



VIRGINS, WIVES, MOTHERS  
National Personifications in Early Modern Europe

VIÈRGES, ÉPOUSES, MÈRES  
Les personnifications nationales à l'époque moderne



MARCH 29–31, 2016

International Colloquium in Paris  
Rainer Babel (IHA)  
Christine Gouzi (univ. Paris-Sorbonne/Centre André Chastel)  
Thomas Kirchner (DFK)  
Thomas Maissen (IHA)

Henri IV tenant la main à la France (BNF, Dép. des estampes)



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Following on the work carried out by Maurice Agulhon comprehensive research has been conducted into the French national allegory »Marianne« and her sisters in other nation-states in modern times. With respect to the period before the French Revolution, however, there are still very few studies of such personifications of the state or political entities, to say nothing of comparative approaches examining these various allegories together. This is despite the fact that they have common roots, which frequently go back to antiquity. Roman coins, for example, featured towns or regions in the form of female figures. The goddess Minerva, in particular, served as an iconographic model for such depictions, which were then taken up again in the Renaissance and ultimately handed down through Cesare Ripa's famous *Iconologia*. Christian theology contributed to the development of this symbolic representation by introducing another chaste female figure: the image of the Virgin Mary, queen of heaven, mother and saint, could thus become a symbol of monarchy or of the early modern state, especially in connection with the motif of the *hortus conclusus*, the enclosed garden, which likewise symbolises sovereign territory. Within these pictorial traditions, the correlation between which has yet to be investigated, such personifications can be interpreted not only as virgins but also as wives (of the ruler) or mothers (of the nation). This secularisation of the iconography, which often supplements rather than replaces its religious content, has precursors in the late Middle Ages. These personifications thus served the purpose of glorification and then of political propaganda, especially when the concept of sovereignty was developed.

### Organisation:

German Historical Institute, German Center for Art History and the LabEx EHNE (Axe 7) in cooperation with the IEG Mainz.

Information and registration: [event@dhi-paris.fr](mailto:event@dhi-paris.fr)



DEUTSCHES FORUM  
FÜR KUNSTGESCHICHTE  
CENTRE ALLEMAND  
D'HISTOIRE DE L'ART  
PARIS





Tuesday, 29 March 2016

|       |  |
|-------|--|
| 9:15  | Thomas Maissen (Paris), Welcome address and introduction:<br>The German Speaking Countries   |
| 10:00 | <b>Italy</b><br>Chair: Stefano Andretta (Rome)   |
|       | Bertrand COSNET (Nantes)<br>La genèse des personnifications nationales dans les communes italiennes du XIV <sup>e</sup> siècle   |
|       | Marina VIDAS (Copenhagen)<br>Personifications of Venice in Fifteenth- and Sixteenth-Century Illuminated Documents and Manuscripts  |
| 11:00 | <i>Coffee break</i>  |
| 11:30 | Massimo GALTAROSSA (Padua)<br>Le personificazioni allegoriche di Venetia nelle orazioni politiche del Cinquecento  |
|       | Bettina MORLANG-SCHARDON (Rome)<br>Himmelskörper – zur Allegorese ideeller Souveränität im Genua des Seicento  |
|       | Susanne KUBERSKY-PIREDDA (Rome)<br>Staatspersonifikationen und politische Allegorien im Rom der Frühen Neuzeit: die malerische Ausstattung der französischen Nationalkirche San Luigi dei Francesi |
| 13:00 | <i>Lunch break</i>   |

14:00

**England**

Chair: Marie-Élizabeth Ducreux (Paris)

Benoît CHÈNE (Saint-Cassien)

Embodying the Nation: Collective Identity and Queenship under Mary Tudor (1553-1558)

Lisa-Maria SPECK (Frankfurt/M.)

Die jungfräuliche Königin als Personifikation ihres Reichs? Eine neue Perspektive auf die politische Ikonographie Elisabeths I. von England

Thomas HOWELLS (Oxford)

The Face of a Queen and the Mind of a King: the Personification of England 1586-1625

15:30

*Coffee break*

16:00

**Europe**

Chair: Klaus Oschema (Heidelberg/Paris)

Sylvain-Karl GOSSELET (Paris)

Deux femmes pour un continent: l'Europe

Wolfgang SCHMALE (Vienna)

Politische Aspekte von Erdteilallegorien in der Frühen Neuzeit

18:00

**Keynote lecture**

Chair: Thomas Kirchner (Paris)

Quentin SKINNER (London)

The Leviathan Frontispiece: Meaning and Provenance

Commentary: Horst BREDEKAMP (Berlin)



## Wednesday, 30 March 2016

9:15

France I (Sixteenth and Seventeenth Century)

Chair: Godehard Janzing (Paris)

Aubrée DAVID-CHAPY (Paris)

Invention et exaltation d'une figure maternelle et mariale: le cas de la régente Louise de Savoie (1515–1531)

Cornelia LOGEMANN (Munich)

Dame France unter Göttern. Mythologische Masken und nationale Identität bei François I<sup>er</sup> und seinen Nachfolgern

Damien BRIL (Paris)

Pouvoir féminin et allégorie politique: régence et personnification nationale en France au XVII<sup>e</sup> siècle

Alexandra WOOLLEY (Toulouse)

Louis XIV sur le »Trosne de la Piété«: le roi personnifié en mère charitable du royaume

11:15

*Coffee break*

11:45

France II (Towards the Eighteenth Century)

Chair: Denis Crouzet (Paris)

Benoît DAUVERGNE (Paris)

La mère, l'héritier, la France. Représenter les naissances masculines de la famille royale au XVII<sup>e</sup> siècle

Bastien COULON (Paris)

Déesses mères et mythologie nationale: la personnification de la France dans les scènes de naissances royales au XVIII<sup>e</sup> siècle

Christine Gouzi (Paris)

Les tableaux commandés à Charles-Antoine Coypel (1694–1752) après la maladie de Louis XV à Metz en 1744: les personnifications du royaume de France

13:15

*Lunch break*

14:30

The Netherlands

Chair: Naima Ghermani (Grenoble)

Britta TEWORDT (Cologne)

Rollenspiele. Belgica, Hollandia und Lucretia als Opferpersonifikationen  
in der Propagandografik des Spanisch-Niederländischen Krieges

Romain THOMAS (Paris)

La Fiancée hollandaise. Usages politiques de la symbolique  
matrimoniale dans les Provinces-Unies au XVII<sup>e</sup> siècle

Frans GRIJZENHOUT (Amsterdam)

Contested Unity: the Figure of the Dutch Republic in Times  
of Political Disagreement

16:00

*Coffee break*

16:30

Central Europe

Chair: Naima Ghermani (Grenoble)

Matthias MÜLLER (Mainz)

Germania sancta – Germania corrupta – Germania capta.

Zum Imagewandel der »Reichsmutter« in der Bildpolitik  
des 16. und 17. Jahrhunderts

Sandra HERTEL (Vienna)/Stefanie LINSBOTH (Vienna)

Eine Herrscherin – ein Bild? Nationale, religiöse und dynastische  
Personifikationen am Beispiel von Maria Theresia (1717–1780)

Petra BATELJA (Zagreb)

Beatissima Maria, Advocata Croatiae



Thursday, 31 March 2016

9:15

Eastern Europe

Chair: Wolfgang E. J. Weber (Augsburg)

Katharina Ute MANN (Cologne)

Polonia – eine Nationalallegorie als Erinnerungsort in der polnischen Malerei

Elena KASHINA (York)

The Temple of Transcendent Wisdom. The Image of the Virgin Mary as an Agent of Russia's National State

10:15

Spain and its Periphery

Chair: Wolfgang E. J. Weber (Augsburg)

Alvaro Pascual CHENEL (Alcalá), »España con Religión y Justicia«.

Iconography and Personifications of the Spanish Monarchy in Seventeenth Century: Image and Propaganda

Nicolas VERNOT (Cergy-Pontoise)

Les allégories de la cité de Besançon et du comté de Bourgogne dans les dernières années de la domination espagnole (v.1664–1674)

11:15

Coffee break

11:45

Allegories and Particular Personifications

Chair: Gabrielle de Lassus (Paris)

Astrid ZENKERT (Schwetzingen)

Virtutem fingere. Minerva's role in representing the sovereign ruler

Chloé PERROT (Lille)

Les personifications des États dans les iconologies de la deuxième moitié du XVIII<sup>e</sup> siècle, importants témoins d'une histoire politique

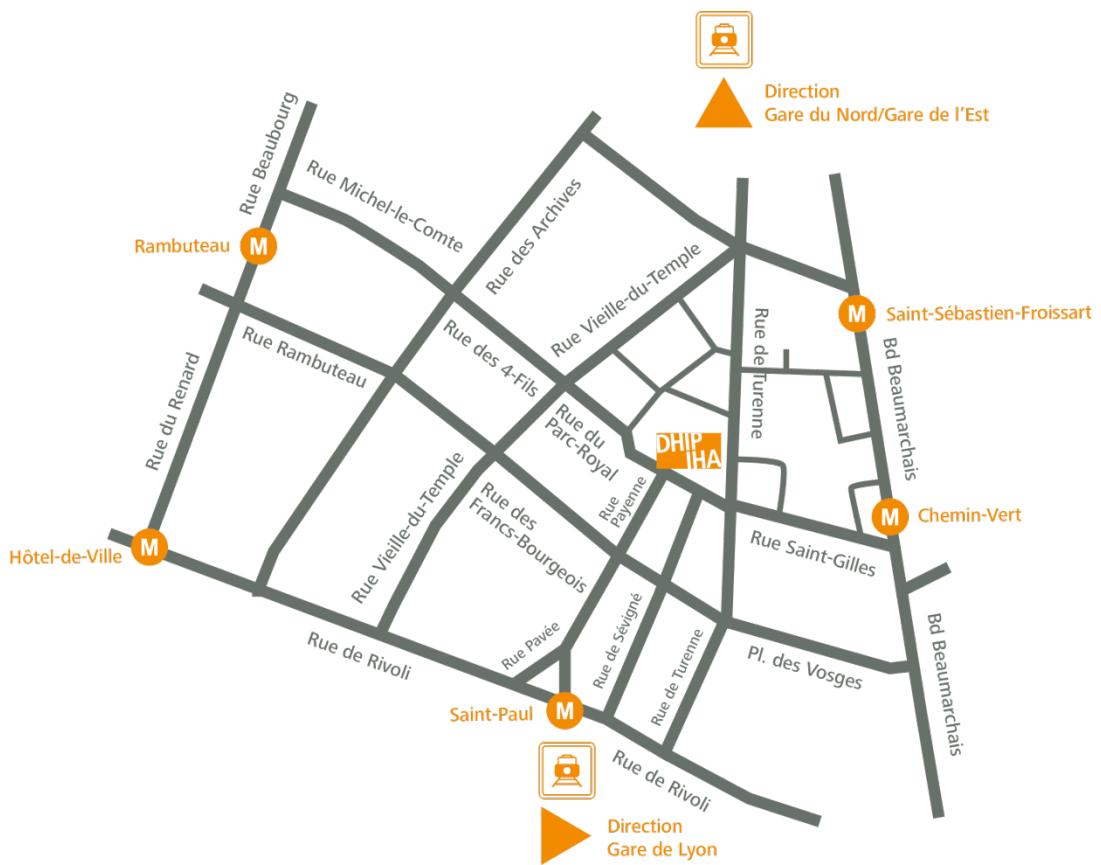
12:45

Final discussion

Chair and commentary: Gabrielle de Lassus (Paris)

13:15

Lunch



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