

INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF THE ANCIENT WORLD

GRADUATE STUDENT CONFERENCE

Itinerancy and Agency Across the Ancient World

13th-14h March, 2025



Lecture Hall (2nd Floor)

Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, NYU

15 E 84th St. New York, NY 10028



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Conference Schedule

Thursday 13th March, 2025

8.30am: Registration

9-10.30am: Panel 1: Movement of Ideas and Technology

10.30-11am: Coffee break

11am-12.30pm: Panel 2: Itinerant Object Histories

12.30-1.30pm: Lunch break

1.30-3pm: Panel 3: Movement in the Literary Imagination

3–3.30pm: Tea break

3.30-5pm: Panel 4: Identity and Syncretism

5-6pm: Keynote Lecture: Dr. Greg Woolf, ISAW Director

"Strangers and Coercion in the Ancient Mediterranean World"

6-6.30pm: Reception

Friday 14th March, 2025

9-10.30am: Panel 5: Means of Movement

10.30-11am: Coffee break

11am-12.30pm: Roundtable

12.30-1.30pm: Lunch break

1.30-2.30pm: Visit to Metropolitan Museum of Art (Optional)

(leaving ISAW Lobby at 1:15pm)



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Panels:

1: Movement of Ideas and Technology (Thursday 13th March, 9-10:30am).

- Anna Roche, "The Warp Weighted Loom: Understanding Patterns of Agency and Connectivity Through Technology."
- Aaren Zhou, "Cooking, Weaving, and Negotiating Identity: Material Culture and Gender Dynamics during the Egyptian Occupation of Beth Shean."
- Erica L. Meszaros, "Algorithmic Cultures in the Circulation of Babylonian Astronomy."

2: Itinerant Object Histories (Thursday 13th March, 11am-12:30pm).

- Brandon Agosto, "The "Vessel" as Conduit: Proxemic Response and Mutable Histories of a Maya Censer Stand (7th–8th Century)."
- Nour Ammari, "Lighting the Way: Clay Molded Oil Lamps and the Shift from Late Antiquity to Early Islam."
- Priya Chiara Barchi, "The 'Indian' Terracotta Figurine of Adulis: An Itinerant Object History."

3: Movement in the Literary Imagination (Thursday 13th March, 1:30-3pm).

- Maria Enrichetta Caria, "Identity in Motion: Greek and Biblical Perspectives on the Phoenician People."
- Grazia Aiello, "Epic Beginnings and Melancholic Ends: the Symbolism of Travel in Roman Poetry."
- Cianna Jackson, "FROM dark abodes to fair ethereal light': Phillis Wheatley's Child Elegies and Poetical Journeys to Freedom."

4: Identity and Syncretism (Thursday 13th March, 3:30-5pm).

- Javier Larequi Fontaneda, "Ancient Vascones as a historical, historiographical and political problem."
- Arielle Suskin, "Antinous into the Danube: Balsamaria, Military Mobility, and Cult in the Late Second-Century Roman Empire."
- Catherine McNally, "Hierophanic Hierotopy: A Chthonic Notion of the Divine in the Late Antique Eastern Mediterranean."

5: Means of Movement (Friday 14th March, 9-10:30am).

- Emily Everest-Phillips, "Real and Imagined Bactrian Camels in Late Antique Central Asia."
- Edward Tang, "Seasonality as a Heuristic Device: The Socioeconomics of Mobility in the Oxyrhynchus Letters (30 BC-200 AD)."
- Mariana Castro, "Turquoise and Nomads: Itinerancy, Agency, and the Ancient Economy."
- Vikentiy Parshuto, "Sogdian Itinerancy at Home: Small Distances, Small Trades."