The Department of Medieval Studies of Central European University cordially invites you to the public lecture of the Faculty Research Seminar

Gerhard Jaritz
Central European University

Cracowers, that is, Poulaines: The Multiple Languages and Dialects of Things

17:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 6, 2013
CEU–Faculty Tower #409
Budapest, V. Nádor u. 9.

Pointed shoe from an excavation in Kempten (Germany)

Research into medieval material culture offers much more than just information about things. Material objects are always connected to humans and follow a variety of respective contextualizations. They are part of multiple aspects of geographical, cultural, social, gendered, religious, legal, economic, ‘national’, environmental, ‘public and private’ space, and so on. To show the variety and multiplicity of languages through which things communicated with humans and vice versa. The lecture will concentrate on one type of object that played a particular, very important and often contrasting, role in the discourses on material objects of many different members of late medieval society: the pointed shoe.

Gerhard Jaritz
1973 Dr. phil. (University of Graz)
Since 1973 (senior) research fellow at the "Institut für Realienkunde" of the Austrian Academy of Sciences (since 11/2012 affiliated to the University of Salzburg).
Since 1993 Professor of Medieval Studies at Central European University.
2004 Dr. h.c. (University of Copenhagen).
Lectureships and guest professorships at various European universities.
Numerous publications, mainly on daily life and material culture of the late Middle Ages, recently editor of Ritual, Images, and Daily Life: The Medieval Perspective (Vienna, 2012).