

# WORKSHOP

# SPEAKING RELIGION

## *Religious Discourse and Public Speaking in Classical Athens and Beyond*

This workshop aims to bring together specialists in ancient Greek religion and Attic rhetoric, ancient Greek, Roman and Byzantine history and literature, and comparative religious studies, to examine, first, aspects of religious discourse (the rhetoric about religion) in public speaking in the Athens of the 4th century B.C., and second, the similarities and differences between the use of religious discourse in classical Athens and in other ancient cultures and periods (i.e. Hellenistic, Roman and Byzantine). Religious discourse refers to the totality of the codified language that is incorporated in, and can be extracted from, an oratorical script: language that conveys the ideas, beliefs and attitudes of people towards religion, and that may be used as a means of winning over, persuading or influencing the audience in the forums of public speaking.

### **Organizers:**

Andreas Serafim & Maria Ypsilanti

### **Keynote speaker:**

Edward M. Harris (University of Durham  
& University of Edinburgh)

### **Confirmed speakers:**

Roger Rees (University of St Andrews)  
James W Watts (Syracuse University)  
Elizabeth DePalma Digeser  
(University of California, Santa Barbara)  
Leonora Neville (University of Wisconsin Madison)  
Glenn Holland (Allegheny College)  
Hannah Willey (University of Cambridge)

Hanne Roer (University of Copenhagen)  
Michael Paschalis (University of Crete)  
Agis Marinis (University of Patras)  
Stella Alekou (University of Cyprus)  
Eleni Fassa (Open University of Cyprus)  
Rebecca Van Hove (King's College London)  
Despina Keramida (University of Cyprus)

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