

Panoramas, Pedestals, and Pulpits: Images in the Sermons of António Vieira

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Thursday, March 8, 2018
4:00 p.m.
Modern Languages Bldg. 201

*Lecture sponsored by the Art History
Department and the Department of
Spanish and Portuguese*

This talk examines the use of visual referents in some of the sermons of António Vieira, the greatest Jesuit orator of the seventeenth century. Marking the occasion of the first translation of his works into English, our discussion will not only introduce the audience to Vieira's life and works, but also consider the emotive qualities of his sacred oratory. It will show how he drew on the Jesuit spiritual tradition to create images in the minds of his audiences, whether they were in Portugal or Brazil. The central themes of the sermons chosen for this presentation will be confessional conflict, slavery, colonial society, and contemporary Catholic preaching.

