

## Concept

From the end of the seventeenth century at the latest, scientific knowledge was increasingly disseminated via internationally operating networks of scholars and the first widely read scientific journals, as well as by aesthetic media such as the visual arts and literature, and, from the eighteenth century, by public journals and daily newspapers.

This conference will take a multi-disciplinary approach to the spread and representation of new knowledge in early modern Europe (1600 – 1750). Attention will focus on the presentation of cartographic, botanical, zoological, and anatomical knowledge in contemporary documents, both pragmatic and aesthetic in nature. The temporal focus is deliberately set before the huge expansion of the market in (academic) journals and literature that started around 1750.

The conference is interested less in the subject as such than in the medium of its dissemination and reception. It will examine to what extent the transmission of empirical knowledge resulted in dislocations of substance at the moment when it became the subject of literary commentary (journals, poetry, novels, travel accounts, encyclopedias) or visualization (frontispiece, painting, illustration). The examination of representations of knowledge related to object and/or motif will be supplemented by analysis of the structural forms into which it is transmuted (style, syntax, image – text relationship etc.). Thus attention will be paid to the aesthetic qualities inherent in each medium and their strategic functionalization. By including fiction and popular media, the questions asked will go beyond the processes of transmission and functionalization operating within the scientific discourse to include the presentation and reception of scientific innovations within a wider public. The conference therefore also contributes to the nexus between the use of the media and the production of knowledge in the period before the late Enlightenment.

## Information

### Convenors:

Prof. Dr. Ulrike Gehring, Trier  
Prof. Dr. Andreas Gestrich, London  
Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Klooß, Trier

### Venue:

#### German Historical Institute London

17 Bloomsbury Square  
London WC1A 2NJ  
Tel.: +44-(0)20-7309 2050  
Fax: +44-(0)20-7309 2055

### London Underground:

Tube Station: Holborn

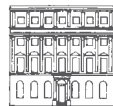
### Contact:

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### Further Information:

<http://www.ghil.ac.uk>  
<http://www.kunstgeschichte.uni-trier.de>



German Historical Institute

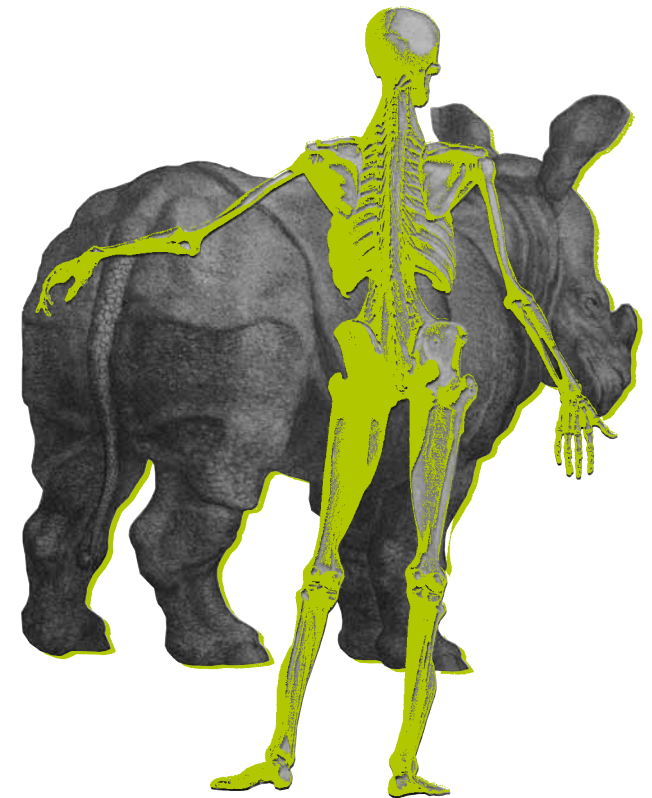


Universität Trier

Abb.: Bernhard S. Albinus, Tabulae sceleti et musculorum corporis humani, London, 1748

## Mediating Knowledge

Textual and Visual Representations of the New Sciences in Early Modern Europe (1600 – 1750)



London, 17-19 March 2011

German Historical Institute London  
Universität Trier

# Programme

Thursday, 17 March 2011

## Arrival

14:00 Registration  
Coffee Break

14:30-15:00 **Andreas Gestrich** (London)  
Welcome and Introduction

## Panel I: Colonial Encounters, Scientific Revelations, Medical Knowledge

Chair: Michael Schaich

15:00-15:50 **Arndt Brendecke** (Berne)  
Barriers to Knowledge. The Ambivalence of Media in Spanish Colonial Politics

15:50-16:40 **Wolfgang Klooß** (Trier)  
Flora, Fauna, Monstrous Creatures: Wondrous Discoveries and Scientific Discourse in Early Modern English Travel Writing

Coffee Break

17:10-18:00 **Andrew Wear** (London)  
Representations of Early Modern Medicine: Continuity or Change?

## Keynote

18:30 **Richard Sugg** (Durham)  
Early Modern Anatomy and the Physiology of the Soul

Friday, 18 March 2011

## Panel II: Visualizing Knowledge

Chair: Andreas Gestrich

9:30-10:20 **Ulrike Gehring** (Trier)  
Visual Representations of Metrical Spaces in Early Modern Frontispieces

10:20-11:10 **Thomas Filk** (Freiburg)  
Pictures and Formulas in Newton's Presentations of Mathematical Relations

Coffee Break

11:40-12:30 **Claudia Swan** (Chicago)  
The Collection and Representation of Exotica in the Netherlands 1600-1650

12:30-13:20 **Bettina Wahrig** (Brunswick)  
Writing and Experimenting: Richard Mead's „Mechanical Account of Poisons“

Lunch (at GHIL)

## Panel III: Literature and the Rhetorics of Science

Chair: Angela Schattner

14:30-15:20 **Richard Nate** (Eichstätt)  
Instruments and Help: Aspects of Early Modern Scientific Rhetoric

15:20-16:10 **Christoph Irmscher** (Bloomington)  
Chinkapins, Tumble-Bugs, and Skipjacks: Reading Catesby

Coffee Break

Friday, 18 March 2011

## Panel IV: Scientific Tools and Transfer of Knowledge

Chair: Ulrike Gehring

16:40-17:30 **Olaf Breidbach** (Jena)  
Instruments – Tacit Knowledge and Knowledge Transfer

17:30-18:20 **Michael Korey** (Dresden)  
The Finest Model of the Temple of Solomon That Has Been Seen: Gerhard Schott's Temple model as a Metaphor of Knowledge

19:00 Conference Dinner

Saturday, 19 March 2011

## Panel V: Disseminating Knowledge

Chair: Wolfgang Klooß

9:30-10:20 **Jan Rohls** (Munich)  
Religion and Science in England between 1650 and 1700

10:20-11:10 **Franz Mauelshagen** (Essen)  
Letters in the 'Republic of Letters'

Coffee Break

11:40-12:30 **Andreas Gestrich** (London)  
Popularising Science in Early Newspapers