

WHAT'S SO FUNNY?

DISCOVERING AND INTERPRETING HUMOR IN THE ANCIENT WORLD

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
APRIL 20 - APRIL 21, 2018

FRIDAY, APRIL 20TH
SENATE CHAMBER, THE OHIO UNION
2:00 PM - 5:30 PM

SESSION 1: GENDER & SEXUALITY
2:10 PM - 3:00 PM

Caleb Dance (Washington and Lee University)

Don't Be an Ass: A Textual Laugh Track in Ovid's *Ars Amatoria* 3

Anna Peterson (Pennsylvania State University)

Humor, Gender, and the Comic Tradition in Lucian's *Dialogues of the Courtesans*

BREAK: 3:00 PM - 3:10 PM

SESSION 2: PEDAGOGY & DIDACTICS
3:10 PM - 4:00 PM

Alex Tarbet (University of Michigan)

Comic Inversion in the Egyptian Folktales of Herodotus

Justin Strong (University of Notre Dame)

Learning a Lesson from Laughter

KEYNOTE: 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM

Ian Ruffel (University of Glasgow)

Beyond Invective: Recovering the Richness of Ancient Theories of Humour

BREAK: 4:45 PM - 4:55 PM

DISCUSSION: 4:55 PM - 5:30 PM

SATURDAY, APRIL 21ST
TRADITIONS ROOM, THE OHIO UNION
8:30 AM - 6:00 PM

BREAKFAST: 8:30 AM - 9:00 AM

SESSION 3: IRONY, RIDICULE, SATIRE
9:10 AM - 10:25 AM

Irene Plantholt (University of Pennsylvania)

Laughter is the Best Medicine – Medical Satire and the Critique of Medical Professions in Mesopotamia

Tobias Häner (University of Vienna)

Making fun of the suffering, or of God? – Irony in the Book of Job

Baukje van den Berg (University of Silesia)

Homerus ridens: Eustathios of Thessalonike on Comedy and Ridicule in Homer

BREAK: 10:25 AM - 10:35 AM

KEYNOTE: 10:35 AM - 11:20 AM

Amy Richlin (University of California, Los Angeles)

Truth to Power: Roman Slaves Talk Back on the Comic Stage

DISCUSSION: 11:20 AM - 12:00 PM

LUNCH: 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

SESSION 4: SEEING AND HEARING HUMOR
1:10 PM - 2:25 PM

Jared Ludlow (Brigham Young University)

Hyperbolizing Exaggeration: Authorial Playfulness in Hellenistic Jewish Texts

Craig Jendza (University of Kansas)

What Sounds Funny to Aristophanes?

Linda Fuchs (University of Florida)

Looking at Last Laughs: Verbal Humor Made Visible on the Vatican Jonah Sarcophagus

BREAK: 2:25 PM - 2:35 PM

KEYNOTE: 2:35 PM - 3:20 PM

Jack M. Sasson (Vanderbilt University)

Funny Bones (Theirs and Ours): Humor in the Mari Correspondence

SESSION 5: RITUAL PRACTICE & SPECTACLE
3:30 PM - 4:20 PM

Paul Hay (Case Western University)

A Raven's Funeral in the Roman Forum: Public Jest, Populist Gesture

Susan Marks (New College Florida)

Situation Comedy – Humor and Rabbinic Mealtime Ritual

KEYNOTE: 4:20 PM - 5:05 PM

Christine Hayes (Yale University)

The Rabbis as Jesters: Humor in the Face of Absolutes

BREAK: 5:05 PM - 5:15 PM

DISCUSSION: 5:15 PM - 6:00 PM