

SPANISH GOLDEN AGE: POETRY AND ART

Coordinator: Mireya Perez

The study group examines the interactions between Spanish art and poetry from the Middle Ages through the Golden Age of the 17th Century. Beginning with the poem of El Cid, Spain's epic hero, we trace the history of Spanish poetry through the poems of the Reconquest, the ballads of the Moors in Spain, the Italian sonnet and new love poetry, and the mystic poetry of St. John of the Cross. Readings and discussions of the poems are juxtaposed with artistic masterpieces of the same periods. One session meets at the Metropolitan Museum where we read and discuss the poems in front of art works by Spanish masters such as Velazquez, and experience the resonance between the word and the visual image. This study group is a repeat.

Readings and other Materials/Online Services:

The Poem of El Cid, translated by Rita Hamilton {Penguin Classics, 1984, ISBN 978-014-044446}

The Golden Age Poems of the Spanish Renaissance, translated by Edith Grossman {Norton, 2007, ISBN 978-0393-32991}

Mireya is associate professor emerita of Spanish literature and a bilingual poet and writer.

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All page numbers refer to the Grossman text.

Week 1: Overview; Introduction El Cid, Cantar I

Week 2: El Cid, Cantar II and III,

Week 3: El Cid: Romances (handout)

Week 4: Manrique, pp. 1-37

Week 5: Garcilaso, pp. 38-99, Fray Luis, pp. 107-119; San Juan e la Cruz, pp. 125-133

Week 6: Gongora, pp. 135, 142; Quevedo, pp. 169, 180, 193, 195

Week 7: Sor Juana

Week 8: Sor Juana film (in class)

Week 9: Discussion of Sor Juana

Week 10: Metropolitan Museum of Art Visit- New Islamic Wing And Spanish Masters

Week11: Group Projects/Discussion

Week12: Guest Artist whose work reflects Spanish Culture;
Fiesta/Celebration (Potluck)