

First International conference on Early Christian Literature, Late Antique and Byzantine Hagiography

'Literary connections between the Apocryphal Acts of the Apostles and the Saints' Lives'

Valencia, 1-3 July, 2020

Sala de Mapes, Departament de Filologia Clàssica
Facultat de Filologia, Traducció i Comunicació
Universitat de València



Organized by Ángel Narro (Universitat de València)

Scientific committee: Lautaro Roig de Lanzilotta (University of Groningen) – Juan Pedro Monferrer (Universidad de Córdoba) – Mercedes López-Salvá (Universidad Complutense de Madrid) – Jeremy W. Barrier (Christian Heritage University) – Stavroula Constantinou (University of Cyprus) – Alice-Mary Talbot (Dumbarton Oaks) – Mar Marcos (Universidad de Cantabria) – Montserrat Camps (Universitat de Barcelona) – Giulia Sfameni Gasparro (Università degli Studi di Messina)

Guest speakers:

- 1) Valentina Calzolari (Université de Gèneve) “Les traductions arméniennes des Actes apocryphes des apôtres”
- 2) Alin Suciu (Göttingen Academy of Sciences and Humanities) “The Coptic-Arabic-Ethiopic Collection of the Apocryphal Acts of the Apostles”
- 3) Susanne Luther (University of Groningen) (To be confirmed)
- 4) Israel Muñoz Gallarte (Universidad de Córdoba) “Cosmología en el Himno de la Perla de los *Hechos de Tomás*”

The similarities between Early Christian literature and Late Antique and Byzantine Hagiography are very clear, since both use identical literary models and motifs in their narrations and are created in a similar ideological and geographical framework.

This connection between the literature from the Early Christian Era (2nd-4th centuries) and Late Antique and Byzantine Hagiography (5th to 15th centuries) are much more significant, if two literary genres such as the Apocryphal Acts of the Apostles and the Saints' Lives are studied and perceived as a whole. Thus, in the former one can observe a wide range of literary motifs that will be developed later by Late Antique or Byzantine hagiographers, especially in the Saints' Lives. In fact, from a global perspective the Early Christian literature dealing with the apostles and their missions could be interpreted as a sort of protohagiography, a clear antecedent of the narrations found later in Hagiography in Late Antiquity or the Byzantine Era.

For these reasons, this conference is aimed at analyzing this literary phenomenon from a multidisciplinary point of view. The sessions of the conference will be focused on the study of the Apocryphal Acts of the Apostle –not only the so called “Major”, but also other texts related to this tradition, i.e. the *Acts of Philip* or the *Acts of Xanthippe and Polixena*– and the Eastern saints' lives composed from the 5th century onwards. Among the papers on these topics, discussion on other tradition different than the Greek one, such as the Arabic, Syriac, Ethiopic, Coptic, Armenian, Georgian, Slavonic or Latin, will be very welcome.

Some of the main thematic axes will be:

- Literary connections between the Apocryphal Acts of the Apostles and the Saints' Lives.
- Literary motifs of the hagiographical tradition.
- The role of women in the Apocryphal Acts of the Apostles and/or in Hagiography.
- The translations of the Apocryphal Acts of the Apostles in Late Antiquity and Early Middle Ages.

Any proposal related either to these axes or to the main topic of this conference will be reviewed by the scientific committee. Communications could be focused on a single work, author or genre or present a multidisciplinary or comparative approach, by studying, i.e., the presence of a precise motif on different genres, literatures, centuries...

Abstracts of 250 words or fewer should be submitted to angel.narro@uv.es in .pdf or .docx format no later than January 31, 2020. Notifications of acceptance will be sent prior to February 29, 2020. Please include your name, affiliation, and the title of your abstract in an attached document and the title of the conference in the title line of your email. Papers should be no longer than 20 minutes. Papers could be written in Catalan, English, French, German, Italian, Portuguese or Spanish.

Participation fees will be transferred to a bank account which will be provided when the proposal will be accepted.

Fees¹:

- 75 € Speakers (Professors, researchers)
 - 50 € Speakers (PhD Students, Members of the SEB)
 - 20 € Students and others

Organized by:



Sponsored by:



- + Departament de Filologia Clàssica. Facultat de Filologia, Traducció i Comunicació (Universitat de València)
 - + Proyecto HUM-829 “Edición, traducción y comentario de los Hechos apócrifos de Tomás” (Universidad de Córdoba)
 - + Sociedad Española de Bizantinística

¹ The fees entitle the speakers to receive a copy of the proceedings. The acceptance of the papers submitted to publication will only depend, however, on a double-blind peer review process based on scientific criteria required by the academic publishing house's policy of quality.