



## Penn History Review

---

Volume 15  
Issue 1 *Fall* 2007

Article 1

---

10-1-2007

### From the Editor

Rachel J. Omansky  
*University of Pennsylvania*, [romansky@sas.upenn.edu](mailto:romansky@sas.upenn.edu)

---

This paper is posted at Scholarly Commons. <http://repository.upenn.edu/phr/vol15/iss1/1>  
For more information, please contact [libraryrepository@pobox.upenn.edu](mailto:libraryrepository@pobox.upenn.edu).

## FROM THE EDITOR

The Editorial Board is pleased to present the fifteenth volume of the Penn History Review, the Ivy League's oldest undergraduate history journal. The Review continues to publish outstanding undergraduate papers based on original primary research. The Board is proud to feature scholarship that maintains our tradition of insightful and diverse historiography. These papers span not only centuries and geographic regions, but also across disciplines in the study of history. The authors published in this issue approach their historical inquiries through political, religious, and social perspectives, and in arenas from medieval Europe to modern Argentina.

Despite the varying lenses through which these essays consider their respective questions of history, the four essays are united by their inquiry into the development and transmission of ideas through unconventional or unexpected media. The authors of this semester's essays analyze medieval lyric poetry, Protestant sermons and treatises, modern French architecture, and Argentinean rock music to develop new perspectives and offer new conclusions regarding the societies that created them. In keeping with the theme of the rise and dissemination of ideas, the Review's new feature, faculty interviews, presents two discussions with professors whose fields of study include cultural history, Dr. Michael Zuckerman and Dr. Phoebe Kropp.

In assessing the change in attitude between the Second and Third Crusade, Ellie Kane examines three developing facets of crusading culture in Europe, specifically in Germany under the rule of Fredrick Barbarossa. Kane argues that crusading shifted from a popular pursuit of all classes to a required occupation of the new knights that existed in Germany, the *ministeriales*. This class of men, having amassed social prominence through wealth, practiced chivalry and contemplated worldly love with a reluctance to leave their homes. Kane explores these changes through the work of poets Friedrich von Hausen, Hartmann von Aue and Albrecht von Johansdorf. She concludes that observable changes in feelings toward the Third Crusade can be traced back to this shift of crusading classes and their worldly concerns.

While Scottish reformer John Knox has typically been regarded by historians as an inflammatory preacher whose primary contribution to the narrative of the Reformation laid in his derision of women, Janine Van Vliet's closer look at the life and works of this dynamic individual reveals that the

true novelty of Knox's thought lies in his political philosophy regarding the role of the commonalty in Scottish society. In a break from his contemporaries, Knox posited that not only did the nobility have a political, religious, and moral obligation to depose unfit rulers and to create a religious infrastructure throughout their lands, but also that the commonalty had an equal responsibility to participate in these political and religious arenas. Throughout his life, Knox preached these ideas and brought them into practice, helping to precipitate the Scottish Reformation and providing the origins for notions of egalitarianism that were to develop soon thereafter.

In "Unity in Identity, Disunity in Execution," Peter Feldman examines the ways architecture developed into a site for historical interrogation at the 1937 World's Fair. Specifically, he reads France's architectural contributions as evidence of a country embroiled in its own cultural politics despite attempts to project a cohesive façade. In recounting this narrative, he records a history that critiques traditional cultural historiographies of French nationalism at the turn of the century.

In Argentine society today, the memory of the harsh rule of military government remains immediate and painful. Consequently, it is an important task to try and comprehend how Argentines vied with, adapted to, and contested the military government's authority. By conducting personal interviews and examining primary documents beyond the traditional accounts of armed leftist resistance, Augustin Diz evaluates the ways rock music provided a crucial and appropriate cultural outlet for Argentine youth to voice their discontent with the country's political situation. His analysis demonstrates that rock music in fact provided the youth with the means to express many values and ideas that stood diametrically opposed those explicitly issued by the military government.

The collection and publication of these papers was the collaborative effort of many individuals. The Review would like to thank the many members of the history faculty who encouraged their students to submit essays for publication. The Editorial Board would like to thank especially Dr. Ann Moyer, the undergraduate chair of the history department, for her continued support, and Dr. Susan Miller, the undergraduate departmental advisor, for her guidance. Finally, we thank the University of Pennsylvania and the History Department in particular for its financial support of the Review, its efforts to foster undergraduate research, and the commitment of its faculty to cultivating future historians.

Rachel J. Omansky  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF