

# COMPASSION IN EARLY MODERN CULTURE, 1500-1700

Friday 18 September (main building, 12th floor)

9.30 Coffee and registration outside room 12A-00

10.00 Welcome and introduction to the conference

10.30 Keynote Katherine Ibbett, room 12A-33

'Compassion's Edge: The Limits of Fellow-Feeling in Early Modern France'

11.30-11.45 Coffee/tea break

11.45-13.30 Parallel sessions

Session 1a - Chair: Erika Kuijpers <b>Compassion in the public sphere: conflict, tolerance, reconciliation</b> Room 05A-24	Session 1b - Chair: Jan Frans van Dijkhuizen <b>Compassionate relations: grief and consolation</b> Room 06A-32
1. Richard Meek, "'Sympathy betweene a King and a begger": The Politics of Compassion in Jacobean England'	1. Will Tosh, 'Compassionate Friends: Amicitia, Empathy and Divinity in Early Modern England'
2. Natalia Obukowicz, 'Compassion vs. Pity: Pathos in the early Modern French Polemics'	2. Paula Barros, 'Weeping With Them that Weep: Compassion, Consolation and Grief Management in Early Modern English Culture (c.1560-1640)'
3. Rachel Willie, 'Private Grief and Public Passions: Remembering and Reinventing the English Civil War'	3. Herman Roodenburg, 'How to Evoke Believers' Tears of Compassion? Catholic and Protestant views in the Dutch Republic.'

13.30-15.00 Lunch at VU Botanical Gardens

15.00-16.45 Parallel sessions

Session 2a - Chair: Erin Weinberg <b>Monarchs, rulers, and the politics of compassion</b> Room: 10A-36	Session 2b - Chair: Alison Searle <b>The Reformation of emotions: compassion and religious change</b> Room: 14A-20
1. Fabian Persson, 'Rituals of Royal Compassion'	1. Toria Johnson, "'My Name is Pity, that ever yet hath been Man's Friend": Pity in Pre-and Post-Reformation England'
2. Elisabetta Tarantino, 'The Symbol of the Pelican in Early Modern English Literature and Politics'	2. Kristine Steenbergh, 'Practices of Compassion in Late-Medieval Affective Devotion and Early Modern English Theatre'
3. Clarinda Calma, 'How to soften a Tyrant's Heart? Converting a Tyrant as depicted in Polish-Lithuanian Jesuit school theatre playbills'	3. Jongsook Lee, 'Lucrece's Hecuba: Ekphrasis and the Reformation of Emotion'

16.45-17.00 Coffee/tea break

17.00 Keynote Jan Frans van Dijkhuizen, Room 8A-00  
'Compassion with the Suffering Christ: Changing Conceptions, 1500-1700'

18.30 Conference dinner

## COMPASSION IN EARLY MODERN CULTURE, 1500-1700

### Saturday 19 September, room 14A-00 (main building, 14th floor)

9.15 Coffee/tea (hall 14A-00)

9.30 Keynote Bruce Smith  
'The Ethics of Compassion in Early Modern England'

10.30-10.45 Coffee/tea break

10.45-12.30 Parallel sessions

Session 3a - Chair: Bruce Smith <b>Body and soul: phenomenologies of compassion</b> Room: 11A-22	Session 3b - Chair: Will Tosh <b>Compassion and communities</b> Room: 11A-24
1. Eric Langley, 'Contagious Sympathies: Counting the Cost of Compassion'	1. Rebecca Tomlin, "'To there utter undoinges": Alms Petitions and Compassion in Sixteenth-Century London'
2. Anne Sophie Refskou, "'Pierced deeply with a sense of my distress": Visceral Compassion in Early Modern Theatre'	2. José Manuel Díaz Blanco, 'A City in Crisis, a Culture of Compassion: Seville, 1650-1700'
3. Matthew Senior, "'Only the soul feels": The Disembodiment of Emotion in Descartes'	3. Rachel Watson, 'The Case for Compassion: Legislation and the Literary Representation of the Early Modern Gypsy'

12.30-13.45 Lunch at VU Botanical Gardens

13.45-15.30 Parallel sessions

Session 4a - Chair: Richard Meek <b>Poetics of compassion: genres, audiences, readers</b> Room: 11A-22	Session 4b - Chair: Katherine Ibbett <b>(The limits of) compassion in the theatre</b> Room: 11A-24
1. Rob Carson, 'Shakespeare and Early Modern Compassion'	1. Alison Searle, 'Theatricality, Gender and the Limits of Compassion in James Shirley's <i>The Sisters</i> '
2. Liz Oakley-Brown, "'Too colde for poets": Thomas Churchyard's Compassionate Reader'	2. Jolanta Rzegocka, 'Compassion in Jesuit School Theatre: The Experience and Practice of Compassion in the Playbills from the Colleges of Polish-Lithuanian Province'
3. Laura Plezier, 'Fear, Compassion and the Sea: The Reception of Lucretius in Art and Literature From the Dutch Golden Age'	3. Erin Weinberg, "'Mercy and remorse more strange / Than is thy strange apparent cruelty": Kindness without Compassion in <i>The Merchant of Venice</i> '

15.30-15.45 Coffee/tea break

15.45-16.30 Round table discussion, room 14A-00

16.30 Closing drinks