

...And the wax goes on!

A letter from the editor.

In your hands—or perhaps on your screen—is the second installment of *The Wax Tablet*, a periodical detailing the many exciting things happening within and around the Department of Classics at Johns Hopkins University. And what a year it has been since our last tablet of wax hit the presses!

We have enjoyed multiple conferences, benefited from a rousing addition to the Annual Poultney Lecture, welcomed four new grad students *and* a postdoctoral fellow, and our students and faculty continue to be busy bees: publishing, lecturing, traveling, teaching, and more.

In this issue, you'll find such updates and more. We have more *ludi*, more *res gestae*, and an interview with Professor Emeritus Alan Shapiro in which he details his remarkable career in the field. *Nunc est legendum!*

—Martin Michalek

Μῆνιν ἄειδε θεά!



On March 27, 2024, Prof. Emily Wilson visited Hopkins and delivered a rousing reading of Homer's Greek, as well as lines from her new translation of the *Iliad*. Attendants (who numbered in the hundreds within and beyond the university) were also treated to a glimpse at her translating process, as well as an open-floor Q&A following her remarks. As if that weren't enough, Prof. Wilson then graciously signed copies of her book for enthusiastic readers of all sorts.

—Martin Michalek



Several graduate students dine with Prof. Giulia Sissa, following the 37th annual James W. Poultney Memorial Lecture.

A letter from the chair

Dear friends of Hopkins Classics,

It gives me real pleasure to write for the *second* edition of *The Wax Tablet*. I'd like, first, to acknowledge the energies and creativity of its editor, now *Dr. Martin Michalek*: thank you for taking our new tradition forward!

It's an exciting time in the world of Hopkins Classics. In Spring Prof. Nandini Pandey launched the inaugural *Futures of Ancient Race (Un)conference*, a major initiative that probes questions relating to diversity in our history and discipline, with panels comprising 14 world-leaders in the subject. Nandini's crucial work, in partnership with our students, continues with support from the Loeb Library Foundation. One of the highlights of our Spring term was a visit by Prof. Emily Wilson (Pennsylvania), who spoke about her new translation of the *Iliad* at an event attended by over 200 guests – powerful testimony to just how gripping the field of reception and translation is – topics that have by now galvanized into a Hopkins Classics tradition. Meanwhile, our visiting post-doctoral fellow, Dr. Chris Londa, has been enriching our community with his work on the experiences of enslaved persons in antiquity and hidden labour; Chris is at the helm of a graduate seminar on the topic this Fall, which included a fascinating visit to our library's Special Collections to examine our Greek papyri.

In Spring we were joined on a visit by Dr. George Kazantzidis (Patras, Greece), who is an expert on ancient medicine and science. Together with Dr. Maria Gerolemou and Yanneck Wieggers (one of our stellar grad students), they led a new course *Introduction to Ancient Science*, which was very well received. In March this year our graduate students will host a conference, *Beyond the Page: the Hidden Worlds of Ancient Science*, orchestrated by John Liao and Keisuke Nakajima and involving our neighbours in Near Eastern Studies. I really couldn't be prouder.

Looking ahead, our schedule this year is packed with appetizing events. Prof. Emily Anderson will run a conference in Spring, *Bodies ReMade: Modern Formations of Ancient Figures*. This is in connection with Emily's new research on the Baltimore Casts Collection, which has itself been the basis of a collaborative project with our undergraduate students in our thriving and innovative program of Classics Research Labs. And of course, the highlight of our calendar will be the Poultney Lecture, organized by our grad students: this year's speaker is Prof. Joe Howley (Columbia). And as if that were all not enough, we hope to hire a new colleague in Ancient Greek this year as well – so reader, watch this space! *Tolle, lege* and enjoy *Wax Tablet 2*.

—Professor Karen ní Mheallaigh
Andrew W. Mellon Chair in the
Humanities

Gradus ad Parnassum

Interview with Prof. Shapiro.

Page 3

In illo tempore...

See Hopkins Classics in 1980.

Page 9

Res Gestae

All of your beeswax.

Page 6

In Conversation with Prof. Alan Shapiro

Discussing the *Gradus Ad Parnassum* of a life in Classics.

Though Homer would perhaps start in medias res, maybe we can start with right now. What is your current relationship with Johns Hopkins University?

I'm Professor Emeritus and Academy Professor. The latter was invented by a previous Dean, Katherine Newman, about ten years ago, in an effort to keep retired faculty more closely bound to the University. We have a monthly lunch and receive some financial incentives to join the Academy.

Now we can look further back. Could you describe growing up in New York City? What did your early education look like, and what were your early interests (academic or otherwise)?

My childhood up to age 14 was spent in a suburb (New Rochelle) with a very good school system. My high school in Manhattan, Stuyvesant, was a public school for talented students but heavily focused on math and science, so I did those too (AP physics and calculus), but not much humanities (and no Latin, only French).

Could you recall some of your early encounters with the ancient world? When, and how, did you get interested in (and begin studying) the ancient world?

Two things: my elementary school in New Rochelle gave us a lot of Greek mythology, and I was hooked from age nine. The summer I turned thirteen, I went on a grand tour of Europe with my parents that included a week in Athens (also one in Rome) and an Aegean cruise. So I got to see many places I knew from Greek mythology.

Did any other career path or academic discipline ever come close to trumping your trajectory into archaeology?

The last two years of high school I studied Chinese, first at the New School, then at Columbia, thinking, in part, that this would get me into Harvard. When that didn't work out, I fell back on my earlier love of Ancient Greece and started learning Greek at Harvard Summer School in the summer before college.

You earned an MA from Berkeley in 1972. Did Berkeley feel, well, quintessentially "Berkeley in the early '70s"? Or was it not so different from your time back east?

I received the M.A. in Greek in '72. When I arrived in '71, the days of the revolution of the 60's were over, and it was not so different from other college towns. The Classics Dept. was not yet the powerhouse it would become, but it had distinguished professors, and I got very rigorous training

in Greek (e.g. two quarters of Advanced Greek Prose Composition) that served me well later on.

Tell us a bit about your time at Princeton. Is there a moment from a graduate seminar that sticks out as particularly formative? Or even something that stands out, despite being of no consequence?

I went to Princeton to study with a scholar of Greek Art named Evelyn B. Harrison (1920-2012). In my first seminar with her, Periclean Sculpture and Painting, I was given the topic that became my dissertation, Personifications in Greek Art, and she remained a mentor and model for the rest of her life.

Classical Studies has plenty of titanic figures and interesting characters. Were there any you rubbed shoulders with in your early career who stood out?

Quite a few. At College Year in Athens, as a sophomore, I read Greek with H. D. F. Kitto (1897-1982), one of the great British classicists of his generation. In a Greek Drama seminar at Swarthmore with Helen North (1922-2012), she brought in her old teacher from Cornell Friedrich Solmsen (1904-1989), who had been the last student of Wilamowitz in Berlin, to talk to us about the *Agamemnon*. That same year I read Herodotos and Thucydides with Russell Meiggs (1902-1989), the great Oxford ancient historian whose book *The Athenian Empire* (known to many of us as *The Bible*) would come out the following year.

Early career scholars face plenty of difficulties including several moves, job market cycles, and making a name through publishing work. What particular difficulties do you recall from post-graduate study?

Finding (and holding onto) a job was already very difficult by the mid-70's. I landed a prestigious first teaching job (Columbia) only to be fired after one semester by a capricious senior colleague. Tulane started as a 2-year post-doc, then a year as VAP, with a promise of a search for a tenure-track position that never materialized, so I had to leave. Stevens Institute of Technology was unrewarding teaching, but I knew I could only get out by publishing. What saved my career was the Alexander von Humboldt post-doc Fellowship, which gave me two years in German universities (Würzburg and Munich) to write a book and some articles. That got me a professorship in New Zealand and led to the job at Hopkins. So, I got the Hopkins job exactly 20 years after I first went on the job market.

You joined Hopkins in 1997. Of our current faculty, only Prof. Roller was here at that time.

What was the tenor of the department, or even the Krieger School, when you arrived?

The Classics Dept. I joined in 1997 was shaped by Marcel Detienne (1935-2019), the Belgian-Parisian classicist, and his then-wife Giulia Sissa (1954 -). When they arrived in the early 90's from Paris, Giulia was authorized to hire two junior faculty. As I understand it, she called friends at Berkeley, and they sent Matt Roller and Andrew Kelly, a brilliant but eccentric young Australian (e.g. he would walk barefoot from the Homewood campus to downtown Baltimore), who stayed for three years and then went back to Melbourne. In early 1999, the Dean, Herb Kessler, removed Giulia as Chair and put me in. I was hired to teach Greek and Roman art and archaeology, but I had complete freedom to teach Greek and Latin as well, which made this the ideal job for me.

And this was after a two-year professorship at the University of Canterbury in New Zealand. Was leaving New Zealand difficult, or was returning stateside something you hoped to do quickly?

It was three years in New Zealand, and I had no idea whether I would stay for the rest of my career. In December 1995, the Walters Art Gallery opened a show, *Pandora: Women in Classical Greece*, for which I wrote an essay in the catalogue. Giulia Sissa, together with the Walters curator Ellen Reeder, organized an international symposium a few weeks after Hopkins had advertised a job in Greek Art. Over dinner at the Helmand restaurant, Giulia encouraged me to apply. My interview consisted of dinner with Giulia and Marcel at the AIA-APA in San Diego, and a few months later, she offered me the job.

When many current Hopkins students think of you, one of the things that immediately comes to mind is the museum of objects currently housed on Gilman's first level. Could you talk a bit about the struggles and successes of building up that collection as an asset for the university?

The Johns Hopkins Archaeological Museum had its origins soon after the founding of the university, when Hopkins professors would send Latin inscriptions back to Baltimore or buy Greek vases on the market in Rome. It was a teaching collection from the beginning. When I arrived, the collection was housed in two small, dark rooms on the first floor of Gilman Hall, and most people had no idea it was there.

Prof. Shapiro interview (cont.)

To my amazement, the architects of the renovation of Gilman Hall (2008-2010) decided to make the collection the centerpiece of the entire building, as it is today. It has no acquisitions budget and rarely receives gifts or loans (apart from a Pre-Columbian collection about 20 years ago), so it does not grow. But under the recently departed curator Sanchita Balachandran, it became a bustling hive of activity for both undergraduates and graduate students, and I hope it will continue to be.

Like all fields, Classics has its trends and fads—some to the disdain of those within the field. What larger changes have you noticed within the field. Have any struck you as particularly positive or negative?

This is a hard one, and I will keep it brief. The Dept. I joined was shaped by the semiotic approach of Detienne, which he had pioneered in Paris with Jean-Pierre Vernant and Pierre Vidal-Nacquet. I found this very stimulating (and even met Vernant when he came to a seminar I gave in Paris), but I continued in the mostly German tradition of iconographical studies of my mentor Erika Simon, with whom I had gone to work in Würzburg, and of Evelyn Harrison.

Finally, what is your current academic project? How long have you been working on it and what is your vision for it?

I have several projects. The longest-running is a monograph on Theseus for a Routledge series on Greek Gods and Heroes (working on it far too long). Shorter projects include an essay for an exhibition catalogue at the Metropolitan Museum and papers on South Italian red-figure vases for a conference in Munich and elsewhere.



Thank you, Professor Shapiro, for your time! Learning about how the paths other scholars took is not only interesting to us, but also educational.

—Martin Michalek

Queer Atmospheres Alternative Histories & Phenomenologies of the Long Nineteenth Century.



PhD Candidate Tatiana Avesani chairs the fourth and final session of *Queer Atmospheres* in Gilman 108.

On September 8-9, 2023, the Department of Classics co-sponsored a Sensorium of Reading conference, gathering speakers from universities on both sides of the Atlantic. The event was organized by Prof. Shane Butler. His paper, “Ashes,” opened the proceedings, merging atmosphere and antiquity with his experience as the coordinator of ACT UP’s Ashes Action protest in 1992. Also co-sponsoring the event was the Program for the Study of Women, Gender, and Society. Included among the topics treated over the conference’s four sessions were early nineteenth-century sexology, queer atmospheres in educational institutions from the Renaissance to the Victorian period, and authors including Barrett Browning, Vernor Lee, Vita Sackville-West, Oscar Wilde, Virginia Woolf, and more.

—Martin Michalek

The Newest Cambridge Companion

A Classics and History major recalls studying (and rowing) at Pembroke College.

Hi! I’m Hilary Gallito, a rising senior in History and Classics. I’m also a BA/MA student in History. In Fall ’23, I had the pleasure of studying abroad at Pembroke College, Cambridge. I took two courses: “Introduction to Greek Literature” and “The British Reformations and Their Discontents.” In the former, I focused on Greek texts with gendered themes, notably Sappho’s Fragment 31, Aristophanes’ *Frogs*, and Euripides’ *Bacchae*. My final longform essay was about gender, sexuality, and costume portrayed through each play’s depiction of Dionysus.



Pembroke Revisited: Hilary ambles the quad at dusk.

In the latter, I wrote a 10,000-word intellectual biography of Phillis Wheatley, a Black, enslaved poet living in Boston on the eve of the American Revolution who frequently made classical allusions in her poetry. The project had a Cambridge connection: Wheatley was sponsored by the British Countess of Huntingdon, Selina Hastings, whose letters and writings have been preserved in archives at Cambridge. In university archives,

I even studied the countess’ personal copy of Wheatley’s *Poems of Various Subjects, Religious and Moral*, her most famous collection, along with their surviving correspondence.



Ausae sunt vada salsa cita decurrere puppi: the Pembroke Boat Club in Action

I also enjoyed plenty of recreational fun, joining Pembroke’s Boat Club (the rowing team) and the Cambridge University Athletic Club (the world’s oldest club for what the US calls track and field). I’m a varsity track athlete at Hopkins, so it was great to continue that abroad (I am now affectionately known by the club as “the dope American.”) Since returning, I won JHU’s Summer Provost’s Undergraduate Research Award (SPURA) to support my work on my History MA thesis, which builds on my studies at Cambridge. I examine three women who connected the ancient world with the American Revolution: Wheatley, Mercy Otis Warren, and Catharine Macauley.

—Hilary Gallito

Studying race in a place not so FAR away.

“Futures of Ancient Race” initiative takes off at Hopkins.

From March 7-9, 2024, leading North American scholars convened at Hopkins for an “unconference” on the ever-critical subject of race and its entanglements with ancient Mediterranean studies. How do we define race in antiquity and modernity? What role has Greco-Roman antiquity played in modern constructions of race, and what tools can we use to generate conversations about constructions of inequality over time?

The event, “Futures of Ancient Race” (FAR), was spearheaded by our very own Prof. Nandini Pandey and Prof. Arum Park (University of Arizona), with assistance from Charissa Skoutelas and sponsorship from Classics, History of Art, the Alexander Grass Humanities Institute, and the Center for Teaching Excellence and Innovation. The unconference generated conversation between scholars, students, and community members as a preliminary step toward producing an online educational resource (OER) on the subject. Thursday’s conversation (open to the public) on “Why and How Do We Teach Race in Antiquity?” was moderated by guest participants who brought diverse and experientially informed perspectives from other areas of expertise.

Friday afternoon’s panel, “Histories and Futures of Race in Antiquity,” was a rich dialogue spanning prehistoric Africa to modern Gaza. Participants discussed complex historical and future-oriented questions in an open forum, liberated from formal presentations and talks.

The unconference succeeded in part from the enthusiasm, participation, and tech support of JHU students in Professor Pandey’s “Race in Antiquity Project” (RAP) Classics Research Lab (CRL). The OER incorporates contributions from students, educators, and other participants and will continue to grow over the coming months and years; please follow its progress at <https://www.race-time.net/>.



Conference attendees from within and beyond academia gather to discuss race in antiquity.



A prandial discourse takes place.

Prof. Pandey has since won grants from the Loeb Classical Library Foundation, Hopkins’ SNF Agora Institute, and JHU’s Engaged Scholar Faculty Fellows Program to continue this important work with the help of her students. Not only will these efforts generate interdisciplinary, transhistorical dialogues on race and inequality; they will equip future students and scholars, at Hopkins and beyond, with the tools to lead critical inquiry into the manifold ways that antiquity shapes and informs the present.

Participants included Katherine Blouin, Lauren Cook, Kelly Dugan, Sasha-Mae Eccleston, Rebecca Futo Kennedy, Ian Lockey, Denise McCoskey, Michelle McPherson Miller, Jackie Murray, Najee Olya, Arum Park, Dan-el Padilla Peralta, Nandini Pandey, and David van Schoor.

—Charissa Skoutelas



The Department of Classics strikes a pose with Prof. Sissa in Gilman 108—a room she knows very well!

A Poultney Homecoming!

April 11, 2024 marked the 37th annual James W. Poultney Memorial Lecture and this year’s visiting speaker has been to plenty of Poultney Lectures before. The department was thrilled to welcome back Prof. Giulia Sissa from UCLA.

Prior to joining UCLA, Prof. Sissa was a vital member of the Hopkins Department of Classics, where she became chair in 1993. Sissa’s tenure was marked by her concerted effort to distinguish Hopkins Classics as a place where the ancient world is studied in dialogue with contemporary thought,

including literary theory and classical reception.

Prof. Sissa’s lecture accordingly took on the complex subject of eroticism in antiquity by theorizing what a deconstructed binary of sex and sexuality might look like. It was titled “Towards Beautiful Bodies: Sensual Imperatives in Greek Erotic Culture.” Per tradition, second-year graduate students organized the conference. We commend Keisuke Nakajima and Charissa Skoutelas for their great work!

—Martin Michalek

A Quartet of New Grads

Since the previous issue of *TWT*, four new graduate students have joined our ranks. The 2023-24 cohort ushered in John Liao and R. J. Palmer.

John earned his BA in Classics and Classical Civilization at the University of Toronto. He is chiefly interested in the Imperial Greek world. R. J. comes to Hopkins with an MA from the University of Kentucky. Previously, he earned his BA in Classics and a minor in Indigenous Studies from UNC Asheville.

The 2024-25 cohort brings two more graduate students in Sarah Kenton and Nimue Mattingly. Sarah arrives fresh from Tulane University, where she completed both her MA and BA. Prior to beginning the PhD program at Hopkins, Nimue earned a BA from Middlebury College in Classics, as well as an MA from Bryn Mawr College in Greek, Latin, and Classical Studies.

And if you’re curious as to how one settles into life as a PhD student in Baltimore, look no further than Page 5, where John has contributed a pleasant synopsis of life *apud Hopkinsiensem*.

—Martin Michalek

Loeb Trotter

In Fall 2023, fresh from Yale University, Dr. Christopher Londa joined the Department of Classics. Dr. Londa won the prestigious Loeb Classical Library Foundation's postdoctoral fellowship, which awards scholars three years of funding while they produce a debut academic monograph.

Dr. Londa's work centers on Roman socio-cultural history with particular attention to enslavement, ancient practices of reading and writing, and authorship. His work thus blends nicely with that of Prof. Pandey's, alongside whom Dr. Londa will work.

For the Fall 2024 semester, Dr. Londa is teaching the graduate seminar *Slavery and Literature in the Ancient Roman World*. The course, which builds on Londa's research, explores (*inter alia*) how enslaved workers facilitate the production, reception, and distribution of ancient literature.

—Martin Michalek

Two Visiting Professors

In Spring 2024, Drs Maria Gerolemou and George Kazantzidis joined Hopkins as visiting professors. Dr. Kazantzidis comes from the University of Patras and studies ancient medicine and its intersections with, in particular, poetry. Dr. Gerolemou specializes in Ancient Greek drama, as well as ancient science and technology. Together, alongside Yanneck Wieggers *noster*, they led a course titled *Introduction to Ancient Science*, which surveyed medicine and technologies prevalent in the ancient world, with particular attention to Aristotle. For the Fall 2024 semester, Dr. Gerolemou is teaching Advanced Ancient Greek.

—Martin Michalek

Salve, Baltimore!

John Liao (see Page 4) joined the PhD program in the 2023-24 cohort. We've asked him to share how life in Baltimore is treating him.

This first year in a word: edifying. I've had the opportunity to really interrogate some of the questions which have long led me as a classicist, surrounded by colleagues—friends—whose own interests have cross-pollinated my slice of antiquity. Their ideas are thrilling to me. I've also found joy and a growing sense of belonging in being catalyzed by their imaginative projects. These include contributing to our new ancient science initiative! Baltimore itself has also treated me kindly. I've found myself spoiled by Maryland's vibrant seasonality. I've also found endless amusement in acquainting myself with the flora and tiny fauna here on long walks through fall and spring. Have *you* held a cicada-killer wasp yet?

—John Liao

Ambra, ave atque vale!

Shortly after the previous issue of *The Wax Tablet* went to press, yet another graduate student defended her dissertation: Ambra Marzocchi, who first came to Hopkins in 2017. Dr. Marzocchi—wrote a dissertation on the Latin-language pedagogical texts used by Jesuits in Colonial Mexico. Upon defending, she absconded north to Brown University, where she is now an International Humanities Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Classics and the Cogut Institute for the Humanities. Her current project is titled "Latin Textbooks in Colonial Mexico," thus complementing work done by 2020 Poultney-Lecture-alumnus, Prof. Andrew Laird.

—Martin Michalek

Dissertation Double Header

October is the spookiest month of the year, so what better month is there for defending one's dissertation? In a back-to-back lineup, Hopkins Classics had *two* October defenses. Martin Michalek went first, and successfully defended on October 1. His dissertation is titled *Horace Made Strange: Carpe Diem as Mood, Reception as Attunement*, with Prof. Shane Butler serving as advisor. Martin will continue to participate in the Classics Department next year, though in January 2025 he assumes his new role as a postdoctoral fellow with the Virginia Fox Stern Center for the History of the Book in the Renaissance at Hopkins.



Next in the hotseat was Richard Buckley-Gorman, who successfully defended on October 10. His dissertation is titled *The Cosmos and the Man: The Empire and the Emperor in Early Imperial Thought*. Prof. Matt Roller advised Dr. Buckley-Gorman's dissertation.



Above: now-Dr. Michalek stands beside *Doktorvater* Butler. Below: now-Dr. Buckley-Gorman, defending from New Zealand via Zoom, smiles triumphantly.

In Search of John Addington Symonds

Research lab puts students face-to-face with an author's life via books.

The John Addington Symonds Project (JASP) continues as part of the Classics Research Lab (CRL) initiative. Led by Prof. Shane Butler (whose book *The Passions of John Addington Symonds* was published through OUP last year) and Prof. Gabrielle Dean, JASP brings students into the world of the Victorian writer through his life and letters, and getting hands-on experience with his books. At right, students in the Macksey Seminar Room (guided by Prof. Butler and Dr. Mack Zalin) huddle around Symonds-related treasures. Each gaze is fixed upon the crown jewel of the collection, one of ten privately-printed copies of *A Problem in Greek Ethics* (1883). Six copies of this landmark book in the history of sexuality survive. Prior to Prof. Dean's finding of Hopkins' copy, only five were believed extant. Follow JASP's progress at <http://symondsproject.org>.



RES GESTAE

A non-exhaustive list of the deeds of the Department of Classics for the past and upcoming year.

Publications

Avesani, Tatiana. "Diphthongs: Trans and Norm." *TSQ* 1 February 2023; 10 (1): 28–31. <https://doi.org/10.1215/23289252-10273168>

Butler, Shane. "Fugitive Color: From Troy to the Black Atlantic," in Sarah Nooter and Mario Telò, eds., *Radical Formalisms: Rethinking the Literary in Greco-Roman Antiquity and Beyond* (London, Bloomsbury, 2024), 32–52.

Butler, Shane. "Death to Classics," *American Book Review* 44.3 (2023): 29–32.

Shane Butler and Sarah Nooter, eds. *Philology Transfigured*. Special issue, *Classical Philology* 119.2 (2024).

ní Mheallaigh, K. forthcoming. 'Astronomy and literature: a case-study with Aristophanes and Lucian,' in J. Steele (ed.) *The Oxford Handbook of Ancient Astronomy*. Oxford University Press.

ní Mheallaigh, K. forthcoming. 'Menippus goes to the Moon: fantastical astronomy and Lucian's scientific imagination,' in S. Goldhill (ed.) *The Cambridge Companion to Lucian*. Cambridge University Press.

ní Mheallaigh, K. 2023. 'Lucian's lunar Tree-people: between sexual technology and the prosthetic imagination,' in M. Gerolemou and G.M. Chesi (edd.) *Body technologies in the Greco-Roman world: technosôma, gender and sex*. Liverpool, 241-258.

Michálek, Martin W. "Byron's *Carpe Diem* Poetics." *Arion: A Journal of the Humanities and the Classics* 31, no. 3 (2024): 9–37. <https://doi.org/10.1353/arn.2024.a925855>.

Roller, Matthew. "Competition in the Roman Empire—Structure, Characteristics, and New Arenas." In C. Bubb and M. Peachin, eds., *Medicine and Law under the Roman Empire* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2023), 45-65.

Roller, Matthew. "The State of the Society," transcript of my presidential address (as president of SCS) forthcoming in *TAPA*

Roller, Matthew. "Court cases and legal proceedings in Valerius Maximus," appearing in a volume provisionally entitled *Exemplary Representation(s) of the past: New Readings of Valerius Maximus' Facta et dicta memorabilia*, ed. T. Itgenshorst et al., 2025

Stutz, Kathryn H. "The Ones Who Bloom in the Bitter Snow: *Hadestown* and the Queer Afterlives of Orpheus." *Classical Philology* 119, no. 2 (2024): 253-270.

Wieggers, Yanneck. "*Pro scaevum et grande ingenium doloris*. Poliziano on Bodies Falling Apart," forthcoming in *Aesthetics of Illness* (ed. George Kazantzidis)

Speaking Engagements

Tatiana Avesani

- "Trans Orpheus" EmoTrans Conference, Boston, March 19-22, 2025.

Christopher Londa

- "Last Words: Deathbeds, Dictation, and Dying 'Alone,'" for panel "Hidden Labor and Precarity in the Roman World," Society for Classical Studies, Annual Meeting, Philadelphia (January 3, 2025).
- "Cloaked in Cupids and Shrouded by the Muses: Divine Abstractions and the (In)visibility of Enslaved Agency," Symposium Vesuvianum on "Labor Invisus: The World of Work" (October 11, 2024).
- "Notes from the Speaking Wall: Enslaved Literary Performance through Dystopian Fiction," University of Maryland, Department of Classics (April 11, 2024).
- "Re-tracing the Archive: Affects and Ethics" (panel organized by Christopher Londa and Francesca Beretta), Society for Classical Studies, Annual Meeting, Chicago (January 5, 2024).
- "Sweat in the Details: the Hermeneutics of Error in Vergil's Sixth Eclogue," University of Heidelberg, Workshop on *Musa Inversa in Greco-Roman Antiquity* (September 14-15, 2023).

Karen ní Mheallaigh

- 'Astronomy at play in Lucian's *Icaromenippus*.' Agnes Michels Lecture, Bryn Mawr (April 12th 2023), and Cornell University, Classics Research Seminar (March 15th 2023).
- 'Anticipating the alien from antiquity.' *SLSA* Annual Conference (*Society for Literature, Science and the Arts*), University of Arizona, Oct. 28th 2023.
- 'Comets as agents of cosmic (ir)regularity.' *The laws of cosmic regularity*. University of Bern, Switzerland, September 14-15th 2023.

Martin Michalek

- "*In Perpetuum*: Parallels of Tradition in Marsala Winemaking and Virgil's *Syracosius Versus*," *In Vino Veritas: Wine and Winemaking in Sicily from Antiquity to Today*, conference at the Exedra Mediterranean Centre, Syracuse, Sicily, November 22-24, 2024.
- "Hope Mirrlees, Horace, and the *Carpe Diem* Poetics of Modernism," *Translation and Creative Adaptation* panel, organized by Stephanie McCarter and Deborah Roberts, SCS Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, January 2025.

Matthew Roller

- “Posture, gesture, proxemics, and speech in imperial convivia from Tiberius to Trajan.” Delivered by invitation at the Celtic Conference in Classics, Cardiff University (UK), 7/12/24
- “The greatest speech ever delivered, according to Cicero.” Classics Workshop, Georgetown University, 3/22/24
- “The state of the society.” Presidential Address, Society for Classical Studies annual meeting, 1/6/24
- “Oratorical Competition and Oratorical Play in Ancient Rome.” Alexander Grass Humanities Institute Faculty Fellows presentation, 9/29/23

Charissa Skoutelas

- “Ῥήματα ἢ θαύματα;’ Rhetoric of Marvel in Aeschines 3 and Demosthenes 18,” CAAS, October 17-19, 2024”

Kathryn Stutz

- “To Live by Night and Die by Day: (Having a) Queer Time in the Ancient Greek Arctic,” organizer-refereed panel, “Between, beyond, bygone, behind: Queer time in the ancient Mediterranean,” Annual SCS Meeting, Philadelphia – 2025
-

Tashi Treadway

- “Hippocratic One Health: Classical Reception in Medicine” CAAS, October 17-19, 2024
- “Ancient Veterinarians and their Animal Patients” Annual SCS Meeting, Philadelphia 2025

Yanneck Wieggers

- “Pro scaevum et grande ingenium doloris. Poliziano on Bodies Falling Apart,” *Aesthetics of Illness Conference*, University of Patras, February 11, 2024 (online)
- “On Hating Vergil. Creativity in an Age of Machines,” CAMWS St. Louis, April 5, 2024
- “Writers and Their Doctors,” CAMWS South, San Antonio, October 24, 2024
- “Creativity in an Age of Machines,” PAMLA, Palm Springs, November 10, 2024

Courses Past and Upcoming

Emily Anderson

- CRL: Baltimore ReCast: Ancient & Modern Bodies in an American City, Fall 2024
- Introduction to Archaeology, Fall 2024

Tatiana Avesani

- Trans(lating) Orpheus (Dean’s Teaching Fellowship), Fall 2024

Richard Bett

- Introduction to Greek Philosophy, Fall 2024

Shane Butler

- CRL: John Addington Symonds Project, Fall 2024

Maria Gerolemou

- Advanced Ancient Greek: Herodotus, Fall 2024

Christopher Londa

- Slavery and Literature in the Ancient Roman World (graduate seminar), Fall 2024

Martin Michalek

- Intensive Latin, Summer 2024
- Do You Have Good Taste? A Study of Artistic Judgment (SOUL course), Fall 2024.

Nandini Pandey

- Intermediate Latin, Fall 2024
- FYS: Race Before Race - Difference and Diversity in the Ancient Mediterranean, Fall 2024

Matthew Roller

- The Roman Republic: history, culture, and afterlife (100-level undergraduate lecture course), Fall 2024
- Play and the Ludic in Roman literature and culture (graduate seminar), Fall 2024.

Charissa Skoutelas

- Elementary Ancient Greek, Fall 2024

Joshua Smith

- Survey of Greek Literature I: Homer to the Classical Period (graduate seminar), Fall 2024

Kathryn Stutz

- Exploring the Edges of the Earth: How the Ancient World Shaped Science Fiction (Dean's Teaching Fellowship Seminar), Fall 2024.

Tashi Treadway

- Intermediate Ancient Greek, Fall 2024

Yanneck Wieggers

- Intensive Greek, Summer 2024
- Advanced Latin Prose: *Pliny and the Ancient Encyclopedic Tradition*, Fall 2024

Et cetera (public-facing scholarship, awards, grants, appointments)

Ambra Marzocchi, having defended, has assumed post as the 2023–25 International Humanities Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Classics and the Cogut Institute for the Humanities at Brown University.

Martin Michalek will assume a postdoctoral fellowship with The Virginia Fox Stern Center for the History of the Book in the Renaissance beginning January 2025. He has also written a piece titled “The Mute Stone Slanders: Talking Statues in Early Roman Printing,” which will go live on the Stern Center’s website in the spring.

Nandini Pandey’s “Futures of Ancient Race” (FAR) project has won a grant from the Loeb Classical Library Foundation, Hopkins’ SNF Agora Institute, and JHU’s Engaged Scholar Faculty Fellows Program.

Matthew Roller’s episode for the *Ozymandias Project* is now live! See “[Ancient Office Hours](#),” podcast for the *Ozymandias Project*’s “Ancient Office Hours” series: no. 67 (summer 2023).

Yanneck Wieggers has assumed a vital role as Executive Committee Member for the *Society for Ancient Medicine and Pharmacology* (currently 450 list members). In this capacity, *inter alia*, he has revamped and now oversees its monthly newsletter. Subscribe and hit the bell button! (<https://www.societyancientmedicine.org/>) He also created and maintains the *Cosmic Visions* Project’s website. *Cosmic Visions* is a joint research initiative, funded by a [JHU Discovery Award \(2022\)](#) and the AGHI, and working in collaboration with the Space Telescope Science Institute (STScI). See more here: <https://sites.krieger.jhu.edu/cosmic-visions/>. Yanneck has also won the AGHI Research Fellowship for Spring 2024.

In illo tempore...

...glimpses of the way it was in the Department of Classics in years gone by.

Prof. Roller tells an anecdote about Prof. James Poultney, who began teaching at Hopkins in 1934. *Ut dicitur*, a couple of graduate students were ambling the quads on a particularly punishing summer day in the early 1990s. Upon seeing Prof. Poultney in a suit and necktie, they stopped and inquired as to why he was wearing so much fabric in so much heat and humidity. Prof. Poultney replied, "I never come to the Hopkins in anything less." Ever true to form, these photos again depict Prof. Poultney in a suit and necktie. The occasion is "Mr. Poultney's Picnic," and the date is May 1980. (These picnics are not to be confused with a similar though more rustic event from those days, "Mr. Poultney's Nature Walks.") Here, the picnic party enjoys Utz potato chips (a Baltimore staple!), chilled white wine, cheese, and a loaf of bread. Make a few sartorial swaps and the photos could have been taken yesterday.

