

Everyday Dress and the Reconstruction of Early Modern Material Culture, 1550–1650

Refashioning the Renaissance Conference

10–11 September 2021, Online | Aalto University, Finland | UTC +3



This international conference develops new perspectives in early modern dress and fashion history by asking two interrelated key questions: How did fashion beyond groups of wealthy elites develop in early modern Europe, and how can we gain access to the culture of lower social groups when so few garments survive, and sources about clothes are fragmentary? Combining archival, material, and pictorial evidence with experimental hands-on work and reconstruction, this conference explores the key agents of fashion change at the lower social levels in Early Modern Europe, and investigates how experimental work and material-based approaches can help us understand and access early modern dress and material culture.

Image: Isaac Claesz. van Swanenburg, *Het spinnen, het scheren van de ketting, en het weven*, 1594–1596. Museum de Lakenhal, Leiden.



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FRIDAY 10 SEPTEMBER

- 11:00–11:15 **Refashioning the Renaissance**
Paula Hohti Erichsen
- 11:15–11:30 **Making Early Modern Fashion Communities**
Evelyn Welch

Session 1: Popular Dress and Fashion Innovation in Early Modern Europe

Chair: Giorgio Riello

- 11:30–12:15 **KEYNOTE: Everyday Fashion in Early Modern Europe**
John Styles
- 12:15–12:45 **Ribbons and Trims in Early Modern Italy**
Andrea Caracausi
- 12:45–13:00 **Experiment in focus: Reconstruction of Renaissance Lace**
Elena Kanagy-Loux
- 13:00–13:15 **Discussion and questions**
- 13:15–14:30 **Lunch**

Session 2: Imitation and Novelty in Everyday Fashion

Chair: Evelyn Welch

- 14:30–15:00 **Faded Shades or New Fashionable Tints?: Colour and Novelty in Renaissance Everyday Dress**
Paula Hohti
- 15:00–15:30 **Artisans 'à la mode'. The Availability of Fashion Items in Early Modern Venice, Florence, and Siena (16–17th c.)**
Stefania Montemezzo
- 15:30–16:00 **Dressed to Kill: Weapons and Protective Materials in Artisan Renaissance Fashion**
Victoria Bartels
- 16:00–16:10 **Experiment in focus: Imitation in Early Modern Europe (video)**
ERC RE-FASHIONING
- 16:10–16:30 **Discussion and questions**

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16:30–17:00 **Coffee**

Session 3: Dressing the Early Modern Artisan

Chair: Flora Dennis

17:00–17:30 **Between Town and Court: Royal Artisans and Fashion in Seventeenth-Century Madrid**

Amanda Wunder

17:30–18:00 **Artisan fashions in Early Modern Denmark: A Case-Study**

Anne-Kristine Sindvald Larsen

18:00–18:15 **Experiment in focus: Dressing Up: Wearing an Early Modern Doublet**

Valerio Zanetti

18:15–18:30 **Discussion and questions**

Closing

18:30–18:45 **Response**

Luca Molà

18:45–19:00 **Response**

Giorgio Riello

SATURDAY 11 SEPTEMBER

Session 1: Historical and Digital Reconstructions of Dress

Chair: Maria Hayward

11:30–12:15 **What is Historical Reconstruction?**

Jenny Tiramani

12:15–12:45 **Reconstruction as a Methodology: The Mock-Velvet Doublet of a Florentine Seventeenth-Century Waterseller**

Sophie Pitman

12:45–13:00 **Experiment in focus: Animating Historical Garments: Digital Reconstruction of the Refashioning the Renaissance Doublet**

Maarit Kalmakurki

13:00–13:15 **Discussion and questions**

13:15–14:30 **Lunch**

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Session 2: Approaches to Historical Reconstruction

Chair: Tessa Storey

- 14:30–15:00 **The Clothing of the Contadina: Women's Work, Leisure, and Morality in Sixteenth- Century Northern Italy**
Elizabeth Currie and Jordan Mitchell-King
- 15:00–15:30 **Knitting for Science: The Refashioning the Renaissance Citizen Science Project**
Piia Lempiäinen
- 15:30–15:45 **Experiment in focus: Producing Silk in Traditional Methods**
Miriam Pugliese
- 15:45–16:00 **Discussion and questions**
- 16:00–16:30 **Coffee**

Session 3: Reconstruction as a Methodology in Material Culture History

Chair: Paula Hohti

- 16:30–17:15 **KEYNOTE: Reconstruction in Research and Teaching: The Making and Knowing Project**
Pamela H. Smith
- 17:15–18:00 **KEYNOTE: How Site and Makers Matter in RRR Research**
Sven Dupré
- 18:00–18:15 **Discussion and questions**

Session 4: Discussion

Chair: Evelyn Welch

- 18:15–18:30 **Response**
Marta Ajmar
- 18:30–18:55 **Panel Discussion**
Pamela H. Smith, Sven Dupré, John Styles, Giorgio Riello, Maria Hayward, Flora Dennis, Tessa Storey, Marta Ajmar, Luca Molà, Evelyn Welch
- 18:55–19:00 **Closing words**
Paula Hohti