

Call for Papers: Mythography not Mythology: Boundaries and Commentaries

A Joint *Polymnia* and NARGAMM Panel

11th Celtic Conference in Classics

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Organizers: Charles Delattre (U. of Lille 3, Polymnia) and R. Scott Smith (U. of New Hampshire, NARGAMM)

Over the past twenty years, mythography has emerged as one of the most vigorous new fields in classical studies, doubtlessly influenced by major books by Fowler (2001, 2013), Cameron (2004), seminal articles by Pellizer (1993) and Alganza Roldan (2006), and new commentaries on major mythographical works (Stern on Palaephatus 1996; Brown on Conon 2003; Celoria on Antoninus Liberalis 1992). Despite the increased attention scholars have paid to mythographical works, much work remains to be done. For example, there are still basic definitional questions (was mythography a self-aware activity in antiquity?), as well as several works that still lack a critical commentary (for instance, Hyginus' *Fabulae* or the Mythographus Homericus). This panel seeks innovative approaches to mythography and mythographic texts, both in terms of theoretical questions and in the practical concerns one confronts when studying and commenting on mythographical texts. In addition to customary academic papers, we would also welcome proposals for 40-minute “workshops,” in which participants offer to the group a mythographical text to analyze and discuss interactively. Because we are planning a sub-panel on Hyginus' *Fabulae* as another step in the Polymnia/NARGAMM working group (see more at the very end of this CfP), we especially welcome papers on that difficult text.

We emphasize here that we are not seeking out papers on purely mythological subjects (say, in poetical texts) unless they engage in some significant way with mythography.

Although papers focusing on mythography and commentaries will be given priority, we do welcome abstracts on any topic of mythography. We offer some questions below as food for thought.

- What is the relationship between mythography and the commentary traditions of major works (e.g., early Greek poetry, Apollonius Rhodius, Vergil)?
- What is the relationship between mythography and poetry?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of looking to digital forms of commentaries and employing new technologies in the *mise en page* of mythographical texts?

More generally,

- How does one approach the study of mythographical texts as distinct from other “genres” or intellectual endeavors (myth in poetry, history, geography, etc.)
- How does mythography itself intersect with the other “genres” and intellectual activities listed above?

Papers or workshop presentations will be allotted 40 minutes, with 10 minutes reserved for discussion. The languages of the CCC are English and French. Those interested in participating should send an abstract of no more than 250 words, with a brief CV, to both charles.delattre@univ-lille3.fr and scott.smith@unh.edu by February 20, 2018. Submissions will be reviewed immediately and announcements sent out soon afterwards.

***Polymnia*/NARGAMM Working Group on Hyginus**

For more than a year the text of Hyginus' *Fabulae* has been the subject of intense study by a collaborative working group composed of members from the French research group on mythography, *Polymnia*, and a similar initiative at the University of New Hampshire, NARGAMM. The working group has met twice so far, at the University of Paris Nanterre (Jan. 24–25, 2017), and again at the Fondation Hardt (Jun. 19–24, 2017). The Celtic Conference in Classics will represent the third such meeting of the working group, which aims at presenting the results of their individual work and integrating it with that of others. Beyond the particular narrow work of each collaborator is the ultimate goal of establishing the framework and precise methodologies for producing a philological and mythographical commentary (realized in print or in digital form). To that end, we are interested in the following topics:

- The challenge of editing Hyginus, given the conditions under which Micyllus produced the *editio princeps*, which is the only full witness of the text since the sole manuscript was subsequently dismantled,
- The organization of the text, how it was organized, labeled, and meant to be read. A study of the subsequent history of editions in the Renaissance and beyond will show how this text was received and presented to new audiences,
- The relationship between Hyginus and the critical and exegetical traditions of the Greeks and Romans,
- The formation of the Latin text and its relationship to one or more Greek originals,
- The unique methodology required for approaching the text of Hyginus compared to other mythographical collections, and
- The influence of this text on the mythographical tradition in late antiquity, the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, and the modern period.

Current Working Group Members (In alphabetical order)

Gisèle Besson (Lyon)

David Bouvier (Lausanne)

Charles Delattre (Lille 3)

Jacqueline Fabre-Serris (Lille 3)

R. Scott Smith (New Hampshire)

For more on NARGAMM:

<https://cola.unh.edu/chi/nargamm>

For more on *Polymnia*

<https://polymnia-recherche.univ-lille3.fr>