

Fifth century BC Greece witnessed a major innovation: the emergence of written prose as a new medium of communication, next to (semi-) oral poetry. A key figure in this process is the 'father of history' Herodotus and his nine books of Histories. There were prose-writers before Herodotus (e.g. mythographers), but only fragments of their work survive (recently collected and commented by prof. Robert Fowler, one of the speakers).

In this workshop a number of specialists, both from within and from outside classics, will discuss the transition from oral to written narrative and from poetic to prose narrative. Does this transition bring along changes in narrative technique? Narratology has only just started to become interested in the connection between medium and narrative, in what is called transmedial narratology, focusing on movies, radio, television, music, pictures, photography, blogs, comics, or computer games. The Histories, a written prose text which is at the same time strongly rooted in the oral epic tradition, offer a fascinating testing ground for this emerging research field.

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**FURTHER EVENTS WINTER TERM 2014/15**

25.-31.01.2015

»Poetica« – Über die Macht der Poesie

19.-20.02.2015 – Tagung

**Herrschaft durch Esoterik in der interkulturellen  
Kultur der Weimarer Republik**



# HERODOTUS AND THE RISE OF GREEK NARRATIVE PROSE

WORKSHOP NOVEMBER 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>, 2014



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## THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27<sup>th</sup>

- 16.30 **Dietrich Boschung** (Cologne) Welcome Address  
**Irene de Jong** (Amsterdam) Opening
- 17.00 **Robert Fowler** (Bristol) Herodotus and the pleasure  
of the text
- 18.00 Conference Dinner

## FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28<sup>th</sup>

- 09.30 **Rosalind Thomas** (Oxford) Written Prose and Oral  
narrative: Some Remarks on Methodology and  
Herodotus' *Histories*
- 10.30 **Luuk Huitink** (Heidelberg) Temporal Structure in Oral  
and Written Greek Narrative
- 11.30 Coffee Break
- 12.00 **Rutger Allan** (Amsterdam) Oral Aspects of Herodotus'  
Style: a Linguistic Approach
- 13.00 Lunch Break
- 14.30 **Karl Reichl** (Bonn) Dérimage and Prosimetrum:  
Prose Narration in Some Medieval and Modern  
Oral Traditions
- 15.30 **Irene de Jong** (Amsterdam) Concluding Session

**Venue** Internationales Kolleg Morphemata  
Universität zu Köln  
Weyertal 59 (Back Building: Third Floor)  
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**Concept** Irene de Jong, Dietrich Boschung

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