

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

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	Ilia 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
	<i>Optional: Guided Tour through the Archaeological Collections</i>
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 <i>Variae</i>
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	<i>Coffee Break</i>
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
	<i>Lunch Snack</i>
14.30	Guided City Tour