

# The Harmony of the Elements

Philosophical and Technical Perspectives from  
Antiquity to the Renaissance

Sala Mondolfo – Via Zamboni 38 (Bologna)

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## NOVEMBER 30

10:00-10:25 Greetings and Introduction

Session A - Chair: **Mauro Bonazzi**

(Bologna/Utrecht)

10:25-11:10 **JAN OPSOMER** (KULeuven)

*The Peripatetic Reception of  
Geometric Atomism*

11:10-11:40 Coffee Break

11:40-12:25 **DANIELE MORRONE**

(KULeuven)

*Plutarch's Ambiguous Stance on  
Aether and the 'Fifth Substance'*

12:25-13:10 **CRISTINA VIANO** (Centre

Léon Robin, Paris)

*Gli elementi della trasmutazione:  
Olimpodoro e le origini filosofiche  
dell'alchimia*

Session B – Chair: **Lucia Raggetti** (Bologna)

15:00-15:45 **VINCENZO CARLOTTA**

(Bologna)

*Purifying the Four Elements: The  
Material Substrate of Alchemical  
Change in Stephanus's Lessons*

15:45-16:30 **MARCO BELLINI - MATTEO  
MARTELLI** (Bologna)

*Elements, Eggs, and Geometry in  
Byzantine Alchemical Texts*

16:30-17:00 Coffee Break

17:00-17:45 **GABRIELE FERRARIO**

(Bologna) - **CHARLES PARDOE**

(Cambridge)

*Harmony among the Elements in  
al-Kindi's Musical Treatises*

17:45-18:30 **SÉBASTIEN MOREAU**

(UCLouvain)

*Elements in the Arabic Alchemical  
Tradition*

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## DECEMBER 1

Session C - Chair: **Carlo Natali** (Ca' Foscari  
Venezia/ Léon Robin, Paris)

9:45-10:30 **EMILIANO PAPARAZZO**

(Berlin/Pisa)

*Aristotle's Reduction of the  
Elements to Properties in Meteor.  
IV and the Biological Writings*

10:30-11:15 **AMBRA SERANGELI** (Roma

Tor Vergata)

*On the Meaning of  $\sigma\tau\epsilon\rho\epsilon\acute{o}\nu$  as a  
Property of Atoms*

11:15-11:50 Coffee Break

11:50-12:35 **PHILIP VAN DER EIJK** (HU  
Berlin)

*Galenic Element Theory in Two  
Summary Texts of Late Antiquity  
(Oribasius, Nemesius)*

12:35-13:20 **ÉMILIE VILLEY** (Orient &  
Méditerranée, Paris)

*Two distinct Theories of the  
Elements in Syriac Cosmological  
Texts*

Session D - Chair: **Andrea Colli** (Bologna)

15:00-15:45 **IOLANDA VENTURA**

(Bologna)

*Summarizing the Theory of  
Elements in Thirteenth-Century  
Encyclopaedias*

15:45-16:30 **CRISTINA CERAMI** (SPHERE,  
Paris)

*Qualities to the Extreme: Averroes  
on Elements*

16:30-17:00 Coffee Break

17:00-17:45 **GIANFRANCO FIORAVANTI**

(Pisa)

*La discussione a Bologna sulla  
mixtio elementorum nel XIV sec.*

17:45-18:30 **LUCA BURZELLI** (Siegen)

*Perspectives on the Theory of the  
Elements in the XVI century*