Conference: Matter of faith  
Thursday 6 – Saturday 8 October 2011  
BP Lecture Theatre, British Museum

Day 1: Thursday 6 October

08.45–09.30  Registration

09.30–11.00  Session 1: Sculptural reliquaries and their presentation in medieval Europe  
Chair: Paul Williamson, Victoria and Albert Museum

Images reliquary of the twelfth and thirteenth in Catalonia  
Jordi Camps, Museu Nacional d’Art de Catalunya

Grist for the mill: a newly discovered bust from Saint-Flour  
Barbara Drake Boehm, Department of Medieval Art and The Cloisters, 
The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

Relic presentation in late medieval Siena: the ‘Cappella delle Reliquie’ of the Cathedral  
Wolfgang Loseries, Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz Max-Planck-Institut

11.00–11.30  Refreshments

11.30–12.30  Session 2: Exhibition objects in focus 1  
Chair: Sonja Marzinzik, British Museum

A recently discovered Anglo-Carolingian chrismatory  
Leslie Webster, Former Keeper of Prehistory and Europe, British Museum, 
Honorary Professor, UCL Institute of Archaeology

The Reliquary Casket of Saint Adrian at the Art Institute of Chicago  
Christina Nielsen, the Art Institute of Chicago

12.30–14.00  Lunch (not provided) and a lunchtime talk by Silke Ackerman

14.00–15.30  Session 3: Exhibition objects in focus 2  
Chair: David Saunders, British Museum

A shrine re-united? The collaborative study of two reliquary panels from the 
British Museum and the Walters Art Museum  
Glenn Gates, The Walters Art Museum, Sue La Niece, British Museum, 
Terry Drayman Weiss, The Walters Art Museum

The construction and conservation history of the Hildesheim portable altar  
Maickel van Bellegem, British Museum

New discoveries related to the portable altar of Countess Gertrude  
Shelly Paine, Cleveland Museum of Art
15.30–16.00  Refreshments

16.00–17.30  Session 4: Issues of authenticity
Chair: James Robinson, British Museum

Art as evidence in medieval relic disputes: three cases from 15th-century France
Erik Inglis, Oberlin College

The importance of doubt: concerns about displays of relics c. 1080–1220
Laura Cleaver, Trinity College Dublin

Belief, Doubt and the Evaluation of Relics in 12th-century England
Simon Yarrow, University of Birmingham

Day 2: Friday 7 October

08.30–10.00  Private view of the exhibition Treasures of Heaven

09.00–10.00  Registration

10.00–11.00  Session 1: Saints in focus: St Ursula
Chair: Barbara Boehm, Department of Medieval Art and The Cloisters, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

Relics of gender identity: interpreting a reliquary of a follower of St Ursula
Sam Riches, Lancaster University

Saint Ursula’s cult and its manifestation in liturgy: High medieval Ursuline offices in manuscripts from the Rhine region and imperial abbeys Quedlinburg and Ottobeuren
Kristin Hoefener, Independent – Ensemble Kantika/Paris

11.00–11.30  Refreshments

11.30–13.00  Session 2: Saints in focus
Chair: Michelle Brown, University of London

Nourishing the soul: mystical visions, Maria Lactans, and the miracle of Mary’s milk
Vibke Olson, University of North Carolina Wilmington

Picturing narrative and promoting cult: hagiographic illumination at 3 English cult centres
Kathryn Gerry, The Walters Art Museum/University of Kansas

Contested relics
Madeleine Gray, University of Wales, Newport/Prifysgol Cymru, Casnewydd

13.00–14.00  Lunch (not provided)

14.00–15.30  Session 3: Material matters
Chair: John Cherry, British Museum

The Limoges reliquaries of the stigmatisation of Saint Francis: a new datation
Elisabeth Antoine, Musée du Louvre
Dressing the relics: some thoughts on the use of silk to wrap relics
Martina Bagnoli, The Walters Art Museum

Light matters: rock crystal cross-reliquaries, light and transparency in the late Middle Ages
Stefania Gerevini, Kunsthistorisches Institute Florence

15.30–16.00 Refreshments

16.00–17.00 Session 4: Pilgrimage 1: humble offerings
Chair: Anne Duggan, King’s College, London

Giving and taking fragments of holy ground in medieval France and Italy
Lucy Donkin, University of Cambridge

Common ground: reliquaries and the lower classes in late medieval Europe
Sarah Blick, Kenyon College

Day 3: Saturday 8 October

09.00–09.30 Registration

09.30–11.00 Session 1: Pilgrimage 2: place and imagination
Chair: Kate Rudy

To be a pilgrim: tactile piety, virtual pilgrimage and the experience of place in Christian pilgrimage
Dee Dyas, University of York

Vestigial signs of pilgrimage
Janet Snyder, West Virginia University

Simulacra and sensibility: sensory engagement in medieval ‘copies’ of Jerusalem
Laura Gelfand, Utah State University

11.00–11.30 Refreshments

11.30–12.30 Session 2: Beyond the Middle Ages
Chair: Dora Thornton, British Museum

Preserved miraculously
Anique de Kruijff, Museum Catharijneconvent, Utrecht

The production of relics in Early Modern England
Andrea de Meo, Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa

12.30–14.00 Lunch (not provided)

14.00–15.30 Session 3: Relics, power and patronage 1
Chair: Griff Mann, Cleveland Museum of Art

St George and Venice: the rise of imperial culture
David Perry, Dominican University

Cardinal Bessarion, the True Cross, and the rhetoric of relics in Venice and Byzantium
Holger Klein, Columbia University
The Saint and the King: relics, reliquaries, and late medieval coronation in Aachen and Székesfehervár
Scott Montgomery

15.30–16.00  Refreshments

16.00–17.30  Session 4: Relics, power and patronage 2
Chair: Nicholas Vincent, University of East Anglia

Donors’ images in medieval goldsmiths’ works of art
Petra Marx, Westfälisches Landesmuseum für Kunst und Kulturegeschichte, Münster

The Horn of Saint Hubert in the Wallace Collection
Jeremy Warren, Wallace Collection

Ritual piety and Medici pomp: the relic translation of St Anoninus in late Renaissance Florence
Sally Cornelison