Physiognomy and Ekphrasis: The Mesopotamian Tradition and its Transformation in Graeco-Roman and Semitic Literatures
February 16–17, 2016, Freie Universität Berlin
BabMed Annual Workshop 3, organized by J. Cale Johnson and Alessandro Stavru

Venue: Kleine Fächer ‘Holzlaube’, Fabekstraße 23–25, 14195 Berlin, Room 2.2063
BabMed office, contact Agnes Kloocke: +49-30-838-57687, mobile +49-163-315-0958

Tuesday 16 February 2016

Coffee and registration 10.00–10.30
Introduction by Karin Gludovatz 10:30–10.45
(Dean of History and Cultural Studies, FU Berlin)
Overview by J. Cale Johnson and Alessandro Stavru (FU Berlin) 10:45–11:15
Short break/coffee 11:15–11:45

MESOPOTAMIA
Nils P. Heeßel (Würzburg) 11:45–12:30
http://www.altorientalistik.uni-wuerzburg.de/mitarbeiter/nils_p_heessel/
Curling hairs, curious figures, and cuneiform signs:
An overview on Babylonian physiognomy.
J. Cale Johnson (Freie Universität Berlin) 12:30–13:15
http://www.geschkult.fu-berlin.de/en/e/babmed/staff/johnson.html
Demarcating Ekphrasis in Mesopotamia
Lunch (on site) 13:15–14:15
Reading Session (Mesopotamia) 14:15–15:15
Short break/tea 15:15–16:15
Kenneth G. Zysk 15:45–16:30
http://ccrs.ku.dk/staff/?pure=en/persons/97751
The flow of physiognomic ideas in antiquity: India, Mesopotamia and Greece
Marvin Schreiber (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin) 16:30–17:15
http://berliner-antike-kolleg.org/cv/marvin-schreiber/
Late Babylonian astrological physiognomy
Conference Dinner 18:00–21:00

Wednesday 17 February 2016

Morning coffee at Holzlaube 10:15–10:45
GRAECO-ROMAN
Alessandro Stavru (Freie Universität Berlin) 10:45–11:30
http://fu-berlin.academia.edu/AlessandroStavru
Physiognomy and Ekphrasis from Aristotle to the Second Sophistic
Maria Gero lemou (Nicosia) 11:30–12:15
A Callistratus’ Statuarum descriptiones: Portraying Mental Disorder
Reading Session (Graeco-Roman) 12:15–13:15
Lunch 12:30–13:15

Laetitia Marcucci (Nice) 14:15–15:00
http://crhi-unice.fr/post-doctorants/243-laetitia-marcucci
Physiognomics and ‘actio’ by Cicero and Quintilian: the application and transformation of the traditional physiognomics in rhetorical theory
Gian Franco Chiai (BBAW Berlin) 15:00–15:45
http://www.topoi.org/person/chiai-gian-franco/
Good emperors, bad emperors: the function of physiognomic representation in Suetonius’ ‘De vita Caesarum’
Tea/break 15:45–16:15

ARABIC
Antonella Ghersetti (Venice) 16:15–17:00
http://www.unive.it/data/persona/profile/g782
Physiognomy in the Arabic tradition: Arabic roots, Greek influence.
Emily Cottrell (Paris) and Regula Forster (Freie Universität Berlin) 17:00–17:45
Physiognomy as a Secret for the King. The chapter on physiognomy in the pseudo-Aristotelian “Secret of Secrets”
Final discussion 17:45–18:15
High Tea (on site) 18:15–18:45