Deus in Machina
Machines, Theatre and Religion
in Early Modern Europe

Workshop
Rome, Academia Belgica
15 – 16 March 2013

15 March 2013. Deus in Machina: Historical Perspectives

Introduction
9h.30 – 9h.40 Wouter Bracke (Academia Belgica, director): Welcome
9h.40 – 10h.30 Maarten Delbeke (Ghent, Leiden), Viktoria Tkaczyk (Amsterdam, Berlin), Koen Vermeir (Paris): Deus in Machina: History and Methodology

10h.30 – 10h.45 coffee break

Session 1
Chair: Viktoria Tkaczyk (Amsterdam, Berlin)
10h.45 – 11h.30 Jelle Koopmans (Amsterdam): Aux origines de la machinerie théâtrale
11h.30 – 12h.15 Philine Helas (Rome): “Non cessabant volare per aerem”. The Flying Fifteenth Century
12h.15 – 14h.00 LUNCH

Session 2
Chair: Annick Delfosse (Liège)
14h.00 – 14h.45 Simon Werrett (London): Stars Falling From Heaven: Early Modern Fireworks, Science, and Religion
14h.45 – 15h.30 Camilla Kandare (Stockholm): Figuring a Queen. Choreographies of Position in the Interactions of Queen Christina of Sweden with the Court of Rome
15h.30 – 16h.00 coffee break

Session 3
Chair: Ralph Dekoninck (Louvain-la-Neuve)
16h.00 – 16h.45 Daniel Weidner (Berlin): Miraculous Play and Theatrical Devices: Scenic Imagination and Spiritual Meaning in G. P. Harsdorffers Plays
16h.45 – 17h.45 Bram van Oostveldt (Amsterdam) & Stijn Bussels (Leiden): Vondel’s Brethren: Defending the Performance of the Word of God

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16 March 2013. Deus in Machina: Methodology and Reconstruction

Session 4  Chair: Maarten Delbeke (Ghent, Leiden)
10h.00 – 12h.00  Student presentations
- Oscar Seip (Amsterdam): Reconstructing Giulio Camillo’s teatro della memoria. An Interdisciplinary Approach
- Tessa Tilroe (Amsterdam): Reconstructing the Theatre – Reconstructing the Mind. A New Perspective on Leon Battista Alberti
- Benjamin Struyfs (Ghent): Reconstructions of Theatre Machines and our Knowledge of the Past

12h.00 – 14h.00  LUNCH

Session 5  Chair: Andreas Thielemann (Rome)
14h.00 – 14h.45  Giuseppe Adami (St. Andrews): Under the sign of Scorpio. The Contribution of Military Science to Renaissance and Baroque Chivalric Festivals
14h.45 – 15h.30  Alexandre Neuwahl (Vinci/Florence), Davide Russo (Vinci): Innovative Means and Rigorous Philology Working Together for the Reconstruction of Renaissance’s Machinery

15h.30 - 16h.00  break

Session 6  Chair: Koen Vermeir (Paris)
16h.00 – 16h.30  Andreas Thielemann (Rome): Ascension in the Cylinder: An Optical Miracle Machine of Athanasius Kircher and its Antecedents
16h.30 – 17h.30  Stefan Weinzierl (Berlin): Acoustical Properties and Staging Concepts in Early Modern Theatres in Italy

Organization: Koen Vermeir, Viktoria Tkaczyk, Maarten Delbeke

Organizing committee: Pierre Cassou-Nogues (SPHERE CNRS/Paris8), Ralph Dekoninck (UCL/GEMCA), Annick Delfosse (ULg/Transitions), Maarten Delbeke (Ghent University/University of Leiden), Viktoria Tkaczyk (MPIWG/UvA), Koen Vermeir (SPHERE CNRS/KUL)