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Organisation:

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Workshop of the “Lived Ancient Religion: Questioning ‘Cults’ and ‘Polis Religion’”

Picture: Photography of an Ancient Savings Box from the Collections of Gotha (@ privat)

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UNIVERSITÄT ERFURT

Workshop on Urban Religion

2nd – 3rd June 2016

Venue: Max-Weber-Kolleg Erfurt, room 121

This workshop attempts to examine some peculiarities of urban religion in Antiquity and also to develop an understanding of what we could regard as urban religion.

Urban religion is an attempt to examine the practice of religion in *metropoleis* like Rome without falling into the trap of common dichotomies, such as private and public religion. Urban could, then, be seen as a specific constellation of materiality and communication that finds its expression most of all in the emergence of public spaces. This constellation is of key importance for the specific reproduction of cultural schemes interpretation and Lived Religion.

Urban religion could be thus regarded in terms of specific religious interactions and hence degrees of institutionalisation, the diversity of public spaces could have ensured a large number of shared practices and reduced the salience of discrepant religious identities. Such urban places are places of important changes, of innovation and conflict, of intensified literary production, of mutual influence, imitation, and frequent, if not aggressive distinction, boundary drawing and processes of marginalisation.

Programm

Thursday, 2nd June 2016

09:00 | Some Introductory Remarks

Chair: Emiliano Urciuoli

09:30 | Maik Patzelt (Max-Weber-Kolleg Erfurt):

Prayer in Rome – Clodius Reconsidered

10:30 | Coffee Break

Chair: Myrthe Bartels

11:00 | Harriet Flower (Department of Classics, Princeton): Local Religion in Ancient Rome

12:00 | Dan-el Padilla Peralta (Department of Classics, Princeton): Divining Data: Quantitative Approaches to the Urban Religion of Mid-Republican Rome

13:00 | Lunch

Chair: Maik Patzelt

14:30 | Carolyn Tobin (Department of Classics, Princeton): The Sullan Proscriptions and the Memory of Religious Pollution

15:30 | Caroline Mann (Department of Classics, Princeton): The Suicide of P. Cornelius Merula, flamen Dialis

16:30 | Coffee Break

Chair: Valentino Gasparini

17:00 | Richard Neudecker (formerly DAI Rome): Remembering Trees: Sacred Groves in Rome's Cityscape

18:00 | Benjamin Sippel (Max-Weber-Kolleg Erfurt): Moving to the Countryside: Elements of Rural Religion in Roman Egypt

20:00 | Dinner in Town

Friday, 3rd June 2016

Chair: Georgia Petridou

09:30 | Michael Flower (Department of Classics, Princeton): Greek Religion, Greek Religion(s), or no Religion?

10:30 | Coffee Break

Chair: Janico Albrecht

11:00 | Valentino Gasparini (Max-Weber-Kolleg Erfurt): From Private Villas to Urban Isiac Sanctuaries: Water Facilities and Graeco-Egyptian Imagery

12:00 | Margaret Kurkoski (Art and Archaeology, Princeton): Constructing Fortune: Tyche on Roman Imperial Buildings

13:00 | Lunch

Chair: Benjamin Sippel

14:30 | Myrthe Bartels (Department of History, Erfurt): Traditional Religious Epithets for Theos in the Pseudo-Aristotelian *De Mundo*

15:30 | Jonathan Henry (Department of Religion, Princeton): Devils and Bureaucracy: Ordained Exorcists in the 4th Century CE

17:00 | Guided Tour through the Town