

**Friday Sep. 14, 4:00-6:00 pm – “Thomas More and Spain”**

**Chair : Prof. Jesús López-Peláez Casellas** - *University of Jaén* (jlopez@ujaen.es)

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**Arias Montano, Thomas More and ‘a certain Englishman’**

While in Amberes working in his edition of the *Polyglot Bible*, the Spanish humanist Benito Arias Montano met the Dutch engraver Philip Galle with whom he published *Virorum doctorum de disciplinis benemerentium effigies XLIIII* (1572). Among the several personalities depicted, the book includes a portrait of Thomas More, whom the Spaniard praises as wise and pious. It is reasonable to assume that Arias Montano managed to get a copy of Stapleton's biography of the English chancellor, published at Douai (1588). Furthermore, it might not be mere coincidence that Fernando de Herrera, Arias Montano's friend, published shortly after in Seville the first biography of More in Spanish, *Tomás Moro* (1592). A third line of research is also worth mentioning. In his preface to the mentioned *Polyglot Bible*, Arias Montano shows his gratitude to a certain Englishman, whose identity is very well known among Morean scholars.

