

DRAFT PROGRAM: *Reenvisioning the Medieval World(s) in the 21st Century*
The Annual Conference of the New England Medieval Consortium
Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine
Kresge Auditorium, Visual Arts Center
April 10-11, 2026

Friday, April 10:

5:30 – 7:00 PM: Keynote Lecture

Lloyd de Beer (The British Museum, London), “The Many Lives of the Asante Ewer”

7:15 – 9:00 PM: Dinner for Speakers and NEMC Steering Committee members; NEMC Annual Meeting

Saturday, April 11:

9:00 – 10:00: Panel I: Rethinking the Past in the Wake of the Postcolonial Turn (Presider: Stephen Perkinson, Bowdoin College)

Maggie Crosland (Birmingham Museum of Art), “Curating a Global Medieval World: An Argument for Permanent Collection Spaces”

Seher Agarwala (Columbia University), “The Past Is Not Past: Qur’anic Time and the Life of Pre-Islamic Ruins”

10:00 – 10:30: Coffee Break

10:30 – 12:00: Panel II: Elusive Geographies (Presider: Emma Maggie Solberg, Bowdoin College)

Brooke Wrubel (Columbia University), “The San Sebastiano Processional Cross: A Case for the Methodological Embrace of Multiplicity”

Alicia Walker (Bryn Mawr College), “Byzantine’ Art without Borders?”

Joseph Salvatore Ackley (Wesleyan University), “India, Arabia, Paradise: The Slipperiness of Gold within the Global Medieval Turn”

12:00 – 1:30: Lunch

1:30 – 3:00: Panel III: Coming to Terms with our Terminology: “Agency,” “Periodization,” and “Style” (Presider: Dallas Denery, Bowdoin College)

Megan Boomer (Bates College), “Reinscribing Presence: Multilingual Makers in the Medieval Eastern Mediterranean”

Ann Shafer (Rhode Island School of Design), “The Shoe Doesn’t Quite Fit: Alternatives to Formal Analysis in the Realm of Islamic Art”

Mark Lewis Tizzoni (Colby College), “Pedagogy of the ‘Global Turn:’ Approaching Premodern Africa in the Classroom”

3:00 – 3:30: Coffee

3:30 – 4:30: Panel IV: Material Mobilities (Presider: Vyjayanthi Selinger, Bowdoin College)

Amanda Luyster (College of the Holy Cross), “Global Networks, Imported Silks, and the ‘Middle Ages’”

Elizabeth Rice Mattison (The Hood Museum), “A Tale of Three Pitchers: Mobile Metalwork between the Low Countries and the Mamluk”

4:30 – 5:30: Reception at the Bowdoin College Museum of Art (with chance to view *Medieval Art from the Wyvern Collection: Global Networks and Creative Connections*)

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