



MOMENTS OF CHANGE

A New IAH Multidisciplinary Initiative

World history is characterized by moments of great cultural, artistic, and political change: the emergence of new artistic styles and trends (in art, architecture, literature, music, and theatre); the impact of the work of influential artists, writers, and composers; shifts in political alliance and changes to the geopolitical map; significant discoveries and breakthrough inventions in science, medicine, and technology.

This new IAH initiative will explore some of these moments of change from a wide range of disciplinary angles. Each academic year will be devoted to a different historical period and to a specific moment of change. Whenever possible, the selection of a moment of change theme will be determined by an upcoming major anniversary.

Year-long projects will consist of a series of events aimed at engaging a multidisciplinary audience of scholars, artists, students, and community members. Presentation formats will include lectures, roundtable discussions, symposia, concerts, theatrical productions, workshops, exhibitions, etc. Each multidisciplinary and multicomponent project will rely on the collaboration with other Penn State partners (i.e. academic units, centers, institutes, libraries, museums).

Contact:

Marica S. Tacconi, Ph.D.
Director, Institute for the Arts and Humanities
The Pennsylvania State University

105 Ihlseng Cottage, University Park, PA 16802
(814) 865-0495; mst4@psu.edu
www.research.psu.edu/iah



Academic Year 2007-08

*Moments of Change:
The Early 17th Century
and the Roots of Modernity
(ca. 1600-1625)*

Four-hundred years ago, in 1607, Shakespeare's *Hamlet* was performed for the first time outside of England on a British East India Company ship off the coast of Sierra Leone. Meanwhile, in Italy, Monteverdi's *L'Orfeo* received its premiere in Mantua, heralding the birth of opera. Five years later, in 1612, Artemisia Gentileschi unveiled her painting of *Judith Slaying Holofernes* to astounded gasps at the realism of her work and the violence of her subject.

This period also teemed with scientific breakthroughs, including Galileo's first use of the telescope, Kepler's new understanding of the cosmos and planetary action, and Bacon's theorizing of empiricism, all of which laid the foundations for our modern scientific and technological world. At the same time, accomplishments in other parts of the world crowned a long process of development. For example, architect Mehmed Agha's design of the Blue Mosque in Istanbul (also known as the Sultan Ahmed Mosque, constructed between 1609 and 1617) marked the culmination of more than 200 years of the classical period of Mosque development. Geographical and political maps would also be changed forever, as the shores of Virginia received its first English settlers (1607), the French colonized Quebec (1608), and Pilgrims and Wampanoags celebrated the "first Thanksgiving" in Plymouth (1621).

The early seventeenth century (ca. 1600-1625) was a period of astounding cultural, artistic, and political transformations; it was a "Moment of Change."

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In 2007-08, the Moments of Change initiative will explore the significant developments and breakthroughs of the early 17th century (ca. 1600-1625). *Highlights* of the year-long project include the following:

- > September 25, 2007: An opening Interdisciplinary Roundtable, comprised of a series of panel discussions, will provide an overview of the significant changes taking place in the early 17th century. Panelists will include Penn State faculty from history, history of religion, history of science, literature, art history, music history, and theatre history.
- > The Palmer Museum of Art will display its new painting, *St. Sebastian Healed by an Angel* (ca. 1601-03), a work by Giovanni Baglione (ca. 1573-1644), a Roman artist in the school of Caravaggio. The painting is a major gift to the Museum's permanent collection by Penn State alumna Mary Jane Harris.

- Fall 2007: Theatrical productions of Shakespeare's *As You Like It* (first acted 1598-1600), performed by Penn State's School of Theatre, and of *Macbeth* (first acted ca. 1606), performed by Actors from the London Stage, a professional theatre troupe from England.
- A "Lobby Talk" panel discussion on William Shakespeare, featuring professional actors and literary scholars (October 30, 2007).
- Apollo's Fire, the internationally acclaimed Cleveland Baroque Orchestra, performs selections from Claudio Monteverdi's *L'Orfeo* in commemoration of the 400th anniversary of the opera's premiere (1607). Monteverdi changed the course of music history with *L'Orfeo*, the story of a lover who storms the gates of hell to win back his departed beloved, with only his lyre and his singing as weapons. The period-instrument performance also includes lively dances and haunting chamber music by Monteverdi and his contemporaries. Made possible through a partnership among the Institute for the Arts and Humanities, the Center for the Performing Arts, and the School of Music, the orchestra's residency also includes lectures and Baroque performance workshops.
- Spring 2008: The first annual Josephine Berry Weiss Interdisciplinary Humanities Seminar, "Four Hundred Years Ago: A Decade in the Life of Europe and the Americas, 1599-1609," team-taught by Charlotte Houghton (art history), Marica Tacconi (musicology), and Linda Woodbridge (English literature). Weekly lectures, which feature lectures by Penn State faculty and invited guests, are free and open to the general public.
- April 21, 2008: The Boston-based early music ensemble Music for a While presents a concert of Elizabethan, Italian, and German music from the early 17th century. They celebrate the varied repertoire of music for bowed and plucked strings (violin, viola, viola da gamba, and lute) and soprano. Music by Dowland, Campion, Morley, Monteverdi, Schütz and others.
- A series of concerts by Penn State School of Music faculty and students, featuring music from the early 17th century.
- A year-long lecture series including presentations by Penn State faculty and by renowned invited scholars.

CALENDAR OF PUBLIC EVENTS

(updated: 1/24/08)

All events are free, unless noted otherwise

FALL SEMESTER 2007		
September 25 (T) 4:00-6:45 p.m.	Roundtable “The Early 17 th Century: A Time of Remarkable Change” Penn State faculty from history, history of religion, history of science, literature, art history, music history, and theatre history	Nittany Lion Inn, Boardroom 1
October 17 (W) 12:10-1:00 p.m.	Concert School of Music voice students. Arias, solo madrigals and motets by early 17 th century Italian composers	Palmer Museum of Art
October 19 (F) 5:30 p.m.	Lecture Ania Loomba, University of Pennsylvania “Of Gifts, Ambassadors and Copy-cats: Diplomacy, Trade and Colonialism in Early Modern India”	Pattee Library, Foster Auditorium
October 30 (T) 4:00 p.m.	Panel Discussion Shakespeare Actors from the London Stage and Penn State faculty	Outreach Building, Lobby
October 31 (W) 7:30 p.m.	Play Shakespeare’s <i>Macbeth</i> Actors from the London Stage [Tickets are required; ticket information: 1-800-ARTS-TIX]	Schwab Auditorium
November 1 (Th) 7:30 p.m.	Play Shakespeare’s <i>Macbeth</i> Actors from the London Stage [Tickets are required; ticket information: 1-800-ARTS-TIX]	Schwab Auditorium
November 11 (Su) 3:00 p.m.	Concert Penn State Symphonic Wind Ensemble Penn State Concert Choir Music by Gabrieli, Monteverdi, and others [Tickets are required and available at the door]	Pasquerilla Spiritual Center
November 12 (M) 6:00 p.m.	Lecture Joseph Connors, Director, Villa I Tatti, The Harvard University Center for Italian Renaissance Studies, Florence, Italy “Baglione’s World: Rome in the Early Seventeenth Century”	Palmer Museum of Art, Lipcon Auditorium
November 13 (T) 12:15-1:15 p.m.	Lecture Jeanette Sorrell, Director, Apollo’s Fire - The Cleveland Baroque Orchestra “The Performance of Early Baroque Music”	Music Building I, Esber Recital Hall
November 13 (T) 1:30-3:00 p.m.	Masterclass Performance Workshop by Members of Apollo’s Fire: School of Music Voice/Opera Program	Music Building I, Esber Recital Hall
November 13 (T) 2:00-3:30 p.m.	Masterclass Performance Workshop by Members of Apollo’s Fire: School of Music Baroque Ensemble	Music Building II, Room 122
November 13 (T) 6:30 p.m.	Q&A Artistic Viewpoints with Jeannette Sorrell, Director, Apollo’s Fire - The Cleveland Baroque Orchestra	Schwab Auditorium
November 13 (T) 7:30 p.m.	Concert Apollo’s Fire - The Cleveland Baroque Orchestra Monteverdi’s <i>L’Orfeo</i> (Acts I & II) and vocal and instrumental works by contemporaries [Tickets are required; ticket information: 1-800-ARTS-TIX]	Schwab Auditorium

November 14 (W) 12:10-1:00 p.m.	Concert Penn State Baroque Ensemble	Palmer Museum of Art
Nov. 28 – Dec. 12	Play Shakespeare's <i>As You Like It</i> , Penn State School of Theatre [Tickets are required; ticket information: 1-800-ARTS-TIX]	Citizens Bank Theatre

SPRING SEMESTER 2008

February 21 (Th.) 4:00 p.m.	Lecture Steven Shankman, University of Oregon "Eruptions of the Ethical Baroque"	Foster Auditorium, Pattee Library
March 25 (Tue.) 3:00-5:00 p.m.	Panel discussion "Shakespeare and Literary Authorship" (co-sponsored with the Department of English)	Location TBA
April 17 (Th.) 5:30 p.m.	Lecture Armando Maggi, University of Chicago "The Shift of Renaissance Demonology in the New Melancholy" (co-sponsored with the Department of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese)	102 Weaver Building
April 21 (M) 8:00 p.m.	Concert Music for a While ensemble from Boston, Massachusetts (soprano, violin, viola, viola da gamba, lutes) Music by Dowland, Campion, Morley, Monteverdi, and Schütz (co-sponsored with the School of Music)	Esber Recital Hall, Music Building I

WEISS SEMINAR LECTURE SERIES *

January 23 (W) 3:35-4:50 p.m.	<i>A Walk through Three European Cities: Amsterdam, Florence, and London, ca. 1599</i> Charlotte Houghton, Marica Tacconi, Linda Woodbridge (Penn State)	Foster Auditorium, Pattee Library
January 28 (M) 3:35-4:50 p.m.	<i>1599-1609: A Time of Remarkable Change and Achievement Part One - Challenges to Authority and Tradition</i> Houghton, Tacconi, Woodbridge	Foster Auditorium, Pattee Library
February 4 (M) 3:35-4:50 p.m.	<i>1599-1609: A Time of Remarkable Change and Achievement Part Two - Changes, Conflicts, and Upheavals in Religion</i> Houghton, Tacconi, Woodbridge	Foster Auditorium, Pattee Library
February 11 (M) 3:35-4:50 p.m.	<i>1599-1609: A Time of Remarkable Change and Achievement Part Three - From Gunpowder to the Printing Press: The Impact of New Technologies</i> Houghton, Tacconi, Woodbridge	Foster Auditorium, Pattee Library
February 18 (M) 3:35-4:50 p.m.	<i>Old World and New: London, England and Quito, Peru in the Year 1599</i> James Shapiro (Columbia University) and Kris Lane (College of William and Mary)	Foster Auditorium, Pattee Library
February 25 (M) 3:35-4:50 p.m.	<i>Mesoamerican Voices: Mexico, Guatemala, Yucatan in the Age of Conquistadors</i> Matthew Restall (Penn State)	Foster Auditorium, Pattee Library
March 3 (M) 3:35-4:50 p.m.	<i>Sea Power, Gold, Colonialism, Inquisitors: Early Seventeenth-Century Spain</i> William R. Blue (Penn State)	Foster Auditorium, Pattee Library
March 17 (M) 3:35-4:50 p.m.	<i>North American Natives Meet the European Vanguard: Jamestown, 1607</i> Karen Kupperman (New York University)	Foster Auditorium, Pattee Library
March 24 (M) 3:35-4:50 p.m.	<i>Shakespeare and Company: The High Renaissance of English Literature</i> Linda Woodbridge (Penn State)	Foster Auditorium, Pattee Library

March 31 (M) 3:35-4:50 p.m.	<i>Entering a Golden Age: European Visual Arts at the Dawn of the Seventeenth Century</i> Charlotte Houghton (Penn State)	Foster Auditorium, Pattee Library
April 7 (M) 3:35-4:50 p.m.	<i>Galileo and the Changing Universe</i> Mario Biagioli (Harvard University)	Foster Auditorium, Pattee Library
April 9 (W) 3:35-4:50 p.m.	<i>Algebra, Trigonometry, Physiology: Math and Science in the Early Seventeenth Century</i> Bettina Mathes, Paul Lawrence Rose, Steven Walton (Penn State)	Foster Auditorium, Pattee Library
April 14 (M) 3:35-4:50 p.m.	<i>From Renaissance to Baroque: The Birth of Opera and the New Music Aesthetic</i> Marica Tacconi (Penn State)	Foster Auditorium, Pattee Library
April 21 (M) 3:35-4:50 p.m.	<i>Lecture-Recital: The Sounds and Instruments of the Early 17th Century</i> Music for a While ensemble (from Boston, Massachusetts)	Foster Auditorium, Pattee Library
April 28 (M) 3:35-4:50 p.m.	<i>Closing Forum ~ 1599-1609: A Time of Remarkable Change and Achievement</i> Houghton, Tacconi, Woodbridge and guests	Foster Auditorium, Pattee Library

* The first annual Josephine Berry Weiss Interdisciplinary Humanities Seminar, presented by Charlotte Houghton (art history), Marica Tacconi (musicology), and Linda Woodbridge (English literature): “Four Hundred Years Ago: A Decade in the Life of Europe and the Americas, 1599-1609.” Weekly meetings, featuring lectures by distinguished invited guests, are free and open to the general public. The Weiss Seminar is generously funded by the Josephine Berry Weiss Chair in the Humanities Endowment and is co-sponsored by the University Libraries.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Moments of Change is a multidisciplinary initiative of the Institute for the Arts and Humanities (IAH), a unit of the Office of the Senior Vice President for Research.

Moments of Change is made possible through a National Endowment for the Humanities Challenge Grant to the Institute for the Arts and Humanities and through the ongoing sponsorship of the Penn State Colleges of Arts and Architecture and of the Liberal Arts.

The IAH gratefully acknowledges the generous support of the
2007-08 *Moments of Change* partners and co-sponsors:

Josephine Berry Weiss Chair in the Humanities Endowment
Penn State Public Broadcasting-WPSU
Center for the Performing Arts
Palmer Museum of Art
School of Music
School of Theatre
Department of Art History
Department of Comparative Literature
Department of English
Department of History
Department of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese
The University Libraries