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CAA ATSAH Affiliated Society Session Proposal for Annual Conference. 2023

We would like to present this session proposal for CAA annual Conference 2023.

Session Title: Nature Bodied Forth: Metaphoric Dialogues between Word and Image *in the 16th Century*

Description: The four papers in this session will explore the way that the concrete realities of nature as shown in 16th century art are not just symbols used to convey analogous meanings, but are mobilized as parts of an allusive conversation, a dialogue between art and literature, that serves to convey meaning through both content and virtuosic, naturalistic style. Thus, here, it is not that texts can “explain” paintings, but rather that literature and art work together to convey important ideas and cultural ideals. Only art—written or visual —can recreate nature in ways that compel humans to marvel, thus shaping culture.

Abstract: Nature Bodied Forth: Metaphoric Dialogues between Word and Image

A monstrous beached whale; a woman’s body transforming into a palm; a luminous, gilded full moon, huge and low in the sky; an owl tethered to a crutch. These details rendered in the works under discussion are natural elements that both promise meaning—perhaps indirect, perhaps multivalent—and provide wonder. The four papers in the session will explore the ways that the concrete realities of nature as shown in 16th century art are not just symbols used to provide analogous meanings, but are mobilized as parts of an allusive conversation, a dialogue between art and literature, that serves to convey meaning through both content and virtuosic, naturalistic style. Thus, here, it is not that texts can “explain” paintings, but rather that literature and art work together to body forth important ideas, and cultural ideals. Only art—written or visual —can recreate nature in ways that compel humans to marvel, thus shaping culture.

Organizer: Karen Hope Goodchild, Wofford College
Chapman Professor of Teaching Excellence
Department of Art and Art History
Goodchild, Karen H. GoodchildKH@wofford.edu

Chair, David Cast, Bryn Mawr College, dcast@brynmawr.edu
Presenters, tentative titles, scholarly affiliations:

Presenters:

1. "Image, Text, Nature: Hendrick Goltzius's *Beached Whale Near Berkhey* (1598) as Metatext"
Arthur DiFuria, Savannah College of Art and Design, ajdifuria@gmail.com
2. "Dosso Dossi's *Room of the Nymphs* and Court poetry: Trees, Transformation, and Style as Metaphors of Power"
Karen Goodchild, Wofford College, goodchildkh@wofford.edu
3. "The Artist as Bird Catcher: Avian Poetics, Desire, and Deception in the Art of Lorenzo Lotto"
April Oettinger, Goucher College, april.oettinger@goucher.edu
4. "Endymion between Venice and Naples: Cima da Conegliano's *Tondi* in the Galleria Nazionale, Parma"
Susannah Rutherglen, Independent Scholar, srutherg@gmail.com

We are an Affiliated Society Member of CAA. We thank you in advance for your consideration and assistance. With good wishes for another successful conference,

Liana Cheney

Liana De Girolami Cheney, PhD - CAA Member 391
Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award
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