



Ca' Foscari
University
of Venice

Department of
Philosophy and
Cultural Heritage



September 29, 2025
10.15 AM – 5.45 PM
(CET, Italy Time)

Aula Mazzariol
Palazzo Malcanton
Marcorà, Venice

Organizer: **Donato Verardi**, Ca' Foscari
University of Venice, Italy

The conference is in person.
Attendance is free.

For info, please email to
donato.verardi@unive.it



This Conference is part of the project
SECRETS (Marie Skłodowska-Curie
Actions). Funded by the European Union (GA
number: 101148607).

Hunting Secrets: Giovan Battista Della Porta and the Invention of Experimental Magic

The Art and Craft of Magic

Chair: **Miklós Rédei** (The London School of
Economics, UK – University of Technology
Nuremberg, Germany)

10.15 am - 10.30 am **Welcome Remarks**

Donato Verardi (Ca' Foscari University of Venice,
Italy), *Giovan Battista Della Porta and the
Invention of Experimental Magic*

10.30 am - 11.00 am **William Eamon** (New
Mexico State University, US), *The Wizard
of Naples: Science and Celebrity in the
Renaissance and Beyond*

11.00 am - 11.15 am **Discussion**

11.15 AM - 11.45 am **Sergius Kodera** (University
of Vienna, Austria), *Fig-Bulls, Bull-Cows and
Other Animals: The Vicissitudes of Renaissance
Hieroglyphs in Della Porta's Natural Magic*

11.45 am - 12.00 pm **Discussion**

12.00 pm - 12.30 pm **Thibaut Rioult** (Université
libre de Bruxelles, Belgium), *The Secrets of
Illusionism in Della Porta's Natural Magic:
Between Science, Mannerism and Magical
Traditions*

12.30 PM - 12.45 PM **Discussion**

From Natural Magic to Experimental Philosophy

Chair: **Craig Martin** (Ca' Foscari University of
Venice, Italy)

2.45 pm - 3.15 pm **Rebecca Cypess** (Yeshiva
University of New York, US), *Sound and Chaos in
Della Porta's Natural Magic*

3.15 pm - 3.30 pm **Discussion**

3.30 pm - 4.00 pm **Romana Sammern** and
Sabrina Jocher (University of Salzburg,
Austria), *Health and Beauty in Giambattista
Della Porta's Magia naturalis*

4.00 pm - 4.15 pm **Discussion**

4.15 pm - 4.45 pm Coffee Break

4.45 pm - 5.15 pm **Dana Jalobeanu** (University
of Technology Nuremberg, Germany –
University of Bucharest, Romania), *Making Della
Porta a Baconian Philosopher: Magia naturalis
in the Context of the English Experimental
Philosophy*

5.15 pm - 5.45 pm **Discussion and Concluding
Remarks**