

Herbal History Research Network



A seated woman holding a flower, from Bartolommeo della Rocca [Cocles], *Phisonomei: Complexio und Art eins ieden Menschen* (Strasbourg, c.1550). Courtesy of the National Library of Medicine.

Illustration and Identification in the History of Herbal Medicine: **Day Seminar**

10.30 am–4.30 pm

Wednesday 18th June 2014

Jodrell Lecture Theatre

Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

Richmond, Surrey TW9 3DS, UK

Advance registration required by 9th June 2014

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Illustration and Identification in the History of Herbal Medicine

The aim of this day is to bring together researchers to explore issues related to plant illustration and identification in the history of herbal medicine. Correct identification of plants in the past has been of great importance, whether for foods, medicines or other purposes. But to what extent did people in medieval and early modern times learn about plants with medicinal uses from illustrations in herbals or elsewhere? Matters of interest include ways in which illustrations were produced, the role of illustrations, dissemination of information, and the identification of plants in the past. The day will include a lecture by Dr. Nicky Wesson, a panel discussion with Dr. Wesson, Dr. Sarah Greig, Dr. Sarah Hildred, and Dr. Sarah Richardson, and a workshop on plant illustration.

purposes. But to what extent did people in medieval and early modern times learn about plants with medicinal uses from illustrations in herbals or elsewhere? Matters of interest include ways in which illustrations were produced, the role of illustrations, dissemination of information about plant identification, significant observers of plants and their approaches to plant description. This day seminar has been organised with a particular focus on presenting research into finding and interpreting archival and other sources relating to the history of herbal medicine.

About the Herbal History Research Network

A group of researchers have come together, including professionally trained medical herbalists, with active interests in the history of herbal medicine, ranging from classical studies to medieval, early modern and modern medicine. Recognising a lack of credible and readily available research, the Herbal History Research Network group aims to promote more and better research. The Network can help to connect together people who share common interests in researching the history of herbal medicine through seminars and other events. For further details of the Network contact Anne Stobart at a.stobart@herbaid.co.uk

Herbal History Research Seminar Programme, Wednesday 18 June 2014

Jodrell Lecture Theatre, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 3DS, UK

10.00 Registration, tea and coffee provided

10.30 Welcome

10.45–1.15 Session 1: Knowing plants through illustration

Identifying plants in the Old and Middle English tradition of herbal knowledge

Professor Maria D'Aronco (University of Udine, Italy)

Medieval herbal illustrations and advances in realism

Dr Celia Fisher (Independent researcher/art historian)

Plant illustrations: how printers sourced images in early printed herbals

Professor Julia Boffey (Queen Mary, University of London)

1.15–2.15 Lunch (included in registration cost)

2.15–4.00 Session 2: Developments in plant identification

The Evidencer: William Turner's use of first-person testimony concerning plant identification in his physic and natural history.

Marie Addyman (Independent researcher)

Rethinking Carl Linnaeus and his use of visual representation of nature.

Dr Isabelle Charmantier (The Linnean Society)

4.00–4.30 Closing discussion: Dr Anne Stobart, (Herbal History Research Network)

Herbal History Research Seminar Registration

Registration

Advance registration by 9th June is essential as space is limited. The cost of this seminar is £45 (£30 concession for students). To book your place send a cheque payable to **Herbal History Research Network** with the booking slip below. Confirmation of your place will be sent to you by email. If you wish to check place availability, please email Nicky Wesson at nicky@nickywesson.com.

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Herbal History Research Seminar, 2014 Registration Booking Slip

