

The matter of silver: substance, surface, shimmer, trauma

**Monday 26 – Wednesday 28 July 2021
Online**

**Convenor:
Professor Helen Hills, University of York**



The British Academy

Day 1: Monday 26 July 2021

- 13:30 **Introduction**
Professor Helen Hills (University of York)
- 13:40 **Session 1: Silver and power: questions of values**
Chair: Professor Helen Hills (University of York)
- Professor Allison Bigelow (University of Virginia, USA)
- Professor Thomas B. F. Cummins (Harvard University, USA)
The Atocha's silver ca. 1622: ingots, aquillas, and the intersection of values
- Discussion*
- 15:55 **Session 2: The silver moon**
Chair: Professor Kris Lane (Tulane University, USA)
- Professor Timothy Ingold (University of Aberdeen)
How the world shines silver in the moonlight
- Dr Spike Bucklow (University of Cambridge)
Silver: the lunar metal
- Discussion*
- 17:30 **Musical interlude for silvery reflections (Part 1)**
Pianist: David Hammond
- 18:00 End of first day of conference

Day 2: Tuesday 27 July 2021

- 14:00 **Welcome**
Professor Helen Hills (University of York)
- 14:05 **Session 3: Deceptive reflections: silver objects and colonialism**
Chair: Dr Timothy Schroder (Goldsmiths' Company)
- Professor Jane Mangan (Davidson College, USA)
Reflections on silver: colonial identities and material culture in Potosí
- Dr Sergius Koderer (University of Vienna, Austria)
Counterfeit silver: recipes in 16th century Italian books of secrets
- Discussion*
- 16:00 **Session 4: Scintillating silver**
Chair: Professor Lisa Voigt (The Ohio State University, USA)
- Dr Elena Phipps, (University of California, Los Angeles / Metropolitan Museum of Art, USA)
Silver fabric, thread and embroidery in relation to other silver objects
- Dr Marlen Bidwell-Steiner (University of Vienna, Austria)
Sparkling casuistry: silver, usury and greed in early modern Spanish literature
- Discussion*
- 17:30 **Musical interlude for silvery reflections (Part 2)**
Pianist: David Hammond
- 18:00 End of first day of conference

Day 3: Wednesday 28 July 2021

- 14:00 **Welcome**
Professor Helen Hills (University of York)
- 14:05 **Session 5: Rethinking artisanal knowledge**
Chair: Professor Claire Farago (University of Colorado, USA)
- Wim Nys (DIVA Museum, Belgium)
 Designing silver in the 18th century with focus on the transfer of
 skills and technical information
- Michele A. Feder-Nadoff (Mexico)
 Coppersmithing in Mexico and silversmithing amongst Yemeni
 Jews
- Break*
- Dr Margaret Bolton, (University of Aberdeen)
 Colonial silver extraction in Bolivia, memories, myths and relics
- Discussion*
- 15:30 **Sparkling reflections**
- 16:00 End of first day of conference