



SAPIENZA
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA

SARAS DIPARTIMENTO
DI STORIA ANTROPOLOGIA
RELIGIONI ARTE SPETTACOLO

DOTTORATO IN STORIA E CULTURE DELL'EUROPA
DOTTORATO IN STORIA ANTROPOLOGIA RELIGIONI

12 May 2023 | Aula Odeion | 9AM–6.30PM
LINK meet.google.com/miu-ypvw-tuv

**RETELLING
PRESTER JOHN:
FRONTIERS,
ROUTES, AND
EMOTIONS
OF A FAILED
ENCOUNTER**

Speakers

**Pier Giorgio Borbone
Paolo Chiesa
Marco Di Branco
Chiara Di Serio
Marianna Ferrara
Marco Giardini
Adam Knobler
Margherita Mantovani
Antonio Musarra
Agostino Soldati
Christopher E. Taylor
Davide Torri
Jana Valtrová**

SCIENTIFIC BOARD Alberto Camplani, Marianna Ferrara, Fabio Grassi, Antonio Musarra, Alessandro Saggiaro, Agostino Soldati, Davide Torri
COORDINATION Francesco Berno, Marianna Ferrara, Eduard Iricinski, Stefano Mancini, Walter Montanari, Claudia Renzi
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9.00 Welcome and Institutional Greetings

9.15 Introduction by MARIANNA FERRARA (Sapienza)

LITERARY FRONTIERS (I)
Chair: **PAOLA BUZI (Sapienza)**

9.45 Come è nata la Lettera del Prete Gianni: la stratificazione più antica - PAOLO CHIESA (University of Milan)

10.15 Traces of Ancient Greek Utopias on India in the Letter of Prester John - CHIARA DI SERIO (University of Cyprus)

10.45 Re Giovanni di Siria. Il modello tardo-antico del Prete Gianni? - AGOSTINO SOLDATI (Sapienza)

11.15–11.30 COFFEE BREAK

LITERARY FRONTIERS (II)
Chair: **FABRIZIO LELLI (Sapienza)**

11.30 Messianic Motifs in the Hebrew Manuscripts of Prester John - MARGHERITA MANTOVANI (University of Hamburg/CNRS Paris)

12.00 Faint Oriental Traces of a Western Legend: 'John the Christian King' in Bar 'Ebroyo's Chronicles - PIER GIORGIO BORBONE (University of Pisa)

12.30 Echi arabi e islamici della leggenda del Prete Gianni - MARCO DI BRANCO (Sapienza)

13.00–13.20 Final discussion

LUNCH BREAK

NARRATIVE ROUTES (I)

Chair: **ALESSANDRO SAGGIORO (Sapienza)**

14.30 Tracing the Paths of an Imaginary King - CHRISTOPHER E. TAYLOR (Austin)

15.00 The Legend of Prester John and the Imperial Idea in Germany (13th-16th Centuries) - MARCO GIARDINI (École Pratique des Hautes Études)

15.30 Prester John and the Crusades - ANTONIO MUSARRA (Sapienza)

16.00–16.15 COFFEE BREAK

NARRATIVE ROUTES (II)
Chair: **SERGIO BOTTA (Sapienza)**

16.15 Mythologies and Histories: Telling Stories of an Invented Present - ADAM KNOBLER (Ruhr-Universität Bochum/CERES - Center for Religious Studies)

16.45 Secret and Sacred. The Theme of Hidden Valleys in the Himalayas and Surrounding Areas - DAVIDE TORRI (Sapienza)

17.15 Conclusions by JANA VALTROVÁ (Masaryk University, Brno)

17.45–18.15 Final discussion