



LUDWIG-
MAXIMILIANS-
UNIVERSITÄT
MÜNCHEN

Abteilung für Alte Geschichte
Cambridge-LMU Strategic Partnership



International Workshop

Empire and Individual

in the Ancient and Late-Antique Mediterranean



Vigilanz
Kulturen
SFB 1369

Munich, 15-17 March 2024

Cambridge University – Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München
Organized by Michael Hahn and John Weisweiler

Venue: IBZ München, Amalienstraße 38, 80799 Munich

The empires of the ancient Mediterranean and Near East were the first political organisations whose reach extended across multiple continents. The institutions they developed have fundamentally shaped ideologies and practices of government of later imperial states in Europe and the Americas. This conference, generously funded by the Cambridge-LMU Strategic Partnership, explores the relationship between empire and individual in ancient Assyria, Sparta, Athens, the Hellenistic kingdoms and Rome. A group of scholars from the Universities of Cambridge and Munich examines the ways in which these ancient states reshaped the lives and self-understandings of imperial elites and subject populations.

Die Imperien des antiken Mittelmeerraums und des Nahen Ostens waren die ersten politischen Organisationen, die sich über mehrere Kontinente erstreckten. Die von ihnen entwickelten Institutionen haben das Selbstverständnis und die Regierungspraktiken späterer imperialer Staaten in Europa und Amerika entscheidend geprägt. Diese Konferenz, die großzügig von der Cambridge-LMU Strategic Partnership unterstützt wird, untersucht das Verhältnis zwischen Imperium und Individuum im antiken Assyrien, Sparta, Athen, den hellenistischen Königreichen und Rom. Eine Gruppe von Wissenschaftlern an den Universitäten Cambridge und München analysiert, wie diese antiken Staaten das Leben und das Selbstverständnis imperialer Eliten und unterworfenen Gruppen neu bestimmten.



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15 March, Friday

14:30 – 14:45 Welcome and Introduction

14:45 – 15:30 Discussion of Louis Althusser, 'Ideology and Ideological State Apparatuses (Notes Towards an Investigation)', moderated by John Weisweiler

15:30 – 16:00 Coffee break

Moderator: Michael Hahn

16:00 – 16:45 **Mary Frazer**, An Example of Successful Interpellation? Scholars as (Loyal) Subjects of the Assyrian Empire

16:45 – 17:30 **Denise Reitzenstein**, Xerxes and Damaratus, Herodotus' Unequal Kings: (Not) Ruling and Reigning an Empire

18:00 Guided tour of the museum for Egyptian Art, Gabelsbergerstrasse 35

20:00 Dinner at St. Annas, Augustenstrasse 60

16 March, Saturday

Moderator: John Weisweiler

9:00 – 9:45 **Daniel Sutton**, Cleon and Antiphon

9:45 – 10:30 **Henry Heitmann-Gordon**, The Unaccountable Ruler and the Subaltern Sock Puppet: Accommodating the King in early Hellenistic Thought

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break

11:00 – 11:45 **Cecily Bateman**, Empire of Normalcy: Disability and the Roman Empire

11:45 – 12:30 **Megan Murphy**, The presentation of disability in the Letters of John and Barsanuphius: everyday conversations oscillating between metaphor and Christian philanthropy

12:30 – 13:30 Lunch break

13:30 – 14:15 Discussion of Clifford Ando, 'Self, Society, Individual, and Person in Roman Law', moderated by **Clifford Ando**

Moderator: Lea Niccolai

14:15 – 15:00 **Ben Kolbeck**, Individual, Empire, and Opportunism: Christian apology and the state apparatus of the imperial petition

15:00 – 15:30 Coffee break

15:30– 16:15 **Giulia Grossi**, Taxation and subaltern cooperation in the later Roman Empire

16:15 – 17:00 **Mathijs Clement**, The naked theologian and the power of Rome: Between self and community in Gregory of Nazianzus' first orations (Or. 1-6) and letters (Ep. 1-7)

17:00 – 17:30 Coffee break

Moderator: N.N.

17:30 – 18:15 **Harvey Pythian**, Dangerous Individuals and Imperial Government in the Late Fourth Century: The Case of Eutropius

18:15 – 19:00 **Younes Köhler**, Between Byzantium and Islam: The dux and the provincial elite in early Arab Egypt

19:00 – 19:15 Concluding discussion

20:00 Dinner at Georgenhof, Friedrichstrasse 1