

Alchemy: Thinking the Science through the books.

“Marqués de Valdecilla” Historical Library (Universidad Complutense de Madrid)
Seminary & Exhibition

Introduction

It has become a tradition that every year, the Research and Universities General Office of the Madrid Education Council jointly organize an Event called “The Week of Science”, devoted to the public and scholar access to all Centres where Science could be close to them. This year will be offered the 5th Edition during the next November-2005.

The Event includes few activities concerning Science. Libraries, Laboratories, Research Centres, Academies, Museums, Control Room of Airports, Train Stations, Fire Departments and any place where Science and Technical Knowledge is settled will open their doors in order to an extended approach to the public.

“Marqués de Valdecilla” Historical Library (HL) at Universidad Complutense de Madrid (UCM) (<http://www.ucm.es/BUJCM/foa/00.htm>) is making a big effort on it. The Head of the HL, Ana Santos, helped by Doctors Miguel Lopez (baeyens@ya.com) and Joaquin Perez (jperez@icp.csic.es), presents several activities about History of Alchemy this year.

The fine books stock related to Alchemy of the HL is, probably, one of the most important and unknown of all Europe. First editions, uncatalogued printed books and very rare copies are waiting for the right attention they deserve.

Activities

1. Alchemy

Seminary devoted to History of Alchemy

Final Program

November-15

17.00. Presentation

17.30. *A scientific approach to the alchemical practise.* Joaquin Perez Pariente, Spanish Council for Scientific Research (CSIC)-UCM.

18.15. *An experimental approach to the ancient ways of making medicines.* Agustin Fernandez, Research Professor, Madrid.

19.00. General Discussion

November-16

17.00. *Metallurgy and theories of matter.* Manuel Martos, Department of Early Modern History, University of Seville.

17.45. *Historical view of Chymia.* Soledad Esteban.

Department of Organic Chemistry. UNED.

18.30. *Alchemy in Catholic environments: the Jesuits.* Miguel Lopez. CSIC.

19.15. General Discussion.

November-17

17.00. *Alchemy and Medicine. Introduction of Medical Chemistry in Spain.* Mar Rey Bueno. UCM.

17.45. *Symbolism, Kabbalah and Alchemy.* Raimon Arola, Department of Painting. University of Barcelona.

18.00. General Discussion.

Address & Info

“Marqués de Valdecilla” HL Conference Room. Calle Noviciado, 3, Madrid 28015. Underground Line 2, *Noviciado* Station.

No registration fee is required. Info: 10.00 to 20.00 (+1 GMT) Phone: 00 34 91 394 66 12. Fax: 00 34 91 394 65 99, e-mail: buc_foa@buc.ucm.es. Web site (under construction) will be available on time.

2. Alchemy in the books

Books Exhibition

A hundred twenty books will be exhibited during November-2005 at “Marqués de Valdecilla” HL Hall. The Order of Sections will be as follows:

- Paracelse and followers
- Spagyric Art
- Medical Chemistry
- The end of Alchemy
- Classic Texts
- Lullian Alchemy
- Collected texts editions
- Very rare books
- Alchemy and Books of Secrets

Books selection by Doctors Miguel Lopez and Joaquin Perez. Definitive Books List since July-2005 via e-mail (baeyens@ya.com).

3. Alchemical Thought & Practise on paper

Catalogue and Proceedings

Provisional

Seville University Press Service, Director of “Bibliotheca Alchemica Hispaniae” and UCM will sponsor the Exhibition Catalogue and Proceedings.

Forthcoming late 2005.

