

## CONFERENCE 'MUSIC FOR LITURGY AND DEVOTION IN ITALY AROUND 1600'

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2016, Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama

### CONFERENCE REPORT

#### **Programme**

Each of the two days of the conference consisted of 2-3 sessions and a keynote lecture. This totals in 11 papers in 5 sessions and 2 keynotes.

#### **Benefits to the Scholarship**

The conference offered a platform of exchange for scholars working on Italian liturgical and devotional music in the decades around 1600. It responded to a perceivable lack of opportunity for researchers working in this area to communicate their knowledge. The communication was facilitated by fact that the conference consisted only of plenary sessions. Another beneficial factor was that all academic levels were represented in the conference. The presenters ranged from doctoral researchers to professors and the attendees included Master students and undergraduates.

Whilst being fascinatingly diverse, we felt that the repertoire presented by the papers given, offered a inspiring field of discussion among the musicologists present and led to a better over view of the period and repertoire.

We intended to add an interdisciplinary aspect to the discussions by inviting scholars from other departments within SALC to chair some of the sessions. It was disappointing that we received only one reply that was negative and others failed to respond.

#### **Feedback**

At the conclusion of the conference we held a discussion during which we asked for feedback. We have included below some of the written comments: were encouraged by all the positive comments.

From Jeffrey Kurtzman, Professor of Music, Washington University in St. Louis

I want to thank you and Rosemarie Darby for organizing the conference 'Music for Liturgy and Devotion around 1600'. You and Rosemarie organized the conference very professionally and carried out all the tasks of promoting and presenting the conference just as they should be. I was very glad to have traveled from the U.S. especially to participate in this event. You managed to attract a top-ranked group of international senior and junior scholars from England, Germany, Italy, Portugal, Scotland, and Switzerland as well as some excellent graduate students. It's unfortunate Walter Kreysieg from Saskatchewan, Canada had to cancel at the last minute.

The theme of the conference was well-conceived and the sessions organized in a cohesive manner. But most important to me was the opportunity to hear from other scholars about their work in my general field of studies and to make connections between their work and mine. I learned a great deal from this conference, renewed and reinforced some old contacts, and made a number of new ones. It was especially valuable to meet and hear several graduate student scholars (yourselves included), and learn of the new, path-breaking research you and others are doing to bring greater breadth and depth to our field and make it possible to gain a more coherent grasp of its range and complexities. I am returning home much enriched.

My heartiest congratulations to you both!

With best wishes,

Jeffrey Kurtzman

Professor of Music

Washington University in St. Louis

From Helena Wynn, 3rd year undergraduate in Music

Attending this conference was very valuable for my dissertation as it broadened my understanding of music and culture within this topic, as well as allowing me to learn information directly relevant to my dissertation, (for example the musical rituals and repertoire of Nepalese nuns). Some of this information is not currently available in print and as such is invaluable to my work.

My role as conference assistant allowed me to experience and understand some of the practical issues surrounding the organisation of an academic conference. Both attending and assisting at this conference will be valuable for my current studies and my future applications as a useful addition to my experience and my CV.

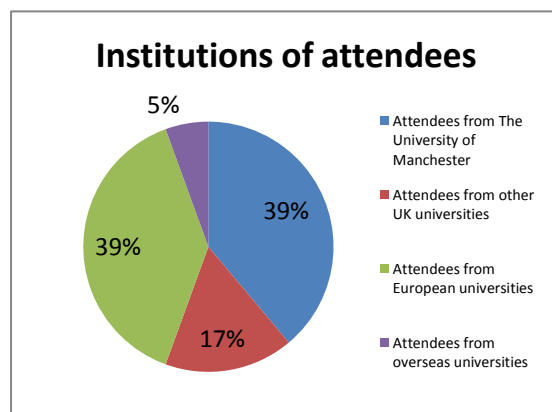
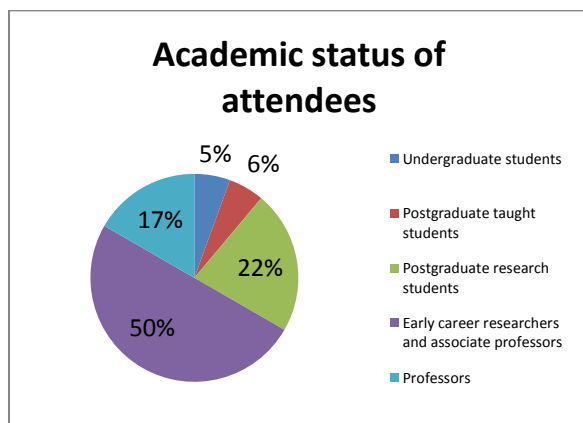
Many thanks,

Helena Wynn

### **Attendees**

Overall number of attendees	18
Undergraduate students	1
Postgraduate taught students	1
Postgraduate research students	4

Early career researchers and associate professors	9
Professors	3
Attendees from The University of Manchester	7
Attendees from other UK universities	3
Attendees from European universities	7
Attendees from overseas	1



### Output and Tangible Outcomes

The conference programme included a concert, the attendance of which was made available to candidates and parents attending an Open Day of the Music Department. This allowed the candidates to gain insight into the activities organised at the Martin Harris Centre and thus made studying at Manchester more attractive them.

**Financial Report** (attached as a separate document)

Rosemarie Darby

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