

THE ICONOGRAPHY OF DEPENDENCY, SOCIAL INEQUALITY AND 'OTHERNESS' IN PRE-MODERN VISUAL ART: A CROSS-CULTURAL APPROACH

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
JULY 11–13, 2024



THE BONN CENTER FOR DEPENDENCY AND SLAVERY STUDIES

hosts the Cluster of Excellence “Beyond Slavery and Freedom”, which aims to overcome the binary opposition of “slavery versus freedom”. We approach the phenomenon of slavery and other types of strong asymmetrical dependency from methodologically and theoretically distinct perspectives.

In the past, most iconographical studies on slavery and similar phenomena focused on specific regions, cultures and periods. The aim of this conference is to look at a broad range of dependent and marginalized social groups and ‘others’ and to compare the results of iconographical studies on different pre-modern societies (prior to 1800 CE) around the globe. Therefore, we invited scholars from a wide variety of disciplines (Near Eastern Archaeology, Egyptology, Classical Archaeology, European Art History, Asian Art History, Anthropology of the Americas) in order to gain new insights by using diachronic and cross-cultural comparisons.

**Bonn Center for Dependency and Slavery Studies (BCDSS)
University of Bonn**

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VENUE

University of Bonn
Bonner Universitätsforum
Heussallee 18-24
D-53113 Bonn

CONTACT

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Please **register** for the conference **by June 20, 2024**
via events@dependency.uni-bonn.de.

For more information, please visit

<https://www.dependency.uni-bonn.de/en/the-iconography-of-dependency-social-inequality-and-otherness>



Picture credit: © Staatliche Antikensammlungen und Glyptothek München, Volker Lannert/University of Bonn

Thursday, July 11, 2024

9:30 – 10:15 AM – Welcome & Introduction

Martin Bentz & Patrick Zeidler (BCDSS, University of Bonn)

Panel I: The Perception of ‚Foreigners‘

10:15 – 11:00 AM

Slaves, Foreigners, Citizens: The Iconography of Craftsmen in Ancient Greek Art

Martin Bentz
(BCDSS, University of Bonn)

11:00 – 11:30 AM – Coffee Break

11:30 AM – 12:15 PM

Slaves, Talismans, and More? The Iconography and (Ambivalent) Meaning of Black People from Africa in Ancient Etruscan Art

Patrick Zeidler
(BCDSS, University of Bonn)

12:15 – 1:00 PM

The Power and Color of the ‚Other‘: Aethiopians, Polychromy, and Divinity in the Roman Empire

Sinclair Bell
(Northern Illinois University, USA)

1:00 – 2:00 PM – Lunch Break

2:00 – 2:45 PM

Poverty as a Characteristic: The Depiction of the Roma in Northern Alpine Art of the Late Middle Ages

Hilja Droste
(University of Bonn)

2:45 – 3:30 PM

The Iconography of ‚Otherness‘ and the Change in the Perception of Europeans: The Portrayal of *nanban-jin* and *kōmō-jin* in Traditional Japanese Art

Laura Drinck
(University of Bonn)

3:30 – 4:00 PM – Coffee Break

Panel II: Slaves, Enemies and Captives

4:00 – 4:45 PM

The Body of the Other: Shaming on Display in Ancient Near Eastern Visual Art

Davide Nadali
(University of Rome “La Sapienza”, Italy)

Thursday, July 11, 2024

4:45 – 5:30 PM

Foreigners, Enemies, Slaves, Children, and Further ‚Others‘: Alterity in Minoan and Mycenaean Iconography

Fritz Blakolmer
(University of Vienna, Austria)

7:00 PM Conference Dinner (for speakers and organizers)

Friday, July 12, 2024

Panel II: Slaves, Enemies and Captives (Part 2)

9:30 – 10:15 AM

Slavery and its Impact on Socio-Cultural Practices in the Ancient Greek Society

Agnes Thomas
(University of Mainz, Germany)

10:15 – 11:00 AM

The Iconography of Slaves and Freedmen in the Roman Provinces (1st–4th century AD)

Marcello Ghetta
(University of Bonn)

11:00 – 11:30 AM – Coffee Break

11:30 AM – 12:15 PM

Divine Participation in Representations of Dependency among the Classical Maya

Nikolai Grube
(BCDSS, University of Bonn)

Panel III: Inequality & Marginalized Groups

12:15 – 1:00 PM

Pictures Worth a Thousand Words: The Construction of Social Bodies, Their Relations and ‚Otherness‘ in the Visual Cultures of Early Mesopotamian Societies

Friedrich Weigel
(DAI, Berlin, Germany)

1:00 – 2:00 PM – Lunch Break

Friday, July 12, 2024

2:00 – 2:45 PM

The Rise of Inequality and Dependency in Ancient Egyptian Visual Culture

Richard Bussmann
(University of Cologne, Germany)

2:45 – 3:30 PM

Ancient Greek Imagery beyond the Good and the Beautiful

Luisa Balandat
(University of Bonn)

3:30 – 4:00 PM – Coffee Break

4:00 – 4:45 PM

Superiority, Distinction and ‚Otherness‘: The Iconography of Dependency in Traditional Indian Arts

Julia A. B. Hegewald
(BCDSS, University of Bonn)

7:00 PM Reception at the Academic Art Museum (Römerstraße 164, 53117 Bonn)

Saturday, July 13, 2024

Panel III: Inequality & Marginalized Groups (Part 2)

9:30 – 10:15 AM

Marginality and Monstrosity: Looking Back at “Others” in Mesopotamian Art

Karen Sonik
(Auburn University, USA)

10:15 – 11:00 AM

Non-Elite and Non-Egyptian: Strategies and Functions of Depicting “the Others” in the Elite Tombs and the Temples of Ancient Egypt (online via Zoom)

Frederik Rogner
(Vienna, Austria)

11:00 – 11:15 AM – Coffee Break

11:15 AM – 12:00 PM

Intersectionality and Otherness: Female Dwarfs from Europe and the Americas at Early Modern Courts and Collections

Birgit Ulrike Münch
(BCDSS, University of Bonn)

12:00 – 12:30 PM – Final Discussion