

**Transatlantic Encounters:
The “Discovery” of the
New World and the Old**

October 8 - 10, 1992

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All sessions will be held in room 118 in the Sarratt Student Center

Thursday, October 8, 1992

Sessions I - III: Three Worlds Collide

9:00 - 9:15 Introductory Remarks: John H. Venable, Acting Dean, College of Arts and Science

Session I: Native Americans: "Vision of the Vanquished"

9:15 "Native Reactions to the Invasion of America"

James L. Axtell, Department of History, College of William and Mary

"Word for Word: Colonial Encounters with Mesoamerican Languages"
Stephen D. Houston, Department of Anthropology, Vanderbilt University
Fellow, Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities

"Inca and Indian Ideologies in the Making of the Colonial Andean World"
Irene Silverblatt, Department of Cultural Anthropology, Duke University

Panel Moderator: Howard L. Harrod, Divinity School
Vanderbilt University
Fellow, Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities

11:45 Lunch

This conference is a result of a year-long faculty seminar, "Transatlantic Encounters: The 'Discovery' of the New World and the Old," coordinated by Marshall C. Eakin and Vivien Green Fryd, and sponsored by the Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities at Vanderbilt University.

Funding for the conference has been provided by the Center for the Humanities, the University Research Council, the University Lectures Committee, the Center for Latin American and Iberian Studies, the Center for Western European Studies, the Departments of English, Fine Arts, History, Spanish and Portuguese, and the Divinity School. Additional funding was generously provided by the Program for Cultural Cooperation Between Spain's Ministry of Culture and United States Universities.

Vanderbilt University
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Session II: Europeans: "Confronting the Other"

1:30 "Textual Confrontations with 1492: Las Casas's 'Prologue' vs. Columbus's 'Letter of 1492'"
Margarita M. Zamora, Department of Spanish and Portuguese, University of Wisconsin, Madison

"The Naufragios of Cabeza de Vaca: The Problematics of Narratives of Discovery and Exploration in the Sixteenth Century"
Enrique Pupo-Walker, Department of Spanish and Portuguese, Vanderbilt University

"The Meaning of America for Early Modern England"
Karen Ordahl Kupperman, Department of History, University of Connecticut

Panel Moderator: Paul H. Freedman, Department of History, Vanderbilt University
Fellow, Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities

4:00 Reception: The Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities

Friday, October 9

Session III: Africans: "Unwilling Immigrants"

9:15 "Remembering Africa"
James Olney, Department of English, Louisiana State University

"African Ethnicity in Africa and the Americas"
John K. Thornton, Department of History, Millersville University of Pennsylvania

"Alice's Secret"
Margaret Kent Bass, Department of English, Vanderbilt University Fellow, Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities

Panel Moderator: William Luis, Department of Spanish and Portuguese, Vanderbilt University
Fellow, Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities

11:45 Lunch

Sessions IV - VI: Reinterpreting the Collision

Session IV: Europe: "Making Sense of the Other"

1:30 "Making Sense of the Caribbean"
Peter Hulme, Department of Literature, University of Essex

"Becoming the Other: Metamorphosis and Natural Philosophy in English America"
Joyce E. Chaplin, Department of History, Vanderbilt University

"A Law Written in Sand": The Sea as Moral Norm in 17th-Century Spanish Poetry"
Christopher H. Maurer, Department of Spanish and Portuguese, Vanderbilt University

Panel Moderator: Joel F. Harrington, Department of History, Vanderbilt University
Fellow, Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities

Saturday, October 10

Session V: North America: "Inventing and Reinventing Columbus"

9:15 "Inventing Columbus"
Cecelia Tichi, Department of English, Vanderbilt University Fellow, Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities

"History Before the Fact; or, Captain John Smith's Unfinished Symphony"
Myra Jehlen, Department of English, Rutgers

"Trauma"
Francis Jennings, Senior Research Fellow, Newberry Library

Panel Moderator: Vivien Green Fryd, Department of Fine Arts, Vanderbilt University
Fellow, Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities

11:45 Lunch

**Session VI: Latin America and the Caribbean:
"New Societies, New Identities"**

1:30

- "Strategies for Survival: The Native Response in Mesoamerica"
William R. Fowler, Jr., Department of Anthropology, Vanderbilt University
Fellow, Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities
- "Slavery and Race in the Americas: Another Look at an Old Issue"
Colin A. Palmer, Department of History, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- "Borges, the Encounter, and the Other: Blacks and the Monstrous Races"
William Luis, Department of Spanish and Portuguese, Vanderbilt University
Fellow, Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities
- "Creole Perspectives on the Spanish Conquests in America"
Simon Collier, Department of History, Vanderbilt University
- Panel Moderator: Marshall C. Eakin, Department of History*
Vanderbilt University
Fellow, Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities