Matteo Ricci Speaker Explores Early Modern Jesuit Who Brought Lessons of China to Europe

Vasileios Syros of the Italian Academy for Advanced Studies in America at Columbia University will deliver the next Matteo Ricci Speakers Series Lecture. Professor Syros' lecture, entitled "Heavens in Cathay: China as a Mercantilist Utopia and Jesuit Political Thought" will focus on Giovanni Botero, a Jesuit political writer who used the example of China to alert Europeans to the challenges of imperial expansion and the importance of trade.

Professor Syros' many publications include Marsilius of Padua at the Intersection of Ancient and Medieval Cultures and Traditions of Learning (University of Toronto, 2012); Die Rezeption der aristotelischen politischen Philosophie bei Marsilius von Padua (Brill, 2007); and Well Begun is Only Half Done: Tracing Aristotle’s Political Ideas in Medieval Arabic, Syriac, Byzantine, and Jewish Sources (ACMRS, 2011).

The Matteo Ricci Speakers Series is free and open to the public. It will take place on Friday, October 13 at 4:00 pm in Adorjan Hall 142. A reception will follow.

Renowned Scholar of Medieval Liturgy to Deliver Lecture on Crusading Prayers
M. Cecilia Gaposchkin, Professor of History at Dartmouth College, will deliver a lecture to the Crusades Studies Forum entitled "Processions, Penance, and Performance: The Pre-Battle Processions of the First Crusade." The public lecture will take place on Friday, October 27 at 3:00pm in the Sinquefield Stateroom, DuBourg Hall. A reception will follow.


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The 43rd Annual Saint Louis Conference on Manuscript Studies

The Saint Louis Conference on Manuscript Studies, which has been organized annually by the Vatican Film Library for decades, will hold its last meeting in October, before joining the Annual Symposium on Medieval and Renaissance Studies every June. The conference will take place in the Anheuser-Busch Auditorium of John Cook Hall on October 14 and 15. Marianna Shreve Simpson of the University of Pennsylvania will deliver this year's Lowry J. Daly, S.J. Memorial Lecture on Manuscript Studies. The title of her lecture will be "Persian Manuscripts and the Meaning of Masterpiece."

Full program and registration information for the conference is available on the VFL website here.