



**A VIRTUAL GRADUATE
SYMPOSIUM ORGANIZED
BY THE DEPARTMENT OF
ROMANCE LANGUAGES
AND LITERATURES AT
BOSTON COLLEGE**

CONTAGION / CONTINUITY

April 10, 2021 (9 a.m.-4 p.m.)

For centuries, humanity has used creativity to shape works that express how the events of the world affect us individually and collectively. Through diverse mediums, we forge connections, explain the world around us, and instill hope. It is no surprise the COVID-19 pandemic sparked a resurgence of creative works inspired by the changes in everyday life, isolation, and the disease itself. In this symposium, we will investigate works that draw from previous and current pandemics to explore how humanity manifests its creativity to foster a sense of community, adaptation, and hope in such turbulent times.

Keywords: contagion, plague, community, film, art, literature, humanity, rebirth

VISUAL ARTS SESSION (9-10:40 A.M.)

Moderator: Mattia Acetoso

Giulia Wilkins

The Plague Doctor Mask vs. The Doctor in the Commedia dell'Arte, 1500-1600

Rumi Handen

"Legarsi alla montagna," art installation by Maria Lai, 1981

Andrew Clark

Paris qui dort, film by René Clair, 1924

Hannah Vinande

"Les graffiti pour sauver des vies. L'art s'engage contre le coronavirus au Sénégal," 2020

Ethan Hill

The Forgotten Village, film by Herbert Kline, 1941

Alicia Lowden

Memes in Spanish surrounding the pandemic, 2020

::20 MINUTE BREAK::

CONTAGION / CONTINUITY

2021 PROGRAM

THE EVENT IS FREE AND
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

LITERARY STUDIES SESSION (11-12:40 P.M.)

Moderator: Kevin Newmark

María Belén Melena Moya

Lo viral, by Jorge Carrión, 2020

Marcel Pons

"Güigüe 1918," poem by Eugenio Montejo

Martina Franzini

"*Decameron's Proemio*" and "Introduction to Day One," by Giovanni Boccaccio, 1350-1353

Benedetta Capozzi

"The Triumph of Bacchus and Ariadne," poem by Lorenzo De Medici, 1490

Greta Bonfatti

La peste, novel by Albert Camus, 1947

Rania Ben Amor

Le hussard sur le toit, novel by Jean Giono, 1951

::LUNCH RECESS:: (1-2 P.M.)

KEYNOTE ADDRESS (2-3 P.M.)

Franco Mormando

"Art in Times of Pandemic: Italian Painting Responds to the Bubonic Plague, 1500-1700"

ZOOM LINK

MEETING ID: 433 484 3227