

American Society for the History of Rhetoric

2005 ASHR Conference
16 November 2005
Boston, Massachusetts

" Performance in the History of Rhetoric:
Display, Spectacle, Persuasion, and Power"

Charles River Room, The Union, 2nd Floor
Emerson College

96 Beacon Street (map)
Boston, Massachusetts

Questions may be directed to the ASHR Vice President,
Richard Graff, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities.

The historical study of rhetoric finds itself at the intersection of several vigorous avenues of research focused on the theme of "performance". This performance turn is evidenced not only in recent work by authors identified with the field of rhetorical studies, but also in cognate fields--for example, in classics, where investigation of Greek and Roman dramaturgy, political practice, and constructions of gender has led to renewed interest in early technical rhetoric, and in performance studies, where historical studies of performing arts, oratorical traditions, and the performance of everyday life hold out important implications for rhetorical theory. Reflecting the quality and diversity of work on this theme, papers and featured presentations at this year's conference consider several facets of performance to elucidate the rhetoric of different historical periods and cultural contexts.

Conference Program

8:15-8:45

Welcome -- Coffee/Pastries

8:45-10:15

Panel 1: Rhetoric, Performance, and Spectacle in the Ancient World

"Spectacle, Persuasion and Power in Ancient Sumer : Rhetoric and Royal Hymns of Sulgi of Ur " Jeanne Clark, Willamette University

"Text, Performance, Power" Stanley Dambroski, University of Maryland/U.S. Department of the Interior

"Introire and the Public Stage: Performance and Spectacle in the Letters of M. Caelius Rufus"
Brian Walters, UCLA

"Performative and Representational Ethos: An Inquiry into Classical Character
Education" David Hoffman, Baruch College

Chair: Sara Newman, Kent State University

10:15-11:15

2005 Conference Keynote Speaker

Anthony Corbeill, Professor of Classics (Latin), University of Kansas

"Competing Political Bodies in Republican Rome "

Professor Corbeill is the author of several articles on Cicero 's intellectual background and Roman rhetorical education. He has also published two books with Princeton University Press: *Controlling Laughter: Political Humor in the Late Roman Republic* (1996) and, most recently, *Nature Embodied: Gesture in Ancient Rome* (2004), which considers the visual depictions and verbal descriptions of gesture in classical Rome as lenses for understanding Roman political ideology and conceptions of gender. Dr. Corbeill's current project, tentatively titled *Boundaries of Sex and Gender in Ancient Rome* , surveys the Roman understanding of grammatical gender, androgynous gods, hermaphrodite prodigies, visual representations of Ganymede, and portrayals of feminized male corpses.

11:30-12:45

Panel 2: Delivery and Rhetorical Pedagogy

"Medieval Rhetoric Delivers" Martin Camargo, University of Illinois

"Delivery and the Integrated Art of Rhetoric" Michele Mason, University of Maryland

"Growth of the Performative Movement in Philosophy" Andrew King and John Whitaker,
Louisiana State University

Chair: Beth S. Bennett, University of Alabama

12:45-1:55

Lunch Break

2:00-3:15

Panel 3: Performance and the Spiritual

"Thomas Wilson and Roger Ascham on Diagnosing Sorcery" Ryan J. Stark, The Pennsylvania State University

"Delivering Emotion: What Eighteenth-Century Sermon Texts Don't Tell Us" Lois Agnew, Syracuse University

"'I Am Full of Matter': Daniel Coker's Dialogue Between a Virginian and an African Minister (1810) " Glen McClish, San Diego State University, and Jacqueline Bacon, Independent Scholar

Chair: Daniel Emery, University of Utah

3:30-4:45

Special Media Presentation

"Communicating in Classical Contexts: Speech Settings in Ancient Greece" Christopher Lyle Johnstone, Penn State University

5:00-6:15

Panel 4: Rhetoric and Performance in American History

"Performing Sophistry in Nineteenth-Century America: The Lyceum Movement in Historical Perspective" Sean Patrick O'Rourke, Furman University

"Literacy and the Performance of Citizenship in Early Twentieth Century America" Mary Anne Trasciatti, Hofstra University

"Performing Parenthood in the Law: Law as Father in the Creation of the Juvenile Court" Leslie J. Harris, Lake Forest College

Chair: Thomas Dunn, Emerson College

6:15-7:30

ASHR Reception -- 29 Newbury Street