

Eric MacPhail

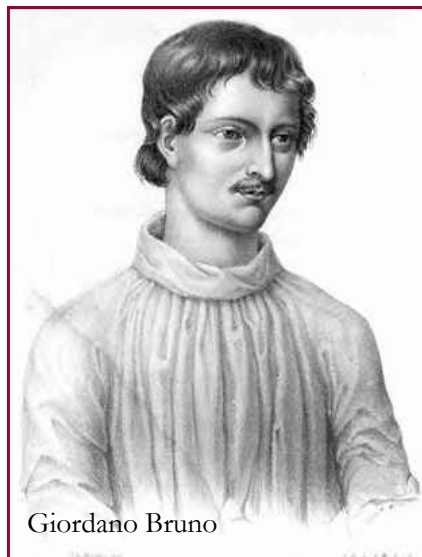
Os homini sublime dedit: Anthropology, Cosmology, and Misanthropy in Giordano Bruno and Michel de Montaigne

Friday
April 10, 2009
2:30-3:30 pm
Ballantine Hall 144

Lecture to be followed
by discussion and
refreshments.

This talk examines the hypothesis proposed by Fulvio Papi that Bruno's dialogue *Lo spaccio della bestia trionfante* responds to Montaigne's essay "Des Cannibales" and situates this argument within the context of a broader comparison between these two late-sixteenth-century prose writers. Faced with the crisis of Aristotelian cosmology, these two authors arrive, through quite different itineraries and from quite different motivations, at a similar conception of history that can be described as misanthropy.

Eric MacPhail is Professor of French in the Department of French and Italian of Indiana University, Bloomington. He is the author of *The Voyage to Rome in French Renaissance Literature* (Stanford French and Italian Studies, Anma Libri, 1990). His recently published articles include "Facilis descensus Averno: Retracing Aeneas's Steps in Du Bellay's *Regrets*" (2008), "Living in the Past: Montaigne and the Critique of Novelty" (2008), and "The Turpin Method in Comparative Context" (2007).



Giordano Bruno



Michel de Montaigne

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