Symposium

Portraiture in Visual and Literary Culture (Ancient to Medieval)

The University of Chicago, September 30 – October 2, 2021

Thursday, September 30, 5:00 – 6:20 PM
Department of Classics (Classics Building, Room 21)

Keynote Lecture

Marion Meyer
University of Vienna, Department of Classical Archaeology

What Do Portraits Want?
What Do People Want When They Call Images “Portraits”?

The Department of Classics will host a reception after the lecture.

Locations:
Classics Building: 1010 E. 59th St. (please use the entrance under the archway).
CWAC: 5540 S. Greenwood Ave.

Please note that the program is subject to change. The symposium is open to the public, and attendance is free of charge. No RSVP is needed. We will gather in person (no Zoom links will be distributed).

All symposium attendees must follow the university’s COVID-19 guidelines and safety precautions (https://goforward.uchicago.edu/). Please bring your own mask. People who require social distancing accommodations should contact krause[at]uchicago.edu.

Photo:
Roman sarcophagus from Kerch, Crimea (St. Petersburg, The State Hermitage Museum, П.1899.81), detail: portrait painter © Genevra Kornbluth.

Organizers:
Karin Krause, Marion Meyer, Claudia Rapp, and Lioba Theis

The organizers are grateful for support received from the Chicago-Vienna Faculty Grant Program, the Department of Art History, and the Department of Classics.
Friday, October 1

Department of Art History (CWAC 157)

9:30 – 10:00  **Coffee & Pastries** (Art History Lounge, CWAC 161)

10:00 – 10:05  **Opening Remarks**
Niall Atkinson, Chair, Department of Art History

10:05 – 10:15  **Introduction**
Karin Krause (University of Chicago, Divinity School)

**Session 1: Portrait and Remembrance**
Chair: Marion Meyer

10:15 – 11:00  Seth Estrin (University of Chicago, Dept. of Art History)
*The Portrait and the Funerary Monument in Classical Athens*

11:00 – 11:45  Christopher Allison (Dominican University, McGreal Center)
*The Lingering Face: Classical and Medieval Echoes in Eighteenth- and Early Nineteenth-Century Anglo-American Portraiture*

11:45 – 1:30  **Break**

**Session 2: Divine Portraits**
Chair: Jonathan Lyon

1:30 – 2:15  Jeffrey Stackert (University of Chicago, Divinity School)
*The Divine Image as Portrait in Pentateuchal Priestly Thought*

2:15 – 3:00  Karin Krause (University of Chicago, Divinity School)
*"a moist secretion without colors and artistic craft": What Did Christ’s ‘Unmade’ Icons Depict?*

3:00 – 3:30  **Coffee Break** (Art History Lounge, CWAC 161)

**Session 3: Icons as Portraits**
Chair: Lioba Theis

3:30 – 4:15  Nathan J. Hardy (University of Chicago, Divinity School)
*The Berytus Icon: A Portrait on the Border of Life and Death*

4:15 – 5:00  Lauren Beversluis (University of Chicago, Divinity School)
*The Hodegetria and the Lukan Legend: A Scriptural Portrait*

Saturday, October 2

Department of Art History (CWAC 157)

9:30 – 10:00  **Coffee & Pastries** (Art History Lounge, CWAC 161)

10:00 – 10:45  **Session 4: Portraits in Hagiography**
Chair: Karin Krause

Margaret M. Mitchell (University of Chicago, Divinity School)
*The Work that Verbal Portraits Do: John Chrysostom, a Half-Empty Church, and a Hot Sunday in Antioch*

Claudia Rapp (University of Vienna, Dept. of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies)
*Portraits of the Saints, in Word and Image: Ruminations from Byzantine Hagiography*

Erin Galgay Walsh (University of Chicago, Divinity School)
*Portraits of Holiness: Symeon the Stylite in Syriac and Greek Verse*

10:45 – 11:30  Margaret M. Mitchell (University of Chicago, Divinity School)
*The Work that Verbal Portraits Do: John Chrysostom, a Half-Empty Church, and a Hot Sunday in Antioch*

11:30 – 12:15  Claudia Rapp (University of Vienna, Dept. of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies)
*Portraits of the Saints, in Word and Image: Ruminations from Byzantine Hagiography*

12:15 – 1:45  **Break**

1:45 – 2:30  **Session 5: Realism in Portraits**
Chair: Seth Estrin

Lioba Theis (University of Vienna, Dept. of Art History)
*Portraits as Witnesses of Donations*

Jonathan Lyon (University of Chicago, Dept. of History)
*Literary Portraits in the Lives and Deeds of the Central Middle Ages*

2:30 – 3:15  Concluding Remarks
Claudia Rapp (University of Vienna, Dept. of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies)

3:15 – 3:30  **Dinner for Speakers**