

The Fifty-First Season of the
**TORONTO RENAISSANCE AND
REFORMATION COLLOQUIUM**
Founded by Natalie Zemon Davis and James K. McConica in 1964



Cristian Berco
(Bishop's University)

**“Spanish Inquisitors,
Visual Perception,
and Public Ritual:
A Neurohistory”**

Thursday, 3 March 2016, 4:00 p.m.

**Senior Common Room Burwash Hall
Victoria College, University of Toronto
(rear of 91 Charles St. W)**

**This lecture is presented in partnership with
the Department of History, University of
Toronto**

How did Spanish inquisitors visually perceive and interpret the subtle body movements performed in public rituals, including the auto de fe? This lecture explores how the institutional and sociocultural forces affecting the Holy Office interacted with neurophysiological systems crucial to the embodiment of ritual.

Dr. Cristian Berco is a Professor in the History Department at Bishop's University. He also holds a Tier II Canada Research Chair in Social and Cultural Difference and coordinates the Crossing Borders Research Cluster. He has published extensively on gender and sexuality in early modern Spain. His most recent monograph is *From Body to Community: Venereal Disease and Society in Baroque Spain* (2015).



Image: Pedro Berruguete, *Saint Dominic Presiding Over an Auto de fe* (ca. 1495)