

CFP

Court and Literature in Early Modern Europe: Networks, Patronage and the Circulation of Culture (c. 1450–1650)



Bartolomeo Veneto, *Portrait of a Gentleman*, c. 1520. National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C. Public domain.

Thursday 3rd & Friday 4th June 2027

TRINITY COLLEGE DUBLIN

We are pleased to announce the Call for Papers for the international conference **Court and Literature in Early Modern Europe: Networks, Patronage and the Circulation of Culture (c. 1450–1650)**, which will take place at the Trinity Long Room Hub Arts and Humanities Research Institute (Trinity College Dublin) and Instituto Cervantes Dublin on Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th June 2027.

This international conference aims to bring together scholars interested in the relationship between court and literature in early modern Europe. The conference will approach the court not only as a centre of political and aristocratic power, but also as a space of sociability, cultural production, and the circulation of people, texts, and ideas. From an interdisciplinary, comparative, and transnational perspective, the conference seeks to explore the relationships between writers, patrons, and other agents of courtly life, as well as the cultural and literary exchanges established between different European courts from the mid-fifteenth to the mid-seventeenth century.

Papers may address, but are not limited to, the following topics:

- The court as a space of literary production and cultural exchange.
- Literary patronage and relationships between writers and patrons.
- The mobility of writers, diplomats, and other cultural agents between European courts.
- Networks of literary and intellectual sociability.
- The circulation of texts, genres, and literary models across linguistic and political boundaries.
- Courtly identities and literary representations of court life.
- Literary representations of monarchy and royal power.
- The relationship between manuscript culture, print, and courtly literature.
- Comparative and transnational approaches to European court cultures.

We invite abstract submissions for **30-minute papers** from scholars at all career stages. Papers should be delivered **in English**. Abstracts of no more than **200 words** should be submitted by **1 December 2026** to courtandliterature@gmail.com. Applicants will be notified of the outcome of their submissions by **18 December 2026**.

The conference will include keynote lectures by **Brian Brewer** (Trinity College Dublin) and **Alexander Samson** (University College London), as well as invited papers and papers selected through this Call for Papers.

A selection of papers presented at the conference is expected to lead to a **peer-reviewed academic publication**.

The conference is organised by the **School of Languages, Literatures and Cultural Studies, Trinity College Dublin**, in collaboration with the **Trinity Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies and Instituto Cervantes Dublin**.

With the scientific endorsement of:



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