

Final Report

Name of BritInn Fellow: Mag. Dr. Martin Michael Bauer-Zetzmann

Home Department: Department of Classical Philology and Neo-Latin Studies

Home University: University of Innsbruck

Guest Department: Department of History, Politics and Philosophy

Guest University: Manchester Metropolitan University

From: 10/10/2022 **Until:** 15/10/2022

Title of the Research Project: Medieval Travel Literature and the Classical Tradition

Report about visit and future plans:

The fellowship was arranged to afford Dr. Bauer-Zetzmann of the University of Innsbruck and Dr. Philip Booth of Manchester Metropolitan University to discuss their shared research interest in the use of classical learning in Medieval travel accounts. Over and above this, the fellowship was intended to facilitate the planning of future collaborative enterprises which would serve to provide further opportunities for joint research outputs in the years to come.

Before the fellowship, we had already independently collected data on classical references and classical learning in Medieval Latin pilgrimage accounts. Our first objective during the fellowship therefore was to discuss the way forward and to flesh out the next steps for analysing the data. This will become a joint publication, a journal article which will serve to investigate the use of classical texts and authors within Latin travel accounts of the late to high middle ages. Such an article, which we are now in the process of preparing, will serve to not only enhance our knowledge regarding the awareness of classical texts within Latin Europe at this time, but it will show the ways in which Latin travel literature fits into wider landscape of Latin literature in the Middle Ages and allow us to gain a greater understanding of the educational background and reading habits of the writers of these travel accounts.

Moreover, we shared ideas about setting up an interactive database to map the biographies of leading medieval thinkers, teachers, travellers, and pilgrims onto a world map in order to identify possible encounters more easily and systematically. This may evolve into a bigger funding bid in the future. In addition, we explored the holdings of travel accounts in Manchester's beautiful historical libraries.

The fellowship also served to enhance the academic environment of the department, through the discussions that were had at various moments during the week, but also through Dr. Bauer-Zetzmann's guest talk on the public of historiography. The talk, given on the evening of Wednesday 12th April, was done in hybrid format and well attended by staff and students not only from Manchester Metropolitan University, but also from the University of Manchester and an audience from around the world.



Picture Credits: Martin Bauer-Zetzmann

