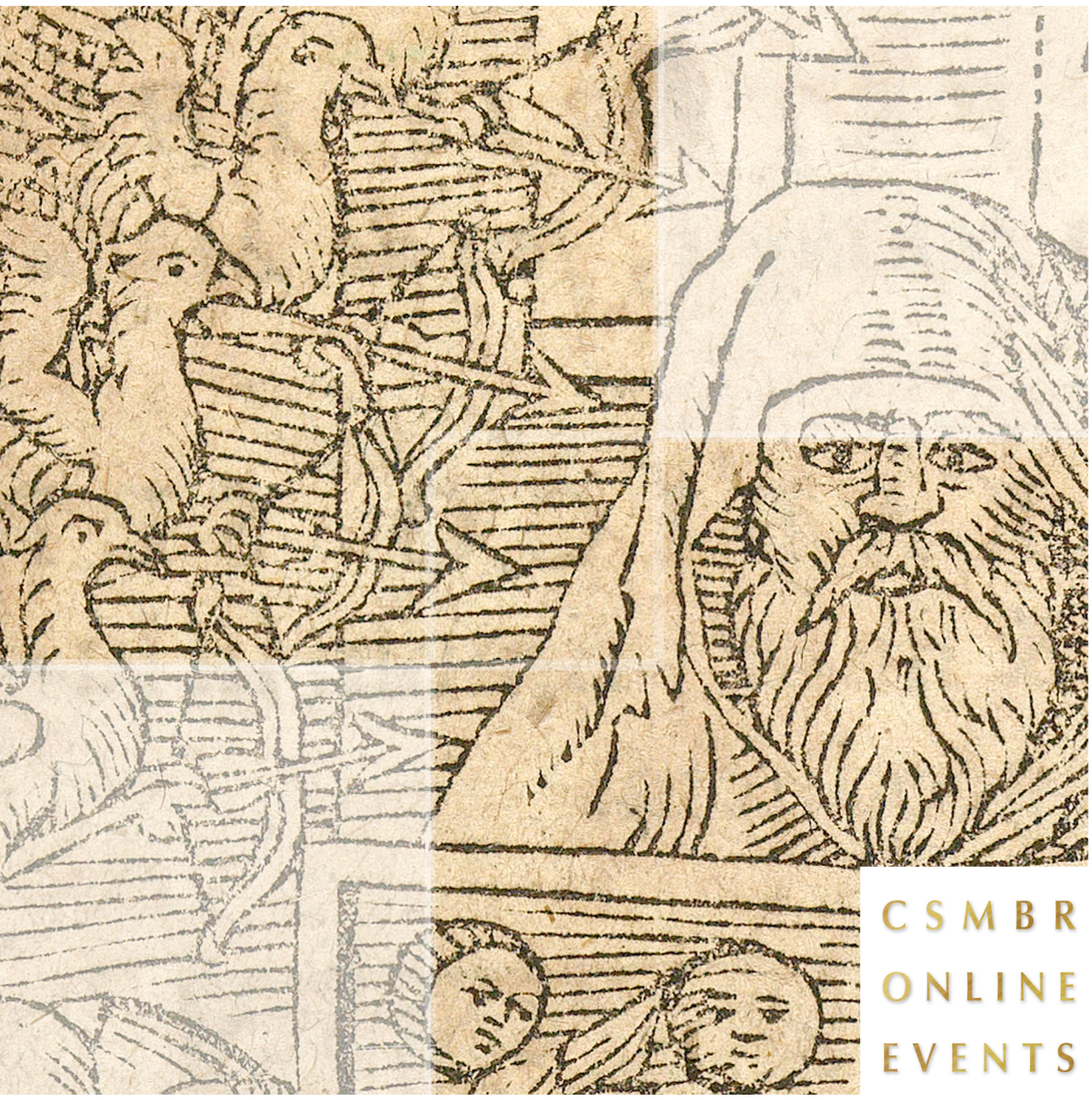
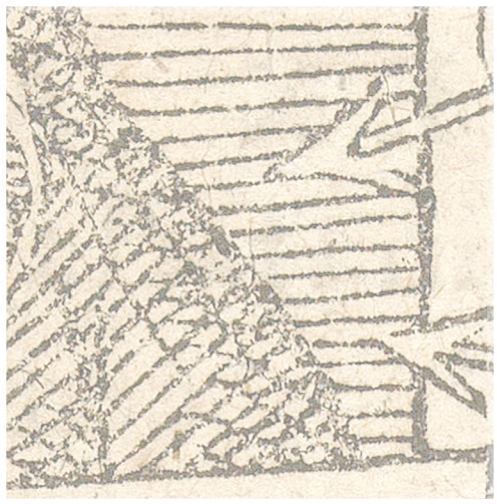








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EVENTS



CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF
MEDICINE AND THE BODY
IN THE RENAISSANCE

JOHN OF RUPESCISSA'S QUINTESSENTIAL MEDICINE

ORIGINS AND EVOLUTIONS

LAWRENCE M. PRINCIPE • Johns Hopkins

15 DECEMBER 2026

5.00 PM

CENTRAL EUROPEAN TIME

While the importance of John of Rupescissa's alchemical pharmacology for the history of medicine is well-established, much remains to be elucidated in regard to the origins and content of the friar's ideas and practices as well as in regard to the dissemination, modifications, plagiaries, and deployments of his text by later authors and practitioners. My continuing project of preparing a critical edition of John's 1352 *De famulatu philosophie* (commonly, but incorrectly, known as *De consideratione quintae essentiae*), based on over two hundred Latin and vernacular manuscript witnesses, both provides new insights onto these issues and poses new and interesting questions. This presentation will review newly-uncovered information about the background to John of Rupescissas' text, where it travelled, how it was modified during its first hundred years, and what these features mean for our understanding of the history of medicine in the Late Middle Ages.

The event is free to attend but registration is required. Info at csmbr.fondazionecomel.org