

## 2. Salzburger Frühlingssymposium

## Being Alone in Antiquity

### Ancient Ideas and Experiences of Misanthropy, Isolation, and Solitude

April 23–24, 2020 | Universität Salzburg | Fachbereich Altertumswissenschaften

Dear colleagues,

we are pleased to announce the call for papers for the 2nd Salzburger Frühlingssymposium.

*Conference date:* **April 23-24, 2020.**

*Conference venue:* **Edmundsburg**, Mönchsberg 2, 5020 Salzburg (Austria).

*Keynote speaker:* Professor **Angelos Chaniotis** (Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton)

*Organizer:* Dr Rafal Matuszewski, Department of Ancient History at the University of Salzburg.

The main objective of the conference is to explore various aspects, dimensions and manifestations of being alone in Greco-Roman antiquity. By bringing together scholars from a variety of disciplines and subfields of classical studies (history, classical philology, archaeology, art history, religious studies), the conference will be the first attempt at investigating this complex problem by approaching it from various theoretical and methodological angles. Topics of interest include (but are not limited to) the following:

- Spaces and places of solitude
- Times of solitude, loneliness, and isolation
- Solitary pleasures, desires, and emotions
- Solitude and misanthropy in myth
- Experiences of misanthropy, isolation, and solitude
- Antropophobia, social seclusion, loneliness, and solitude in the ancient imagination
- Social perceptions of misanthropy, isolation, and solitude
- Forms and ways of being alone
- Dislike of humans as a rhetorical argument and topos
- Historical, linguistic, conceptual (etc.) dimensions of terminology (*eremia, apanthropia, misanthropia, anachoresis, solitudo*)
- Lights and shades of being alone
- The interrelations between solitude/isolation and punishment; asociality; individualism; ideal of freedom (*eleutheria/libertas*); ideal of autarky (*autarkeia*); ideal of quietism and indifferentism (*hesychia/tranquillitas, apragmosyne*); melancholy (*akedeia/acedia*) etc.

- Social isolation, solitude and loneliness from a social structure perspective (solitude of slaves, loneliness of free men, etc.)
- Social isolation and loneliness from an age perspective (lonely children, solitary adults, lone old people)
- Social isolation and loneliness from a gender perspective (single men, single women)

For a more detailed call for papers, please see the German version.

We encourage both established and early career scholars from all the disciplines of Classical Studies to present their research at the conference. We welcome abstracts of up to 300 words for 20 minute papers. Each paper will be followed by 10 minutes of discussion. Please send the **abstract**, together with a short CV, to rafal.matuszewski@sbg.ac.at **by October 10, 2019**. We will email applicants to confirm acceptance no later than November 10, 2019. The conference will be held in **German** and **English**.

If you should have any other questions, suggestions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact Dr Rafal Matuszewski (rafal.matuszewski@sbg.ac.at ; Tel.: +43 662 8044 4701).