



**UNIVERSITÄT
ERFURT**

Philosophische
Fakultät

INTERNATIONAL ONLINE CONFERENCE
“THE MULTI-SENSORY EXPERIENCE OF MYSTERY CULTS”
7-8 MAY 2022

If you would like to attend please send an e-mail to Aikaterini-Iliana Rassaia:
aikaterini-iliانا.rassia@uni-erfurt.de

Schedule of Presentations – all times CET

SATURDAY 7 MAY 2022

Opening Remarks

10:45-11:00

Professor Katharina Waldner (Universität Erfurt) &
Dr Aikaterini-Iliana Rassaia (Universität Erfurt)

SESSION I

**THE SENSORY EXPERIENCE OF SMELL
DURING A MYSTERY INITIATION**

Chair: Dr Georgia Petridou (University of Liverpool)

**11:00-11:30 Unguents, Perfumes, and the Rose:
Magic, Isis, and Sensory Experience in Apuleius'
Golden Ass**

Professor Annette Giesecke
(Victoria University of Wellington)

**11:45-12:15 Initiations, Incubation and Healing:
Extreme Rituals at Acharaca**

Professor Yulia Ustinova
(Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)

**12:30-13:00 Mystery Rites and Curses: Emotions
and Senses behind the Ritual Deposition of the
Defixiones from Mainz**

Dr Sofia Bianchi Mancini
(Max-Weber-Kolleg, Universität Erfurt)

13:15-15:00 | LUNCH BREAK

SESSION II

FROM SEEING TO KNOWING

Chair: Professor Kevin Clinton
(University of Cornell)

**15:00-15:30 Obstructed View: Reconstructing
the Visual Experience in the Telesterion**

Dr Ioulia Kaoura (Universität Berlin)

**15:45-16:15 On the Edge of the Existence:
Experiencing the Cosmos at the Eleusinian
Mysteries**

Dr Efrosyni Boutsikas (University of Kent)

16:30-17:00 | COFFEE BREAK

**17:00-17:30 The Role of Night and Fire in the
Epiphany of Demeter at her Mysteries**

Dr Aynur-Michèle-Sara Karatas (University of Bristol)

**17:45-18:15 Visualizing the Invisible: The Power
of the Seen and Unseen in the Eleusinian Mysteries**

Professor Jessica Paga
(College of William & Mary)



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SUNDAY 8 MAY 2022

SESSION III

THE IMPACT OF SOUND IN MYSTERIES

Chair: Professor Timothy Power
(Rutgers - State University of New Jersey)

**14:00-14:30 From Isis to Mithras:
Sonorous Porosity between Mysteries in
the Roman World**

Dr Arnaud Saura-Ziegelmeyer
(Institut Catholique de Toulouse) &

Dr Nicolas Amoroso
(Royal Museum of Mariemont, Belgium)

**14:45-15:15 Mystic Silence in Aelius
Aristides' Hieroi Logoi**

Dr Georgia Petridou
(University of Liverpool)

15:30-16:00 | COFFEE BREAK

SESSION IV

WATER AND SENSORY DEPRIVATION

Chair: Professor Radcliffe G. Edmonds III
(Bryn Mawr College)

**16:00-16:30 Making Sense of Sensory
Deprivation**

Dr Bartłomiej Bednarek
(University of Warsaw)

**16:45-17:15 Water, the Senses & the
Eleusinian Mysteries**

Professor Dylan Rogers
(University of Virginia)

17:30-18:00 Closing Remarks

Professor Katharina Waldner
(Universität Erfurt)