Luther in Italy



he printing industry developed in mutual exchange with the Reformation. Luther's ideas and actions deeply affected the

book world. Theologians boosted the market with polemical works against or in favour of the former monk from Eisleben. This overwhelming book production inspired a call for an unprecedented, strict control over the printing press.

Numina coelestem nobis peperere Lutherum, Nostra diu maius secla uiderenihil. Quem si Pontisicum crudelis deprimet error,

Non ferer iratos implaterra deos,

To mark the occasion of the 500th anniversary of the year in which, according to tradition, Luther nailed his 95 theses to the door of the Palace Church in Wittenberg, a conference in Rome will address the topic of the impact of the Reformation on the Italian book market.





Rome, 23-25 February 2017

Papers are invited on any aspects of the relationship between the Reformation and the book in Italy. They may include, but are not limited to: the rise of censorship in Counter-Reformation Italy; the adjustments of the book trade; printing mobility as a contingency strategy; dissidence and nicodemism in print and visual arts; the loss of works of banned authors; contemporary perceptions of Luther and his representation as a historical figure; the development of modern propaganda; the phenomenon of damnatio memoriae.

The conference will take place in Rome between 23 and 25 February 2017. Those interested in giving a paper should offer a title and a brief synopsis (300-500 words) of their proposed contribution. Proposals should be sent to Flavia Bruni at the address fb323@st-andrews.ac.uk by 31 May 2016.

¶ To promote a genuinely international exchange between participants, proposals and papers must be in English. Italian and German abstracts will be provided at the conference. A limited number of bursaries will be available for students.

Organising Committee:

Jan L. Alessandrini, University of Oxford; Andreea Badea, Deutsches Historisches Institut Rome; Flavia Bruni, Sapienza University of Rome – University of St Andrews; Margherita Palumbo, formerly Biblioteca Casanatense, Rome; Valentina Sebastiani, University of Basel

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