

Dream and Dream World

April 18-19 2008, Taiwan Association of Classical, Medieval and Renaissance Studies Conference at National Sun Yat-sen University, Kaohsiung

Call for Papers

Culturally, dreams have a long history in the Judeo-Christian tradition. Jacob, Joseph and Daniel are capable of interpreting dreams that bother their masters. Joseph, the husband of Mary, was consoled by an angel in a dream advising him not to worry. So were the three Magi told in their dream to take another route home to defuse King Herod's conspiracy. In the final part of his *De Re Publica*, Cicero composed his *Somnium Scipionis* that was commented on by Macrobius. This classical text on dream was later cited by Chaucer as an authority. Similarly, King Arthur was warned in his dream not to take rash action and to restrain his emotions. The English Pearl-poet and William Langland accorded dream with a religious and political dimension respectively. Down to the Renaissance, Shakespeare cumulated the comic effects of dream in his *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Indeed, the notion of dream is rich in historical, medical, philosophical, literary and musical texts as well as in painting. Its extension, the dream world, is even more so throughout the ages. There have been the essentialist, epistemological, divinatory, psychological as well as sociological approaches widening our understanding of this facet of the pre-Renaissance western culture. To celebrate the 2nd Annual Conference of Taiwan Association of Classical, Medieval and Renaissance Studies and the 9th Renaissance Conference of Sun Yat-sen University we invite conference papers on the theme of "Dream and Dream World." Although there is no limitation on methodologies used, texts in discussion, however, are requested to fit the time frame of the classical, medieval and the Renaissance periods. Presentations may be on but not limited to any of the following subheadings.

Dreams, literary, historical, medical or virtual

Dream interpretations

Impacts of dreams

Dream vision

Dream and reality

Dreamers

Dream land

Utopia
Fantasia

Interested persons are requested to send in a 200-250 words abstract to the organizing committee shiang-hui@mail.nsysu.edu.tw or cd6666cd@ms52.hinet.net before November 23, 2007. Acceptance notification will be announced by the second week of December 2007. There will be no registration fee charges and complimentary meals will be provided during the conference.