

Those. Othering, Alterity, Appropriation in Ancient Art

A digital conference at the Institute of Classical Archaeology,
Hamburg University
20 – 21 May 2021

Concepts of others, othering, self-representation or opposing worlds are topics of well-known conferences and publications over the last decades. Due to the relevance and width of the topic, the announced event continues these investigations. It considers the Greeks and Romans as strangers in other cultures and the location of the ancient world in global history.

Dealing with others and the demarcation of the self is a determining phenomenon of human activity. The disparaging characterization of others has always served to stabilize a group's identity; not only concepts of enemies, but also excessive idealizations of those others. The confrontation with a close or distant counterpart serves the construction of social identities and usually says more about the referring group than the referred to. At the same time, the frequent presence of the stereotyped image of the foreign reciprocally evokes further conceptions. Consequently, the impact of depictions on further prejudices is worth being studied too.

In this conference, the term 'others' is broadly defined; including neighboring and distant, real and mythical foreign peoples and individual populations whose demarcation serves to identify other groups. This also includes the Greeks and Romans themselves, who found their way into depictions and descriptions as others by their contemporaneous counterparts and later epochs.

The aim of the conference is to consider dealing with others, contexts of othering and alterity, to question center and periphery and the reversal of this view, while investigating the self-positioning of those presenting others, likewise the positioning of today's scientific perspectives.



Attic Oinochoe, Hamburg MK&G 1981.173

<https://sammlungonline.mkg-hamburg.de/de/object/Oinochoe-Eurymedon-Kanne-oder-Perser-Kanne/1981.173/dc00126657>

Convenor: Lilian Adlung-Schönheit

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Universität Hamburg
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20 May 2021

10:00 Welcome

Chair Dominik Bonatz

10:30 Hyun Jin Kim, Melbourne

Were the 'Barbarians' the 'Other'? Classical Greek Representation of Non-Greeks

11:15 Kristina E. Fleischmann, Erlangen

The Oriental's Fascination: Greek Presentation and Perception of the Persian Others

12:00 Break

12:15 Tatiana Tereshchenko, Moscow

Roman Representations of the Barbarians in Visual Arts

13:00 Ljuben Tevdovski, Skopje

Pars Orientalis and the Invention of Oriental Other in Classical Antiquity

13:45 Break

Chair Michael Antonakis

14:45 Diwakar Kumar Singh, Darbhanga

Otherring the Yavana: A Context of Yug Purana

15:30 Lilian Adlung-Schönheit, Hamburg

To the End of the World: India and Indians as Allegory of Superiority in Roman Visual Art

16:15 Break

17:00 Gretel Rodríguez, Providence, Rhode Island

Looking at the Other: The Barbarian Captive in Roman Commemorative Art

18:00 Online Reception

21 May 2021

Chair Otmar Jaeggi

10:00 Victor Humennyi, Lviv

"Alio ex orbe": Depicting Parthia and Armenia in the Visual Tradition of Early Imperial Roman Coinage

10:45 Richard Posamentir, Tübingen

The Other World in the North

11:30 Break

11:45 Richard Kendall, Edinburgh

Lion's Share? Emerging Hybridity in Roman Olbia Pontica

12:30 Savannah Bishop, Istanbul

The Otherness of Gold in Ancient Roman Eyes: Gold in the Hands of Slaves, the Hair of Gauls, and the Talons of Griffins

13:15 Break – Optional Discussion

Chair Martina Seifert

14:00 Grzegorz First, Krakow

Seer as Other. The Image of the Other as a Source of Knowledge in the Art

14:45 Burkhard Emme, Berlin

Older People – Other People? Possible Meanings of Hellenistic 'Genre Figures'

15:30 Break

15:45 Lorenz Winkler-Horacek, Berlin

Scylla and Polyphemus: Two Grades of Liminality

16:30 Jacobus Bracker, Hamburg

The Otherring of Nature in Archaic Greek Art

17:30 Final Discussion