



A fox on the pulpit and its audience - XVth century misericord (Ripon, Yorkshire)

IMC Leeds 2012 (9-12 July) Following the Rules or Not in Preaching

Sponsor of the session: International Medieval Sermon Studies Society

Date: 11 July

FOLLOWING THE RULES OR NOT IN PREACHING, I - THE *ARTES PRAEDICANDI*

Organiser: Pietro Delcorno

Chair: Eleonora Lombardo

The International Medieval Sermon Studies Society is promoting a group of linked sessions that seek to investigate the theme of Leeds 2012 (Rules to follow or not) by addressing the constitutive elements of late medieval preaching (13th-15th centuries).

The first session intends to explore the connection and tension between the rules for preaching given in *Artes Praedicandi* and the sermons actually delivered. Considering the role sermons played in religious life, preachers were urged to follow rules established by different *Artes praedicandi* to find the best way of conveying their message. It is clear that *Artes Praedicandi* defined a theoretical model of the sermon. Nevertheless, preaching was a lively event that was shaped by the context in which it took place. How much were the *Artes praedicandi* followed? Which was the relationship between theory and practice?

1) Valentina Berardini (Università di Roma la Sapienza)

'*Praedicatio Est Manifesta et Publica Instructio Morum et Fidei*': Did the Preachers Attend to the Directives Provided by the *Artes Praedicandi*?

2) Yuichi Akae (Keio University)

The Use of *Concordantia Vocalis* in 'Modern' Sermons from Late Medieval England

3) Eleonora Lombardo (Universidade do Porto - Universidade Nova de Lisboa)

How to Preach on a Saint Preacher? Model Sermons on Saint Anthony of Lisbon (until 1350)

FOLLOWING THE RULES OR NOT IN PREACHING, II - THE SERMONS

Organiser: Valentina Berardini

Chair: Bert Roest

The second session will investigate the contents delivered in sermons and the transition from the guidelines given by conciliar rules or model sermon collections, and the sermons actually preached, in as much as it is possible to retrieve through *reportationes* (reports taken during preaching). What were the strategies used to present the religious message in preaching? How useful were model sermons? The session will highlight tensions between theory and practice, the functionality of models or the need to change them, the roles played by the personality of individual preachers or the nature of the audience.

4) Nicolò Maldina (Università di Pisa)

Preaching the Other World: From Conciliar Rules to Late Medieval Pulpits

5) Silvia Ferri (Università di Bologna)

Preaching the Bible: the *Reportationes* of Paolo di Assisi's Lent Sermons (Florence, 1437)

6) Pietro Delcorno (Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen)

The Construction and Use of a Model Sermon. The Sermons on the Prodigal Son by Bernardino da Siena and Bernardino da Feltre

FOLLOWING THE RULES OR NOT IN PREACHING, III - THE PREACHERS

Organiser: Mara Ioriatti

Chair: Marie Anne Polo de Beaulieu

The third session will focus on preachers' lives and behaviours, highlighting their adherence or not to religious and civil conventions. Furthermore it will focus on preachers' efforts (and their strategies beyond preaching) to convince people to break "wrong" habits or to change entrenched behaviours. Finally, the session will address tensions between preachers' initiatives and the existing laws. In this perspective, the session seeks to re-investigate the hagiographical lives of preachers, the information in contemporary chronicles or documents, and in their own sermons.

7) Tamas Karath (Pázmány Péter Catholic University, Budapest)

The Unlicensed Preacher: Margery Kempe

8) Ippolita Checcoli (Università di Bologna)

Telling the Observant Life. Models, Words and Actions in the Biographies of the Franciscan Observance

9) Rita Voltmer (Universität Trier)

'*Instructio et correctio, reformatio et purgatio*': Assignment, self-conception and hagiographical construction of John Geiler of Kaysersberg (1445-1510)

FOLLOWING THE RULES OR NOT IN PREACHING, IV - THE AUDIENCES

Organiser: Ippolita Checcoli

Chair: René Hernandez Vera

The fourth session aims to analyse the relationship between preachers and audiences, or otherwise put, the different ways in which the audience played an active role in the event of preaching. What were the rules that shaped a good audience? How did the audience influence the preacher? How did people accept or refuse the message (and the rules) proposed by preachers? The session will focus on the possibility of detecting the reactions of the audience as they

were recorded in sermons, chronicles or *exempla*, which testify to the effects of preaching (not always positive) on the audience.

10) Marie Anne Polo de Beaulieu (EHESS-Gahom, Paris)

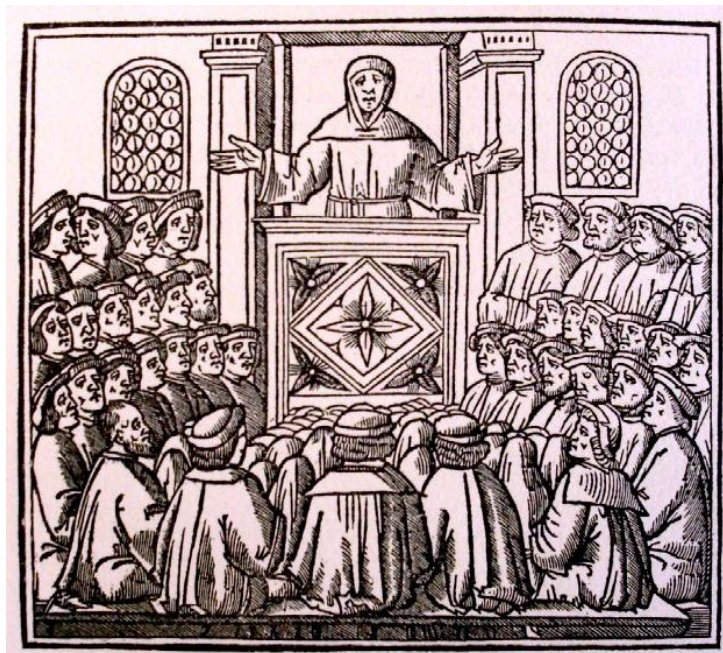
The Preacher Facing a Reluctant Audience According to the Testimony of Exempla

11) Mara Ioriatti (Università di Trento)

Shaping Religious Feelings through Preaching: Franciscan Preachers and Their Audience (Italy, 15th Century)

12) Thom Mertens (Ruusbroecgenootschap, Universiteit Antwerpen)

Verba volant, scripta manent: The Present-Day Scholar as 'Audience' of Medieval Sermons



A preacher and his audience – 16th century Italian woodcut

Contacts

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