



THE ARIZONA CENTER FOR
A MEDIEVAL &
 RENAISSANCE
 STUDIES



ACMRS and Arizona Science Center
 Celebrate the diverse genius of Leonardo daVinci and the Renaissance with
The Scholar Series

Four consecutive Wednesdays—Four different presentations
 ASU Scholars & Guest Speaker

SPECIAL TICKET PRICE: \$12

Includes presentation in the IMAX theater AND admission to the feature exhibit—
DaVinci—The Genius

Presentation: 7:00—8:00 pm Admission to exhibit following presentation

MAY 8 **Weaponry** Karl Brooks, Guest Speaker

Warfare: it has been present with mankind since the first Neanderthal killed his fellow tribesman with a hunting spear. Innovations in warfare and weaponry have oftentimes been made for brutality, sheer slaughter, or for the capture of enemies for use as slaves. Sometimes, however, weapons of war are designed to be so brutal as to negate their own function once they have been put to use. Leonardo Da Vinci designed many such devices of war, so as to end combat quickly, efficiently, and with, surprisingly, the minimum loss of life on either side.

MAY 15 **Renaissance Art & the Discovery of Anatomy**

Dr. Rachel Geschwind—Herberger School of Art & Design, ASU

At the dawn of the Renaissance and at the heart of the literary revolution, was the understanding of the human body, which had been examined and theorized by such physician scholars as Aristotle and Galen. In his zeal to understand the capacities and potential of the human body, Da Vinci ultimately usurped the knowledge of the ancients with his numerous dissections of human cadavers and resulting drawings. This presentation will discuss the fictions of the Renaissance body, and Da Vinci’s contributions to the discovery of the mysterious female body, which contains the very origins of humankind.

MAY 22 **Alchemy and Chemistry in the Renaissance**

Dr. Kirstin Hendrickson, Department of Chemistry/Biochemistry, ASU

Chemistry as we know it did not exist during Da Vinci’s lifetime. However, the quasi-scientific pursuits of the “alchemists” were underway, with the two major goals being transmutation of elements (turning lesser metals into gold) and creating a potion of immortality. Though mythical in nature, the alchemical pursuits and beliefs during Da Vinci’s day are nevertheless fascinating.

MAY 29 **Engineering in the Renaissance**

Prof. Braden Allenby, Fulton School of Engineering, ASU

At the individual level, engineering is a profession; at the level of society as a whole, it has become a critical competence. This talk will explore the development of engineering during the European Middle Ages, which is richer than often appreciated. It will also address the equally interesting and fundamental question of why and how the technologists of the Middle Ages - until relatively recently derisively labeled the Dark Ages—laid the groundwork for the Industrial Revolution.