

**Samuel Y. Edgerton, Jr.**  
Boston University  
THE RENAISSANCE ARTIST AS QUANTIFIER

**Claude V. Palisca**  
Yale University  
THE SCIENCE OF SOUND AND MUSICAL PRACTICE

12:00 noon **LUNCH BREAK**

2:00 p.m. **INTRODUCTION TO RELEVANT EXHIBITS** in the National Museum of History and Technology, and to the **SPECIAL EXHIBIT** of rare books in the Dibner Library of the History of Science and Technology.

**Silvio A. Bedini**, Smithsonian Institution

3:30 p.m. **ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION**

Moderator: **Otto Mayr**, Smithsonian Institution

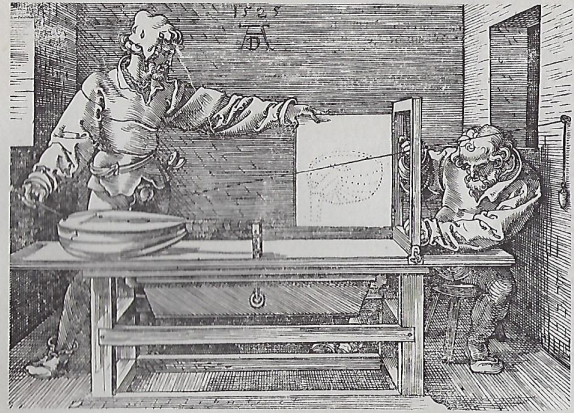
A **RECEPTION** in the Flag Hall will follow the discussion.

The Folger Institute, founded in 1970 as a joint enterprise of the Folger Shakespeare Library and three Washington-area universities, now enjoys the participation of thirteen Mid-Atlantic universities. Since its inception, the Institute has encouraged collaborative efforts between the Folger Shakespeare Library and Washington-area cultural institutions. This conference, co-sponsored by the Folger Institute and the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of History and Technology, draws on the resources of two major centers of learning to provide fresh perspectives on the relationships between the sciences and the arts in the Renaissance.

Chairman of the Folger Institute is John F. Andrews, Director of Academic Programs at the Folger. Program Coordinator is Susan Z. Nascimto. The other members of the Institute's Central Executive Committee and the universities they represent are: American University (*Pierre Han, Literature*); Catholic University (*Ellen S. Ginsberg, French*); University of Delaware (*Jay L. Hallio, English*); Georgetown University (*Robert W. Ayers, English*); George Washington University (*John P. Reesing, English*); Johns Hopkins University (*Stephen K. Orgel, English*); University of Maryland (*Shirley Strum Kenny, English*); University of North Carolina (*Alan C. Dessen, English*); North Carolina State University (*Larry S. Champion, English*); Pennsylvania State University (*Joseph G. Price, English*); Princeton University (*Earl R. Miner, English*); University of Virginia (*Mary B. McKinley, French*); West Virginia University (*Mortimer Levine, History*).

The Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of History and Technology is dedicated to studying the effects of historical and technological developments on American civilization. Its primary activities are the care and enhancement of the national collections, scholarly research, and interpretive exhibitions. A guide to the Museum's exhibits and a special brochure listing its materials of the Renaissance period are available at the door.

## Science and the Arts In the Renaissance



**October 27-28, 1978**  
**Washington, D.C.**

A symposium sponsored by the Folger Institute of Renaissance and Eighteenth-Century Studies (with the aid of a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities), and the National Museum of History and Technology, the Smithsonian Institution.

### SCIENCE AND THE ARTS IN THE RENAISSANCE

Between 1450 and 1700, a revolution in astronomy and physics, associated with the names of Copernicus, Kepler, Galileo, and Newton, transformed Western cosmology and laid the groundwork for the development of modern science. This revolution was a strikingly successful part of a larger movement in the Renaissance, a movement characterized both by the vigorous pursuit of fact in the world of phenomena and by the attempt to bring the resulting wealth of new information under the rule of rational principles and ordering. Mathematics and geometry were developed and applied to the rational ordering. Measurement, observation, experiment, and classification were extended to a variety of new areas, including the fine arts and the practical arts. Although less dramatic in its consequences than the revolution in astronomy and physics, the resulting revolution in the arts had a transforming effect on the understanding of the world of nature and the world of human activities. The nine distinguished lecturers assembled for this symposium will explore the reciprocal influences between science and the arts in the Renaissance.

The first three sessions will feature three 30-minute lectures followed by a general discussion among lecturers and members of the audience (in each session there will be a short break after the second lecture). Supplementing the formal lectures will be several special events at the National Museum of History and Technology: a roundtable discussion by members of the Smithsonian staff, lecturers, and participants; a tour of relevant exhibits; an exhibit of rare books at the Dibner Library of the History of Science and Technology; and an evening concert in which the Folger Consort will play a program of Renaissance music.

### CONFERENCE PROGRAM

**Friday, October 27**

The Folger Theatre, Folger Shakespeare Library,  
201 E. Capitol Street, S.E.

9:00 a.m. **REGISTRATION AND COFFEE:** Theatre Lobby

9:30 a.m. **RATIONALIZING THE ORDER OF THINGS**

Welcoming Remarks: **O. B. Hardison, Jr.**, Director, Folger Shakespeare Library

Chairman: **Arthur K. Wheelock, Jr.**, National Gallery of Art

**A. C. Crombie**

Trinity College, Oxford

**THE QUEST FOR TRUTH AND CERTAINTY: OLD AND NEW**

**Michael Mahoney**

Princeton University

**MATHEMATICS AS AN ORDERING PRINCIPLE IN COSMOLOGY**

**F. David Hoeniger**

Victoria College, University of Toronto

**HOW LIVING THINGS WERE STUDIED IN THE LATER RENAISSANCE**

12:00 noon **LUNCHEON:** Exhibition Gallery

2:00 p.m. **EXPANDING THE WORLD IN TIME AND SPACE**

Chairman: **Gabrielle Spiegel**, University of Maryland

**Nancy S. Struever**

Johns Hopkins University

**DISCOVERING HISTORICITY**

**John W. Shirley**

University of Delaware

**SCIENCE AND NAVIGATION IN RENAISSANCE ENGLAND**

**Philip C. Ritterbush**

Science Educator and Writer on the History of Science  
**THE VARIETIES OF HUMAN CULTURE**

8:00 p.m. **CONCERT: The Folger Consort** in a Program of Renaissance Music

The National Museum of History and Technology

The Smithsonian Institution

Hall of Musical Instruments, Third Floor

Constitution Avenue and 14th Street, N.W.

A **RECEPTION** in the Hall of Ceramics and Glass will follow the concert.

**Saturday, October 28**

Carmichael Auditorium, The National Museum of History and Technology,  
Constitution Avenue and 14th Street, N.W.

9:00 a.m. **COFFEE**

9:30 a.m. **MEASUREMENT AND THE ARTS**

Welcoming Remarks: **Otto Mayr**

Acting Director, National Museum of History and Technology

Chairman: **Silvio A. Bedini**, Keeper of the Rare Books, Smithsonian Institution

**James S. Ackerman**

Fogg Art Museum, Harvard University

**THE CULTURAL MILIEU OF THE RENAISSANCE ARTIST-SCIENTIST**