

Rurality and religion.

Places and networks of religion
in rural areas of Roman Italy, Gaul,
and the Northern Provinces



PROGRAM OF THE CONFERENCE

6th–8th
May 2024

Meerscheinschlössl
Mozartgasse 3, 8010 Graz

FWF Österreichischer
Wissenschaftsfonds

ÖAW
AUSTRIAN
ACADEMY OF
SCIENCES

Fritz Thyssen Stiftung
für Wissenschaftsförderung



UNIVERSITAS SCIENTIARUM SZEGEDIENSIS
UNIVERSITY OF SZEGED



Austrian
Archaeological
Institute



Monday 6th May 2024

14:30 – 15:00 **Get together/Registration**

15:00 – 15:15 **Introduction. Greetings from the director of the IGS.
Greetings from the organisers**

15:15 – 16:15 **Keynote: John Scheid (Paris)**
Civitas and religiones. The creation of religious obligations for new civitates according to examples from the Northwestern provinces

16:15 – 16:45 **COFFEE BREAK**

I. SECTION: WHAT IS A RURAL SANCTUARY?

TERMINOLOGY, METHODOLOGY, TYPOLOGY

Chair: Katharina Rieger (Graz)

16:45 – 17:15 **Cristina-Georgeta Alexandrescu (Bucharest)**
Religion in the countryside of Northern Moesia Inferior – a re-evaluation of the written and iconographical evidence.

17:15 – 17:45 **Astrid Schmölder (Bamberg)**
From the mountain to the city – relationships between rural and urban sanctuaries within the religious landscape of Aguntum

17:45 – 18:15 **COFFEE BREAK**

18:15 – 18:45 **Nirvana Silnovic (Vienna)**
Rural? Spaces of Mithras cult in the Roman province of Dalmatia

18:45 – 19:15 **Günther Moosbauer (Straubing)**
Religion in den ländlichen Gebieten der Provinz Raetien

20:00 **DINNER**

Tuesday 7th May 2024

II. SECTION: NEW FINDS: THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL

AND EPIGRAPHIC EVIDENCE Chair: Wolfgang Spickermann (Graz)

- 09:00 – 09:30** **Manfred Lehner (Graz)**
Possible settings of continuity in rural sacred places. Archaeological hints from the Eastern Alps
- 09:30 – 10:00** **Christa Ebnöther (Bern) – Janka Istenič (Ljubljana) – Vesna Tratnik (Ljubljana)**
Sacred places off the beaten track. Sacred places in rock shelters in Zillis GR (Switzerland) and Godič (Slovenia) in comparison
- 10:00 – 10:30** **COFFEE BREAK**
- 10:30 – 11:00** **Bernhard Schrettle (Graz)**
Rural – Suburban or even urban? The sanctuary on the Frauenberg hill near Leibnitz / Styria
- 11:00 – 11:30** **Elisabeth Waldhart (Innsbruck)**
Somewhere in the middle of nowhere? Two rural sacred sites in a high alpine environment as natural places
- 11:30 – 12:00** **Barbara Kainrath – Gerald Grabherr (Innsbruck)**
Pimp up my shrine – The modification of the rural sanctuary in Lienz in Roman times
- 12:00** **LUNCH**

III. SECTION: SPACING RELIGION: THE ROLE OF SPATIAL CONCEPTS FOR RURAL SANCTUARIES

Chair: Csaba Szabó (Szeged)

- 14:00 – 14:30** **Nadežda Gavrilović Vitas (Belgrade)**
Contextualizing rural sacred spaces and sanctuaries in Roman Central Balkans
- 14:30 – 15:00** **Szilvia Biró (Szombathely)**
Roman gods in the countryside – rurality in the religious life of the Pannonian vici
- 15:00 – 15:30** **Dan Deac (Zalau) – Radu Zagreanu (Bistrita)**
Religious communication in the countryside of Dacia Porolissensis
- 15:30 – 16:00** **COFFEE BREAK**
- 16:00 – 17:00** **Keynote: Daria Pezzoli-Olgiati (Munich)**
Placing religion: In researching religion space matters
- 19:00** **DINNER**

Wednesday 8th May 2024

IV. SECTION: COMMUNITIES AND NETWORKS OF RELIGION

IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

Chair: Gabrielle Kremer (Vienna)

09:00 – 09:30 Leif Scheuermann (Trier)

Transport and religion in rural Noricum

09:30 – 10:00 Audrey Ferlut (Lyon)

Rural sanctuaries dedicated to spring and water and/or healing deities in the *Tres Galliae* and the Germanic provinces: structures, communities, networks, and social agency

10:00 – 10:30 COFFEE BREAK

10:30 – 11:00 Peter Scherrer (Graz)

Who built and maintained rural sanctuaries in the Roman Empire?

11:00 – 11:30 General discussion / Concluding remarks

AFTERNOON: EXCURSION

ORGANISERS:

Institute of Classics, IGS „Resonant Self-World Relations“

University of Graz, Austria | Anna-Katharina Rieger, Wolfgang Spickermann

Austrian Archaeological Institute, Department of Classical Studies

Austrian Academy of Sciences | Gabrielle Kremer

Department of Religious Studies

University of Szeged, Hungary | Csaba Szabó