités des
espaces judiciaires et carcéraux
(France, XVIII^e siècle)*

Thursday 23 April

09:00 **Panel 2. Graffiti
and Prisoners' Voices**

-10:30

Chair: Anna Clara Basilicò

Istituto Storico Italo Germanico

Fanny Lalande

Lab. de recherche historique Rhône-Alpes

*"S'ils se taisent, les pierres mêmes
crieront": les graffitis, une source de
l'expérience carcérale des Huguenots,
sous le régime de la Révocation de
l'Édit de Nantes*

Marco Albertoni

Università "G. D'Annunzio" di Chieti-Pescara

*Bones, Hair, Statuettes, Graffiti:
Preliminary Remarks for an
Archaeology of Magical Practices in
Italian Prisons (17th–18th Centuries)*

Giuseppe Mrozek Eliszczynski

Università "G. D'Annunzio" di Chieti-Pescara

*Nobility, Commoners, Bandits:
the Identities of Prisoners through
Graffiti*

10:30 **Coffee break**

11:00 **Panel 3. Objects and Forced
Labor in Mediterranean
Galleys**

-12:30

Chair: Giorgio Riello

European University Institute

Teresa Peláez-Domínguez

Universitat de València

*La chiourme, les statuts et les choses
dans les galères d'Espagne
(XVI^e siècle)*

Luca Lo Basso

Università di Genova

*Les chaînes des galériens: matérialité
de la peine et vie quotidienne
sur les galères méditerranéennes
(XVI^e–XVIII^e siècles)*

Alexander Luca Coscarella

Università di Bologna

*"The Worthy Refreshment of those
Turks Enchained in the Galleys":
Selling and Consuming Coffee in an
Early Modern Mediterranean Port City*

Friday 24 April

12:30 **Lunch break**

14:00 **Panel 4. Gender, Agency, and Materiality**

-15:30

Chair: Natalia Muchnik

École des hautes études en sciences sociales

Maria Adank

Università di Verona

Visible but Constrained. Material Culture and the Dogaresa's Role in Venetian Politics

Claudia Stella Geremia

Università Ca' Foscari

Objects of Proof, Bodies in Exile: African and Afro-descendant Women before the Inquisition in the Canary Islands (16th-18th c.)

Francesca Ferrando

Università di Verona

Correcting Women: Gender, Discipline and Space in Genoa's Charitable Institutions

15:30 **Coffee break**

16:00 **Round table**

-17:30

Frances Andrews

University of St Andrews

Renaud Morieux

University of Cambridge

Natalia Muchnik

École des hautes études en sciences sociales

Giorgio Riello

European University Institute

19:30 **Conference dinner**

09:00 **Panel 5. Materiality and Confinement in Medieval and Early Modern Cloisters**

-10:30

Chair: Élisabeth Lusset

CNRS, Université Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne

Micol Long Università di Milano

"I Pace the Floor, Walking Round and Round": Approaching the Role of Materiality in the Cloistered Experience Through Comparative Textual Analysis (12th-13th Century)

Cristina Setti Università di Padova

Inside and Outside the Cloister: A Geography of Latin Devotion and of the Social Entanglements of the Franciscan Friars in 15th-century Venetian Crete

Michèle Steiner Universität Basel

The Materiality of Confinement: Gift-Giving and Conventual Networks in Early Modern Solothurn (17th and 18th Centuries)

10:30 **Coffee break**

11:00 **Panel 6. Health, Disease, and Everyday Life, Between Administration and Practices**

-12:30

Chair: Xavier Rousseaux

Université catholique de Louvain

Alessandra Celati Università di Torino

Everyday Materiality in Venetian Inquisition Prisons

Fleur Beauvieux Aix-Marseille Université

"Vingt-une paillasses, deux tours pour la soie, un fauteuil de bois de noyer...". Une histoire des femmes de l'hôpital de l'Entrepôt à travers les registres d'inventaire

Stefano Tomassetti Università del Molise, Laboratorio de recherche historique Rhône-Alpes

Air, soleil, murs. Enfermement et protection de la santé dans les Carceri Nuove de Rome (XVIII^e siècle)

12:30 **Lunch break**

14:00 **Panel 7. Between the Inside
and the Outside: Prisoners'
Experiences from Below**

Chair: **Renaud Morieux**
University of Cambridge

Lorenzo Bonvicini Università di Torino
*The Price of Guilt. Material Culture,
Economy, and Power Relations in the
Prisons of the Duchy of Modena
and Reggio Emilia (17th-18th Centuries)*

Kiran Metha University of Leicester
*Prison Letters: a History from Below
in Eighteenth-century England*

Leïla Cheurfa
Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne
*Dans les tolbooths du nord de l'Écosse:
matérialité et expériences de l'enfermement
pour dette au XVIII^e siècle*

15:30 **Coffee break**

16:00 **Panel 8. Between the Inside
and the Outside: Circulations
and the Management
of Places of Confinement**

Chair: **Frances Andrews**
University of St Andrews

Lorenzo Paveggio Università di Padova,
Institut de recherche et d'histoire des textes de Paris
*Objects of Exile: The Materiality of Theodulf
of Orléans's Confinement (c. 818-821)*

Hayrettin Yücesoy
Washington University in St. Louis
*Solace of the Imprisoned: Abbasid
Ethical Discourses on Incarceration*

Nabhojeet Sen
Bonn Center for Slavery and Dependency Studies
*Confinement(s) and Circulation: Prisons
in Early Modern South Asia, 1600-1818*

17:30 **Conclusion**

-17:45 **Xavier Rousseaux**
Université catholique de Louvain

The conference is free of charge
and will be held in person and
online. No registration is required
to attend in person.

To attend online, please contact
nathalie.dahn-singh@unil.ch.

Organisers

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Scientific committee

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