

**Zuleika Murat, *Sensory Impairment and the Experience of Early Modern Art***, paper presented at the panel “Sensory Experiences and Early Modern Objects”, 68 Annual Meeting of the Renaissance Society of America, Dublin, 2 April 2022.

In recent years, scholars in the Humanities have paid increasing attention to the sensoria and the paradigms of sensory experiences lived by individuals and groups in Early Modern Europe, exploring the social, cultural and spiritual values implied by sensation in that period. Extensive consideration has been given to sensorial stimulation in devotional practices and performances, with scholars showing the crucial part played by art objects in activating the senses, arousing devotion and orientating the devotee’s response.

In this context, however, little has been said about people with sensory disabilities. This paper aims at filling this gap, by addressing two questions in particular: how did individuals with sensory impairment experience artefacts in comparison to patterns lived by non-disabled people? And how did they engage with art objects specifically created for them, as those pertaining to relevant confraternities? Set of different materials will be examined, including artworks, normative texts, and archival records.