

# Creating a Renaissance Festivals Online Database



MY NAME IS ALICE GAHAN AND I AM NOW STARTING MY THIRD YEAR AS A STUDENT IN THE SCHOOL OF THEATRE, PERFORMANCE AND CULTURAL POLICY STUDIES.

I RECEIVED A URSS AWARD DURING THE SUMMER OF 2009. THIS ENABLED ME TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE CREATION OF AN ONLINE DATABASE, FOR WHICH I RESEARCHED BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION FOR 470 PEOPLE AND THE PART THEY PLAYED IN THE DEVISING AND PERFORMING OF RENAISSANCE FESTIVALS.

EACH DATACARD IS LINKED TO THE FESTIVAL BOOKS DIGITISED ON THE WEBSITE OF THE BRITISH LIBRARY. THIS DATABASE FORMS A SUBSTANTIAL SECTION ON A SITE, HOSTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK, AND ACCESSIBLE AT

[WWW.GO.WARWICK.AC.UK/ THEATRE/RESEARCH/ FESTIVALS](http://WWW.GO.WARWICK.AC.UK/THEATRE/RESEARCH/FESTIVALS)

THIS DATABASE HAS BEEN DESIGNED TO COMPLEMENT THE DIGITISATION OF 253 RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL BOOKS ON THE WEBSITE OF THE BRITISH LIBRARY. THE RESOURCE HOSTED ON THE BRITISH LIBRARY SITE WAS THE RESULT OF A JOINT VENTURE BETWEEN THE BL AND THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK AND WAS FUNDED BY THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES RESEARCH COUNCIL (PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS: PROFESSOR J. R. MULRYNE AND DR. MARGARET SHEWRING). THE BL/WARWICK PROJECT CAN BE ACCESSED AT [WWW.BL.UK](http://WWW.BL.UK) BY FOLLOWING THE LINKS TO 'TREASURES IN FULL' AND THEN 'RENAISSANCE FESTIVALS'.

THE DATABASE ALLOWS READERS TO ACCESS INFORMATION ABOUT EACH OF THE PEOPLE WHO DEvised, PERFORMED OR RECORDED SOME OF THE MOST SPECTACULAR COURT AND CIVIC PAGEANTRY OF RENAISSANCE EUROPE. BY CLICKING ON THE NAME OF EACH PARTICIPANT, THE ENTRY IN THE DATABASE WILL TAKE THE READER DIRECTLY TO THE RELEVANT FESTIVAL BOOK(S) ON THE BRITISH LIBRARY SITE. EACH ENTRY INCLUDES BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION AND HAS ALSO BEEN TAGGED WITH A KEYWORD SEARCH TOOL SO THAT THE PART PLAYED BY THE PARTICIPANT CAN BE ACCESSED (FOR EXAMPLE. WRITER, SCENE DESIGNER, ACTOR, FIREWORKS ENGINEER).

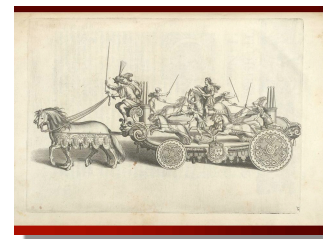
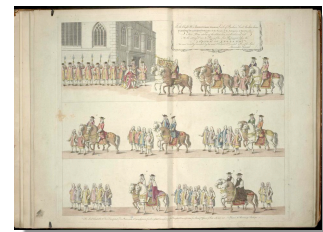
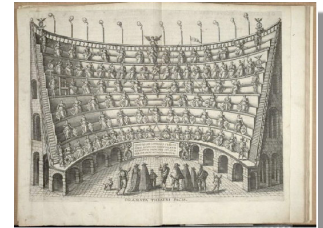
THE SAME SEARCH TERMS HAVE BEEN APPLIED TO THE E-BOOK VERSION OF THE TWO-VOLUME COLLECTION OF RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL BOOKS, *EUROPA TRIUMPHANS: COURT AND CIVIC FESTIVALS IN EARLY MODERN EUROPE*, GENERAL EDITORS J. R. MULRYNE, HELEN WATANABE-O'KELLY AND MARGARET SHEWRING, TO BE LAUNCHED BY ASHGATE PUBLISHING IN AUTUMN 2009.

THIS DATABASE FORMS PART OF A LARGER WARWICK-BASED WEBSITE DEVOTED TO RENAISSANCE FESTIVALS. THE SITE INCLUDES AUDIO AND VISUAL MATERIAL. THE RESEARCH PRESENTED IS PEER REVIEWED.

SOME SECTIONS OF THE SITE HAVE RESTRICTED ACCESS. THESE FORM PART OF THE TEACHING RESOURCE FOR THE SECOND-YEAR THEATRE AND PERFORMANCE STUDIES MODULE ON EUROPEAN RENAISSANCE FESTIVALS (DR. MARGARET SHEWRING).

THIS RESOURCE HAS BEEN CREATED BY: ALICE GAHAN (SCHOOL OF THEATRE, PERFORMANCE AND CULTURAL POLICY STUDIES) IN CONSULTATION WITH DR. MARGARET SHEWRING (ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, SCHOOL OF THEATRE, PERFORMANCE AND CULTURAL POLICY STUDIES) AND ROBERT O'TOOLE (E-LEARNING ADVISOR).

MARGARET M. MCGOWAN (UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX), R.J. KNECHT (UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM), JILL KRAYE (WARBURG INSTITUTE, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON) AND HELEN WATANABE-O'KELLY (EXETER COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD).



WARWICK Department of Theatre Studies

Festival personnel

Adimari, Alessandro

- 1579-1649
- Role: Author, Writer
- Festivals: Funeral of Francesco de'Medici, brother of Cosimo II de' Medici, Florence 1654
- Festival Books: *Esquie dell'Intrusissimo* [et] *eccellenissimo principe don Francesco Medici*
- Academic who write on scientific and social improvement; Milton heard him read a moral sonnet in Florence, 1637 (see James D. Simmonds, *Milton Studies*, p.237.)
- seventeenth century writer like Alessandro Adimari "love-sonnet on a lady recently buried" (see Robert F. Gleickner, Gerald E. Enesco, *Romanticism*, p.83.)

Tags: Author, Writer, Funeral

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Henricus, Cornelius

- 1486-1535
- Role: Author
- Festivals: Coronation of Charles V Holy Roman Emperor at Aachen (Aix-la-Chapelle) 1519
- Festival Books: *Caroli Quinti cum Hispaniarum tum duplici Germaniae et Romanorum Archiepi, utriusque [et] in Longobardum regem, [et] in Romanorum Imperatorem coronationis historia: per Henricum [m] Cornelium Agrippanum, equitem [m] sacrosanctae Romanae ab Archibus [et] consilio notarium*, (published Antwerp, 1520)
- Imperial archivist and historiographer at the court of Margaret of Austria (1480-1530)
- Lecture Declamations in Latin at University of Orléans, 1509
- Publications: *Declamations on the Nobility and Prominence of the Female Sex* dedicated to Margaret Arch-Duchess of Austria and Regent of the Netherlands.
- De Oculis Philosophia Libri Tres* 1531

Tags: Author, Coronation

Buontalenti, Bernardo

- c. 1536-1608
- Role: Architect
- Festivals: *Wedding in Florence of Cesare d'Este and Virginia de'Medici (natural daughter of Cosimo de'Medici)* Florence 1585
- Funeral in Florence of Francesco de'Medici*, Florence 1587
- Wedding in Florence of Ferdinando de'Medici and Christine of Lorraine*, Florence 1589
- Festival Books: *Descrizione del magnificissimo [mo] apparato. e de' meravigliosi intermedii fatti per la commedia rappresentata in Firenze nelle felicissime nozze degli'illustrissimi ... signori il signor don Cesare d'Este, e la signora donna Virginia Medici*, (published Florence, 1585)
- Essequio del serenissimo don Francesco Medici gran duca di Toscana II*, (published Florence, 1587)
- Descrizione dell'apparato, e degli'intermedii. Fatti per la commedia rappresentata in Firenze nelle nozze de' serenissimi don Ferdinando Medici, e madama Cristina di Loreno ...* (published Florence, 1589)
- Europa Triumphans: Court and Civic Festivals in Early Modern Europe*, 2 Vols, eds J.R. Mulryne, Helen Watanabe-O'Kelly and Margaret Shewring, Vol I (pgs. 59, 61, 64, 66, 68, 87) Italian architect and pageant designer.

Tags: Funeral, Designer, Wedding, Architect

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Burnacinius, Johannes

- Role: Architect
- Festivals: *Celebrations in Vienna for the birth of Margherita Teresa, Spanish Infanta*, Vienna 1652
- Festival Books: *La Gara opera drammatica rappresentata in musica, per introductione di torneo fatto in Vienna per la nascita della serenissima infanta di Spagna, donna Margarita Maria d'Austria ...* (published Vienna, 1652)

Tags: Birth, Architect

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Some examples from the Festival Personnel Database created over the four weeks.