



The debate about free will from Dante to Luther.

An interdisciplinary conference.

21 April 2017

Det Danske Institut i Rom- Danish Academy

The conference aims, within an interdisciplinary approach, to cast light over the issue of freedom of the will in the Renaissance and to discuss the complex evolution of the free will question in the period from Dante to Luther. In Late Medieval and Early modern Europe the topic, in its numerous forms, is central to various cultural contexts and is debated in many different genres, from literary texts to tracts, by both churchmen and laymen. In order to study how different aspects of such a debate evolve, the question will be issued from a wide span of disciplines (theology, philosophy, cultural history, philology). The conference will therefore explore the theme through three overall questions: a) the free will question in different genres: literary texts (poems, dialogues, letters), sermons, tracts and controversies; b) continuity and discontinuity from Medieval to Renaissance philosophy; c) geographical differences: Italy-Northern Europe. At the end of each session and in the final round table eminent scholars will discuss with the speakers, developing issues and ideas for further research and debate.

LORENZO GERI, NICOLÒ MALDINA, PASQUALE TERRACCIANO, CHRISTIAN HOUTH VRANGBÆK

I Session: Late Middle Age 10-12.30

NICOLÒ MALDINA (University of Edimburgh), *Dante, the problem of free will and Medieval preaching*

SARA FERRILLI (Istituto Italiano per gli Studi Storici "Benedetto Croce"), *Fortune, the Stars and free will in late medieval poetry*

Lunch 12,30-13

II Session: Italian Humanism 13-14,30

LORENZO GERI (Sapienza Università di Roma), *Salvation, Grace and free will in Petrarch from the Secretum to the Canzoniere*

STEFANO BALDASSARRI (ISI Florence), *Free will and the dignity of man in fifteenth-century humanism: the case of Giannozzo Manetti*

Coffee Break 14,30-15

III Session: European Renaissance

PASQUALE TERRACCIANO (Villa I Tatti), *Mery, Grace and free will in Erasmus' Concio de misericordia (1524)*

CHRISTIAN HOUTH VRANGBÆK (Aarhus University), *Erasmus and the will between salvation and education*

ANDERS-CHRISTIAN JACOBSEN (Aarhus University), *Luther, the Reformation and the question of freedom of the will*

Round Table 16,30-17

Discussant: Giorgio Caravale (Università degli Studi Roma Tre), Theodore J. Cachey (University of Notre Dame), Luca Lombardo (University of Notre Dame).



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