

THE INVENTION OF THE MEDICI, PART ONE

HISTORIOGRAPHIES, HISTORIES, AND STORIES (1781–2024)

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP
24 JANUARY 2025 — PALAZZO ALBERTI, FLORENCE

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Opening Remarks: 9:00

Alessio Assonitis (The Medici Archive Project)
Facts, Factoids, Hearsay, Inventions, and Bullshit

Session One: 9:20 – 10:30
THE INVENTION OF MEDICI WOMEN

Susan Naramore (University of Notre Dame)
Maligned and Minimized, But Not Forgotten:
Lucrezia Donati and Clarice Orsini in Popular Media

Sheila ffollott (George Mason University)
The View from France:
The Medici Are Okay, Just Not Catherine and Marie

Costanza Danisi (ALMA Mater Studiorum – Bologna)
Isabella de' Medici Orsini's Death:
A Critical Analysis of the Leggenda Nera of House Medici

Discussion: 10:30 – 10:45

Coffee Break: 10:45 – 11:00

Session Two: 11:00 – 12:15
THE INVENTION OF MEDICI MEN

Maurizio Arfaioli (The Medici Archive Project):
Giovanni vs. the Black Bands:
The Strange Fate of Giovanni de' Medici's Legacy

Alessandro Lo Bartolo (Università di Pisa)
Alessandro de' Medici and the Black Legend

Brendan Dooley (University College Cork)
Don Giovanni, Saint or Sinner?

Discussion: 12:15 – 12:30

Lunch Break: 12:45 – 14:15

Session Three: 14:15 – 15:30
THE CULT OF THE MYTH

Silvia Davoli (Strawberry Hill House & Garden):
From Florence to Strawberry Hill:
Horace Walpole and the Medicean Myth

Iryna Mykhailova (Ca' Foscari University of Venice)
The Image of the Medici in Russian Historical Scholarship and Fiction

Discussion: 15:30 – 15:45

Session Four: 15:50 – 16:30
THE CULT OF THE INVENTION

Pasquale Focarile (IMT Scuola Alti Studi Lucca)
From Grand Ducal Residence to Museum:
Palazzo Pitti and the Disappearance of the Medici

Enrico Sartoni (Accademia delle Arti del Disegno – Firenze)
The Invention of the Medici Museum and the *Mostra Medicea*
between Pedagogy and Fascist pride

Session Five: 16:30 – 16:50
THE STATE OF THE INVENTION

Elizabeth Griffith (Independent Scholar)
The Medici in an Era of Political Correctness:
Challenges and Opportunities

Discussion & Round Table 16:50 – 17:30

MAP STAFF and GUESTS

Please note that seating is **extremely limited**.
To RSVP, please email education@medici.org