

Diana Hiller

‘Un repas frugal’ or una festa? Male refectories, food and Last Supper frescoes in Quattrocento Florence



Lent is a period of penance and privation in the church calendar. However, in some male religious houses in Florence the Easter period may also have involved festal elements. Documentary materials will be explored for their potential to contextualise some of the innovative iconographical features of the Last Supper images in which lamb and unseasonal fruits, and not penitential fish, were depicted on the tables. The paper will offer the view that the Last Supper refectory images in these houses may be seen as reflecting some of the dichotomous aspects of celebration and penance associated with Easter and Holy Thursday.

Please RSVP Mark Shephard (shepm@unimelb.edu.au) if you plan to join us for dinner in Lygon st afterwards.

**Monday 18 August 2008 6.30 pm
Room 148 Elisabeth Murdoch Building
All Welcome**