



**COMMON CHILDREN AND THE
COMMON GOOD:
LOCATING FOUNDLINGS IN THE
EARLY MODERN WORLD**

**DAI BAMBINI "COMUNI" AL BENE COMUNE:
I "TROVATELLI" NELLA PRIMA ETÀ MODERNA**

**AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
ORGANIZED BY NICHOLAS TERPSTRA
(UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO)**

The 600th anniversary of the inauguration of the Ospedale degli Innocenti in Florence provides an opportunity to re-examine the contexts for foundling care both within and beyond this pioneering institution. This conference will examine the spaces and artworks of the institution itself, literary and legal fashioning of illegitimacy by humanists and magistrates, the care taken with the formation of youths in the broadest sense, and the ways in which other Europeans learned from the example of Florence as they aimed to address the challenge of foundling care in their own urban, national, and imperial settings.

Il Seicentenario dell'inaugurazione dell'Ospedale degli Innocenti a Firenze offre un'opportunità per riesaminare i contesti dell'assistenza ai "trovatelli", sia all'interno che all'esterno di questa istituzione pionieristica. Il convegno prenderà in esame gli spazi e le opere d'arte della stessa istituzione, i modi in cui umanisti e magistrati hanno dato forma letteraria e giuridica all'illegittimità, la cura dedicata alla formazione dei giovani nel senso più ampio, e il modo in cui le altre realtà europee si sono ispirate all'esempio fiorentino nel momento in cui si sono poste l'obiettivo di affrontare la sfida dell'assistenza ai bambini abbandonati nei propri contesti urbani, nazionali e coloniali.

Unless indicated otherwise in the title, all talks will be in English / Salvo diversamente indicato nel titolo, tutte le relazioni si terranno in inglese.

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IMAGES:

Bernardino Poccetti,
Scene di Vita Ospedaliera, 1610
Firenze, Spedale degli Innocenti,

Niccolò Gerini e Ambrigo di Baldese,
*I capitani della Misericordia consegnano
i bambini alle nuove madri*, 1336,
Firenze, Museo del Bigallo

Andrea della Robbia, *Putto*
Firenze, Spedale degli Innocenti, 1487

I Tatti - The Harvard University Center
for Italian Renaissance Studies
Via di Vincigliata 26, Florence, 50135
+39 055 603 251 info@itatti.harvard.edu

Istituto
degli
Innocenti



I TATTI

THE HARVARD UNIVERSITY CENTER
FOR ITALIAN RENAISSANCE STUDIES



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December 9-10 / 2019

I TATTI / ISTITUTO DEGLI INNOCENTI

Monday, December 9
Istituto degli Innocenti (Salone Brunelleschi)

10:30 **ARABELLA S. NATALINI** (Museo degli Innocenti)
ALINA PAYNE (I Tatti / Harvard University)
NICHOLAS TERPSTRA (University of Toronto)
 Welcome and Introduction

RECREATING THE SPACES OF THE INNOCENTI
CHAIR: FELIPE PEREDA (I Tatti/Harvard University)

11:00 **AMEDEO BELLUZZI** (University of Florence)
 L'ospedale degli Innocenti e la piazza di Santa Maria dei Servi

11:30 **GEORGE BENT** (Washington and Lee University)
 A Model Institution: The Ospedale degli Innocenti in Three Dimensions

12:00 **FABRIZIO NEVOLA** (University of Exeter)
 Immersive Renaissance – New Narratives for a Spatialized Understanding of Art and Architecture

12:30 *Discussion*

13:00 *Lunch Break*

FOUNDLING CARE – EUROPEAN AND GLOBAL COMPARISONS
CHAIR: INGRID GREENFIELD (I Tatti)

15:30 **NICHOLAS TERPSTRA** (University of Toronto)
 Found & Lost: Race, Demography, and Reason of State in Early-Modern Foundling Care

16:00 **ISABEL DOS GUIMÃRES SÁ** (Universidade do Minho)
 Foundlings in the Portuguese World: The Culture of Child Abandonment

16:30 **ANN TWINAM** (University of Texas)
 Dimensions of Abandonment in Spain and the Indies: the Casas de Expósitos and Beyond



17:00 *Discussion*

17:30 *Coffee Break*

THE INNOCENTI IN THE URBAN AND SOCIAL FABRIC OF FLORENCE
CHAIR: CECILIE HOLLBERG (I Tatti)

17:45 **NIALL ATKINSON & CARMEN CASWELL** (University of Chicago)
 Understanding the Social and Spatial Ecology of the Innocenti's Neighborhood

18:15 **MARIO BEVILACQUA & EMANUELA FERRETTI** (University of Florence)
 The Innocenti, Architecture and the City: between Republic and Principality (15th-16th centuries)

18:45 **COLIN ROSE** (Brock University) & **DANIEL JAMISON** (University of Toronto)
 Innocenti Investments: Property Consolidation and Webs of Production in Mid-Sixteenth-Century Florence

19:15 *Discussion*

Tuesday, December 10
I Tatti (Gould Hall)

08:45 *Welcome Coffee*

FRAMING LEGAL AND FAMILY RELATIONS
CHAIR: ALINA PAYNE (I Tatti / Harvard University)

09:00 **MARTIN MCLAUGHLIN** (Oxford University)
 Alberti on the Care of Young Children

09:30 **CASPAR PEARSON** (University of Essex)
 Orphanage and Order: Leon Battista Alberti and the Origins of Renaissance Architecture

10:00 **ANNE LEADER** (University of Virginia)
 The Sepulchral Landscape of the Innocenti

10:30 *Discussion*

11:00 *Coffee Break*

FRAMING FOUNDLINGS – PHYSICAL HEALTH AND MORAL FORMATION

CHAIR: REUVEN AMITAI (I Tatti / Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

11:30 **DIANA BULLEN PRESCIUTTI** (University of Essex)
 Picturing Female Foundlings and Orphans in Early Modern Italy and Holland

12:00 **SPIRIT WAITE** (University of Toronto)
 Woven by Hand, Worn on the Body: Textiles and the Formation of Florentine and Pratese Foundlings, c. 1570-1650

12:30 *Discussion*

13:00 *Lunch*

LEGITIMACY AND ILLEGITIMACY
CHAIR: THOMAS GRUBER (I Tatti)

14:30 **THOMAS KUEHN** (Clemson University)
 The Confused Legal Status of the Children of Foundling Hospitals

15:00 **SANNE MUURLING** (Leiden University)
 See you in court? Unwed Mothers, Urban Institutions and Agency in Early Modern Europe

15:30 **JOEL F. HARRINGTON** (Vanderbilt University)
 A 'Sonderweg' Among Early Modern Foundling Homes? The Nuremberg Findel in Cross-Cultural Perspective

16:00 *Discussion*

16:30 *Closing Coffee*

