



Πανεπιστήμιο Κύπρου
Τμήμα Κλασικών Σπουδών
και Φιλοσοφίας



RESEARCH
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FOUNDATION



Ευρωπαϊκή Ένωση
Ευρωπαϊκό Ταμείο
Περιφερειακής Ανάπτυξης



Κυπριακή Δημοκρατία



Διαρθρωτικά Ταμεία
της Ευρωπαϊκής Ένωσης στην Κύπρο



ΠΡΟΤΥΠΑ ΚΑΙ ΕΡΕΥΝΑ, ΤΕΧΝΟΛΟΓΙΑ ΚΑΙ ΑΝΑΤΙΣΤΕΚΑ ΚΑΝΟΝΩΝ

The Bible in Hexameters: Poeticizing Scripture in early Christian East and West

September 24 and 25, 2021

University of Cyprus, Department of Classics and Philosophy

A two-day online conference on the Greek and Latin hexameter paraphrases of the Old and the New Testament, with discussions of various aspects of the hybrid genre of *Bible Epic*, including poetics, issues of rhetoric, intertextuality and matters of religious exegesis.

This conference is part of a project on the Greek Bible Epic, funded by the *Research and Innovation Foundation* (previously *Research Promotion Foundation*) of Cyprus. Principal Investigator: Associate Professor of Ancient Greek Literature Maria Ypsilanti, University of Cyprus, Department of Classics and Philosophy.

The Project EXCELLENCE/1216/0400 is co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund and the Republic of Cyprus through the *Research and Innovation Foundation*.

Participants and audience will attend the conference via the following zoom link

https://ucy.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUld-6urD8vGNBITXw_M_m66KtskJhXyVm

Conference Program

Friday, September 24, 2021

15.40

Welcome address by the organisers

15.50

Welcome address by Georgios Xenis, Head of the department of Classics and Philosophy of University of Cyprus

The Bible, its Greek paraphrases and Greek and Jewish tradition in the religious Greek epic verse of late Antiquity

Session 1

Chair: Konstantinos Melidis

16.00

Ronald Blankenburg (Radboud University Nijmegen)
Defining (as) epic? Metrical renderings in the *Septuaginta*

16.30

Ilyass Kettaf (Université Paris-Sorbonne)
From ποικιλία to unity in Nonnus's book 6 of the *Paraphrase of the Gospel of John* (talk in French)

17.00 Discussion

17.30-18.00 Break

Session 2

Chair: Spyridon Tzounakas

18.00

Konstantinos Melidis, Maria Ypsilanti (University of Cyprus)
Some remarks on the term ἀρμυνία in Pseudo-Apollinaris' *Metaphrasis Psalmorum*

18.30

Konstantinos Lygouris (University of Cambridge)
Eudocia's Gods: Epic poetry and poetic authority in Eudocia's *Paraphrase of the Life of St Cyprian*

19.00

Xavier Lafontaine (University of Strasbourg)
Sibylline prophecies as Biblical epics

19.30 Discussion

Saturday, September 25, 2021

Latin Bible epic: the genre, the poems, the tradition. Neo-latin biblical poetry.

Session 3

Chair: Demokritos Kaltsas

11.00

Maria Rosaria Petringa (University of Catania)
Aaron interpreter of Moses 'mouth of God' in the so-called Heptateuch poem (Hept. Exod. 201-217)

11.30

Francesco Lubian (Università degli Studi di Padova)
Epicizing the Un-Epic? Census Lists in the *Metrum super Numerum* of the *Heptateuchos* Poem

12.00 Discussion

12.30-13.00 Break

Session 4

Chair: Maria Ypsilanti

13.00

Donato De Gianni (University of Catania)
The Rhetoric of the Prodigious: Descriptions of Miracles in Arator's *Historia apostolica*

13.30

Katharina Pohl (University of Wuppertal)
Vestigia obseruata legens – Arator's treatment of literary and exegetical models

14.00 Discussion

14.30-16.30 Break

Session 5

Chair: Margot Neger

16.30

Elena Castelnovo (Milan)

Biblical and classical paraphrase interweaved: the case of Dracontius's *De laudibus Dei*

17.00

Gerben Wartena (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam)

'And I recount particular bounty, though that bounty is universal.' Universalizing narration in Sedulius's *Carmen Paschale*

17.30

Michael Paschalis (University of Crete)

Sedulius vs Juvencus on the Passion of Christ: The Backlash of Juvencus' Virgilian amplification

18.00

Petra Matović (University of Zagreb)

Epic Formularity in Croatian Neo-Latin Bible Epics

18.30 Discussion-concluding remarks