

Abteilung für Asiatische und Islamische Kunstgeschichte WS 2022/23

IMAGES AND STORIES OF THE ORIGIN(S) OF THE WORLD AND HUMANKIND

Organised by Prof. Dr. Julia A. B. Hegewald
And Prof. Dr. Marion Gymnich

Online Conference, 3-4 November 2022

3 November 1.30 pm to 7.30 pm: <https://uni-bonn.zoom.us/j/69613271140?pwd=Z2czMVp3emJ0cFdPZmFXL0h1SnAzdz09>

4 November 1.30 pm to 7.00 pm: <https://uni-bonn.zoom.us/j/68159840587?pwd=WFU1WklxK2NORVo0YkgyU1pmZVNmZz09>

Creation stories addressing the origin of Earth and/or that of humankind are presumably among the oldest narratives known in many parts of the world. Similarly, there are ancient works of art depicting creation or, for instance in South Asian art, cycles of destruction and creation. While not scientifically accurate from the point of view of modern physics or evolution theory, these stories and images of the beginnings of (life on) Earth have nevertheless been profoundly true ways of perceiving reality for many people. In a two-day conference we seek to bring together expertise on different cultural, regional and historical backgrounds, addressing questions from various disciplinary vantage points.



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(online conference, 3-4 November, 2022)

Organised by Prof. Dr. Julia A. B. Hegewald and Prof. Dr. Marion Gymnich

3 November

1:30 pm Opening

1:45-3:15 pm Panel I (Chair: Julia A. B. Hegewald)

1:45-2:05 pm Gerrit Lange (Marburg University): Clothed in Myths: The Journey of Naiṇī Mātā, a Serpent-Shaped, Western Himalayan Hindu Goddess (Naiṇī Mātā kī saṃkṣipt itihās)

2:05-2:25 pm Satyanad Kichenassamy (Université de Reims Champagne-Ardenne): A critique of the notion of absolute beginning in Indian philosophy and iconography

2:25-2:45 pm Sandra Jasmin Schlage (Bonn University): The Impact of Naṭarāja's Drum: The visualisation of Naṭarāja's role as creator through the architecture and iconographic programme of the Naṭarāja Temple in Chidambaram

2:45-3:15 pm Discussion

3:15-3:30 pm Coffee break

3:30-5:00 pm Panel II (Chair: Marion Gymnich)

3:30-3:50 pm Julia A. B. Hegewald (Bonn University): Reflections of the Origins of the World in the Water Architecture of South Asia

3:50-4:10 pm Robert J. Del Bontà (Independent scholar): Cyclic Indic Creations

4:10-4:30 pm Saran Suebsantiwongse (Silpakorn University): The Creation of the Worlds: Births and Rebirths as Narrated and Depicted in the Tebhūmikā, a Buddhist Manuscript from Sukhothai

4:30-5:00 pm Discussion

5:00-5:15 pm Coffee break

5:15-7:15 pm Panel III (Chair: Sandra Jasmin Schlage)

5:15-5:35 pm Claudia Wenzel (Bonn University): Visual Modes of Chinese Cosmogonies

5:35-5:55 pm Hannah Weber (Bonn University): Creation in the Kojiki and Nihongi and Hesiod's Theogony: Yin and Yang and divine parentage

5:55-6:15 pm Fritz Graf (Ohio State University): From Ovid to Gregory of Nazianzus: A Hermetic Creation Story and Its Tradition

6:15-6:35 pm Ralf Krumeich (Bonn University): Divine genealogies and multiple creations of human beings: images of the origins of world and humankind in ancient Greece

6:35-7:15 pm Discussion

4 November

1:30-3:30 pm Panel IV (Chair: Marion Gymnich)

- 1:30-1:50 pm Ludwig Morenz (Bonn University): Failed Creation ... it has to be repeated: A mythologized philosophy of history from late 3rd millennium Egypt
- 1:50-2:10 pm Samantha Reilly (Boston University School of Theology): *Creatio-Ex-Mud*: The Shape of Clay Creation in the Ancient Near East
- 2:10-2:30 pm Julio César Cárdenas Arenas (Complutense U. of Madrid): Philosophical, Theological, and Religious Narratives in Ibn Taymīyah's *The Origin of the World* (خُدُوْثُ الْعَالَمِ)
- 2:30-2:50 pm Christine Schirmmacher (Bonn University): The Creation of the World and of Man as an apologetic argument of contemporary feminist Quranic exegesis
- 2:50-3:30 pm Discussion

3:30-4:00 pm Coffee break

4:00-5:30 pm Panel V (Chair: Constanze Wessel)

- 4:00-4:20 pm Daniel Grana-Behrens (Bonn University, Bonn Collection of the Americas): The Story of Origin in Mesoamerica – What we Know from the Maya
- 4:20-4:40 pm Athira Mohan (Independent scholar): Creation Myths as a Decolonizing Strategy
- 4:40-5:00 pm Marion Gymnich (Bonn University): (Post-Darwinist) Stories of the Origins of Humankind
- 5:00-5:30 pm Discussion

5:30-5:45 pm Coffee break

5:45-7:15 pm Panel VI (Chair: Julia A. B. Hegewald)

- 5:45-6:05 pm Stefan Lampadius (Leipzig University): Evolving Origins and the Artificial Human in Science Fiction
- 6:05-6:25 pm Marcus Hartner (Bielefeld University): A Post-Apocalyptic Quest for Origins: Stories of Creation and Apocalypse in Guerrilla Games' *Horizon Zero Dawn* (2017)
- 6:25-7:45 pm Discussion

7:45-7:00 pm Farewell

