

*Speaker Profiles*  
5<sup>th</sup> June 2013  
University College London

## **The Italian Angevins: Naples and Beyond**

### **Ella Cullen**

Ella Cullen is studying for a PhD at University College London, supervised by Jane Gilbert and Catherine Keen. Her research focuses on French literary texts produced in Angevin Naples (1266-1422), and is funded by the Wolfson Foundation. Ella completed a first degree in Medieval and Modern Languages at Cambridge, and a Masters in Medieval and Renaissance Studies at UCL.

### **Marilynn Desmond**

Marilynn Desmond is Distinguished Professor of English and Comparative Literature and Director of the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies at Binghamton University. During 2012-3 she is a Levehulme Visiting Professor in Medieval and Modern Languages at Cambridge University. She is the author of *Reading Dido: Gender, Textuality and the Medieval Aeneid* as well as *Ovid's Art and the Wife of Bath: the Ethics of Erotic Violence*.

### **Jean Dunbabin**

Jean Dunbabin, now retired, spent her academic career at St Anne's College, Oxford, where she was fellow and tutor, and also Reader in medieval history at the university of Oxford. She is a fellow of the British Academy. Her principal intellectual interests have been in the political, intellectual and cultural history of France, 1000 - 1350, and in the Angevin conquest of Southern Italy and Sicily.

### **Charmaine Lee**

Charmaine Lee teaches Romance Philology and History of Italian at the University of Salerno (Italy). Her main fields of interest are Romance narrative genres, in particular the Old French Fabliau, Old Occitan epic and romance, translations from the classics (Sallust, Lucan), history of the Romance Languages. Recently she has been investigating into the use of French in Angevin Naples.

### **Catherine Leglu**

Professor Catherine Léglu (University of Reading) is a specialist in medieval Occitan and French literature of the twelfth to the fifteenth centuries. Her first degree and PhD were obtained at Cambridge. She has held posts at Queen's University, Belfast, and at Bristol. She is the author of *Between Sequence and Sirventés: Aspects of parody in troubadour lyric*, (MHRA – Legenda, 2000), and of *Multilingualism and Mother Tongue in medieval French, Occitan and Catalan Narratives*, (Penn State UP, 2010). She is also the co-editor of *The World of Eleanor of Aquitaine*, with Marcus Bull (Boydell, 2005) and of *The Erotics of Consolation: Desire and Distance in the Middle Ages*, with Stephen Milner (Palgrave, 2008). Her next book is a sourcebook of translated texts, co-edited with Rebecca Rist and Claire Taylor, *Crusaders, Heretics, Inquisitors: A Sourcebook*, (Pearson, forthcoming). Her paper is one of the outputs of a

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**Laura Morreale**

Laura Morreale is the Associate Director of Medieval Studies at Fordham University. She is the editor of two websites, “The French of Italy” and “The French of Outremer,” both hosted by Fordham. Her current work involves an examination of late thirteenth-century French-language letter collections produced in Italy and Outremer, as well as organizing and promoting a conference on the French of Outremer to be held in New York City in March of 2014.

**Cristina Rios**

Cristina Rios is in the final stages of a PhD (Leeds) that focuses on literary self-reflexion in Boccaccio’s *Filocolo* (1336-39). The thesis examines the *Filocolo*’s metaliterary and metanarrative strategies and devices, such as the authorial persona and authorial alter egos, mises en abyme, instances of reading and storytelling, etc. The aim of this analysis is to establish the *Filocolo*’s ideas regarding interpretation, misreading, and the relationship between fiction, truth and history.