Part II Paper 14: Material culture in the early modern world

Course Convenor: Professor Mary Laven
Lecturers: Dr Melissa Calaresu, Dr Irene Galandra Cooper, Professor Mary Laven, Dr William O’Reilly, Dr Helen Pfeifer, Professor Ulinka Rublack, Dr Emma Spary

This course engages with the vigorous historiographical debates on consumption from the Renaissance to the Enlightenment in a global perspective. Key questions are to what extent this period witnessed a “consumer revolution” and birth of “Western materialism”, or whether early modern Europe was just one of several global centres in which the production and consumption of goods proliferated during this period. Lectures focus not just on Europe, but the Ottoman Empire, Asia and North America. How can historians find out about the meanings a greater number of things held for people in different milieus and how contemporaries approached question of value? Did an engagement with things and appearances constitute identities, so that personhood must therefore be thought of as emerging in relation to objects and exchange, rather than as pre-existing entity? In what ways did the importance of domestic interiors and cuisine change? Should we regard slaves and concubines as part of a contemporary material culture, where you could own people?

Students will gain a fresh and stimulating grounding of the central themes in early modern history as well as of methodological and theoretical frameworks of recent historical writing, which understands the importance of looking at early modern Europe as part of a globalising world. The course allows students to become familiar with the language and approaches of art history and anthropology as well as with changes within economic and cultural history. Key issues interlink particularly closely with HAP teaching on images, artefacts, cultural history, trans-national history, and gender history. In addition to lectures and seminars there are handling sessions and museum visits in Cambridge, guided by experts in the field. These visits provide a rare opportunity to closely look at objects to reflect on what evidence they provide for historians.
Course Outline: Seminars and supervisions

Examination
- Three-hour unseen; answer 3 questions; undivided paper
- Questions are set on the lecture topics and handling topics

Teaching regime for this paper
- Michaelmas: 8 lecture classes; plus 2 museum handling sessions
- Lent: 8 lecture classes; plus 2 museum handling session
- Easter: one revision class
- Supervisions, 5 or 6 per student (individual supervisions); in either term, plus revision
- Classes are 1 hour 45 minutes and mix c.30-minute lecturing with seminar style teaching and hands-on practical exercises
- Supervision topics are the same as the lecture topics and handling topics
- Fieldtrips take you to Cambridge Museums and College collections and allow you to handle objects as well as discover those in reserve collections

Seminar Schedule (Mondays 11:00-12.45, Faculty of History, Room 12):

Michaelmas Term

**Periods**
- 8 October 2018: Introduction/The Renaissance as a New World of Goods (ML)
- 15 October 2018: Reformation Worlds from Wittenberg to the Dutch Golden Age (UR)
- 22 October 2018: Catholic Renewal and the Global Baroque (ML)
- 29 October 2018: Enlightenments (MC)

**Geographies of Change**
- 5 November 2018: Globalization and Encounter: Asia and Europe (ML)
- 12 November 2018: The Atlantic World (WOR)
- 19 November 2018: The Ottoman World (HP)

**Case Studies**
- 26 November 2018: Food and Drink (MC)

Lent Term

- 21 January 2019: Drugs and the Globalization of Europe (ES)
- 28 January 2019: The Triumph of Fashion (UR)
- 4 February 2019: Print (ES)
- 11 February 2019: Mughal Gardens (HP)
- 18 February 2019: Courts (WOR)
- 25 February 2019: Affects and Objects (UR)
- 4 March 2019: Inside and Outside (MC)
- 11 March 2019: Inventories (IGC)

Easter Term
- 29 April 2019: Revision: Images, Texts and Objects (HP)

Handling Schedule

**I.** 17 October, 2-3.30pm  Porcelain & Metalwork, Fitzwilliam Museum (MC & VA)
**II.** 12 November, 4-5.30pm  Silver, Robin Hayes Room, Trinity Hall (WOR)
**III.** TBD, 4-5pm  Fashion (AG & VZ)
**IV.** 11 February 2019, 2-3.30pm  Collecting and Cabinets, Fitzwilliam Museum (MC & VA)

September 2018
Bibliography

General
1. Approaching Material Culture
2. Consumption
3. Materiality and Making

Periods
4. Renaissance
5. Reformations
6. Enlightenments

Geographies
7. Globalization and Encounter: Asia and Europe
8. Global Object Cultures: Porcelain, Metalwork, Silver (*Handling I and II*)
9. The Atlantic World
10. The Ottoman World

Case Studies
11. Food and Drink
12. Drugs and the Globalisation of Europe
13. The Triumph of Fashion
14. Print
15. Mughal Gardens
16. Courts
17. Collecting and Cabinets (*Handling IV*)
18. Inside and Outside
19. Inventories
1. Approaching Material Culture


Howell, M., *Commerce Before Capitalism in Europe, 1300-1600* (2010), Introduction


Miller, P., (ed.), *Cultural histories of the material world* (2013), Intro, 1, 9, 15, 18, 19


See also several specialised journals, including:

- *Journal of Material Culture*
- *Material Religion*
- *West 86th: A Journal of Decorative Arts, Design History, and Material Culture*
2. Consumption

i. Primary:
Bernard Mandeville, *The Fable of the Bees; or, Private Vices, Publick Benefits* (1795).

For trade cards, search the Waddesdon Manor collection:
http://www.waddesdon.org.uk/searchthecollection/trade_cards_introduction.html or look under
*Prints and drawings* in the online collection of the Fitzwilliam Museum.

ii. Secondary:
Burke, P., *Venice and Amsterdam* (section comparing consumption in both environments).
Welch, E., *Shopping in the Renaissance: Consumer cultures in Italy, 1400-1600* (Yale, 2005), esp. Intro., chs. 1,2,6,8-10.
3. Materiality and Making

i. Primary:
Benvenuto Cellini, The Treatises of Benvenuto Cellini on Goldsmithing and Sculpture, var.edns.

ii. Secondary:
Baxandall, M., The Limewood Sculptors of Renaissance Germany (New Haven, 1980), ch.6
Bucklow, S., The alchemy of paint: art, science, and secrets from the Middle Ages (London, 2009), chs.1-3
Roberts, L., Schaffer, S., Dear, P., (eds.), The Mindful Hand: Inquiry and Invention from the Late Renaissance to Early Industrialisation (Amsterdam, 2007)
Schäfer, D., The Crafting of 10,000 Things: Knowledge and Technology in Seventeenth-Century China (Chicago, 2011)
4. Renaissance

i. Primary:
Albrecht Dürer, *Travel Journal of his Journey to the Netherlands* (various editions)
Robert Klein and Henri Zerner (eds), *Italian Art, 1500-1600: Sources and Documents* (1990); see especially sections on collecting and taste.
A visit to the Renaissance collection held in the Rothschild Gallery of the Fitzwilliam is especially recommended when preparing this topic.

ii. Secondary:
Baxandall, M., *Painting and Experience in Fifteenth-Century Italy* (first published, 1972; 2nd edn, 1988); sections one and two.
Brundin, Abigail, Deborah Howard and Mary Laven, *The Sacred Home in Renaissance Italy* (Oxford, 2018), esp. ch. 4, 'Sacred Stuff
Thornton, D., The Scholar in his Study: Ownership and Experience in Renaissance Italy (New Haven, 1997), intro., chs 2, 3, 6.
Welch, E., Shopping in the Renaissance: Consumer Cultures in Italy, 1400-1600 (2005), 1, 2, 6, 8-10.
Welch, E., and O’Malley, M., (eds.), The Material Renaissance (Manchester 2007), intro, chs. 1, 3, 4
Wilson, B., The World in Venice: Print, the City, and early modern Identity (University of Toronto Press, 2005), chs 1 and 2 (on city-maps and costume-books).
5. Reformations

i. Primary:
Catholic material culture in Rolf Toman (ed.), *Baroque: Architecture, Sculpture, Painting* (1998)
Xavier Bray (ed.), *The Sacred Made Real* (London, 2009)
Fitzwilliam Museum: see especially the Glaisher Gallery (23 – European Pottery) and the Rothschild Gallery (32 – Medieval and Renaissance Art).

ii. Secondary:
Bamji, A., Janssen, G., and Laven, M., (eds.), *Ashgate Companion to the Counter-Reformation* (2013), esp. Chs. 11 (Sacred Landscape), 13 (Senses), 20 (Art), 21 (Material Culture), 24 (Legacies)
David Gentilcore, *From Bishop to Witch: The System of the Sacred in Early Modern Terra d’Otranto* (Manchester, 1992); especially ch. 4 on sacramentals and ch. 6 on relics.
King, R., ‘“The beads with which we pray are made from it”: Devotional ambers in early modern Italy’ in C. Göttler and W. de Boer (eds.), *Religion and the senses in early modern Europe* (2013) pp.153–76
Deborah Krohn and Peter Miller, *Dutch New York between East and West: The World of Margrieta van Varick* (2009)
Po-Chia Hsia, R., *The World of Catholic Renewal, 1540-1770* (2005); on art and architecture
Rublack, U., Dressing Up: Cultural Identity in Renaissance Europe (2010), ch.3
Scott Dixon, C., et al. (eds.), Living with Religious Diversity in Early Modern Europe (Farnham, 2009); especially chs 3 and 4.
Spicer, A., (ed.), Lutheran Churches in Early Modern Europe (Farnham, 2012); esp. chs 5-7.
Verdi Webster, S., Art and Ritual in Golden Age Spain: Sevillian Confraternities and the Processional Sculpture of Holy Week (Princeton, 1998), intro., chs 2.4
6. Enlightenments

i. Primary:
For plates from the Encyclopédie (1751-77), see http://diderot.alembert.free.fr/ or http://encyclopedie.uchicago.edu/
For a virtual tour of the Enlightenment Galleries at the British Museum:
http://www.britishmuseum.org/explore/galleries/themes/room_1_enlightenment.aspx
Bernard Mandeville, The Fable of the Bees; or, Private Vices, Publick Benefits (1795)
Molière, Bourgeois Gentilhomme (various editions)
Adam Smith, An Inquiry into the Wealth of Nations (various editions).

ii. Secondary:
Coltman, V., Classical sculpture and the culture of collecting in Britain since 1760 (2009), ch.6
Outram, D., Panorama of the Enlightenment (London: Thames and Hudson, 2006)
Roche, D., France in the enlightenment (Harvard, 2000), chs.17, 19
7. Globalization and Encounter: Asia and Europe

i. Primary:
C. R. Boxer, *South China in the Sixteenth Century* (London, 1953); especially Galeote Pereira on food, 14; Gaspar da Cruz on sedan chairs, textiles and porcelain, 124-6, on food, 131-141, and on female dress, 149; Martín de Rada on clothes and sedan-chairs, 282-285, and food, 287. Francesco Carletti, *My Voyage Around the World* (New York, 1965); 136-154, on Chinese commodities.


ii. Secondary:


Jan De Vries, *The Economy of Europe in an Age of Crisis, 1600-1750* (1976); chapter 4, ‘The dynamism of trade.’


Velez, K., ‘Catholic Missions to the Americas’, ch. 8 in: A. Bamji et al. (eds) *The Ashgate Research Companion to the Counter-Reformation* (2013)
8. Global Object Cultures

**General**
Adamson, G., Riello, G., and Teasley, S., (eds.), *Global design history* (2011), Ch. 1
Roodenburg, H., (ed), *Forging European identities, 1400-1700*, vol. IV of Cultural exchange in early modern Europe (Cambridge, 2007), Intro, pp.138-177 (Howard, D., ‘Cultural transfer between Venice and the Ottomans), and ch.11.

**Porcelain:**
For porcelain objects, go to the Glaisher Gallery at the Fitzwilliam Museum.

**Metalwork:**
Hayward, J., *Virtuoso Goldsmiths and the Triumph of Mannerism, 1540-1620* (1976)
Vilches, E., New World Gold: Cultural Anxiety and Monetary Disorder in Early Modern Spain (2010), Intro., 4.
Weinryb, I., The Bronze Object in the Middle Ages (2016)

Silver:
Jones, E.A., Old Silver of Europe and America, (1st ed., 1928), JM Classic Editions (2008). The book is organised by country: you may choose various case studies; the chapters on Germany (pp. 180-226), Holland (pp. 227-246) and Italy (pp. 265-270) are particularly good. And look out for mention of Cambridge college silver from these countries.
9. The Atlantic World


Canny, Nicholas, and Philip Morgan (eds), *The Oxford Handbook of the Atlantic World, 1450-1850* (2011), esp. chs 1, 6, 8, 18, 19.


Ganson, Barbara, *The Guaraní under Spanish Rule* (2003), esp. chs 1, 3, 4


Magasich-Airola, Jorge and Jean-Marc de Beer, *America Magica. When Renaissance Europe thought it had Conquered Paradise* (2007), esp. chs 1, 4, 7


Velez, Karin, ‘Catholic Missions to the Americas’, ch. 8 in: A. Bamji et al. (eds) *The Ashgate Research Companion to the Counter-Reformation* (2013)
10. The Ottoman World:
Dangerous Substances, Dangerous Spaces

i. Primary:

ii. General Reading:
Faroqhi, S., Approaching Ottoman History: An Introduction to the Sources (1999)

iii. Secondary:
Eric Dursteler, ‘Bad Bread and the ‘Outrageous Drunkenness of the Turks’: Food and Identity in the Accounts of Early Modern European Travelers to the Ottoman Empire’, Journal of World History 25 (2014), pp. 203-228
11. Food and Drink

i. Primary:
Ivan Day’s website on the practice and technology of cooking.
Glanville, P., and H.Young (eds), Elegant eating: Four hundred years of dining in style (V&A, 2002),

ii. Secondary:
Albala, K., Food in early modern Europe (Berkeley, 2003).
Berger Hochstrasser, J., Still Life and Trade in the Dutch Golden Age (New Haven, 2007), Part I.
Dalby, A., Dangerous Tastes: The Story of Spices (London, 2002).
Forster, R., and Ranum, O., (eds.), Food and drink in history (1979), ch.3, 4, 6
Foster, N., and Cordell, L.S., Chilies to Chocolat; Food the Americas Gave the World (1992).
Grieco, A., on ‘Meals’ and Reino Liefkes on ‘Tableware’ in Marta Ajmar-Wollheim and Flora Dennis, At home in Renaissance Italy (London: V&A Publications, 2006).
Honig, E., Painting and the Market in Early Modern Antwerp (New Haven, 1998)
Malaguzzi, S., Food and Feasting in Art (Los Angeles, 2008), pp. 65-81.
Mennell, S., All Manners of Food. Eating and Taste in England and France from the Middle Ages to the Present (Oxford, 1985), chs.4-5.
Mintz, S., Sweetness and Power: The Place of Sugar in Modern History (1986), ch.3
Olson, R. et al. (eds.), The biography of the object in late medieval and renaissance Italy (2006), ch. 4
Schama, S., The Embarrassment of Riches (London, 1987), ch.2
Spary, E.C., Eating the Enlightenment, (Chicago, 2012), Intro, Conc
Wheaton, B., Savoring the Past: the French Kitchen and Table from 1300 to 1789, (1983), chs.3-5.
12. Drugs and the Globalisation of Europe

i. Primary
Nicolas Lémery, *A course of chymistry: containing an easie method of preparing those chymical medicines which are used in physic* (London, 1720) Read Chapter V, on cinnamon*
Pierre Pomet, *A compleat history of druggs* (London, 1712) Read vol. 1, pp. 72-76, and 127-29*

ii. Secondary:
Pincus, S., “Rethinking mercantilism: political economy, the British Empire, and the Atlantic world in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries”, *The William and Mary Quarterly* 69.1 (2012): 3-34
Porter, R., and Teich, M., (eds.), *Drugs and Narcotics in History* (1985)
Walker, T., ‘The medicines trade in the Portuguese Atlantic world: acquisition and dissemination of healing knowledge from Brazil (c.1580–1800)’, Social History of Medicine 26.3 (2013): 403-31*


13. The Triumph of Fashion

i. Primary:
Ulinka Rublack, Maria Hayward eds., The First Book of Fashion (2015).

ii. Secondary:
Anishanslin, Z., Portrait of a Woman in Silk Hidden Histories of the British Atlantic World (2016)
Biedermann, Zoltan et al eds., Global Gifts. The Material Culture of Diplomacy (2018), esp Intro, ch. 2 on Luxury Gifts of Velvets for the Ottomans
Biow, D., On the Importance of Being an Individual in the Renaissance: Men, Their Professions, and their Beards, chs 5.6 (2015)
DiPaolo Loren, The Archaeology of Clothing and Bodily Adornment in Colonial America (2010), esp. Chs 2-4
Fisher, W., Materializing Gender in Early Modern English Literature and Culture (2006), chs. 2,3
Forsyth, H., The Cheapside Horde (2013) - for jewellery
Hayward, M., Dress at the Court of King Henry VIII (Maney, 2007), esp. I.
Lemire, Global Trade and the Transformation of Consumer Cultures (2017), Intro, 2, 3, 6
Reynolds, A., In Fine Style: The Art of Tudor and Stuart Fashion (2013)
Riello, G., Cotton: The Fabric that made the Modern World (2013), esp. 1,7,8
Sarti, R., Europe at Home - Family and Material Culture 1500-1800 (2002); ch. 5, 192- 213.
Schäfer, Dagmar, et al eds., Threads of Global Desire: Silk in the Pre-Modern World (2018), esp chs13 (Riello on Global Comparisons), 4, 6, 9, 10

23

Sternberg, G., *Status interaction during the reign of Louis XIV* (Oxford, 2014), Ch. 3


Welch, E., and O’Malley, M., (eds.), *The Material Renaissance* (Manchester 2007), ch. 1

14. Print

i. Primary:
Browse the website for EEBO (Early English Books Online)
University Library: For detailed studies on book illustration, book-binding, paper-making, printing type and ink, publishing and distribution for specific cultures or time periods, you may wish to consult the reference collection on the shelves of the University Library’s Rare Books Room (B classmark).
Centre for Material Texts website - http://www.english.cam.ac.uk/cmt/

ii. Secondary:
Baron, S., Lindquist, E. & Shevline, E.F., Agent of Change: Print Culture Studies after Elizabeth L. Eisenstein (University of Massachusetts Press, 2007), chaps. 8, 10, 15, 20.
Darnton, R., The Great Cat Massacre and Other Episodes in French Cultural History (1985).
Darnton, R., The Forbidden Best-Sellers of Pre-Revolutionary France (1996), Chapter 7
*Goldstein, C., Print Culture in Early Modern France: Abraham Bosse and the Purposes of Print (2014)


Sherman, W., *Used books: marking readers in Renaissance England* (2008), Preface, Ch.8
15. Mughal Gardens

i. Primary:
Images on Moodle


‘The Princes of the House of Timur’
http://www.britishmuseum.org/research/collection_online/collection_object_details.aspx?objectID=265945&partId=1

ii. Secondary:
Herbert, E., Flora’s Empire: British Gardens in India (2011), intro., ch. 4.
16. Courts

i. Primary:

ii. Secondary:
Buisseret, D., (ed.), Monarchs, Ministers and Maps: The Emergence of Cartography as a tool of Government in Early Modern Europe (Chicago, 1992), chs.4-5.
Duindam, J., Dynasties. A global history of power 1300-1800 (2016)
Glete, J., War and the state in early modern Europe: Spain, the Dutch Republic and Sweden as fiscal-military states, 1500-1660 (London, 2002).
Goldthwaite, R., Wealth and the Demand for Art in Italy 1300-1600 (1993)
Jardine, L., and Brotton, J., Global Interests: Renaissance Art between East and West (2000), ch. 2

Lund, E., War for the every day: generals, knowledge, and warfare in early modern Europe, 1680-1740 (Westport, Conn., 1999).


Mukerji, C., Territorial Ambitions and the Gardens of Versailles (1997)


Welch, E., Art and Authority in Renaissance Milan (Yale, 1996).
17. Collecting and Cabinets

i. Primary:
E. Fučíková, *Rudolf II and Prague: The Court and the City* (exh. cat. 1997) – section on court
The Getty Museum. “Cabinet Interactive Presentation.”

ii. Secondary:
Evans, R.J.W., *Rudolf II and His World: A Study in Intellectual History (1576–1612)* (1973), ch. 5
Evans, R.J.W., and Marr, A., (eds.), *Curiosity and wonder from the Renaissance to the Enlightenment* (Aldershot, 2006), Preface and Introduction
Jackson,A., &Jaffer, A.,(eds.), *Encounters: The meeting of Asia and Europe, 1500–1800* (2004), ch. 3
MacDonald, D., ‘Collecting a New World: The Ethnographic Collections of Margaret of Austria’, *Sixteenth Century Journal* 33, 3 (Fall 2002), pp. 649-664.
Marr, A., and Evans, R.J.W., (eds.), *Curiosity and wonder from the Renaissance to the Enlightenment* (2009), Intro, Ch. By Marr

Welch, E., Shopping in the Renaissance: Consumer cultures in Italy, 1400-1600 (Yale, 2005), ch. on Isabella d’Este.
18. Inside and Outside

i. Primary:
French furniture at the Metropolitan Museum: ‘case’ furniture & seat furniture
Jan Comenius, *Orbis Sensutalim Pictus* (1658), pp.85, 91-2

Annibale Carraci, *Di Bologna, L’arti per via* [Rome,1660] (Forni Editore, Bologna).
Ambrogio Brambilla, *Ritrato de quelli che vano vendendo et lavorando per Roma* (Rome, 1612), Pepys Library, Magdalene College, Cambridge
Paolo Petroni, *Facciate delli palazzi piu cospicui della città di Napoli con le brevi descrizione delle cose più magnifiche* , (Naples, 1718), ff.13-29
Duca di Noja, *Mappa topografica della città di Napoli e de’ suoi contorni* (Naples, 1775)

ii. Secondary:
*Domestic*:
Handley, S., *Sleep in Early Modern England* (Yale, 2016), ch.2
Vickery, A., ‘An Englishman’s home is his castle? Thresholds, boundaries and privacies in the eighteenth-century house’, *Past and Present*, No. 199 (May, 2008), 147–73

*Street Lives*:
Garrioch, D., 'House Names, Shop Signs and Social Organization in Western European Cities, 1500-1900', *Urban History*, 21 (1994), 18-46


Shesgreen, S., *Images of the Outcast: The Urban Poor in the Cities of London from the Sixteenth to the Nineteenth Century* (Manchester, 2002), chs. 3-4.


Welch, E., *Shopping in the Renaissance: Consumer cultures in Italy, 1400-1600* (2005), chs. 3 and 5.
19. Inventories

i. Primary:
Margrieta van Varick inventory and exhibition: interview with Natalie Zemon Davis - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hwiR3dz4Wg8
Emmanuel Ximenez and Isabel da Vega Inventory, 1617, Antwerp - http://ximenez.unibe.ch/inventory/reading/
Domestic Interiors Database [search ‘inventory’] - http://csdi.rca.ac.uk/didb/index.php
Goods dictionaries:
German - http://www.kruenitz1.uni-trier.de/

ii. Secondary:
Krohn, D., and Miller, P., (eds.), Dutch New York, between east and west: the world of Margrieta van Varick (2009), Introduction and interview with Natalie Zemon Davis
Shepherd, A., Accounting for Oneself. Worth, Status and Social Order in Early Modern England (2015)