

Elena Brandazza was born in Lucerne, Switzerland. She studied German and Philosophy at the University of Bern and graduated with a Master of Arts-degree in 2021. In the same year, she started her PhD-Thesis on the literary reception of the Sibyls in the German-speaking area (>>Sibylla/e: Stimme – Autorin – Figur. Studien zur literarischen Rezeption der Sibyllen im deutschsprachigen Raum des 15. und 16. Jahrhunderts«), supervised by Prof. Dr. Michael Stolz (University of Bern) and Prof. Dr. Kathrin Chlench-Priber (University of Bonn). Until 2024, her PhD-thesis was associated to the “Gossembrot-Project” (<https://gossembrot.unibe.ch/>), a digital research project directed by Michael Stolz and funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation. Following a one-year period as a guest researcher at the chair of Prof. Dr. Henrike Manuwald at the Institute of Germanic Philology at the Georg-August-University Göttingen in 2025, Elena Brandazza completed her PhD in February 2026. She now is a research assistant at the chair for Early German Literature under Prof. Dr. Christine Putzo at the Institute of Germanic Languages and Literatures, University of Bern. Her research interests include medieval manuscript culture, history of reading, apocalypticism and mysticism as well as historical and diachronic narratology.

Britt Boler Hunter is a medieval art historian and professional librarian currently residing in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She completed her Masters in Library and Information Studies (2016) and Doctor of Philosophy in Art History (2022) at Florida State University. During her doctoral career, Hunter was awarded a Patricia Rose Teaching Fellowship and an FSU International Programs teaching fellowship to develop and teach an art history course in Florence, Italy. Hunter has been the recipient of grants such as the International Center of Medieval Art Student Travel Award (2020-2021), the Penelope Mason Dissertation Research Award (2021), and prizes like the Sieglinde Hartmann Award for best paper proposal in medieval German language or literature at the International Medieval Congress of 2020. Hunter’s professional background in academic research librarianship led her to a career as an international legal research librarian from 2022 to 2025, but she maintains her personal research interests in medieval art history. Having written her dissertation on the Wellcome Apocalypse, Hunter’s particular focus centers on the role of images and visual information in late medieval and early modern books, especially Apocalypses and Antichrist lives.

Racha Kirakosian is Professor of Medieval Studies at the University of Freiburg. She studied German philology and history in Göttingen and history at the École nationale des chartes in Paris, where she specialised in art history and digital humanities. She completed her D.Phil. at the University of Oxford in 2014. Before taking up her chair in Freiburg in 2020, she held positions at Harvard University in a joint appointment between the German Department and the Study of Religion (Assistant Professor 2014–2018; Associate Professor 2018–2020) and at the University of Oxford, where she taught as Faculty Lecturer and College Lecturer. She has held visiting professorships and fellowships at institutions including Oxford, the Swedish Collegium for Advanced Study (Uppsala), the Hamburg Institute for Advanced Study, the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, Dumbarton Oaks, and the Huntington Library. She is Co-Director of the Centre for Medieval Studies and of the Digital Humanities Lab at Freiburg, a member of the national Young Academy (Die Junge Akademie), and a member of the steering committee of the Meister Eckhart Gesellschaft. She has served on numerous academic boards, including advisory roles for international research centres and editorial responsibilities for major series and journals. She is one of the main editors of the continuation of the *Verfasserlexikon*, the *Verfasserdatenbank-Online*. Her research focuses on medieval German text in its intellectual and cultural contexts, with particular emphasis on religious history, manuscript culture, and the history of knowledge. A central aspect of her work lies in the interplay between textuality, materiality, and cognition, often bringing medieval sources into dialogue with contemporary theoretical frameworks, including digital humanities and cognitive studies. Her recent book *Berauscht der Sinne beraubt. Eine Geschichte der Ekstase* (Ullstein, 2025) has received wide public and

scholarly attention and multiple awards. Her current research projects include a Volkswagen Foundation Momentum grant on “Scientific Discourse in the Middle Ages,” as well as digital edition projects and interdisciplinary collaborations linking medieval studies with the history of science and cognitive inquiry.

Patrick Nehr-Baseler was born in 1991 in Bad Oldesloe, Germany. He studied History and German Literature at Kiel University from 2011 to 2018. In 2025, he received his PhD in Medieval and Early Modern History with a dissertation on printed late medieval *Artes moriendi*. From 2018 to 2019, he worked as a project employee at the German Studies Department. Since 2019, he has been a research assistant in the department of Andreas Bihrer (History of the Early and High Middle Ages and the Auxiliary Sciences of History). In addition, since April 2025, he has served as project coordinator at Kiel University Library for the SHareDH project (Synergetic DH Infrastructures). His research interests include the history of piety in the late Middle Ages, incunabula studies, the history of medieval Scotland, environmental history, and the digital humanities, with a particular focus on the epistemological challenges arising from the data turn.

Martina Roesner was born in 1973 in Freiburg i. Br. (Germany). She studied Philosophy in Rome, Salzburg, Paris, and Tübingen and Catholic Theology in Vienna. In 2001, she obtained her PhD at the Université de Paris-Sorbonne (Paris IV) and in 2017, her habilitation at the University of Oldenburg (Germany). She held the positions of Postdoctoral Researcher at the Archives Husserl de Paris at the École Normale Supérieure (France, 2002–2009), Assistant Lecturer at the University of Mainz (Germany, 2005–2009), Scientific Collaborator at the Humboldt University of Berlin (Germany, 2009–2011), Junior Fellow at the Alfried Krupp Wissenschaftskolleg in Greifswald (Germany, 2011/2012), Research Associate at the University of Vienna (Austria, 2012–2023), and Research Fellow at the Max Weber Kolleg Erfurt (Germany, 2018/19). Since 2023, she holds the chair in Philosophy and History of Philosophy at the Theologische Hochschule Chur (Switzerland), where she also occupies the position of Dean of Research.

Her research interests include Medieval and Modern Philosophy, Phenomenology, Metaphysics, Philosophical Anthropology, Philosophy of Religion, and Hermeneutics.

Christine Putzo, born in 1977, grew up in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, and studied German and English literature at the University of Hamburg and at King’s College London. After completing her PhD in Hamburg in 2010, she moved to Switzerland as a postdoctoral researcher, joining a subproject of the Swiss National Centre of Competence in Research “Medienwandel – Medienwechsel – Medienwissen. Historische Perspektiven” at the University of Fribourg, where she also served as a doctoral assistant. In 2013, she was appointed Senior Lecturer in Medieval German Studies at the University of Lausanne. Since 2026, she has held a chair in Medieval German Literature at the University of Bern. Christine Putzo’s research focuses on German-language literature from the 12th to the 16th century in its European context. Her areas of specialization include editorial philology, codicology, and paleography, as well as historical literary theory, especially media-historical and narratological approaches.

Iolanda Ventura Associate Professor of Medieval Latin. She worked at the Universities of Münster, Nancy, Louvain-la-Neuve, Orléans, held the «Chaire Mixte d’Excellence CNRS» in History of Science, and is fellow of the «Institut de Recherche et d’Histoire des Textes» (CNRS). Her research interests are Medieval medicine and pharmacology, and encyclopedias. She is currently working at the critical edition of the *Circa instans*, a history of Medieval pharmacology, and an inventory of medical manuscripts. She has widely published; among her publications, we find the critical editions of the *Tractatus de herbis* and of parts of the *De proprietatibus rerum*. She also participates in several international research projects, such as «PRIN 2020: The Latin Middle Ages. A

comprehensive bibliographic repertory of writers, texts and manuscripts»; «PRIN 2022: Books of Science. Vernacular Mathematics and Medicine Books in Fourteenth Century Italy», and the ERC Project «UseFool. Knowledge and Manipulation of Nature between Usefulness and Deception in the Arabo-Islamic Tradition (9th – 15th century)».

Laurence Moulinier-Brogi is a Professor of Medieval History. She taught at the University of Lyon 2 until 2023, and has been teaching at the University of Paris Nanterre since then. She has devoted much of her work to Hildegard of Bingen, William the English, the history of texts and knowledge, the history of medicine, and the history of the body. She is currently pursuing her research in two main areas: women's history and the cultural history of religious orders, particularly the Carmelites.

Martin Roland is educated in History of Art and Historical Auxiliary Sciences. He co-authored several volumes of the Catalogue of Illuminated Manuscripts of the Austrian National Library. His interests are interdisciplinary and focus on the late Middle Ages. Recently he published a comprehensive study on the "[Waldrapp](#)" ([Northern Bald Ibis](#)). He has long been interested in "fleuronnée" (penwork) and on "Illuminated Charters": <https://illurk.hypotheses.org/>. History of Art, Historical Auxiliary Sciences and Digital Humanities have together contributed to a comprehensive database: <https://www.monasterium.net/mom/illuminierteUrkunden/collection>. These materials and [monasterium.net](https://www.monasterium.net) as a whole form the basis for the contribution proposed together with Florian Atzenhofer-Baumgartner. All his publications are available in open access: <https://manuscripta.at/Ma-zu-Bu/>.

Katharina Heyden was born in East-Berlin (GDR) in 1977. She studied Theology in Berlin, Jerusalem and Rome. She earned her doctorate in 2008 from Friedrich Schiller University in Jena with a dissertation on the apocryphal "Narrative of Aphrodisias." The book, published in 2009, received the Prize of the Society for the Study of the Christian Orient. From 2008 to 2011, she was a research assistant at Georg August University of Göttingen, where she earned her habilitation in 2013 with the work "Orientation: Western Christianity and the Holy Land in Antiquity" and received two awards for excellent teaching. From 2012 to 2017, she was the first theologian member of the "Young Academy" at the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities. Since 2014, Heyden has been a professor for Ancient History of Christianity and Interreligious Encounters at the University of Bern, with a promotion to full professor in 2019. In Bern, she led the interfaculty research collaboration "Religious Conflicts and Coping Strategies" from 2018 to 2024. Research fellowships took her to the University of Chicago (2021) and the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton (2024, 2025, 2026). In 2022, she co-founded the international research initiative "Co-produced Religions: Judaism, Christianity, Islam" with historian David Nirenberg. For her research project "Interaction and religious cooperation: Jews, Christians, and Muslims in the Early Entangled Medieval Occident", she received a Consolidator Grant (2023-2028). Since 2022, Katharina Heyden has been serving as Vice Dean for Research, Finances and Strategic Development of the Faculty of Theology in Bern and will serve as its dean starting with fall 2026. Among other roles, Heyden is a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Fritz Thyssen Foundation, panel member of the Humanities Panel of the Swiss Science Foundation, and member of the editorial team of the "Zeitschrift für Antikes Christentum."

Stefan Abel is a lecturer in Medieval German Literature at the Institute of German Studies, University of Bern. After studying German and Romance philology at the University of Augsburg, he earned his doctorate in 2010 in Medieval German Language and Literature with a dissertation on Johannes Nider's "The Twenty-Four Golden Harps". In 2021, he completed his habilitation at the University of Bern and has awarded the *venia docendi* in

German Medieval Studies and Comparative Medieval Literature. Since 2012, he has held research and teaching positions at the University of Bern, first as Assistant and, since 2021, as lecturer. His research focuses on German and comparative medieval studies, especially courtly literature around 1200 (in European and non-European contexts.), late medieval religious literature, editorial philology, and the digital humanities. From 2012 to 2026, he was a research associate of the Swiss National Science Foundation-funded Bernese *Parzival* Project (<http://parzival.unibe.ch>).

Agata Mazurek was born in 1971 in Wrocław (Poland). She studied German literature in Wrocław and German medieval literature and art history at Ruhr University Bochum, where she obtained her PhD (2009). She was a research assistant at Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf on the DFG project 'Cataloguing the Medieval Manuscripts of the Düsseldorf State and University Library'; place of employment: Berlin State Library – Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation, Manuscripts Department (2004–2009). At the same institution, she worked on the project 'Cataloguing the Latin manuscripts of Trier City Library from the Augustinian Canons' Priory of Eberhardsklausen" (2013–2014). She was a research assistant on the editorial project 'Digital Parzival Edition' (www.parzival.unibe.ch) and taught at the Institute of German Studies at the University of Bern (2012–2013 and 2014–2024). Since January 2025, she has been working on the project 'The Manuscripts of the Wellcome Scribe' at the University of Bern. Her research focuses on codicology, Latin and German palaeography, textual criticism, late medieval homiletics, paremiology, Latin and vernacular in the Middle Ages, and medieval manuscript culture in Silesia.

Elma Brenner is a Research Development Lead at Wellcome Collection, London, UK, and an associate member of the Universities of Caen and Rouen, France. She received her PhD from Emmanuel College, University of Cambridge, followed by postdoctoral research fellowships at Cambridge and the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies, Toronto, where she completed her Licence in Mediaeval Studies. Her research investigates health, Christian religious culture, manuscript culture and early print in medieval France and England. She is Co-Editor of the journal *Social History of Medicine* and co-convenor of the working group on Medieval European Medical Manuscripts of the Consortium for History of Science, Technology and Medicine. She recently co-curated Wellcome Collection's display *Expecting: Birth, Belief and Protection* focused on the parchment birth scroll Wellcome MS. 632.