

## INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP

# On the Origin and Evolution of the Nautical Chart

Lisbon, 6-8 October 2021

This meeting aims to further the discussion opened in two previous workshops held in Lisbon in 2016 and 2018, and attended by leading experts on the History of Cartography.

Since the preceding workshops, considerable progress has been made on critical questions pertaining to the origins of European nautical cartography. The theme of this third workshop has been broadened to encompass a greater chronological and topical scope.

As in the previous editions, the workshop focuses on key issues surrounding the genesis and evolution of the medieval portolan chart. In addition, the meeting will emphasize new methods for the study of old nautical charts in general, including cartometric techniques of geometrical analysis and material examination.

Owing to the pandemic situation, the workshop will be held on-line using the Zoom platform. The sessions will be also in live YouTube streaming.

**Free admission, registration required**

Registration: [link](#)

Zoom: [link](#)

Youtube: [link](#)



**ORGANIZATION**

Project MEDEA-CHART

Faculdade de Ciências – Universidade de Lisboa

## ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Joaquim Alves Gaspar | Tony Campbell

Ana Margarida Nunes

## SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Tony Campbell | Sandra Sáenz López-Pérez

Henrique Leitão | Piero Falchetta

## INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP

# ON THE ORIGIN AND EVOLUTION OF THE NAUTICAL CHART

6—8 October 2021



Baptista Agnese (c.1542-1552). John Carter Brown Library.



INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP  
ON THE ORIGIN AND EVOLUTION  
OF THE NAUTICAL CHART

6 October | Wednesday

14.00 – 14.15 **Welcome & Introduction**

**Session 1** | 14.15—16.15

**Chair** Joaquim Alves Gaspar

14.15 – 14.45 **Sandra Sáenz–López Pérez** | *The invention of the 'Other' in sixteenth-century nautical charts*

14.45 – 15.15 **Corradino Astengo** | *... in all false and made by idiotic people (Bartolomeo Crescenzio, Nautica Mediterranea)*

15.15 – 15.45 **Ricardo Vaz** | *The Medea Database: an online tool for the study of medieval and early modern nautical charts*

15.45 – 16.15 **Coffee-break & Online Networking**

**Session 2** | 16.15 – 18.00

**Chair** Sandra Sáenz–López Pérez

16.15 – 16.45 **Annabele Kriznar** | *Pigments and inks applied in Juan Vespucci's portolan chart (1520)*

16.45 – 17.15 **Daniel Shelley** | *Pre-Columbian maps of the Caribbean (cancelled)*

17.15 – 17.45 **Vera Dorofeeva-Lichtman** | *Japan and East Asia in the earliest nautical chart with isogonic lines (drawn between 1572-1592, attributed to Luís Teixeira)*

17.45 – 18.00 **Coffee-break & Online Networking**

7 October | THURSDAY

**Session 3** | 14.30—16.00

**Chair** Gregory McIntosh

14.00 – 14.30 **Andrew Blackler** | *The pyrgari, the qibla and the astrolabe – thoughts on the pre-history of the portolan chart*

14.30 – 15.00 **Jacques Mille** | *The Avignon chart: probably the first attempt to show the Baltic Sea, about 1300-1310*

15.00 – 15.30 **Joaquim Alves Gaspar** | *What do we know about the genesis of portolan charts?*

15.30 – 16.00 **Coffee-break & Online Networking**

**Session 4** | 16.00—18.00

**Chair** Bruno Almeida

16.00 – 16.30 **Sima Krtalic** | *Geographical knowledge at sea in the pre-portolan chart period: some practical considerations*

16.30– 17.00 **George Tolia** | *Using nautical charts between 14th to 16th centuries*

17.00 – 17.30 **Anton Gordiev** | *A statistical method for analysis of portolan charts*

17.30 – 18.00 **Coffee-break & Online Networking**

8 October | FRIDAY

**Session 5** | 14.00—16:00

**Chair** George Tolia

14.00 – 14.30 **Miguel Pacheco** | *Unveiling the geographic grid on latitude charts*

14.30 – 15.00 **Gregory McIntosh** | *Was the Caverio planisphere copied or derived from the Cantino Planisphere?*

15.00 – 15.30 **Luis Robles Macías** | *The West Iberian corpus of portolan chart toponyms*

15.30 – 16.00 **Coffee-break & Online Networking**

**Session 6** | 16.00—18.00

**Chair** Tony Campbell

16.00–16.30 **Bruno Almeida** | *tbs*

16.30 – 17.00 **Michael Barritt** | *'to read the chart ... to fix the position of a ship' (Admiralty Manual of Navigation 1914): Some thoughts on the evolution of the use of the sea chart*

17.00 – 17.30 **Richard Pfelderer** | *Mediterranean navigational techniques in the pre-magnetic-compass period. Achievable precision and implications for chart-making in the lead-up to the portolan chart era*

17.30 – 18.00 **Closure**



This workshop has received funding from the European Research Council under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme (grant agreement 714033-MEDEA-CHART/ERC-2016-STG)

**Contact:** portmeeting@ciuhct.org