



# CONSTRUCTING FANTASTICAL WORLDS: FROM ANTIQUITY TO THE PRESENT

UNIVERSITY OF AMSTERDAM,  
THURSDAY 30TH JUNE –  
FRIDAY 1ST JULY 2022

Conveners: Caterina Fossi (University of Amsterdam),  
Merlijn Breunese (University of Amsterdam),  
and Koen Vacano (University of Amsterdam)  
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# 30TH JUNE


09:30-09:45

Welcome: coffee and tea

09:45-10.00

Word of welcome

10.00-10:45

 Benjamin Stevens: **Virgil's otherworldly sense of wonder: Towards a fractal geometry of immersive fantasy?**

10:45-11:10

Coffee and tea break


## CLASSICAL STORYWORLDS

Chair: Mark Heerink

11:10-11:35

 Koen Vacano: **Worldbuilding from Homer to *Star Wars***

11:35-12:00

 Greta Hawes: **Fictitious interventions into the Greek mythic storyworld in Ps-Plutarch's *On Rivers*** (online)

12:00-12:25

Questions and discussion

12:25-13:30

Lunch break

## THE FANTASTICAL WORLDS OF EPIC

Chair: Koen Vacano

13:30-13:55

 Stephen Joyce: **Worldbuilding and fantasy in Ireland's *Táin Bó Cúailnge***

13:55-14:20

 Frances Foster: **Cosmic junctures and other winds: Constructing the spaces beyond**

14:20-14:45

Questions and discussion

14:45-15:20

Coffee and tea break


## RECEPTION OF FANTASTICAL WORLDS IN MODERN MEDIA

Chair: Luuk Huitink


15:20- 15:45

 Kevin Wong: **The tangled receptions of online fantasy videogames: Navigating classics and comparatism within a globalised worldbuilding**

15:45-16:10

 Alice Bolland: ***Et in Arcadia ego*: Appropriations and appearances of the Arcadian idyll in classical and contemporary literature**

16:10-16:35

 Alexandra Gushurt-Moore: **'Revolving centuries and cycles should glide': Fantasy worldbuilding in late Victorian art**

16:35-17:00

Questions and discussion

17:00

Drinks offered by the Amsterdam School of Historical Studies (ASH)

18:30

Dinner

# 1ST JULY

09:00-09:15

Welcome: coffee and tea

12:30-12:55

Questions and discussion



09:15-10:00

Rutger Allan: **Framing fantasy: Uncanny encounters in the *Odyssey***

12:55-13:55

Lunch break

## IMMERSION IN FANTASTICAL WORLDS

Chair: Caterina Fossi

## REALITY AND FANTASTICAL WORLDS

Chair: Merlijn Breunese



10:00-10:25

Dianna Bartlett: **The impact of a 'magic system' on immersion in Apollonius of Rhodes' *Argonautica***



13:55-14:20

Giovanni Piccolo: **On the wild frontier: A world of wonders at the edge of the empire in Solinus' *Collectanea Rerum Memorabilium***



10:25-10:50

Lola Bos: **'A world of monsters': Narrating the fantastical in Sophocles' *Trachiniae***



14:20-14:45

Bé Breij: **The fantastical world of Sophistopolis**

10:50-11:15

Questions and discussion

14:45-15:10

Questions and discussion

11:15-11:40

Coffee and tea break

15:10-15:35

Coffee and tea break

## FANTASTICAL WORLDS AS A MATTER OF BELIEF

Chair: Klazina Staat

15:35-17:00

Concluding discussion



11:40-12:05

Caterina Fossi: **Narrating beliefs: Fantastical and actual worlds in Plato's eschatological myths**

17:00

Drinks offered by the Amsterdam School of Historical Studies (ASH)



12:05-12:30

Lieke Smits: **The daughter and the king: Fantastical worlds in medieval religious allegory**

