

Laura Ackerman Smoller's has focused on areas of intersection between magic, science, and religion in medieval and Renaissance Europe, centering around two major themes: astrology and apocalyptic prophecy, and saints and miracles. Her first book, *History, Prophecy, and the Stars: The Christian Astrology of Pierre d'Ailly, 1350-1420* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1994), explores a French cardinal's use of astrology to investigate the time of the world's End. In 2014, she published a second monograph: *The Saint and the Chopped-Up Baby: The Cult of Vincent Ferrer in Medieval and Early Modern Europe* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2014), winner of the 2016 *La corónica* International Book Award. Here she studies the canonization and cult of the Valencian friar Vincent Ferrer, a fiery apocalyptic preacher who died in 1419 and was canonized in 1455, tracing the various meanings of the saint from the moment of his death to his appropriation by Dominican friars in the New World. More recently, she has returned to the interrelationships between astrology and prophecy in a project tentatively titled "Astrology and the Sibyls." In addition, she has been exploring the connections between sanctity, mendicant reform, and tales of the demonic in a series of papers, articles, and book chapters focusing on the cults of Vincent Ferrer and Bernardino of Siena. Her most recent research has centered upon a commentary on the apocalyptic *Revelations* of pseudo-Methodius penned in Augsburg in 1496 by an obscure cleric named Wolfgang Aytinger.