

Programme

The Mediterranean between Fantasy and Reality – Contrasting Worlds?

6–8 November 2025

Thursday, 6 November 2025

Universitätsplatz 3 (main building), 2nd floor, lecture hall (Hörsaal) 01.22

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| 8.45-9.30 | <i>Come Together, Registration & Coffee</i> |
| 9.30-10.00 | <i>Welcome & Introduction</i> |
| 10.00-10.50 | Keynote lecture Sara Izzo : Matrix Mediterranean. Theoretical models for the literary mapping of a variable space-time continuum |
| 10.50-11.15 | Claudia Luchetti : The Myth of the Island of Atlantis: between imaginary Topography, space-time Travel and cultural-political Utopia |
| 11.15-11.40 | Vedran Obućina : Mystical Currents in the Mediterranean: The Role of Sufis, Kabbalists, and Christian Mystics in Shaping a Spiritual Network |
| 11.40-12.10 | <i>Coffee Break</i> |
| 12.10-12.35 | Sladjana Domuz : Cleopatra and the myth of the Mediterranean – How art shapes history |
| 12.35-13.00 | Anita Buhin : Rise and Fall of the Latin Lover: Exploring Realities and Imagineries of Mediterranean Men on the Italian Example |
| 13.00-13.25 | Francisco Javier García Martín : Ixion between historical reality and chthonic imagination: entangled temporalities in classical imagery |
| 13.25-15.00 | <i>Lunch</i> |
| 15.00-15.25 | Tatjana Petzer : Salvation Economy and Phantasmagoria between the Seas: The Golden Fleece of the Aromanians |
| 15.25-15.50 | Claudia García-Miguillán : Mediterranean Virtuality: The Intertwining of cultural Imagination and Memory in Mircea Cărtărescu's <i>Levantul</i> |
| 15.50-16.15 | Peter Mauritsch : Thalatta! Thalatta! |
| 16.15-16.45 | <i>Coffee Break</i> |
| 16.45-17.10 | Melissa Melodias : Time and space in word of Honor |

- 17.10-17.35 **Olcay Yilmaz, Cemre Yilmaz, Sevil Çelik Tsonev, Agnes Grond, Şebnem Bahadır-Berzig:** Phantasms of Continuity in the Anatolian-Mediterranean Imaginery: Translating Myth and History in an AI-Assisted Exploration
- 17.35-18.00 **Elizaveta Boyko:** The Story of the "Campana" reliefs: From Antiquity to the Present Day
- Dinner*

Friday, 7 November 2025

Mozartgasse 3, Meerscheinschlössl, Aula (Festsaal)

- 9.00-9.50 Keynote lecture **Stefan Altekamp:** Panmediterranean visions in archaeology
- 9.50-10.25 **Hans Scherer:** Filling the gap – Imaginative Description and Archaeological Reconstruction of a City in the Shadow of the Video Game World
- 10.25-10.50 **Alejandro Cadenas González:** Echoes of Empire: Ancient Rome, the Emperor, and Their Symbols in the Subconscious of Contemporary Sci-Fi and Fantasy. A Preliminary Study
- 10.50-11.20 *Coffee Break*
- 11.20-11.45 **Alice Landskron:** The impact of the Mediterranean on harbour cities
- 11.45-12.10 **Hannah Barmüller:** Mediterranean cities and landscapes between fact and fiction: a spatial and ecocritical re-reading of Lamartine's *Voyage en Orient*
- 12.10-12.35 **Brian D. McPhee:** The Argo between Fantasy and Reality in Apollonius' *Argonautica*
- 12.35-14.00 *Lunch*
- 14.00-14.25 **Diego Stefanelli:** A "curious" Mediterranean between past and present: Jacob Spon's *Voyage d'Italie, de Dalmatie, de Grèce et du Levant* (1678)
- 14.25-14.50 **Ursula Lagger:** "... Naples is the pleasantest place in Europe". South Italy between fascination and disappointment
- 14.50-15.15 **Clara-Maria Hansen:** Entangled identities and mortuary practice in Archaic Magna Graecia
- 15.15-15.45 *Coffee Break*

- 15.45-16.10 **Regina Klöckl-Zorić, Aaron Plattner, Elisabeth Trinkl:** Desire and disappointment, or: When in Arkadia ...
- 16.10-16.35 **Iliia Guliaev:** The “Tauric Journey” in Verse: Russia’s “Greek Project” and Its Repercussions in the Poetry of Joso Krmpotić, 1787–1788
- 16.35-17.00 **Seb Bytyci:** Reality, history and myth: Albanian epic poetry and statebuilding in Albania and Kosovo
- Optional: Guided Tour through the Archaeological Collections*
- 19.00 **Reception**

Saturday, 8 November 2025

Mozartgasse 3, Meerscheinschlössl, Aula (Festsaal)

- 9.00-9.25 **Lukas Jung:** Competing Realities: Imperial Ideology and Local Identity in the Rivalry between Perge and Side
- 9.25-9.50 **Anastasiia Morozova:** Relating the Mediterranean Romans: Affective Witness and Love to Romanness in the Ostrogothic Correspondence of Cassiodorus’s *Variae*
- 9.50-10.15 **Reuven Kiperwasser:** Wondrous Encounters in the High Sea – reading rabbinic and Christian stories as Paradoxography
- 10.15-10.40 **Dylan Thomas Mask:** Ottoman Christian Refugees and Habsburg Colonial Imaginaries in the Kingdom of Dalmatia, 1852–66
- 10.40-11.10 *Coffee Break*
- 11.10-11.35 **Mareike Gebhardt:** On Waves and Wakes: Navigating the Mediterranean Deathscape Towards More Democratic Futures
- 11.35-12.00 **Laura Lo Presti:** Mediterranean Thresholds: Humanitarian Fantasies and Necropolitical Regimes
- 12.00-12.25 **Carolyn Defrin:** Co-creating future imaginations of the border: artistic resistances in dehumanised migration landscapes
- Lunch Snack*
- 14.30 **Guided City Tour**