

# CHARACTERS IN MIND

Literary characters occasionally leave their original story world also to become inhabitants of later narratives and works. The phenomenon itself is well known in literary studies, but so far has not been thoroughly investigated in the context(s) of ancient studies. The conference «Characters in Mind» addresses this very desideratum and, from a cognitive science perspective, explores the motives and cross-religious impacts of character migration.

This conference is made possible by:



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## REGISTER

Please register for the conference and public lecture:  
[lara.muehrenberg@uni-bonn.de](mailto:lara.muehrenberg@uni-bonn.de)

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## VENUE

Uniclub Bonn  
Konviktstraße 9  
53113 Bonn  
Deutschland

## CONTACT

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8 - 10 February 2023

International and  
Interdisciplinary  
Conference

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# CHARACTERS IN MIND

The Migration of Characters in  
Ancient Jewish, Ancient Christian & Greco-Roman  
Literature and Art



**DIEGESIS IN MIND**  
Cognitive Disciplines and  
Ancient Narratives in Dialogue



# PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY, 8 FEBRUARY • Wolfgang-Paul-Saal, Ground Floor

1.30 pm **Jan Rügemeier (University of Bonn, Germany)**  
Welcome and Introduction

## ANCIENT JEWISH LITERATURE & ART

1.45 pm **Michal Bar-Asher Siegal (Yale University, USA)**  
The Persian Queen Mother: The Character of Ifra Hormiz in the Babylonian Talmud

2.30 pm **Haim Weiss (Ben Gurion University, Israel)**  
The Image of Shimon Bar-Kosibah in Rabbinic Literature  
*Coffee break*

4.00 pm **Jörg Frey & Magnus Rabel (University of Zürich, Switzerland)**  
Joseph: An (Almost) Overlooked Migration Character

4.45 pm **Rina Talgam (Hebrew University, Israel)**  
Characters in Ancient Jewish, Christian, and «Pagan» Art  
*Dinner break*

## PUBLIC LECTURE\*

7.00 pm **Laura Suzanne Lieber (Duke University, USA)**  
In Our Image: The Remaking of Esther in Every Age  
*Wine Reception*

THURSDAY, 9 FEBRUARY • Schumpeter Raum, 1st Floor

## GRECO-ROMAN AND PERSIAN LITERATURE

9.00 am **Koen De Temmerman (Ghent University, Belgium)**  
Chariton's Callirhoe: A Migrating Novel Heroine

9.45 am **Evert van Emde Boas (Aarhus University, Denmark)**  
Remembering Achilles: Memory and Transtextual Characters in Greco-Roman Literature  
*Coffee break*

11.00 am **Stephan Conermann (University of Bonn, Germany)**  
Alexander in Persian Literature

11.45 am **Anna Bonifazi (University of Cologne, Germany)**  
Character Migration Through Multimodality:  
Orpheus From Early Texts to Monteverdi's Opera  
*Lunch break*

## ANCIENT CHRISTIAN LITERATURE AND ART I

2.00 pm **Matthew Novenson (University of Edinburgh, Great Britain)**  
The Messiah, International Man of Mystery

2.45 pm **Elizabeth Shively (University of St Andrews, Great Britain)**  
Beyond Mark and John. A Blending Based Approach to the Paralytic  
*Coffee break*

4.00 pm **Jan Rügemeier (University of Bonn, Germany)**  
Joseph of Arimathea: How a Respected Jewish Councilor Becomes a Roman Nobleman

4.45 pm **Lara Mührenberg (University of Bonn, Germany)**  
«Dress to Impress!» – Representations of the Deceased Wearing Costumes of Biblical Characters

7.30 pm *Conference Dinner*  
DelikArt, Colmantstraße 14–16, 53115 Bonn

FRIDAY, 10 FEBRUARY • Schumpeter Raum, 1st Floor

## ANCIENT CHRISTIAN LITERATURE AND ART II

9.00 am **Tobias Nicklas (University of Regensburg, Germany)**  
From Herod to Dionysios the Areopagite:  
Characters who Migrate and Merge

9.45 am **Daniel Rossa (University of Bonn, Germany)**  
Making Salvation History the Story of My Life. Character Migration and Gregory of Nyssa's Writings about His Siblings  
*Coffee break*

## SYNTHESIS

11.00 am Transdisciplinary Workgroups & Video Statements  
12.30 pm Concluding remarks

### \* Join us for the public lecture!

In person at the Uniclub Bonn  
Live on our various platforms

