

University of Warsaw  
Faculty of "Artes Liberales"  
Centre for Studies on the Classical Tradition (OBTA)

## Chasing Mythical Beasts...

### The Reception of Creatures from Graeco-Roman Mythology in Children's & Young Adults' Culture as a Transformation Marker



**UW:** Two centuries  
Good beginning



**OBTA**

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**AMU**  
Akademia Młodych Uczonych  
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## 25th Anniversary of OBTA

International Conference, Warsaw, May 12–15, 2016



# Programme of the Conference

**MAY 12, 2016 (THURSDAY)**

Ball Hall, Tyszkiewicz-Potocki Palace, University of Warsaw

**14.00**

## **Opening**

Introduction: Katarzyna Marciniak, Faculty of "Artes Liberales", University of Warsaw

**Prof. Marcin Pałys**, His Magnificence Rector of the University of Warsaw

**Prof. Jerzy Axer**, Dean of the Faculty of "Artes Liberales", University of Warsaw

**Dr. Mechthild Wagner**, Science Counselor, Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Poland

**Prof. Franciszek Grucza**, Institute of Applied Linguistics, University of Warsaw, President of the Warsaw Section of the Societas Humboldtiana Polonorum

**Prof. Jakub Fichna**, Medical University in Łódź, President of the Polish Young Academy of the Polish Academy of Sciences

**14.30–16.45**

## **Worldwide Metamorphoses of the Be(a)st Friends of Childhood**

Moderator: Bernd Seidensticker

**Elizabeth Hale**, School of Arts, University of New England, *Medusas and Minotaurs: Metamorphosis and Meaning in Australian Contexts*

**Markus Janka**, Institute of Classical Philology, University of Munich, & **Michael Stierstorfer**, Faculty of Languages, Literature and Cultural Studies, University of Regensburg, *Semibovemque virum semivirumque bovem – Mythological Hybrid Creatures as Key Actors in Ovid's "Metamorphoses" and in the Postmodern Fantasy Literature for Children and Young Adults*

**Przemysław Kordos**, Faculty of “Artes Liberales”, University of Warsaw, *Modern Greek Children Face to Face with Hydra, Cerberus and Minotaurs*

**Christian Stoffel**, Institute of Classical Studies, University of Mainz, *Protecting the Ancient Past and Its Mythical Beasts: Julia Golding’s “The Companions Quartet”*

#### 16.45–17.00 Coffee Break

#### 17.00–18.30 Meeting the Minotaur in the Maze of Youth

Moderator: Daniel Ategwa Nkemeleke

**Sheila Murnaghan**, Department of Classical Studies, University of Pennsylvania (with Deborah H. Roberts), *“A Kind of Minotaur”: Mythical Monsters in the Works of Nathaniel Hawthorne*

**Deborah H. Roberts**, Department of Classics, Haverford College (with Sheila Murnaghan), *Picturing Duality: The Minotaur as Beast and Human in Illustrated Myth Collections for Children*

**Liz Gloyn**, Department of Classics, Royal Holloway, University of London, *Mazes Intricate: The Minotaur as a Catalyst of Identity Formation in British Young Adult Fiction*

#### 19.00 Evening Event for Speakers at the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Poland

*Welcome address*, **Mechthild Wagner**, Science Counselor at the German Embassy

*Presentation of the programmes of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation*, **Bernd Seidensticker**, Department of Philosophy and Humanities, Free University of Berlin, & **Katarzyna Marciniak**, Faculty of “Artes Liberales”, University of Warsaw

*Presentation of the funding opportunities of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)*, **Maria Szrajber-Czerwińska**

Networking-Reception at the Residence of the Embassy

**MAY 13, 2016 (FRIDAY)**

Brudziński Hall, Kazimierz Palace, University of Warsaw

**9.00–10.00 Eye to Eye with Medusa**

Moderator: Helen Lovatt

**Susan Deacy**, Department of Humanities, University of Roehampton, *Bright-Eyed Athena and Her Fiery-Eyed Monster*

**Owen Hodkinson**, Department of Classics, University of Leeds, *Reclaiming Medusa*

**10.00–10.15 Coffee Break**

**10.15–12.15 Ear to Ear with the Sirens**

Moderator: Sheila Murnaghan

**Katarzyna Jerzak**, Department of Philology and History, Pomorska Academy in Słupsk, *Remnants of Myth, Vestiges of Tragedy: Peter Pan in the Mermaids' Lagoon*

**Weronika Kostecka & Maciej Skowera**, Faculty of Polish Studies, University of Warsaw, *Womanhood and/as Monstrosity: Cultural and Individual Biography of a "Beast" in Anna Czerwińska-Rydel's "The Baltic Siren"*

**Małgorzata Borowska**, Faculty of "Artes Liberales", University of Warsaw, *The Awakening of the κνώδαλα, or Inside a Great Fish Belly*

**Adam Łukaszewicz**, Institute of Archaeology, University of Warsaw, *Fantastic Creatures Seen by a Shipwrecked Sailor and by a Herdsman*

**12.15–12.30 Coffee Break**

**12.30–13.30 The Magic of Pegasus**

Moderator: Gabriella Guarino

**Simon Burton**, Faculty of "Artes Liberales", University of Warsaw, *Winged Horses, Talking Horses and Unicorns in C.S. Lewis' "Chronicles of Narnia": Entwining Classical and Christian Motifs*

**Karoline Thaidigsmann**, Slavic Department, University of Heidelberg, *(Non-)Flying Horses in the Polish People's Republic: The Crisis of the Mythical Beast in Ambivalent Polish Children's Literature*

**13.30            Opening of the Exhibition at the University of Warsaw Gallery**

**Dr. Tomasz Strączek**, Curator of the University of Warsaw Gallery

**Dorota Łagodzka**, Art Historian, Faculty of “Artes Liberales”, University of Warsaw

**Jan Rusiński**, Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw

**Tomasz Łaptaszyński**, Artist Photographer

**14.30            Lunch for Speakers**

**15.30–17.00    Horned and Hoofed**

Moderator: Markus Janka

**Edith Hall**, Department of Classics, King’s College London, *Cheiron the Centaur as Narrator*

**Elena Ermolaeva**, Department of Classical Philology, St. Petersburg University, *Centaur in Russian Fairy Tales: From the Half-dog Pulicane to the Centaur Polkan*

**Bettina Kümmerling-Meibauer**, German Department, University of Tübingen, *On the Trail of Pan: From the Eternal to the Strange Child*

**17.30            Visit to the National Museum in Warsaw  
Animating the Ancient World**

Moderator: Susan Deacy

**Sonya Nevin & Steve K. Simons**, The Panoply Vase Animation Project, *Animating Mythical Vase Scenes, with the National Museum in Warsaw*

**Alfred Twardecki**, Curator of the Ancient Art Collection, National Museum in Warsaw, *Presentation of plans for a new gallery to be opened in 2019*

**20.00            Dinner for Speakers**

**MAY 14, 2016 (SATURDAY)**

Multimedia Hall at the Polish Academy of Sciences

**9.00–10.30 Chasing through Visual Culture**

Moderator: Bettina Kümmerling-Meibauer

**Hanna Paulouskaya**, Faculty of "Artes Liberales", University of Warsaw, *Mythical Beasts in the Soviet Animation: Interpretation of the Monster Phenomenon*

**Elżbieta Olechowska**, Faculty of "Artes Liberales", University of Warsaw, *Hercules Facing Monsters in Twenty-First-Century French Comic Books by Joann Sfar and Edouard Cour*

**Konrad Dominas**, Faculty of Polish and Classical Philology, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, *New Reception Spaces of Literature and Ancient Culture – Children's Creations of Mythical Creatures on the Internet*

**10.30–10.45 Coffee Break**

**10.45–12.15 It's All Greek to Me, Isn't It?**

Moderator: David Movrin

**Helen Lovatt**, Department of Classics, University of Nottingham, *Magical Beasts and Where They Come From: How Greek Are Harry Potter's Mythical Animals?*

**Maria Handrejk**, Heinrich Schliemann Institute for Classical Antiquity, University of Rostock, *Murder in the Moonlight: Harry Potter and the Return of the Werewolves*

**Robert A. Sucharski**, Faculty of "Artes Liberales", University of Warsaw, *Stanisław Pagaczewski and His Tale(s) of the Wawel Dragon*

**12.30 Lunch for Speakers**

**13.30–15.30 A Creature Called Man**

Moderator: Elżbieta Olechowska

**Marilyn Burton**, Faculty of "Artes Liberales", University of Warsaw, *Man as Creature: Allusions to Classical Beasts in the Novels of N.D. Wilson*

**Daniel A. Nkemele & Divine Che Neba**, Department of English, University of Yaoundé 1, *Myth, Beasts and Creatures: Towards the Construction of Human Categories in Oral Tradition in Cameroon*

**Joanna Kłos**, Faculty of "Artes Liberales", University of Warsaw, *PHEME the Gossip (Series "Goddess Girls") by Joan Holub and Suzanne Williams*

**Jörg Schulte**, Institute for Slavic Studies, University of Cologne, *Old Wine Bottled for the Young: The Image and Mysteries of Dionysos in Tadeusz Zieliński's "Skazochnaia Drevnost' Éllady"*

**15.30–15.45 Coffee Break**

**15.45–17.15 And the Chase Goes On...**

Moderator: Deborah H. Roberts

**Peter Tirop Simatei**, Department of Literature, Theatre & Film Studies, Moi University, Eldoret, *The Nandi Bear: A Mythical Profile of a Ferocious Beast*

**Jerzy Axer**, Faculty of "Artes Liberales", University of Warsaw, *Wobo's Fabulous Itinerary: From East African Mythology to a Polish Formative Novel for Youth*

**Katarzyna Marciniak**, Faculty of "Artes Liberales", University of Warsaw, *Chasing Mythical Muppets: Classical Antiquity According to Jim Henson*

**17.15–17.30 Coffee Break**

**17.30 Summary and Future Plans**

Moderator: Elizabeth Hale

**18.30 Dinner for Speakers**

**21.00 Museums' Night in Warsaw**

**MAY 15, 2016 (SUNDAY)**

White Villa, Faculty of "Artes Liberales" UW

**10.00–13.00**    **Poster Session – Faculty of "Artes Liberales", Mikołaj Rej High School, *Strumienie* High School**

**13.00–14.00**    **Presentation of the volume *Classics and Class: Greek and Latin Classics and Communism at School* edited by David Movrin and Elżbieta Olechowska**

**14.00**            **Lunch for Speakers**

**16.00**            **Visit to POLIN for Speakers**

**19.30**            **Dinner for Speakers**