

CONTEXT AND SUBJECT OF THE CONFERENCE

The second conference as part of the Mainz DFG researchproject "The Ancient Fable Tradition and Early Christian Literature" is dedicated to questions of genre. The focus will be on the form and function of the micro-narrative (fable, parable, mashal) as well as the macro-narrative (biography, gospel, midrash) in which they are embedded. The relationship between fable, parable, and mashal has long been the subject of controversy. Is this an overarching genre of fable with various subgenres? Did ancient authors have an awareness of the differentiated use of genre terms such as mythos, ainos, parabole or paroimia? The conference will also deal with as of yet underexplored questions regarding the significant parallels in form and function between the Life of Aesop and the Gospels. Fundamental questions on genre theory are also reflected upon. All interested scholars are welcome to attend free of charge. To register, please email Ms. Winekenstädde by May 15th.

ORGANIZERS:

Prof. Dr. Ruben Zimmermann
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REGISTRATION:

Send an email with subject "Digital Registration" to:
fable.project@uni-mainz.de

CONTACT:

Acelya Winekenstädde

LOCATIONS:

CONFERENCE ROOM:

T 5
Faculty of Protestant
Theology
Johannes Gutenberg-
University
Wallstraße 07
55122 Mainz, Germany

HOTEL:

Hotel Königshof
Schottstraße 1-5
55116 Mainz



June
6th-7th,
2024

FORM, FUNCTION, AND FABLES

*Genre in Early Christian,
Jewish, and Graeco-Roman
Traditions*

JOHANNES GUTENBERG
UNIVERSITÄT MAINZ

JG|U

THURSDAY | JUNE 6TH

PROGRAM

FRIDAY | JUNE 7TH

14:00 *Welcome, Coffee*

14:15-14:30 *Justin Strong*

The Story of Christians and Jews
Comparing Comparisons

14:30-15:00 *Ruben Zimmermann*

Introduction to Ancient and Current Genre
Theories

15:00-15:45 *Niklas Holzberg*

What's in a Fable? Thoughts on the
Evolution of the Genre in Antiquity

15:45-16:30 *Sean A. Adams*

Embedded Fables in Jewish Literature from
the Graeco-Roman Era

16:30-17:00 *Coffee Break*

17:00-17:45 *Michal Beth Dinkler*

Attention 'Deficit'? Narration, Attention
Distribution, and Ancient Short Stories

17:45-18:30 *Lukas Spielhofer*

"What Is Fable, Really?" Reflections on
Genre in Imperial Fable Collections

19:30 *Dinner at Heilig Geist*

Rentengasse 2

55116 Mainz

9:15-10:00 *Grammatiki Karla*

Life of Aesop as Fictional Biography

10:00-10:45 *Jacob Mortensen*

Mark's Parables as Progymnastic *mythoi*
and Computational Approaches to the
Fable Genre

10:45-11:15 *Coffee Break*

11:15-12:00 *Lieve Teugels*

Myth in Parable Form: Does It Make a
Difference?

12:00-12:45 *Eric Ottenheim*

The Early Jewish Parable as a Regional
Genre

12:45-13:15 *Final Discussion*

13:15 *Lunch, Farewell*
(*on-site catering*)