

Renaissance News & Notes

Volume XVI.1

The Renaissance Society of America

Winter/Spring 2004

New York 2004

The Conference at the Grand Hyatt

*by Martin Elsky,
Co-Chair of the Program Committee*

We are all looking forward to the biggest annual RSA conference ever. We expect over 1,000 attendees in New York to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the RSA in the city where it was founded. The CUNY Graduate Center is proud to host this special meeting. We look forward to greeting our friends and colleagues of these many years.

Some highlights of the conference:

You are all invited to visit the exhibition at the Graduate Center Gallery, "Splendors of the Renaissance: Princely Attire in Italy," which I leave to my fellow member of the program committee Janet Cox-Rearick to expand upon in a separate column.

There will be an opening reception on Wednesday evening (31 March) at the CUNY Graduate Center sponsored by Graduate Center and the RSA.

On Thursday evening (1 April), Benjamin C.I. Ravid of Brandeis University will give the Josephine Waters Bennett Lecture, speaking on "Hebraica, Judaica, and the Renaissance."

Friday evening (2 April) will be especially busy. At the Grand Hyatt, The Erasmus of Rotterdam Society is sponsoring a lecture by Ralph Keen on "The Allure of the Past: Religious Reform and the Recovery of Ancient Ideals." The Hispanic Society of America is hosting a reception at its headquarters on Audubon Terrace. The New York Academy of Medicine on Fifth Avenue and 103rd Street is hosting a reception and a lecture by Alain Touwaide of the Smithsonian Institution on "The Western Re-invention of Hippocrates." And all are invited to a dramatic reading of Milton's *Samson*

continued on page 2, column 1

The Special Costume Exhibit at New York 2004

by Janet Cox-Rearick, CUNY, The Graduate Center

Fausto Fornasari's exhibition at the CUNY Graduate Center Art Gallery, "Splendors of the Renaissance: Princely Attire in Italy. Reconstructions of Historic Costumes from King Studio, Italy" (Catalogue by Janet Cox-Rearick), has toured museums in Italian cities (beginning in 1994 with the Palazzo Ducale, Mantua) and has been shown in five South American capitals and in Montreal in 2002–03. "Splendors of the Renaissance" displays Fornasari's carefully researched and executed reconstructions of fifteen spectacular court costumes dating mainly from the mid-1400s to the early 1600s. It is introduced by a didactic section explaining and illustrating some of the techniques used to make the reconstructions. All of the costumes are based on Renaissance portraits, large reproductions of which are displayed next to the mannequins. Some of these are by Florentine artists such as Bronzino (*Eleonora di Toledo and Her Son Giovanni*) and Jacopo da Empoli (*The Marriage of Vincenzo Gonzaga and Eleonora de' Medici*), while others are based on portraits by Mantuan court figures such as the Gonzaga Dukes Federico II and Vincenzo I, and Marchesa Isabella d'Este. The show also includes two costumes based on works by Pisanello for the Este court at Ferrara which have not been previously exhibited.

The Graduate Center exhibition will complement two sessions on costume: "Princely Attire in Italy" (Saturday, 3 April, 8:45 AM–12:00 PM, at the Grand Hyatt). The papers will explore topics on Florentine and Mantuan court costume and the issue of indigenous styles of dress of various Italian centers versus those styles influenced by the fashions of other countries. These sessions, together with three other sessions on Italian costume and textiles, will give the subject a high profile at New York 2004. ✎

In this issue . . .

New York 2004: The Conference at the Grand Hyatt	1-2
New York 2004: The Special Costume Exhibit	1
New York 2004: Booking a Room at the Grand Hyatt	2, 6
Cambridge 2005: Submission Module is Up and Running	2
The Renaissance: An Encyclopedia for Students	2
The New RSA Online News and Announcement Service	3
The Phyllis Goodhart Gordan Book Prize 2005	3
A Change in Renewal Policy	3
Annual Meeting: Plenaries, Talks, and Events	4
Annual Meeting: Registration Form	5
Annual Meeting: Hotel Reservation Form and Additional Information	6
RSA Membership Form 2004	7
Call for Papers: Cambridge, England	8

Agonistes performed by The Lark Ascending in the auditorium of the CUNY Graduate Center.

On Saturday evening (3 April) we have the plenary Trends Panel, where the subject will be in part the Society itself: "Studying the Renaissance: A Retrospective Commemorating the Fiftieth Anniversary of the RSA." The speakers will be Rona Goffen of Rutgers University, Richard Kagan of The Johns Hopkins University, and Eugene F. Rice, Jr., of Columbia University. The evening will culminate in the RSA's gala closing reception, which will be as opulent as any to date. ❧

New York 2004: Booking a Room at the Grand Hyatt

The RSA negotiated a good price for an upscale hotel in springtime in midtown Manhattan, \$179 a night. But when one adds state and city taxes of 13.65% plus the extra security fee of \$2 per night since 9/11, the effective cost of one room night at the Grand Hyatt rises to \$205.43 (\$179 + \$24.43 + \$2). So we have decided to have the RSA actually make the booking at the hotel for conference registrants. As a not-for-profit, tax-exempt organization incorporated in New York State, the RSA can spare

continued on page 6

Renaissance News & Notes

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RNN is published twice yearly (Winter/Spring and Fall). The subscription price is included in annual membership dues. News items, announcements, and listings may be sent to the RSA for inclusion.

Deadline: 30 June 2003

The Cambridge 2005 Submission Module is Up and Running

by John Monfasani, RSA Executive Director

Because going to an overseas conference involves more long-range planning for participants, the online submission module for panels and papers for the conference in Cambridge, UK, 7-9 April 2005 has been available at the RSA website (rsa@rsa.org) since November. The deadline for submissions is 23 May 2004.

You will find that the online module now allows panel organizers to specify the sequence of papers in their panels. Organizers should be mindful of this option and not automatically accept the default order. Also, to avoid the confusion that sometimes occurs when the same person is entered differently on separate occasions (the computer will not recognize Aloysius Timothy Dilbert as the same person as Aloysius T. Dilbert), we have installed a drop-down list of member names. At least for names already in the database, the drop-down list should reduce the amount of confusion.

Another added feature, specific to the Cambridge conference, is a checkoff box on whether a participant plans to stay in a room reserved by the RSA at Queens, Clare, or Fitzwilliam College. The choice marked by each participant carries no obligation whatsoever, but it will help us gain a sense of how many rooms we need since we have to make a firm commitment to the colleges on the number of rooms we are reserving. Later in the year we shall install a Cambridge room-reservation module very similar to that now available for the New York 2004 conference. Once we do, rooms will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis. The Cambridge colleges have three kinds of rooms: single and double en suite (full private bath), partial en suite (two one-person rooms with a bath in between, equivalent therefore to two singles sharing a room, but with the advantage of a private bedroom for each person), and one-person standard rooms sharing a bath. Each room comes with a full English breakfast and a waiter-service dinner in the evening included. The prices will range from about £65 to about £105 per person, depending upon the kind of room chosen. ❧

The Renaissance: An Encyclopedia for Students

Charles Scribner's Sons (an imprint of Thomson Gale) is pleased to announce the publication of *The Renaissance: An Encyclopedia for Students*, edited by former RSA president Paul F. Grendler and published in association with the Society. This four-volume reference set is an adaptation of the award-winning *Encyclopedia of the Renaissance* (1999), also edited by Dr. Grendler. This new version, intended for high school and middle school students, contains 970 pages of text plus 16 pages of full-color plates. Selected contents from the original set have been adapted and rearranged under Dr. Grendler's supervision. There are frequent black-and-white illustrations throughout. Marginal definitions, timelines, highlighted side-bar texts, and other features all serve to make the original Encyclopedia's scholarship available to a wider audience of young readers. This work will likely take its place in a wide range of school, public, and even college libraries as part of our ongoing commitment to disseminate the finest Renaissance scholarship.

Charles Scribner's Sons is pleased to offer a 25% discount to RSA members. Any member may order a single set, for personal use only, at \$296.25, plus shipping. To order, call (800) 877-4253 and identify yourself as an RSA member seeking the special 25% discount on this title. Mention Code # MML00504 to get the discount. To expedite your order, please have the following at hand:

- the ISBN (0-684-31281-6) • the Order Number (187154) • your credit card number

FUTURE CONFERENCES:

San Francisco, California — 23-25 March 2006

Miami, Florida — 22-24 March 2007

Toronto, Canada — 2008

The New RSA Online News and Announcement Service

You will have all no doubt noticed that the last *Renaissance News & Notes* lacked what many consider essential news and notes, namely, a section on conferences, events, fellowships, and prizes. The same is true for the present issue of *RNN*. The reason is that we were planning to have ready by now an online service that would be significantly more comprehensive, detailed, and timely than the print version. These good intentions, alas, proved unrealistic in the short term. But I am happy to say the good folks at Iter have come to our rescue and will have the new service up and running for us in early 2004. We shall send out an announcement when it is ready.

One of the chronic problems in preparing a listing of events for *RNN* is that we discard well more than half the notices that come into the office because they will become stale before the next issue of *RNN* appears. Also, we have to reduce drastically, and sometimes rather arbitrarily, the amount of information connected with each item in order to fit all the items within the space constraints of a small newsletter. Now, thanks to the good offices of Iter, these two problems are about to evaporate. I leave it to Bill Bowen to explain how below. — *John Monfasani, RSA Executive Director*

Time. We never seem to have enough, especially when it comes to finding out about all those important upcoming events and bits of news which affect our professional lives. Accordingly, to save you time, Iter will soon launch a news and announcements service which will provide a centralized repository of information about everything from conferences to jobs. Here are some preliminary details of what we will offer.

Coverage. To be consistent with Iter's mandate, the service will include news and announcements pertaining to the period 400 to 1700. The information will be subdivided into categories such as calls for papers, conferences/lectures, courses/programs, fellowships/grants, awards/prizes, jobs, and, of course, other.

Accessibility. The service will be open to all, with access points on the RSA and Iter websites. There you will find straightforward forms to submit an entry. Your submission will be checked by Iter staff and released shortly after its receipt.

Comprehensiveness. We expect that many of you will submit information into the system. However, we will also commit Iter staff time to search out and submit additional relevant information, in order to ensure that the service is a truly comprehensive reflection of events and news relevant to Iter's mandate.

Searchability. There are a number of ways to find information. In addition to doing keyword searches, you will be able to do more refined searches according to the time period, geographical area, and subject(s) covered by the entry, and by the type of announcement. There will also be chronological lists set up according to the various categories of entries and a familiar calendar for events. When any announcement or event is viewed, a list of related content is presented automatically.

Schedule. If you are interested in helping us to test this service, please contact me as soon as possible: william.bowen@utoronto.ca. Our target is to make the site generally available early in 2004.

Future. When you visit the site, you will notice a number of additional features. For example, the site has the capacity for a bulletin board, newsletters, web links by category, and FAQs. We also have the option to have classifieds, a photo gallery, a downloads area, bookstore, and news feeds. These will be developed according to the needs of our community. — *William R. Bowen, Chair, Electronic Media*

The Phyllis Goodhart Gordan Book Prize 2005

The Renaissance Society of America awards an annual book prize of \$1,000 in memory of the late Phyllis Goodhart Gordan, a strong supporter of the RSA from its earliest days. The purpose of the prize is to recognize significant accomplishments in Renaissance Studies by members of the RSA and to encourage Renaissance scholarship, both of which have been goals of the RSA since its founding in 1954.

The Gordan Prize for the year 2005 will be awarded to the author of the best book in Renaissance Studies published between 1 July 2004 and 30 June 2005. The winner will be announced at the Annual Meeting in 2005. To be eligible a book must be written by a current member of the RSA; it must be written in English. Please refer to the dues renewal/enrollment form for the list of disciplines. The prize will be awarded for a book with a topic within the chronological period 1300-1700. Books dealing with Renaissance history, any of the vernacular literatures or Latin, art, music, philosophy, and other disciplines recognized by RSA are eligible. Bibliographical works and scholarly aids are eligible for the Gordan Prize, but editions of texts or translations into English will not be considered. Books will be judged on the following criteria: 1) contribution to Renaissance Studies; 2) originality in insight and research; 3) clarity and eloquence; 4) thoroughness and accuracy in documentation.

Four copies of each work must be received in the RSA office postmarked by or on 15 July 2004. Each entry should be labeled "Gordan Book Prize." Renaissance Society of America, The Graduate School and University Center, The City University of New York, 365 Fifth Avenue, Room 5400, New York, NY 10016-4309. ✉

A Change in Renewal Policy

As was explained in a broadcast email to the membership in late 2003, the Society has traditionally mailed out in the first half of each calendar year copies of *Renaissance Quarterly* to members whose membership has lapsed. Some of these lapsed members eventually renew, some do not. In business terms, the Society has been paying the cost of printing and mailing these copies on speculation. Starting in 2004, we are abandoning this policy. We shall only send out copies to paid-up members. Lapsed members will no longer receive the spring and summer issues of *Renaissance Quarterly*. If they renew their membership during the year, we shall happily arrange for them to receive the issues that they missed. We shall also continue to send out repeated reminders to lapsed members.

Since it is easy to lose track of membership to the Society amid a myriad of other concerns, I strongly urge utilization of the new multi-year renewal option to eliminate this chore for a long stretch of time. And it is a money-saver as well, locking in this year's rate for as many as five years in advance and receiving a \$5 discount for each year after the present year. See the form on page 7. — *John Monfasani, RSA Executive Director*

❧ RSA Annual Meeting, New York City, 1-3 April, 2004 ❧
Plenaries, Talks, and Special Events

WEDNESDAY, 31 MARCH

5:30-7:00 PM

Opening Reception

CUNY, THE GRADUATE CENTER, CONCOURSE LEVEL

*Sponsored by the Renaissance Society of America and
CUNY, The Graduate Center*

Queens College Choir, Organized by José M. Martínez-Torrejón,
CUNY, Queens College

THURSDAY, 1 APRIL

5:45-6:45 PM

Josephine Waters Bennett Lecture

GRAND HYATT NEW YORK

Sponsored by the Renaissance Society of America

Benjamin C.I. Ravid, *Brandeis University*, "Hebraica, Judaica,
and the Renaissance"

FRIDAY, 2 APRIL

5:15-6:15 PM

**Margaret Mann Phillips
Commemorative Lecture**

GRAND HYATT NEW YORK, BROADWAY ROOM

Sponsored by The Erasmus of Rotterdam Society

Ralph Keen, *University of Iowa*, "The Allure of the Past: Religious
Reform and the Recovery of Ancient Ideals"

6:00 PM

Lecture and Reception

THE LIBRARY OF NEW YORK ACADEMY OF MEDICINE,
FIFTH AVENUE AND 103RD STREET

Alain Touwaide, *Smithsonian Institution*, "The Western Re-
invention of Hippocrates"

6:00 PM

Reception

AUDUBON TERRACE, 613 WEST 155TH STREET

Sponsored by The Hispanic Society of America

FRIDAY, 2 APRIL (CONT.)

6:45-10:45 PM

**A Dramatic Reading
of *Samson Agonistes*
by John Milton**

CUNY, THE GRADUATE CENTER, PROSHANSKY AUDITORIUM,
CONCOURSE LEVEL

Sponsored by CUNY, The Graduate Center

Organized by Joseph Wittreich, *CUNY, The Graduate Center*

Performed by The Lark Ascending,
www.thelarkascending.org

Richard Edelman as Samson, Maurice Edwards as Chorus,
Alfred Hyslop as Manoa and Samson's father, Carlotta
Sherwood as Dalila, Peter Ludwig as Harapha, Edgar Oliver as
Public Officer, and George McGrath as Messenger

SATURDAY, 3 APRIL

5:45-7:15 PM

**Plenary Session:
Studying the Renaissance:
A Retrospective Commemorating the
50th Anniversary of the RSA**

GRAND HYATT NEW YORK

Sponsored by the Renaissance Society of America

Organized by Martin Elsky, *CUNY, The Graduate Center*

Eugene F. Rice, Jr., *Columbia University, Emeritus*,
"The Early Years of the RSA"

Rona Goffen, *Rutgers University, New Brunswick*,
"Seeing Things"

Richard Kagan, *The Johns Hopkins University*, "Spain,
Spanish America, and the Renaissance: Problems and
Prospects"

7:30-9:30 PM

Closing Reception

GRAND HYATT NEW YORK

Sponsored by the Renaissance Society of America

❧ RSA Annual Meeting, New York City, 1-3 April, 2004 ❧
Registration Form

LAST NAME: _____

FIRST NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____

AFFILIATION FOR BADGE: _____

REQUIRED FEE

RSA Member Registration Fee (Non-refundable)	\$125
RSA Student Registration Fee (Non-refundable)	\$100
Registration at the Door	\$150
Non-RSA member Registration Fee (Non-refundable) (A non-participant)	\$150 (for guests/spouses)

THE REGISTRATION FEE INCLUDES:

- 1 copy of the Program / Abstract Booklet
- Entry to all sessions (including the Bennett Lecture and Plenary Session)
- Entry to the Opening and Closing Receptions
(Wednesday evening, 31 March and Saturday evening, 3 April)

METHOD OF PAYMENT:

If payment is by check mail to:

RSA 2004 New York City Meeting
C/O CUNY, The Graduate Center
The City University of New York
365 Fifth Avenue, Room 5400
New York, NY 10016-4309

If payment is by credit card, (the RSA only accepts VISA/MASTERCARD, and you must include the EXPIRATION DATE OF THE CARD), fill out this form and mail it to the above address or fax it to 212-817-1544 or go to the website (www.rsa.org) and pay online.

VISA No. _____ EXP. DATE (Month/Year): _____

MASTERCARD No. _____ EXP DATE (Month/Year): _____

❧ Hotel Reservation Form ❧

New York City, 1-3 April, 2004

LAST NAME: _____
 FIRST NAME: _____
 EMAIL: _____
 PHONE: _____
 FAX: _____

The RSA and the Grand Hyatt Hotel will extend this discounted rate from Saturday, March 27th through Monday, April 5th based upon availability. Deadline for making reservations is: March 10th, 2004.

ARRIVAL DATE: _____
 DEPARTURE DATE: _____
 Number of Nights: _____

Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date: _____
 Number of Nights: _____

Smoking: _____ Non-Smoking: _____: Based upon availability.

Single / Double Occupancy Room: \$189 per night: Based upon availability.

Specify Bed Type: Queen: _____ King: _____ Double (2 bed): _____

Rollaway: \$25 per night

There is a \$5 cancellation fee.

\$189 per night x (number of nights) = _____ + \$10 one time handling charge (non-refundable)

TOTAL: _____

Sharing With: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Credit Card online via RSA website: www.rsa.org or check (drawn on US Bank)

Mail form and check to:

Connections, RSA 2004 Reservations

820 Church Street, Decatur, GA 30030

(Tel.): 404-842-0000 (Fax.): 404-842-0954

New York 2004: Booking a Room at the Grand Hyatt, continued from page 1

registrants all these taxes. We have contracted with the conference specialists Connections Inc. in Atlanta, GA, to handle most but not all of the details for us. Since we have to pay Connections for this service, cover the credit card fees, absorb the cost of extra help in the office, and create a certain cushion for any losses from bad transactions, we have fixed the RSA charge at \$189 per night plus a onetime, non-refundable \$10 handling fee. The result is that if one books through the RSA, the cost of a four-night stay is \$766 (\$756 + \$10) as opposed to \$821.72 if one booked directly through the hotel, which is a saving of \$55.72, or \$13.93 a night.

The best and simplest way to make a booking is to go to the RSA website (www.rsa.org), click the New York conference, and then click the hotel booking link. You will be taken to a secure website where you can make your booking. If you prefer to pay by check, you can fill out the form included in this issue of RNN and mail the form and check to Connections / RSA, 820 Church Street, Decatur, GA 30030. So book now. — *John Monfasani* ❧

ADDITIONAL HOTEL INFORMATION: GRAND HYATT NEW YORK

Park Avenue at Grand Central, New York,
NY 10017 • www.grandnewyork.hyatt.com

9 miles from La Guardia Airport; 18 miles from JFK International Airport; 20 miles from Newark International Airport; adjacent to Grand Central Terminal on the North side of 42nd Street.

Guest Room Features: TV with remote control, cable movie channels, in-room pay movies; Voice mail, telephone with message light, computer hookup; Video messages, video account review, video checkout; Daily newspaper delivery upon request; Individual climate control; Full bath amenities; Turndown available on request; Iron, ironing boards on request; and AF/AM alarm clock hair dryer.

❧ 2004 Membership Form ❧

RENAISSANCE SOCIETY OF AMERICA

The Graduate School and University Center • The City University of New York
 365 Fifth Avenue, Room 5400 • New York, NY 10016-4309
 phone: 212-817-2130 • fax: 212-817-1544 • email: rsa@rsa.org • website: www.rsa.org

Indicate title, first name, middle name, last name for mailing address and institutional address for the Directory.

Mailing Address	Institutional Address
Title: _____	_____
Last Name: _____	_____
First Name: _____	_____
Middle Name/Initial: _____	_____
Address: _____	_____
Address: _____	_____
Address: _____	_____
City: _____ State: _____	_____
Zip: _____ - _____ Country: _____	_____
E-Mail: _____	
Tel (H): _____ Tel (O): _____ Fax (H): _____ Fax (O): _____	
Website: _____	

SINGLE YEAR RENEWAL Renaissance Quarterly: Volume 57

2004	<input type="checkbox"/> Regular \$60	<input type="checkbox"/> Dual \$70	<input type="checkbox"/> Patron \$ 100
	<input type="checkbox"/> Student \$30	<input type="checkbox"/> Retiree \$45	<input type="checkbox"/> Life \$2,500

Dual members receive one copy of journal and two Directory listings.

MULTIPLE YEARS RENEWAL

Regular 5 years (2004-2008)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$280	4 years	<input type="checkbox"/> \$225	3 years	<input type="checkbox"/> \$170	2 years	<input type="checkbox"/> \$115
Dual 5 years (2004-2008)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$330	4 years	<input type="checkbox"/> \$265	3 years	<input type="checkbox"/> \$200	2 years	<input type="checkbox"/> \$135
Patron 5 years (2004-2008)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$480	4 years	<input type="checkbox"/> \$385	3 years	<input type="checkbox"/> \$290	2 years	<input type="checkbox"/> \$195
Retiree 5 years (2004-2008)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$205	4 years	<input type="checkbox"/> \$165	3 years	<input type="checkbox"/> \$125	2 years	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 85
Student 3 years (2004-2006)				3 years	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 80	2 years	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 55

ITER Electronic Bibliography *Iter: Gateway to the Middle Ages and Renaissance* is now a benefit of membership.

Paul Oskar Kristeller Fund: \$ _____

Capital Campaign Contribution: \$ _____

My check for \$ _____ is enclosed (in U.S. dollars drawn on U.S. bank only)

VISA Mastercard Card Number: _____ Exp .date: _____

Signature: _____

Discipline (Please number in ranked order up to 5, starting with "1")

<input type="checkbox"/> AH Art History	<input type="checkbox"/> GL Germanic Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> IL Italian Literature
<input type="checkbox"/> BP Bibliography, Paleography & Printing	<input type="checkbox"/> HB Hebraica	<input type="checkbox"/> MU Music
<input type="checkbox"/> CH Church History & Theology	<input type="checkbox"/> HC Classical Tradition	<input type="checkbox"/> PA Performing Arts & Theatre
<input type="checkbox"/> CL Comparative Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> HI History	<input type="checkbox"/> PH Philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> EL English Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> HL History Law/Political Thought	<input type="checkbox"/> RH Rhetoric
<input type="checkbox"/> ES Emblems	<input type="checkbox"/> HM History of Medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> SL Hispanic Literature
<input type="checkbox"/> FL French Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> HS History of Science	<input type="checkbox"/> WG Women & Gender Studies

Specialization: _____

Languages: _____

Nominees for RSA membership: Please supply name, email and mailing address on reverse of this form.

Publication schedule: Spring; Summer; Autumn; Winter (index)

Call for Papers: Cambridge, England 2005

7-9 April

Accommodations include breakfast and dinner at
Queens' College, Clare College, and Fitzwilliam College

Josephine Waters Bennett Lecturer:
Philip Ford, *Clare College, Cambridge University*

The program committee invites abstracts for individual papers as well as proposals for panels.
Submit individual papers and or panels via the website: www.rsa.org

Deadline for Submissions:
23 May 2004



THE RENAISSANCE SOCIETY OF AMERICA
THE GRADUATE SCHOOL AND UNIVERSITY CENTER
THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
365 FIFTH AVENUE, ROOM 5400
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