



THE NEWBERRY

Center for Renaissance Studies

Special Lecture

5:30 pm Thursday, September 20, 2012

Ruggles Hall, The Newberry Library

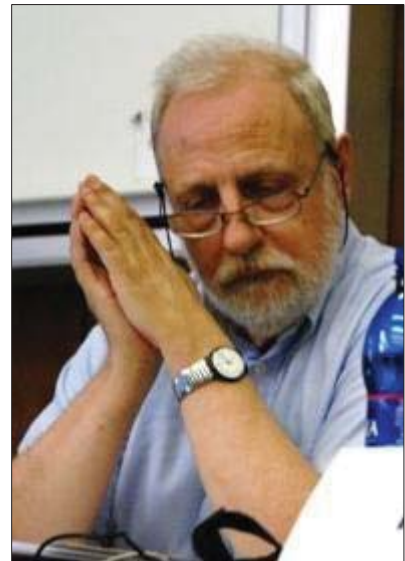
“The Poetry of the Stars, from the Middle Ages to the Renaissance”

Piero Boitani

Sapienza Università di Roma

From Homer to the Bible, looking at the heavenly vault is an enchanted moment in human life. It produces that wonder which Aristotle maintains is the beginning of the love of wisdom: philosophy, science, and *philomythia*—the love of myth: poetry.

The Middle Ages and Renaissance inherit their visions of the stars from classical antiquity and biblical literature, but add their own intriguing perceptions. This lecture, which will be accompanied by images, will aim to give an idea of how people looked at the sky. Thus domes, mosaics, frescoes, and paintings will show the interplay of astronomy and astrology; and passages from Dante, Petrarch, Castiglione, Ariosto, Tasso, and Shakespeare will lead us from Ptolemy to Copernicus and Galileo.



This program is free and open to the public, but registration in advance is required.
Register online at:

www.newberry.org/renaissance

*Sponsored by the Department of Theology, Loyola University Chicago;
and the Italian Cultural Institute of Chicago.*