



Music, Pandemics, and History

Taught by Cynthia Cyrus, musicandpandemics@gmail.com
Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI)

Winter Term, 2022

Mondays, 10:00-11:15

February 14th: MUSIC OF CELEBRATION AND
REMEMBRANCE

Remaining class: February 21



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What is more eerie than bells tolling? Silence.



When the bell begins to toll,
Lord have mercy on the soul!

When anye Christian bodie is
in passing, the bell be tolled,
and that the curate be
speciallie called for to
comforte the sicke person;
and after the time of his
passing, to ringe no more but
one shorte peale; and one
before the burriall, and
another shorte peale after
the burial.

Queen Elizabeth,
1564



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“the parade activated the public to create a highly visible form of commemoration”



SPIT SPREADS DEATH: THE PARADE

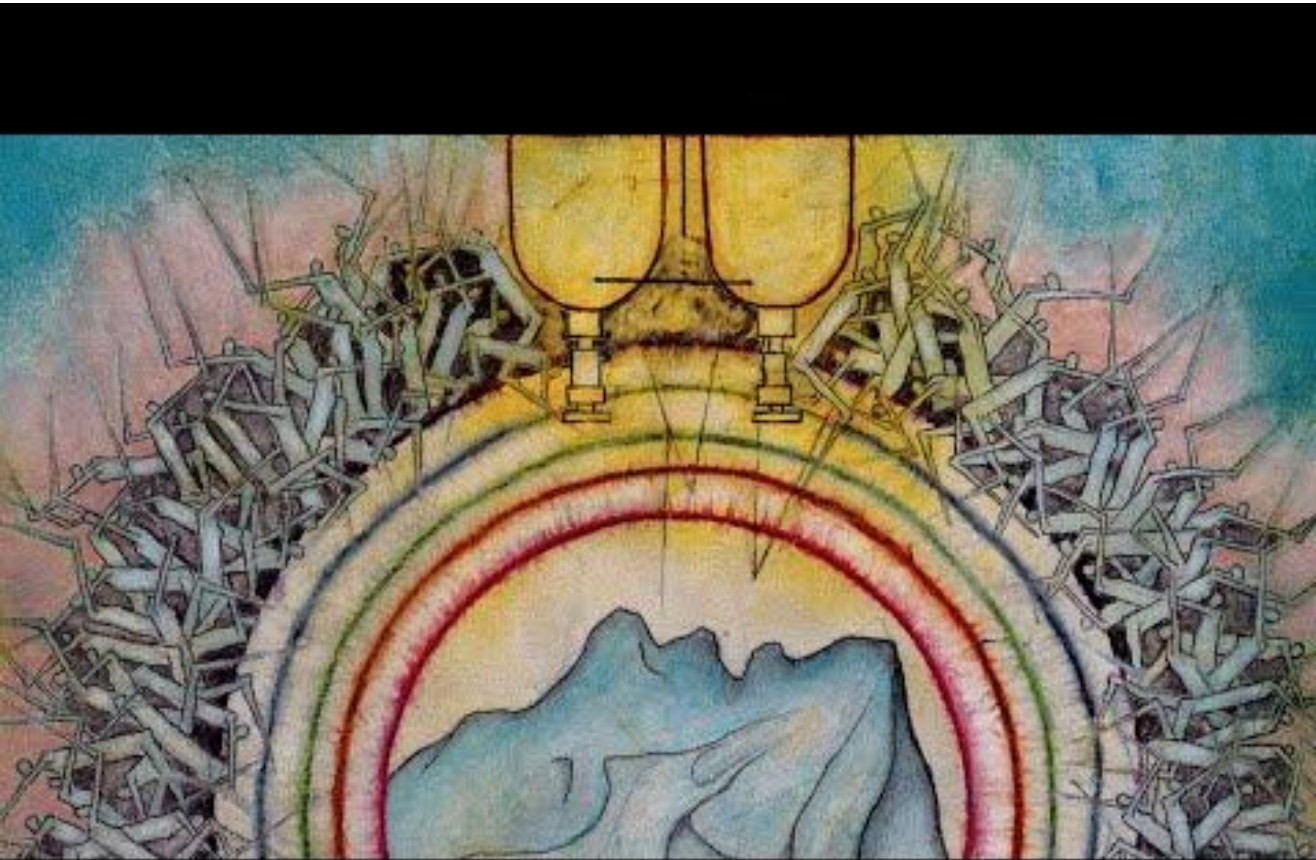
A parade to commemorate those who lost their lives in Philadelphia's 1918 flu pandemic.

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protect yourself from infection – The Crossing / David Lang



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Festa del Redentore (3rd Sunday of July)



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FESTA DEL REDENTORE

Venezia

15 Luglio 1989

PINK FLOYD



1989, Venice



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1575-76 >> 1630-31



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Venice, Santa Maria della Salute (“of health”)

>> commissioned as petition to end plague, 1630.

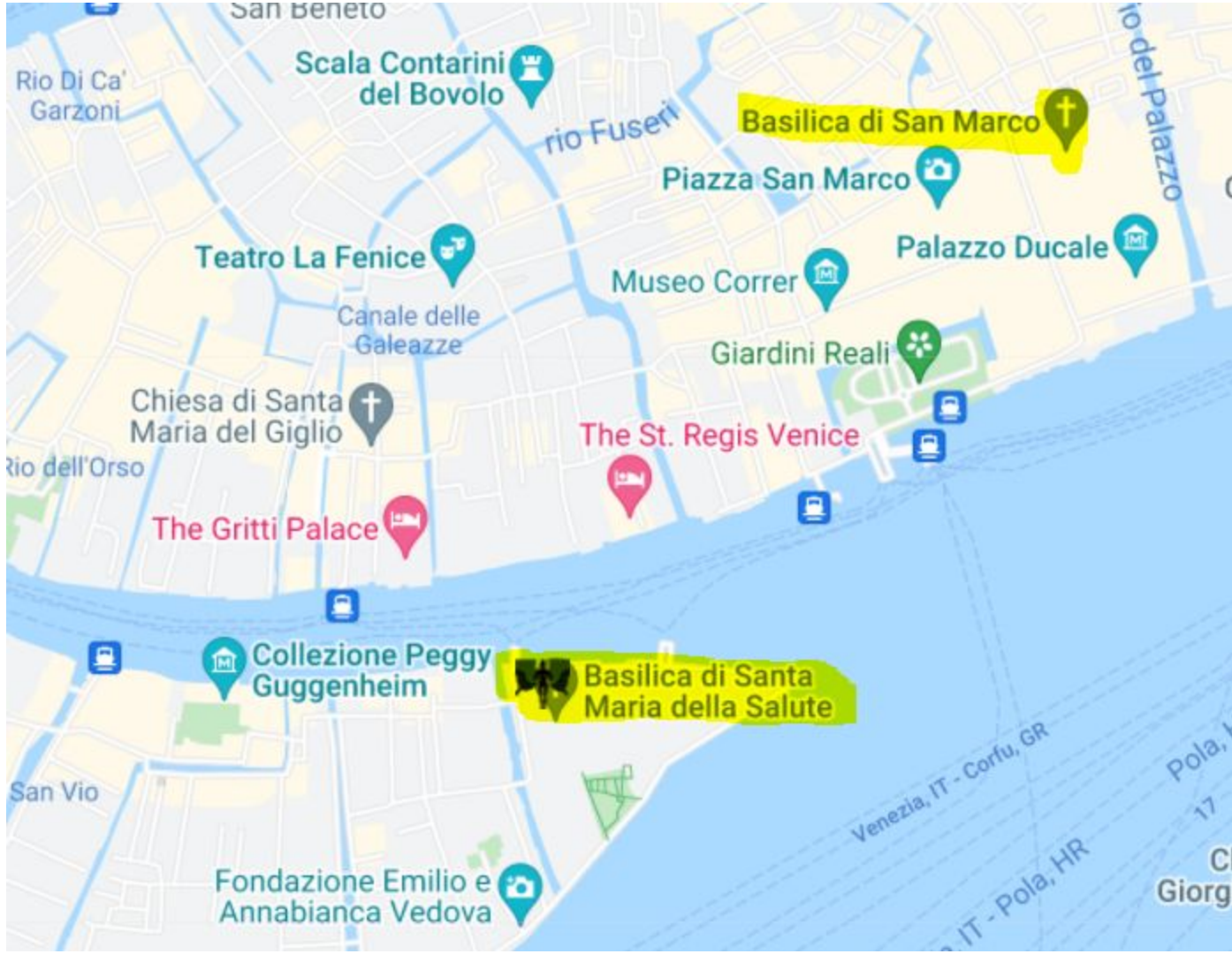
>> Most of the objects of art housed in the church bear references to the plague.



Josse de Corte:
The Queen of Heaven
expelling the
Plague
Main altar, Salute



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21 Nov 1631: Mass of
thanksgiving
for the end of the plague



Fanfares!
Te Deum!
Masses!
Display!



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Madonna
Nicopeia, Venice



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Before the 1970 robbery...



and after...



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Mass to celebrate end of plague, 1630-31

A most solemn Mass was sung, and during the Gloria and Credo, Claudio Monteverdi, the maestro di cappella and the glory of our age, had the singing ring out with trombe squarciate, with exquisite and marvelous harmony.

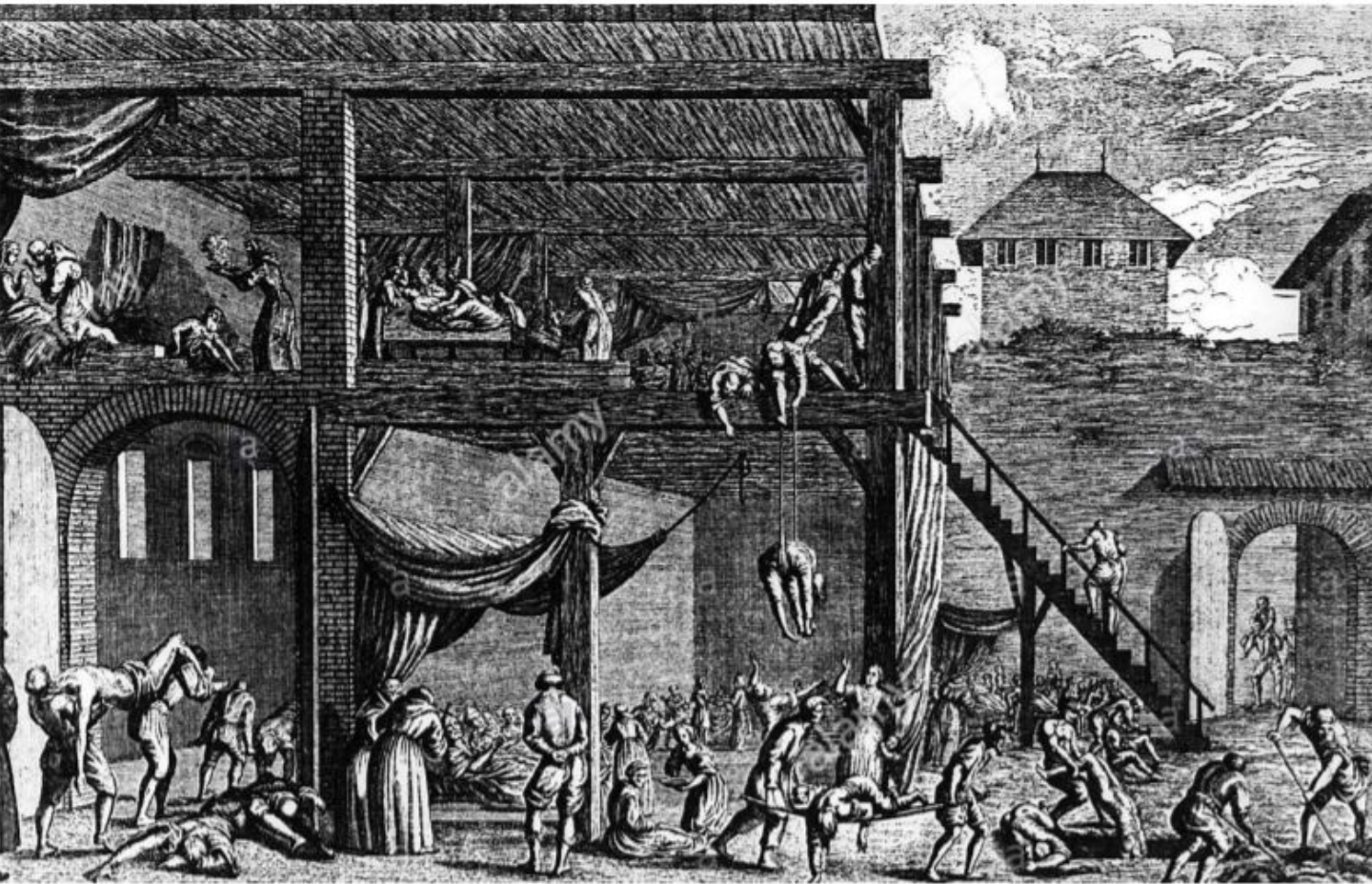
>The Mass of Thanksgiving on the Feast of the Presentation of the Virgin, Nov. 21, 1631



Monteverdi, Gloria from the *Selve Morale*



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A Plague Hospital in Vienna, 1679



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Pestsäule (Plague Column) – e.g. Vienna 1693



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4 A detail from Carl VI's *Erbhuldigung* procession in illus.1, showing bands of *Hautboisten* and drummers (London, British Library, 599.l.16)



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Naples: San Domenico

Not THIS *Te Deum*, but one like it...Stadlmayr (1645)



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The Godfather II: St Rocco Procession (before Assassination of Don Fannuci)



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Rochusberg, Bingen



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Not your grandparent's line-up: Bands for the Bingen Rochusfest (13-15 June 2019):



Banda Senderos



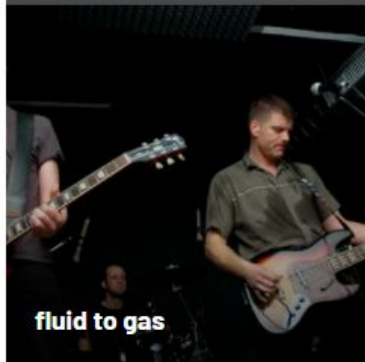
Blond



Culk



Die Nerven



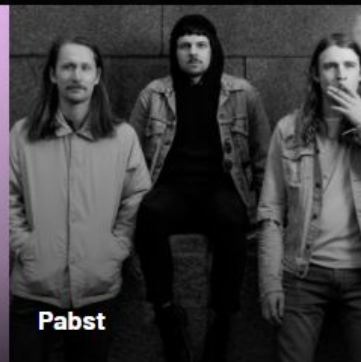
fluid to gas



HEAVY LUNGS



**Hildegard von Binge
Drinking**



Pabst



Hildegard von Binge Drinking, "Sigma Bands"



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Recognition *in media res*: Health Care Workers

Bangkok,
Regent's school,
tribute
performed by
Thannapas
Luanpitpong
(Xinxia)



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Feb 7, 2020, China



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« **Dire merci** » – Ballet de l'Opéra national de Paris Apr 16, 2020



Merci
Thank you



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Apr 29, 2020, Cheering for healthcare workers in NYC



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London Symphonia thanks London's dedicated health care workers, June 2020



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Fanny
Mendelssohn
Hensel, 1832



Cholera Cantata



[mvt 15, end]: *Trust my people, says your God. Behold I will come quickly, and my reward is with me.* [mvt 16, beginning]:

Sing to God, Sing praises to the Lord, make a path for he who comes through the desert, who is called God, and exult before him.

Clap your hands with a drum ye people, and praise the Lord with a joyful shout.

God goes forth with exultation and the Lord with high trumpets.



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Variola Blues by John Wickett (1977)



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Leslie Fish, The Ballad of Smallpox Gone

Old king plague is dead

The smallpox plague is dead

No more children dying hard

No more cripples living scarred

With the marks of the devil's kiss

We still may die of other things, but we will not die
of this



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Questions,
Observations,
Discussion?



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