

Information

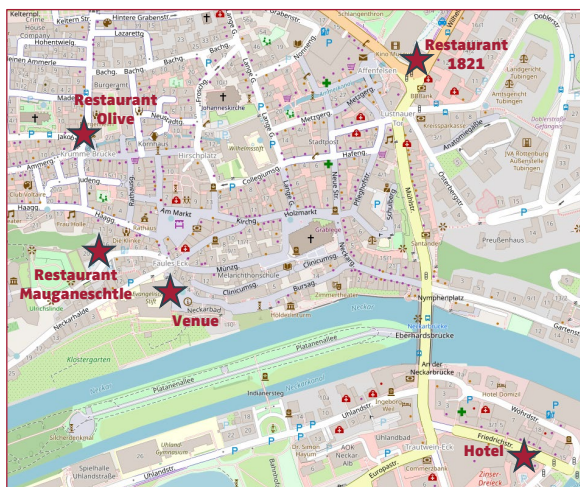
Platonism and Christianity are understood in the context of our project as “orders” synchronously present in the Roman Empire of Late Antiquity, which perceived one another as mutually threatening.

We are investigating how their perception of the threat affects their respective acts of “threat-communication” and the re-establishment, or re-ordering, of their own order in connection with this communication. Our project concentrates on two exceptional actors from these two orders, namely, the Platonist Porphyry and the Christian theologian Eusebius. They were both active at a time when it was still unclear which of the orders would socially and structurally prevail, viz. in the time of the so-called Constantinian shift. Especially important to highlight is the fact that a number of Porphyry’s texts are extant merely as quotations in the writings of Eusebius and thus embedded in his own Christian “threat-communication”.

The perspective of actors is particularly relevant for the determination of the synchronous interdependence, because the literary strategies of both intellectuals are themselves to be understood as actions. Both authors carry on their literary activity a) in the context of and with reference to the framework of the Imperium Romanum as well as b) within a broadly-conceptualized understanding of philosophy and/or theology as an all-encompassing order for one’s world, knowledge, and life. It provides an ethical orientation and normative presuppositions. In Platonism and Christianity, we do not have before us two purely abstract orders focused merely on hypothetical postulates, but orders trying to orient action – in light of a particular vision for life and ethics – through literary production.

More concretely we are investigating the engagement of Eusebius with the praxeological ethical system of Porphyry, which – on the basis of his Platonic, i.e., Plotinian doctrine of the soul – offers an ascetic model for life especially through vegetarianism. Though it is certainly motivated by transcendent elements, yet it must also be understood as a profoundly this-world “approach to the divine.” We thus lay special focus on the doctrine of the soul and its consequences for the practice of sacrifice, because here changing borders become visible amid new attempts to set up boundaries between Platonism and Christianity (understood as a means of inclusion and exclusion).

Venue



Organisation

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Project G01: Platonism and Christianity in Late Antiquity: Literary strategies of threat communication in Porphyry and Eusebius (<https://uni-tuebingen.de/de/160246>)

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SFB 923 »BEDROHTE ORDUNGEN«

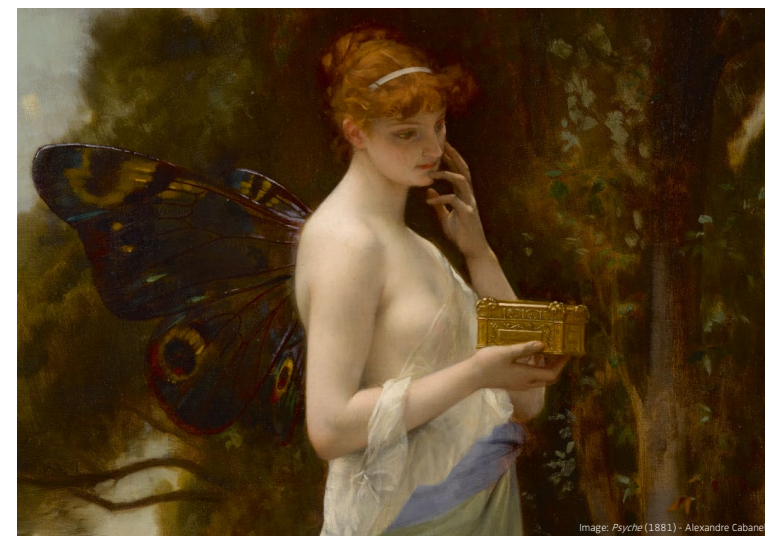
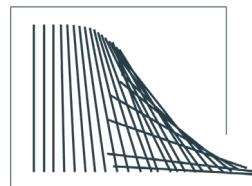


Image: Psyche (1881) - Alexandre Cabanel

PORPHYRY'S PSYCHOLOGY IN CONTEST

International Conference

12th & 13th May 2023

Ephoratssitzungszimmer | Evangelisches Stift
Tübingen | Klosterberg 2

Funded by



Deutsche
Forschungsgemeinschaft
German Research Foundation

Programme

Thursday, 11th May 2023

20:00

Conference Dinner at *Olive Restaurant*

Friday, 12th May 2023

9:15–9:30

Introduction and Greetings by the Organizers

– Prof. Dr. Irmgard Männlein-Robert & Prof. Dr. Volker Drecoll (Tübingen)

09:30–10:30

Chair: Prof. Dr. Irmgard Männlein-Robert

Porphyry's Theory of Soul and Its Reception by Eusebius

– Assoc. Prof. Dr. George Karamanolis (Vienna)

Coffee Pause

11:00–12:00

Chair: Prof. Dr. Volker Drecoll

The Newly Found Syriac Version of Porphyry's Treatise on Principle and Matter and Its Notion of Soul

– PD Dr. Yury Arzhanov (Salzburg)

12:00–13:00

Chair: Joshua Shaw (Tübingen)

The Fragments of Porphyry, Ad Boethum in Eusebius' *Praeparatio Evangelica*

– Prof. Dr. Volker Drecoll

Lunch

14:00–15:00

Chair: Prof. Dr. Irmgard Männlein-Robert

Competing Overlaps. Porphyry and Eusebius on Fate and Freedom

– Prof. Dr. Alfons Fürst (Münster)

15:00–16:00

Chair: Prof. Dr. Volker Drecoll

L'animation tardive de l'embryon : une polémique anti-chrétienne sous-jacente ou simplement une position perçue comme dangereuse par les chrétiens? *L'Ad Gaurum* de Porphyre lu à l'aune des conflits religieux

– Dr. Fabienne Jourdan (Paris)

Coffee Pause

16:30–17:30

Chair: PD Dr. Michael Schramm (Tübingen)

Porphyry as a Preserver of Classical Moral Philosophy

– Prof. Dr. Klaus Corcilius (Tübingen)

17:30–18:30

Guided Tour

20:00

Conference Dinner at *Restaurant Mauganeschtle*

Saturday, 13th May 2023

09:30–10:30

Chair: Prof. Dr. Volker Drecoll

Porphyre, Eusèbe de Césarée et l'empereur Julien sur les sacrifices des êtres animés

– Prof. Dr. and Directrice d'études Marie-Odile Boulnois (Paris)

Coffee Pause

11:00–12:00

Chair: Joshua Shaw

Food for the Soul. Brief Notes about Porphyry Abst. II

– Dr. Sonsoles Costero Quiroga (Tübingen)

Lunch

13:00–14:00

Chair: Prof. Dr. Irmgard Männlein-Robert

Inclination and Intention: The Meaning of Rhope (ῥοπή) in Porphyry's *Sentences*

– Dr. Nathalia Pedrique (Göttingen)

14:00–15:00

Chair: PD Dr. Michael Schramm

«Das Rettende und das Gerettete sind in dir» (*Ad Marc.* 9) – «Die einzig wahre Rettung geschieht, wenn Christus rettet» (*Hier XVII 5*): Porphyrius und Origenes über die Rettung des Menschen

– Assoc. Prof. Marco Zambon (Padova)

Coffee Pause

15:30–16:30

Chair: Dr. Sonsoles Costero Quiroga

Demonic Epistemology: Porphyry's Conception of the δαίμων as a Neglected Precursor to Some Aspects of Early Christian Asceticism

– Prof. Dr. Michael Chase (Paris)

16:30–16:45

Final Remarks

– Prof. Dr. Irmgard Männlein-Robert & Prof. Dr. Volker Drecoll

20:00

Conference Dinner at *Restaurant 1821*



Image: *Psyche* (1892) - William-Adolphe Bouguereau