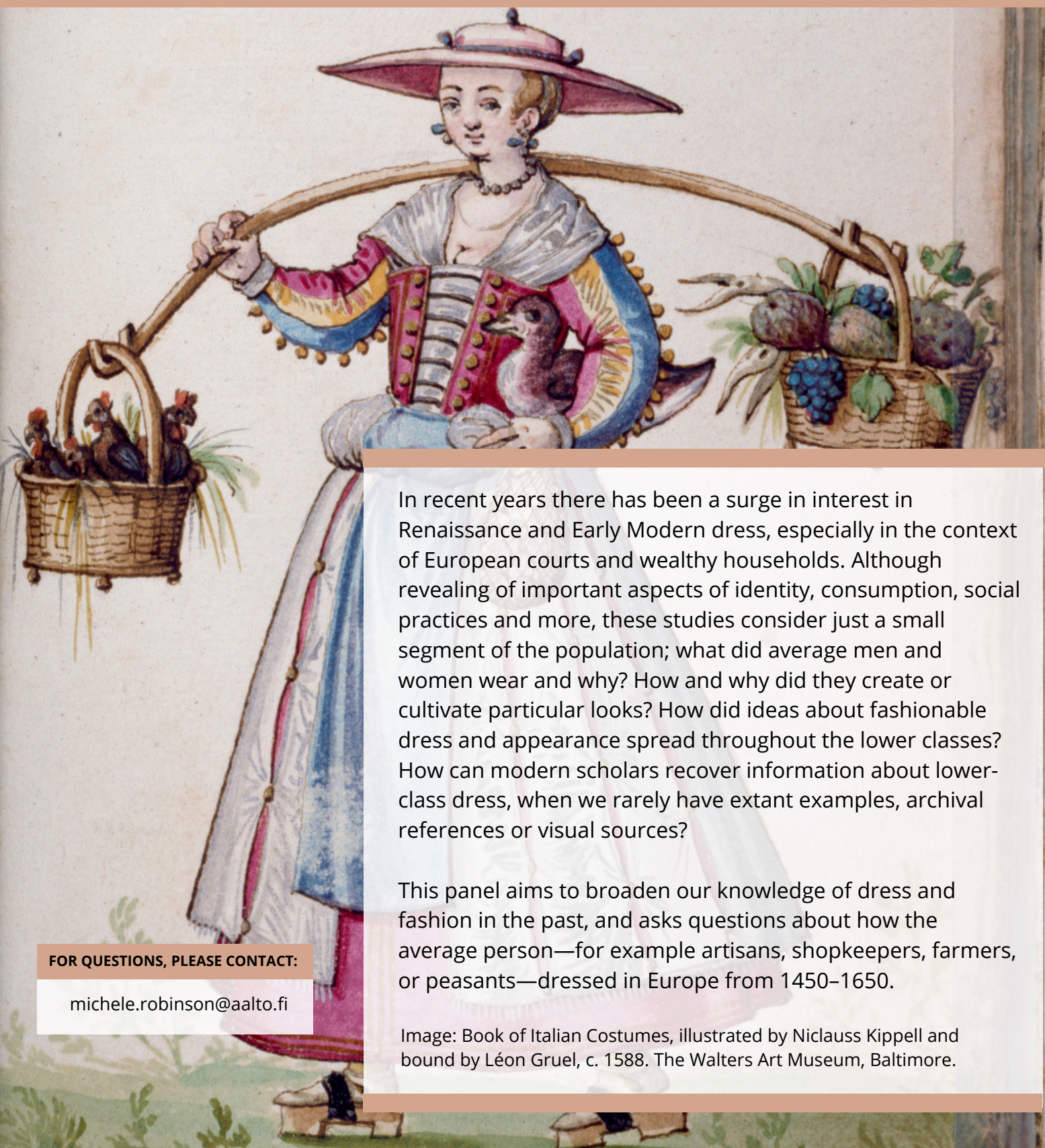


Lower-Class Dress, Fashion and Identity in Europe, 1450–1650

Renaissance Society of America Annual Conference

Toronto, 17 March 2019, Sheraton Centre Toronto, Willow Centre



In recent years there has been a surge in interest in Renaissance and Early Modern dress, especially in the context of European courts and wealthy households. Although revealing of important aspects of identity, consumption, social practices and more, these studies consider just a small segment of the population; what did average men and women wear and why? How and why did they create or cultivate particular looks? How did ideas about fashionable dress and appearance spread throughout the lower classes? How can modern scholars recover information about lower-class dress, when we rarely have extant examples, archival references or visual sources?

This panel aims to broaden our knowledge of dress and fashion in the past, and asks questions about how the average person—for example artisans, shopkeepers, farmers, or peasants—dressed in Europe from 1450–1650.

Image: Book of Italian Costumes, illustrated by Niclauss Kippell and bound by Léon Gruel, c. 1588. The Walters Art Museum, Baltimore.

FOR QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT:

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REFASHIONING
THE RENAISSANCE

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Panel I: Accounting for Dress (9.00-10.30)

Chair: Michele Nicole Robinson

- Paula Hohti, Aalto University, 'Tailoring Fashions: Clothing commissions by ordinary people in sixteenth and early seventeenth century Italy'
- Stefania Montemezzo, Aalto University, 'Spreading Fashion. The Role of Peddlers in the Diffusion of Trends in Early Modern Italy'

Panel II: Imitation or Invention? (11.00-12.30)

Chair: Paula Hohti

- Michele Nicole Robinson, Aalto University, 'Angelia's gilded Turkish shoes: Cross-cultural exchange and lower-class dress in early modern Italy'
- Sophie Pitman, Columbia University, '"Everyone is permitted to flaunt it out": urban fashion among the lower classes'

Panel III: Representing Dress (2.00-3.30)

Chair: Stefania Montemezzo

- Alisa M. Carlson, Museum of Art and Archaeology, University of Missouri, 'Non-Elite Fashions in Augsburg ca. 1500: The Portrait Drawings of Hans Holbein the Elder'
- Anne-Kristine Sindvald Larsen, Aalto University, 'Artisans and Dress in Renaissance Denmark'

Panel IV: Artisan & Peasant Women (4.00-5.30)

Chair: Alisa M. Carlson

- Francesca Canadé Sautman, Hunter College and the Graduate Center of CUNY, 'Swathed in Linen: Working Women's Head Coverings, Identities and Material Culture in Burgundy-Flanders, 1470-1530'
- Joyce de Vries, Auburn University, 'Artisan Women's Clothing in seventeenth-century Bologna'
- Amanda Wunder, Lehman College and the Graduate Center of CUNY, 'Lower-Class Women's Dress in Seventeenth-Century Madrid'



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