



Current Contexts and Transformations of Antiquity Conference

"Antiquity" has become an integral part of contemporary popular culture. It is reproduced, transformed, and reimagined. But how are these different reconstructions of antiquity created? What sources and ideas do they draw upon, and what images of the ancient world do they produce?

The interdisciplinary conference ConTrA 2027 explores these questions under the title:

ConTrA 2027 – Reconstructing Antiquity

Knowledge, Imagination and the Making of the Ancient World

The conference invites participants to explore different approaches to antiquity and its reception: from video games, comics, literature, film and television to board games, museums, exhibitions, and virtual-reality reconstructions, as well as TikToks, memes, AI, and reenactment projects.

The conference focuses on forms and formats through which antiquity is communicated, staged, reconstructed, or deliberately reinterpreted. "Reconstruction" is understood in a deliberately broad sense, encompassing scholarly and museum reconstructions, representations in popular culture, and creative or speculative reinterpretations. Of particular interest is the relationship between knowledge and imagination, and the question of how ideas about antiquity are created, transformed, and transmitted.

We invite contributions that reflect on, analyse, document, or critically examine these topics. ConTrA welcomes contributions from researchers and practitioners working on antiquity and its reception in contemporary culture, including, but not limited to, the fields of archaeology, history, public history, media studies, museum studies, digital humanities, and game studies.

Please submit an abstract of no more than **400 words by 15 November 2026** to contra.conference@outlook.com. Presentations should not exceed 30 minutes.

The conference will take place:

Date: 19 February 2027

Place: Archaeological Institute, University of Cologne

Fee: €15; charged to cover refreshments and snacks during the conference

Further Information: [ConTrA Conference](#)

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