

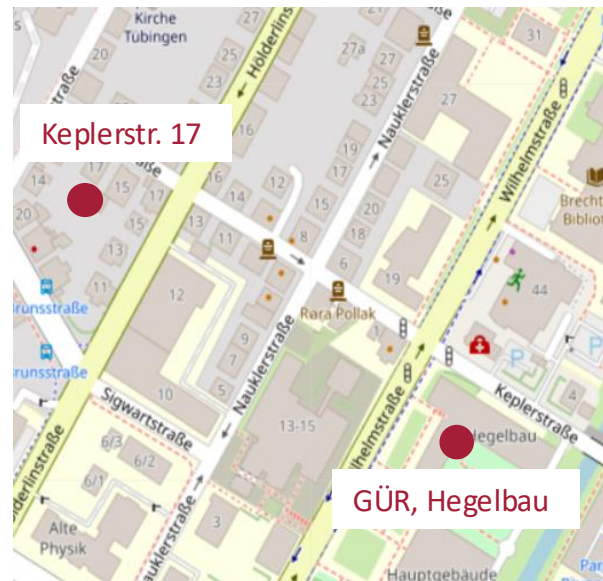
Conference Description

The history of domesticating the vine and consuming wine has long been accompanied by numerous and varied representations of the plant and its grapes, apparently from the very beginning of this process. Over time, depending on the function and purpose of the individual representation of the vine, stylised or more detailed depictions have been created, descriptions (literary or scientific) have been written, symbolic values have been attributed to the plant and its fruits, and literary anecdotes and stories have been created regarding their effects, not to mention the associated culture and activities (such as the symposium or bibulousness) and (ir)responsible divinities. This conference aims to explore the representation of the vine in antiquity in relation to the social and anthropological functions of drinking wine, the development of ampelography as a scientific discipline, the use of the plant and its products in agriculture and medicine, the development of an aesthetic taste, and the attribution of symbolic/metaphorical meanings to the vine.

Picture Credits

Front: Detail of a Sarcophagus representing a Dionysiac Vintage Festival, 290–300 CE. Getty Villa 2008.14. Public Domain Image.

Back: Mosaic of the Judgement of Paris, Detail. From Antioch (Antakya), 115–50 CE. Louvre Museum MND 1945; Ma 3443 © 2013 Musée du Louvre, Dist. GrandPalaisRmn / Thierry Ollivier.
<https://collections.louvre.fr/en/ark:/53355/cl010277123>



Conference Locations:

Day 1: Keplerstr. 17, Room 34 (3rd Floor).

**Day 2: Hegelbau, Wilhelmstr. 36,
Philologisches Seminar, Großer
Übungsraum (Ground Floor).**

Convenors:

Dr. Eva Falaschi (eva.falaschi@googlemail.com)

Dr. Ian Goh

(i.k.l.goh@swansea.ac.uk)

Host:

Prof. Dr. Anja Wolkenhauer

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UNTERSTÜTZT VON / SUPPORTED BY

Alexander von
HUMBOLDT
STIFTUNG



ALTE SPRACHEN

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GRAPE IMPRESSIONS: THE REPRESENTATION OF VINES AND THEIR PRODUCTS IN ANTIQUITY

21–22 May 2026
Tübingen

Thursday, 21 May 2026

09:00–09:30 Eva Falaschi - Ian Goh
(Universität Tübingen)

Welcome

Eva Falaschi (Universität Tübingen)
Introduction. Beyond (Roman) art: the vine
between art, botany and literature in
Roman times

9:30–10:15 Alexander Heinemann
(Universität Tübingen)
Eyes in the thicket: the space of the vine
in archaic Greek imagery

10:15–11:00 Zoe Stamatopoulou
(University of Cincinnati)
Anacharsis and the vine

11:00–11:30 Coffee

11:30–12:15 Sandro La Barbera
(Università di Trento)
Nicander and the Hellenistic poetry: the
grape spider

12:15–13:00 Celia Campbell
(Emory University)
Decanting enchantment: Horace on the
vine

13:00–14:15 Buffet Lunch

14:15–15:00 Bobby Xinyue
(King's College London)
Live by the vine: the rewards of viticulture
in Virgil and Columella

15:00–15:45 Maëlys Blandenet
(ENS de Lyon)
Rei nos pulchritudo trahit (Columella
3.20.4): variety of vines and aesthetic
pleasure

15:45–16:30 Marine Bretin-Chabrol
(Université Jean Moulin-Lyon 3)
How do you teach a vine to become a
good bride? Columella, Graecinus, and
the ambiguities of care

16:30–17:00 Coffee

17:00–17:45 Pietro Li Causi
(Università di Siena)
The grapes that deceived the birds: art,
nature, animality, and humanity in Plin. *HN*
35.65–66

17:45 –18:30 Ursula Gärtner
(Universität Graz)
Ancient fables and the sour grapes

19:15 Dinner

Friday, 22 May 2026

08:30–09:15 Daniele Federico Maras
(Museo Archeologico di Firenze):
VINAC: *vitis vinifera* in Etruscan imagery
between myth and ritual

09:15–10:00 Caterina Manco
(Università di Bologna)
From *Ámpelos* to *Phármakon*: vine and
wine in Greek botanical and medical
literature of the early imperial period

10:00–10:30 Coffee

10:30–11:15 Emily Kneebone
(University of Nottingham)
The advent of the vine in Nonnus'
Dionysiaca

11:15–12:00 Benjamin Cartlidge
(University of Liverpool)
Coping with tendrils: Athenaeus and vine
culture

12:00–12:30 General discussion and close

12:30–13:30 Buffet lunch & wine tasting
“From the Romans to the future of
viticulture. Wine history in Germany”

