

"One in a Million: Humanizing the Black Death"

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The Black Death of the fourteenth century is usually discussed in clinical medical terms, or in terms of millions of deaths or proportions of populations that died, or changes that affected the West on a societal scale. Archival research into contemporary personal account books and correspondence uncovers the human dimension of the catastrophe. Historical research operates in the other direction as well: my own research in the Datini Archive in Prato, Italy, inspired the broad, interdisciplinary secondary research into the plague that inspired and informed three books...so far.

Discipline: Honors