

16:00 – 18.00

Panel 5. The Never Ending (Hi)story

Chair: Franco Montanari (Genova)

Richard Hunter (Cambridge): “The End of the *Odyssey*: *labor imperfectus?*”

Gianfranco Agosti (Rome): “How to End an Endless Poem: The Case of Nonnus’ *Dionysiaca*”

Bettina Reitz-Josse (Groningen): “Tacitus’s *Annals* and Gustav Freytag’s *Die verlorene Handschrift*”

Francesca Cadel (Calgary): “War as a Permanent Civil War after World War II: The Unfinished of History in Pasolini’s *Petrolio*”

20.00

Conference Dinner

Wednesday 29 June, 2022

9.30 – 12.30

Panel 6. Imagining the Incomplete

Chair: Craig Williams (Illinois)

Laura Jansen (Bristol): “Literatura incompleta: Borges’ Classics Between World and Universe”

Paolo Felice Sacchi (Pavia): “Arrhythmic Historiography and Lost Letters: Fulgentius’s *De aetatibus mundi et hominis*”

10.30 – 11.00

Coffee Break

Chair: Sylvie Thorel (Lille)

Stéphanie Dord-Crouslé (Lyon): “Remettre en mouvement un roman inachevé: l’agenceur de «seconds volumes possibles» du projet Bouvard”

Richard Thomas (Harvard): “‘The finishin’ end is at hand’: Odds and Ends from the Bob Dylan Archive”

Jacqueline Fabre-Serris (Lille) and **Marco Formisano** (Ghent): Closing Remarks

12.30 – 14.00

Lunch



ARISTOTLE UNIVERSITY
OF THESSALONIKI
DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS



GHENT
UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF LITERARY
STUDIES AND GICS



Université
de Lille
DÉPARTEMENT DES LANGUES
ET CULTURES ANTIQUES



15th Trends in Classics International Conference

Labor imperfectus

Unfinished, Incomplete, Partial Texts in Classical
Antiquity

With the kind support of

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Organizing Committee

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Marco Formisano (Ghent University)

Antonios Rengakos (Aristotle University of
Thessaloniki & Academy of Athens)

Stavros Frangoulidis (Aristotle University of
Thessaloniki)

Program

A great number of ancient Greek and Latin texts have been handed down to us in incomplete or unfinished form. They belong to disparate literary genres, discourses, historical periods and intellectual contexts, and they are incomplete for a variety of reasons. In many cases the manuscript tradition (most often because of a physically damaged or anthologized or excerpted archetype) results in texts which are for us irreparably mutilated, whether at the beginning, in the middle, or at the end. Some texts are “unfinished” in the sense that their authors, for whatever reasons, did not complete them, or fully revise or polish them, before publication. Finally, there are also a number of texts which implicitly or explicitly thematize their own substantive “unfinishedness.”

The organizers of this conference, both Latinists but with different areas of expertise (classical poetry and late antique literature), are not primarily interested in offering an exhaustive classification of the range of types of unfinished, partial, or incomplete texts. Rather, the central questions concern how and to what extent the very fact that many of the ancient texts we read are unfinished or incomplete has influenced and still influences their aesthetic perception and interpretation. We also suggest that scholarly discussion of unfinished texts ends up also involving works which have been transmitted as “complete,” and therefore deserve to be a central issue in literary studies.

Monday 27 June, 2022

10.00

Franco Montanari (Genova) and **Antonios Rengakos** (Thessaloniki):
Welcome & Opening Address

10.15

Jacqueline Fabre-Serris (Lille) and **Marco Formisano** (Ghent):
Introduction

10.30 – 12.00

Panel 1. Constitutive Unfinishedness

Chair: Theodore D. Papanghelis (Thessaloniki)

Fabio Tutrone (Palermo): “Relativizing Unfinishedness: Lucretian Textuality and Epicurean Therapy”

Philip Hardie (Cambridge): “Staius *Achilleid*. How to Break Off a *carmen perpetuum*”

Rita Marchese (Palermo): “*Sed redeo ad formulam* (Cic. *Off.* 3.20). Completezza e imperfezione nell’ultimo Cicerone”

12.00 – 14.00

Lunch

14.00 – 18.00

Panel 2. Reading Incompleteness

Chair: Kathryn Gutzwiller (Cincinnati)

Evina Sistikou (Thessaloniki): “How to Read Callimachus’ *Aetia* and *Hecale*?”

Myrto Garani (Athens): “How to Walk Along a Pioneer’s Fragmentary Track: Theophrastus’ *Meteorological Studies*?”

Jacqueline Fabre-Serris (Lille): “How to Read Hyginus’ *Fabulae*: Theories and Practices”

15.30 – 16.00

Coffee Break

Chair: Eva Anagnostou-Laoutides (Macquarie)

Giusto Picone (Palermo): “Lo specchio infranto. La *laus imperfecta* nel *De clementia* di Seneca”

Evangelos Karakasis (Thessaloniki): “*Calp.* 6 and *Eisn.* 1. Lost Endings (?) and the Neronian Pastoral-dissimulatio”

John F. Miller (Virginia): “Revisiting Closure in Ovid’s *Fasti*”

Giulia Sissa (UCLA): “Platonic Endings and their Modern Echoes”

18.00 – 19.30

Wine Reception

Tuesday 28 June, 2022

9.30 – 12.00

Panel 3. The Fragment as Work

Chair: David Konstan (New York)

Kathryn Gutzwiller (Cincinnati): “The Aesthetics of Ordering and Reordering in Greek Epigram Anthologies”

Craig Williams (Illinois): “Fragments of Roman Sexuality in Petronius’ *Satyricon*: *Cinaedi*, *Fratres*, and Others”

10.30 – 11.00

Coffee Break

Chair: Giulia Sissa (UCLA)

Sylvie Thorel (Lille): “Inachever une œuvre: lecture de *Fragments d’un discours amoureux*”

Marco Formisano (Ghent): “‘This City Will Always Pursue You’. Rutilius Namatianus’ *Impossible Return*”

12.00 – 14.00

Lunch

14.00 – 15.30

Panel 4. Completing the Incomplete

Chair: Philip Hardie (Cambridge)

David Konstan (New York): “Finishing *Iphigenia in Aulis*”

Stavros Frangoulidis (Thessaloniki): “Seneca’s *Phoenissae*: In Search of an Ending”

Andrew Zissos (Irvine): “Intertextual Foreclosure: Reflections on the Missing Conclusion to Valerius Flaccus’ *Argonautica*”

15.30 – 16.00

Coffee Break