

THE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE MORE RECENT PAST IN EARLY MODERN EUROPE: BETWEEN REJECTION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

20-22 June 2017

CENTRE D'ETUDES SUPÉRIEURES DE LA RENAISSANCE (CESR), 59 RUE NÉRICAULT DESTOUCHES, 37000 TOURS, FRANCE



The roots of the idea of the Renaissance as a time of innovation and revival of learning, wisdom and art after a long period of decline can be traced back to the thought of contemporary groups of intellectuals, artists, and cultural elites. At the threshold of what can be seen as two different historical periods, the “Middle Ages” and the “Renaissance”, these groups started to think of their age as a new era, distinct from the younger past, grounding this distinction on their renewed relationship with the more remote era of the ancient cultures of Rome and Greece. This image of an abrupt break with a past of gloom can be considered a myth, and just as all myths do, it unfolded and metamorphosed over the centuries. Its origins are nonetheless intriguing: what were these thinkers opposing themselves, at what level, with what discrepancies and inconsistencies? This cross-disciplinary international conference proposes to explore the early modern perceived reality of the continuities and the disruptions between the Renaissance and the previous period, in connection with but nevertheless tangential to their objective actuality. By examining the numerous aspects and fields in which this conception of a time that had interposed itself between Antiquity and its renewal manifests, the conference hopes to better clarify the different Renaissance attitudes towards it.

The languages of the conference are **English** and **French**. Prospective speakers are invited to submit proposals of no more than **350 words** for **30-minute papers**. Topics of interest and approaches may include (but are by no means limited to):

Latin language and literature

History and historiography

Science and technology

Fine and applied arts

Antiquities and archaeology

Philosophy ...

Travel and accommodation expenses will be covered.

PLEASE SEND YOUR PROPOSAL AND A BRIEF BIO BEFORE 15TH FEBRUARY 2017 TO:

- **Dr Maria Clotilde Camboni**

Le Studium – Marie Slodowska Curie Fellow, in residence at CESR (Centre d'Etudes Supérieures de la Renaissance - UMR 7323 CNRS - Université François-Rabelais Tours).

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- **Pr Chiara Lastraioli**

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