

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Deconstructing Idolatry

Philosophy



Theology

Visual Studies

02.–03.03.23

SR 47.14
Heinrichstraße 78, 8010 Graz

 Grazer Komitee für
christlich-jüdische Zusammenarbeit

We work for
tomorrow



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Deconstructing Idolatry

Philosophy, Theology, Visual Studies

ORGANIZED BY DR. BENIAMINO FORTIS

Idolatry, as a human attitude, can take on different meanings, depending on the context it appears in as well as the perspective it is considered from. In dealing with this broad topic, the conference adopts two different but complementary approaches, each pursued in a dedicated section.

The first group of papers addresses the *literal* sense of idolatry, that is, the worship of alien deities and/or cult images condemned in the Old Testament – and in Judaism in general.

In the second section, the notion of idolatry is instead understood in its *figurative* sense. Here the focus is set on modern, secular, demythologized forms of worship, directed to what can be called ‘idols of thought’ – such as dogmas, prejudices, ideologies, etc.

International scholars will show that idolatry is not just a thing of the past, as idolatrous dynamics are still at work in contemporary culture.

FURTHER INFO:



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PROGRAM

02.03.23

INTRODUCTION

14:00 *Beniamino FORTIS*
Idolatry: The Literal and the Figurative

15:00 *COFFEE BREAK*

IDOLATRY STRICTO SENSU

15:15 *Krešimir PURGAR*
The Rise and Fall of Images:
Idolatry, Representation,
Virtuality

16:15 *COFFEE BREAK*

16:30 *Joachim SCHAPER*
‘Idolatry’? On the Aesthetic
and Ascetic Masochism that
is Aniconism

03.03.23

IDOLATRY LATO SENSU

09:00 *Bruce ELLIS BENSON*
Sounding Out Idols:
Nietzsche and Idolatry

10:00 *COFFEE BREAK*

10:15 *Asher BIEMANN*
The State as Idol:
Modern Jewish Thought
and Theo-Political Critique

11:15 *COFFEE BREAK*

11:30 *Melissa RAPHAEL*
A Modern Idoloclasm:
Jewish Feminist Criticism of
the Alienation of the Feminine
in Thought and Visual Art