

Annual Nicolai Rubinstein Lecture in the History of Political Thought and Intellectual History 2014

Intricate Readings: Machiavelli, Aristotle, Aquinas by Professor Carlo Ginzburg, Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa



Thursday 20 March 2014, 18:30 to 20:00

ArtsTwo Lecture Theatre,
ArtsTwo Building, Mile End Campus

Niccolò Machiavelli was, for many of his contemporaries, a puzzling figure. Notwithstanding his profound impact, he remains as enigmatic as ever. On the one hand, it seems difficult to reconcile the author of *The Prince* with the author of the *Discourses on Livy*. On the other, Machiavelli's place in the history of political thought is paradoxical - central and isolated at the same time. The lecture will address this issue obliquely, through a close examination of Machiavelli as a reader: a contextual, conjectural exercise.

Carlo Ginzburg is Professor of European Culture at the Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa, and has taught at the University of Bologna and at the University of California at Los Angeles. His influential works have been translated into many languages, and include *The Cheese and the Worms* (1976), *The Night Battles* (1983), *Clues, Myths and the Historical Method* (1989), *Ecstasies: Deciphering the Witches' Sabbath* (1991), *No Man is an Island* (2000) and *Threads and Traces: True, False, Fictive* (2012). His historical insights, methods and discoveries have animated conversations throughout the world. With an historical practice enriched by several other disciplines, he has contributed to the social, cultural and intellectual history of medieval and early modern Europe by focusing on the themes of witchcraft, historiography, inquisition, and popular beliefs. Professor Ginzburg has also intervened in contemporary discussions on law and justice in Europe.

A drinks reception will follow the lecture.

Ticket Information

This event is free to attend, but you must book tickets online in advance. Please click the button on the right and follow the instructions to make a booking. You will then be emailed an e-ticket and you should bring this with you on the day.

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Map and Directions

This event takes place at our Mile End Campus. Please see the reverse of this invitation for the map and directions.



Mile End Campus



The nearest tube stations are Stepney Green and Mile End

ArtsTwo Lecture Theatre
ArtsTwo Building
Queen Mary University of London
Mile End Road
London E1 4NS

Further Information

If you have any questions regarding this event please contact Ms Moushumi Bhowmik, email: m.bhowmik@qmul.ac.uk or tel: 020 7882 8348.