

The Leonardo da Vinci Society

“LIVES OF LEONARDO”

Organized by Rodney Palmer

At the Warburg Institute, London, 15 September, 2006.

The symposium will explore biographical, fictional and psychological approaches to Leonardo. What light do these different narratives shed on Leonardo himself, and on the cultures in which they were written? Why has Leonardo's life story attracted so much attention? How did anecdotes about Leonardo affect Leonardesque art theory? When and why were myths of Leonardo created, and in what ways have they biased responses to his art?

Provisional programme

- 10.00: Doors open. Registration.
10.15: Welcome & Introduction [**Rodney Palmer**]

Session 1 Chair, **Francis Ames-Lewis**:

- 10.30: **Charles Hope** (Warburg Institute, London) “The sources and composition of Vasari’s life of Leonardo”
11.00: **Paul Taylor** (Warburg Institute, London) “Leonardo in the Low Countries”
11.30: Discussion

11.45: Coffee

Session 2 Chair, **Claire Farago**:

- 12.00: **Rodney Palmer**: “The Vasarian legacy in versions of Leonardo up to Houssaye”
12.30: **Juliana Barone** (University of Oxford) “The ‘official’ life of Leonardo: Raphael Trichet du Fresne’s biography in the *Trattato della pittura*”
1.00: Discussion

1.15 Lunch (please make you own arrangements for lunch: many cheap and easy options nearby)

Session 3 Chair, **Francois Quiviger**:

- 2.15: **Thomas Frangenberg** (University of Leicester): “Between translation and fabrication: Leonardo in German-speaking countries before 1800”
2.45: **Matthew Craske** (Oxford Brookes University) “Eighteenth-century English versions of Leonardo as empiricist”
3.15: **Julia Friedman** (University of Durham): “Beyond Christianity and Paganism: Merezhkovsky’s Leonardo”
3.45: Discussion

4.00: Tea

Session 4 Chair, **Elizabeth McGrath**:

- 4.30: **Bradley Collins** (New School University, New York) “Freud's Leonardo: its Cultural Moment and its Legacy”
5.00: **Martin Kemp** (University of Oxford): “Does Biography Matter? recent biographical and non-biographical approaches to Leonardo”
5.30: Discussion

6.00: Close of Symposium