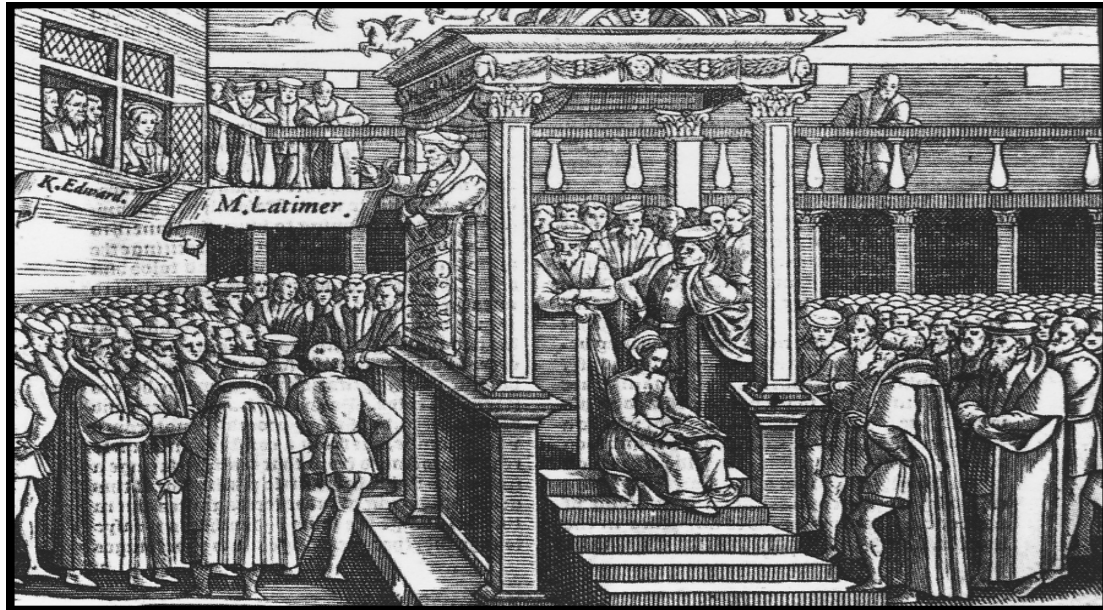




All are welcome to our second seminar of the semester on Wednesday 20 March 2019 at 5-7pm in ArtsTwo 3.16, Queen Mary University of London

Dr Ceri Law (Cambridge) will speak on:
'Sermons, Life-writing and Biographical Memory'



Hugh Latimer preaching before Edward VI. Image from Wikimedia Commons.

This paper will discuss the broad themes of memory and life-writing in early modern England through the specific lens of sermons. It will argue that the potential of considering sermons as forms of ego-writing have been underexplored, as have the ways that sermons, and particularly collected sermons and printed editions, came to serve as both biographies and memorials for later generations. The paper will explore these issues primarily through the specific example of Hugh Latimer (c. 1485-1555), the famous early evangelical, Henrician and Edwardian preacher, and Marian martyr. Beginning with Latimer's own self-conscious evocation of the recent past and the role of his own biographical detail in his preaching, the paper will then move to examine the posthumous printing of his sermons and the ways that these became inextricably linked to memorialisation of Latimer, and his Marian sacrifice, himself. It will also argue that this specific biographical remembrance of Latimer preaching contributed to a broader construction of an 'early Tudor' memory of Reformation that was created by, and formative for, subsequent generations of English Protestants. The paper will thus examine the layers of personal and collective memorialisation that his sermons accumulated, and suggest the wider significance of this for this central early modern genre of religious writing.

For **ArtsTwo**, enter campus through the East Gate onto Westfield Way, then turn left immediately after ArtsOne and walk past the Novo Cemetery; ArtsTwo is on your left.