

# *Domingo Cordoba*

## *Vendedores Ambulantes:*

# Poverty and Misery in 17th Century Seville

In a number of paintings the Seville artist Bartolomé Esteban Murillo (1617-1682) portrayed, in a subdued and highly deceptive language, the illicit practices of the *gente del mal vivir* or marginal people, in images of such subjects as the *venta ambulante* or street selling. Along with Velázquez's *bodegones* and Ribera's depictions of lowly people, Murillo's genre paintings partake of the social, historical and cultural discourse of his time. These paintings are the product of a society in transformation, and of a profound moral crisis at the peak of the artist's career (between 1655 and 1675). The decline of Spain, which runs parallel to Murillo's artist development, had profound consequences for people living on the fringe of Seville's society, especially the clandestine professions of prostitution and street selling.



### **Future Papers**

Monday 2 August - Anthony White, "Italy and Fascism".

Monday 30 August - Clare O'Donoghue, "Vittoria Colonna: number one pin up girl of Italian renaissance poets and artists"

Monday 27 September - Joan Barclay-Lloyd "Carlo Rainaldi's Lazzaretti"

Monday 25 October - Robert Mihajlovski, "Edward Lear in the Balkans 1848: journals of a landscape artist in Bitola and Ohrid"

Monday 22 November - Monica Lausch, "Julius von Schlosser and Portraiture"

Monday 13 December - Lesley den Hartog, "Chinese Gardens in Australia"

Monday 28 June

6.45 pm Room 148 Elisabeth Murdoch Building

*All Welcome*