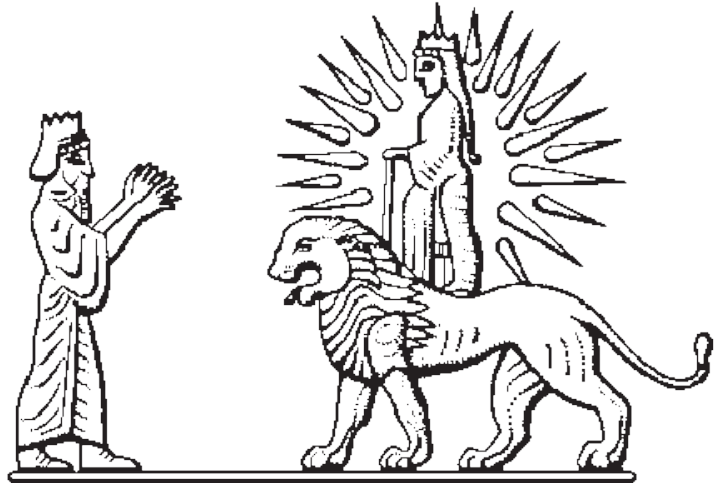


Newsletter

The Heritage of Mesopotamia and the Ancient Near East

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Letter of Introduction

Dear colleagues and friends,

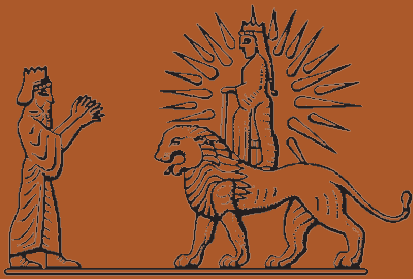
this year the Melammu activities have broadened their horizons with the organization of the 64th Rencontre Assyriologique in Innsbruck (July, 16-20) devoted to the topic "The Intellectual Heritage of the Ancient Near East". This event, organized thanks to the efforts of Robert Rollinger, Martin Lang, Sebastian Fink, Cinzia Pappi and Irene Madreiter, will certainly open new perspectives in terms of participation to the Melammu project and further researches. We anticipate that this occasion will foster cooperation and probably enrich the already dense schedule of the Melammu workshops, thus entailing the necessity of an efficacious coordination.

The Melammu website and the newsletter will remain useful tools to this end and we will appreciate contributions to the implementation of both, although within the already existing scheme and schedule.

For the time being, you can find herewith an update of recently held and future workshops and symposia.

We hope to see you all at the RAI in Innsbruck!

Yours,
Simonetta Ponchia
(Chair of the Melammu Project)



Melammu Session at the Deutscher Orientalistentag (DOT): "Der Alte Orient und die Grundlagen Europas"

A Melammu Session entitled "Der Alte Orient und die Grundlagen Europas" was held on 19 September 2017 at the Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena, Germany, as part of the 33th Deutsche Orientalistentag (DOT).

The workshop had been organized by Manfred Krebernik, it was funded by the Ernst-Abbe-Stiftung Jena.

The program included ten lectures:

Josef Wiesehöfer (Kiel)

Der Alte Orient und die Alte Geschichte

Sebastian Fink (Helsinki)

Königsherrschaft und Kritik

Simonetta Ponchia (Verona)

Deportees and Slaves as Agents of Cultural Transfer

Beate Pongratz-Leisten (New York)

Der Literaturbegriff in der Altorientalistik

Stefanie Rudolf (Berlin)

Talmudic and Mandaic Medicine

Antoine Cavigneaux (Genève)

Der altorientalische Kultkalender und sein Fortleben in Judentum und Islam

Manfred Krebernik (Jena)

Religionskritik im Alten Orient

Johannes Haubold (Durham)

Die Weisheit der Chaldäer: Variation über ein Thema

Kerstin Droß-Krüpe (Kassel)

"Semiramis, de qua innumerabilia narrantur" – Rezeption einer babylonischen Herrscherin auf den Opernbühnen des Barock

Mathieu Ossendrijver (Berlin)

Die babylonischen Grundlagen der rechnenden Astronomie

Reports on Recent Melammu Events

Melammu Workshop 4 in Marburg, December 1-2: "Ancient Information on Persia Re-Assessed: The Impact of Xenophon's *Kyroupaideia*"

A Melammu workshop on "Ancient Information on Persia Re-Assessed: The Impact of Xenophon's *Kyroupaideia*" took place at the Seminar für Alte Geschichte der Philipps-Universität Marburg in December 2017. It was organised by Sabine Müller and Bruno Jacobs and dedicated to Christopher Tuplin.

For a more detailed report (in German) see: https://www.uni-marburg.de/fb06/alte_geschichte/aktuelles/events/tagungsbericht

Melammu Workshop 5 in Kiel, April 19-21: "Hellenistic *poleis* and Near Eastern City Cultures"

On the basis of the intensive research on Hellenistic polis culture during the last years, the Melammu Workshop "Hellenistic *poleis* and Near Eastern City Culture" organised by Hilmar Klinkott in Kiel studied the development of city culture in the specific interaction and connection of Hellenistic influences with ancient oriental city types ("Stadtformen"). Therefore the focus was

specifically on the indigenous, 'oriental' and Egyptian background. It was divided into three panels (Hellenistic Asia Minor, Hellenistic Egypt and Hellenistic Mesopotamia).

Speakers / Topics

Stefan Feuser (Kiel)

Stadtkultur im hellenistischen Osten.

Überlegungen zur Entwicklung der städtischen Physiognomie

Julian Degen (Innsbruck)

From Sargon II to Antiochus I. The

Persistence of the ancient Near Eastern kings' conception of the imperial capital

Stefan Pfeiffer (Halle, Saale)

Ägyptisches Leben in der griechischen Weltstadt Alexandria

Patrick Sängler (Münster)

Das Land am Nil – griechisches

Einwanderungsland ohne Polis-

Strukturen

Hilmar Klinkott (Kiel)

Polis ohne Rat – zur Boule in

hellenistischen Residenzen

Franz Peter Mittag (Köln)

Seleukidische Traditionen in der

postseleukidischen Münzprägung

Mesopotamiens

Claudia Horst (München)

Kingship, Polis and Democracy in

Hellenistic Babylon

Andrea Ricci (Kiel)

City infrastructures and urban planning in

Greater Mesopotamia



Upcoming Melammu Events

2018

Melammu Symposium 12 (+ RAI) in Innsbruck, July 16-20:

“The Intellectual Heritage of the Ancient Near East”

(Robert Rollinger, Cinzia Pappi, Martin Lang, Irene Madreiter & Sebastian Fink)

The Department of Ancient History and Ancient Near Eastern Studies, in association with the Research Center “Ancient Worlds Studies and Archaeologies” at the University of Innsbruck is organizing the 64th Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale, which will be at the same time with the 12th Melammu-Symposium.

The call for papers was a great success; more than 15 workshops will take place. The final program will be published in the next weeks. Confirmed keynote speakers are Beate Pongratz-Leisten, Simo Parpola and Josef Wiesehöfer.

Melammu Workshop 6 in Changchun, August 30-September 3:

“At the Edges of Empires: Territories and Processes nearby and between Developing Great Powers in Antiquity”

(Sven Günther)

The rise and fall as well as all developments of empires and great powers have not only effects within the realm but also radiate to territories at the edge-zones and cause various processes, e.g. with regard to diplomatic policies, economy, social structures, legal and religious (ex-)changes etc. Particularly interesting are territories between two empires where one can observe multiple facets of actions and re-actions. The workshop will explore those processes in territories nearby and between empires and great powers via case-studies in Western and Eastern ancient civilizations and, in the tradition of IHAC, will include the fields of

Assyriology/Hittitology, Ancient Egypt, Classics and Chinese ancient civilizations, as well as a round table on the changes and challenges of comparative studies. Our excursion will lead the participants to one of such fringes nearby the conference location.

Confirmed Speakers / Topics

Josef Wiesehöfer (Kiel)

Topic to be announced

Kee-Hyun Ban (Seoul)

Armenia between Rome and Persia:

A Geopolitical View on the

Christianization of Armenian Kingdom

Sebastian Fink (Helsinki)

Political Changes in the Border Regions

during the Ur III Period

Huipeng Ge (Changchun)

Boundary Stelae in Egypt

Sven Günther (Changchun)

Coin Circulation at the Edges of Empires

Gina Konstantopoulos (Helsinki)

The Use of the Sea as a Conceptual

Border in Mesopotamia

Simonetta Ponchia (Verona)

Eastern Border of Assyria and Babylonia

Robert Rollinger (Innsbruck)

Topic to be announced

Kai Ruffing (Kassel)

Economic Life on the Fringes of the

Roman Empire

Hendrikus van Wijlick (Beijing)

Rome’s Client Kings in the Late Roman

Republic

Tong Wu (Changchun)

Diodorus’ Concept of the Barbarian

Melammu Workshop 7 in Padova, November 5-7: “Making Peace in the Ancient World”

(Giovanni B. Lanfranchi &

Simonetta Ponchia)

The Melammu Workshop “Making peace in Antiquity” will be held from November 5 to 7, 2018, in Padova, where the armistice between the armies of the Italian Kingdom and of the Austro-Hungarian Empire was signed on November 3rd, 1918, in Villa

Giusti. The Workshop will be organized as a cooperation of the Universities of Innsbruck and Verona, as part of a larger International Meeting organized by the University of Padova in the occasion of the centennial and entitled “Making Peace from Antiquity to Modern Times”; this larger conference extends to all historical periods, and especially to contemporary history, and deals with the general subjects of the transition from war to peace and of the transformations of the human and natural worlds imposed by war and requested by the return to peace. As a relevant perspective on the general topic of the dynamics and consequences of the composition of conflicts, the organizers of the Melammu Workshop have invited several experts of the ancient world to deliver a lecture on “Making Peace in Antiquity” on the basis of their specific field of competence. The workshop programme includes at the moment the following participants and topics.

Confirmed Speakers / Topics

Paolo Matthiae (Rome)

Archaeology from War to Peace

Kurt Raaflaub (Providence)

Making Peace in Antiquity

Manfred Bietak (Vienna)

Making Peace in Ancient Egypt

Stefano de Martino (Torino)

Making Peace in the Hittite Empire

Fabrizio Ferrari (Padova)

Making Peace in Ancient India

Bert Fragner (Vienna)

Making Peace in Ancient and Medieval Central Asia

Ann Gunter (Evanston)

Making Peace in Ancient Near

Eastern Art

Sven Günther (Changchun)

Making Peace in the Roman Empire

Peter Heather (London)

Making Peace in Late Antiquity Rome

Hugh N. Kennedy (London)

Making Peace in the Ancient

Arab World

2019

Kaja Harter-Uibopuu (Hamburg)
Making Peace in Ancient Greece
Lukas Nickel (Vienna)
Making Peace in Ancient China
Martti Nissinen (Helsinki)
Making Peace in the Bible
Johannes Preiser-Kappeller (Wien)
Making Peace in the Byzantine Empire
Karen Radner (Munich)
Making Peace in the Ancient Near East of the I mill. BC
Seth Richardson (Chicago)
Making Peace in the Ancient Near East of the III/II mill. BC
Christoph Schäfer (Trier)
Making Peace in the Hellenistic Empires
M. Rahim Shayegan (Los Angeles)
Making Peace in Medieval Iran
Marc van de Mieroop (Columbia)
Making Peace in the Ancient Near East
Matthew Waters (Madison)
Making Peace in Ancient Elam
Josef Wiesehöfer (Kiel)
Making Peace in Achaemenid Empire

**Melammu Workshop 8 in Kassel, January 30-February 1:
“(Self-)Portrayal and Perception of Powerful Women in the Ancient World”
(*Kerstin Droß-Krüpe & Sebastian Fink*)**

Though we often consider the ancient world as male dominated our sources also provide rich evidence for powerful, influential and even ruling women. These women are often perceived as absolute Otherness and usually critically judged by contemporaries and later observers. The workshop aims at bringing together “western” and “eastern” perspectives on such exceptional women.

Confirmed Speakers / Topics

Keynote: *Silke Hackenesch (Cologne)*
A Taste of Power? A Look at First Ladies of the United States

Panel 1: African & Near Eastern Women

Gösta Gabriel (Göttingen)
Ku(g)-Ba’u von Kiš
Gina Kostantopolous (Helsinki)
Enheduanna
Annette Zgoll (Göttingen)
Inanna/Ishtar
Nicole Brisch (Copenhagen)
Shamhat
Saana Svärd (Helsinki)
Naqia
Josefine Kuckertz (Berlin)
Amanischacheto

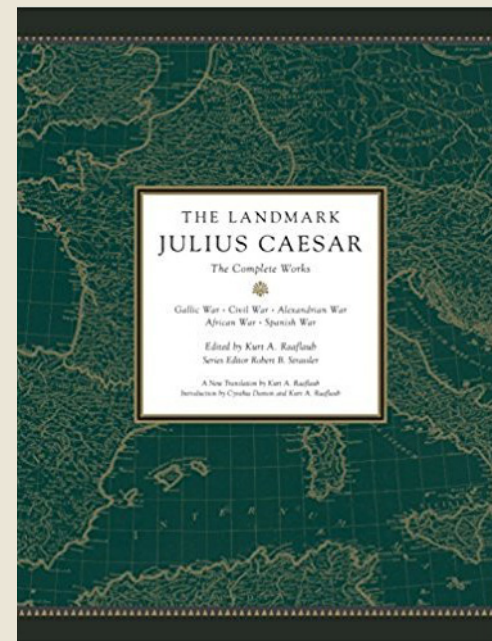
Panel 2: Biblical & Persian Women

Martti Nissinen (Helsinki)
Mirijam
Lloyd Llewellyn Jones (Cardiff)
Abishag
Eve MacDonald (Cardiff)
Shirin

Panel 3: Women of the Greek World

Udo Hartmann (Jena)
Zenobia
Elizabeth Irwin (New York)
Artemisia and Lysistrata
Paola Corò (Venice)
Laodike
Sabine Müller (Marburg)
Argead Women

Panel 4: Women of the Roman World
Kordula Schnegg (Innsbruck)
Cornelia
Christoph Schäfer (Trier)
Kleopatra im Spiegel ihrer Zeit
François de Callataÿ (Brussels)
Kleopatra on Renaissance-Medaillons
Martin Lindner (Göttingen)
Die Frauen in Günther Birkenfelds Augustus-Roman(en)
Christiane Kunst (Osnabrück)
Iulia Maior
Francesca Rohr (Venice)
Livia Drusilla
Helmuth Schneider (Kassel)
Agrippina und Messalina
Brigitta Truschnegg (Innsbruck)
Iulia Domna
Patrick Reinard (Trier)
Kaiserinnen in den Provinzen



Miscellaneous

Kurt Raaflaub has published the *Landmark Julius Caesar*, a user-friendly new translation of the entire corpus of Caesar's works, with copious notes, maps, diagrams, illustrations, and appendices; New York: Pantheon, 2017.

2020

**Melammu Workshop 9
in Venice on Bridges**
(*Paola Corò*)

News about date and more details will be announced soon on the website.

**Melammu Symposium 13
in Wrocław, May 13-16:
"The Ancient Near Eastern Legacy
and Alexander vs. Alexander's
Legacy to the World"**
(*Krzysztof Nawotka*)

News about date and more details will be announced soon on the website.

**Melammu Workshop 10
in Tartu, June:
"Responses to the 12th Century
BC Collapse: Recovery and
Restructuration in the Early Iron
Age Near East and Mediterranean"**
(*Mait Koiv & Peeter Espak*)

News about the exact date and more details will be announced soon on the website.

**Melammu Workshop 11
in Trier, December 11-13:
"Water Carriage and Maritime Trade
in the Eastern Mediterranean and
the Near East"**
(*Christoph Schäfer & Patrick Reinard*)

Focussing the transport of persons, goods, messages and ideas the workshop will deal with the seaborne trade and the economic importance of transfer and communication as well as with the connectivity of societies using rivers and searoutes as economic links.

A call for papers will be sent out in February 2019.

**Melammu Workshop in Krakow
on Autocratic Rule in Antiquity**
(*Edward Dabrowa & Jakub Kuciak*)

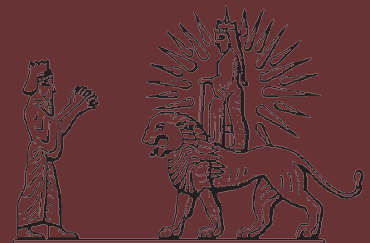
Date and details still need to be fixed.

**Melammu Symposium 14
in Los Angeles on Persian Religion**
(*Rahim Shayegan*)

Date and details still need to be fixed.

**Melammu Workshop in Jerusalem
on the Motif of the Good Shepherd**
(*Stéphanie Anthonioz & Claudia Horst*)

Date and details still need to be fixed.

**Impressum:**

The Melammu Project
<http://www.aakkl.helsinki.fi/melammu/>
 Chair: Simonetta Ponchia
 Vice-Chair: Sebastian Fink
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 Kerstin Droß-Krüpe
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