

# CLASSICS CONVIVIUM

Fall 2017 | Volume XIX



## Included in Newsletter

Kea Update • Inside-Out Prison Exchange • Copley Latin Day • The Art and Science of Healing • UM Modern Greek and the “Global Graffiti Project” • MLK Symposium: Teach-In on Racist Appropriations of the Classical World: Past and Present • Carrie Arbour Study Abroad • 2017 Scholarships • 2017 Photo Competition • Upcoming Events

# LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Dear friends of the Department of Classical Studies:

Bicentennial celebrations have come to an end. The first half of 2017 had a backward glance; in the second half, we looked to the future.

Looking back, we saw that classics held a special place in the founding of UM in 1817. Greek and Latin were among the first subjects offered, and they have been taught regularly for almost 200 years. Classical literature was at the center of the university's education of its then solely male students, and it was supposed to make them feel patriotic and noble. The university's Greco-Roman commitments are also visible in the public art, architecture, and museum collections dispersed throughout campus—as documented on the website, "[Greek Campus](#)." While the Department of Classical Studies teaches some of the same texts read by students in the nineteenth century, the field is not the same. Today's learners are a more diverse group of women and men. They work through several disciplines to imagine diverse civilizations over thousands of years and probe the meaning of this past in our own era.

Looking forward, as the new chair, I wish to highlight three key trends in classics at UM that I think are important for our department's future:

First in scholarship, a cross-disciplinary, sometimes collaborative research approach is evident in several exciting faculty projects:

- The Derveni papyrus, the oldest European book, charred and in 266 fragments. Now it is being reconstructed by [Richard Janko](#) in collaboration with Mirjam Kotwick (Lecturer in ancient Greek at The New School) using technologies in microscopy and digital imaging, with support from a ACLS Collaborative Research Fellowship;
- Hipparchus' commentary on Aratus' Phaenomena, a book on constellations, planets, and weather signs, will be studied by [Francesca Schironi](#) in collaboration with Dr. Enrico Landi, UM Professor of Climate and Space Science and Engineering.
- The medieval Arabic reception of Plato's Timaeus, authoritative text in antiquity for the disciplines of astronomy, medicine, music, and mathematics. The very idea of disciplinarity is the subject of research by [Aileen Das](#), Charles P. Brauer Faculty Fellow in the Institute for the Humanities in 2017–2018

- The reception from antiquity to the Renaissance of Plato's Phaedrus, especially the famous myth of the soul. [Sara Ahbel-Rappe](#), winner of the ACLS Fellowship for 2017–2018, is "tracing the phenomenon of this text's migration into exegetical traditions and languages far removed from the original site of Plato's dialogue."
- "The Book Unbound," a collaborative a project led by [Nic Terrenato](#) and Anne Ruggles Gere (Professor of Education and English) with funding from the Humanities Collaboratory beginning in 2018 and bringing together disciplinary and functional specialists, including archaeologist David Stone, "works through the publication of three contrasting long-form digital projects, building on existing best practices to provide guidance in the creation of effective multilayered publications."

Second, in graduate education, our department is taking steps to make classical studies a more inclusive discipline. Greeks and Romans borrowed freely from other cultures, and their ideas spread throughout the world. Yet the discipline in the US does not reflect the diverse cultural, economic, and geographic variance of peoples. The department has intensified its efforts to attract students of diverse backgrounds for a Doctorate in Classical Literatures and Languages or related disciplines. Toward this end, we have become part of the Michigan Humanities Emerging Research Scholars Program (MICHHERS) designed to encourage rising seniors, recent B.A.s, and Master's students from diverse backgrounds to pursue a doctoral degree in the Humanities at Michigan. Additionally, in 2018 we have begun admitting MA students in a Classics bridge program that offers intensive language instruction to help prepare a diverse pool of applicants for the PhD degree in our programs.

Third, Modern Greek Studies is more visible in Classical Studies with my new position as Chair. I am a Professor of Modern Greek. I have been teaching and coordinating the Modern Greek Program at UM since 1999. At that time, the Foundation for Modern Greek Studies, a local, grass roots organization, endowed the C. P. Cavafy Professorship in Classical Studies and Comparative Literature and UM hired Professor Vassilis Lambropoulos.

Modern Greek is now a Program with three full-time faculty offering an undergraduate Major and Minor. I study the fantasies of Greece projected by people from the West and how Greeks have responded to these projections. My newest book is *Eva Palmer Sikelianos: A Life in Ruins* (forthcoming in 2018), on the life and work of the Bryn Mawr-educated American visionary from New York City who married Greek poet Angelos Sikelianos, lived in Greece from 1907 to 1933, and worked for a lifetime to animate the lost Greek life. The questions that haunted Eva Palmer may have some bearing on Classics: what challenges are posed to the West by modern Greece and how do ancient Greek (a prestigious dead language) and modern Greek (less prestigious, more alive) speak to each other?

The present academic year brings some momentous changes in our faculty. Comings and goings are part of academic life. A retirement in 2018 will be deeply felt. [Vassilis Lambropoulos](#), C. P. Cavafy Professor since 1999, built the UM Modern Greek Program and mentored many graduate students in Comparative Literature and other fields. The department has advertised the Modern Greek chair, and we anticipate filling the position in 2018.

We congratulate [Arthur Verhoogt](#), Professor of Papyrology and Arthur F. Thurnau Professor, who has contributed much to our graduate and undergraduate programs. He is now Associate Dean for Academic Programs and Initiatives in Rackham. He has relocated to Rackham and will teach a reduced load in classics.

We also welcome two arrivals. [Monica Tsuneishi](#) (MSIS UM, and Master of Philosophy in Classics, University of Cambridge), currently collection manager in Papyrology, has added the role of Librarian for Classical Studies as one of her duties on an interim basis, taking the place of Beau Case, who has left his position as Field Librarian of Classical Studies to become the new Dean of the Library System at the University of Toledo.

[Linda Gosner](#) (PhD in Archaeology, Brown University) is a Michigan Society Fellow and Assistant Professor in our department for the next three years. Her research lies at the intersections of archaeology, anthropology, classical studies, environmental history, and the history of science and technology, and she studies the connections between resource extraction and empire in Roman Spain using a wide range of innovative techniques.

Finally, the Department thanks Sara Forsdyke, Professor of Classical Studies and History, for her outstanding service as Chair from January 2014 to June 2017.

It is a pleasure to welcome the new term with wishes that the conversation may be lively, with opportunities to reflect on the long past and promising future of classical studies.

*Artemis Leontis*

Professor of Modern Greek and  
Chair of Classical Studies



## Announcement of the George Horton Fund, established by a bequest from the estate of

The University of Michigan received a bequest from the estate of Nancy Horton in 2017. One half of the bequest will be an endowment in the Department of Classical Studies, which will bear the name of her father, "The George Horton Fund." George Horton was a graduate of the University of Michigan and a scholar of Greek and Latin. He was also a philhellene. He worked as a member of the US diplomatic corp. As US Consul in Athens in 1893, he promoted the revival of the Olympic Games and US involvement in them. He was twice the Consul General at Smyrna: from 1911 to 1917 and 1919-1922. His second period of office coincided with the Greco-Turkish War, which ended with the Great Fire of Smyrna and ethnic cleansing of the Christian population in the region. Horton published an account of the events, *The Blight of Asia*, in 1926. He married a Greek woman. The George Horton Fund in Classical Studies is, by the terms of the estate, "for the study of the Classics, Greek and Latin, and modern Greek studies."

# 2017 FIELD UPDATE

## *Natalie Abell | Kea*

Ayia Irini on the Cycladic island of Kea was a bustling town during the Bronze Age, from about 2650 to 1300 BCE. The archaeological site, located on the large, sheltered bay of Ayios Nikolaos, was excavated in the 1960s by John L. Caskey of the University of Cincinnati; study and publication of the artifacts, architecture, and stratigraphy is ongoing. Ayia Irini is a significant site because it was a hub in Bronze Age exchange and communication networks that linked mainland Greece, Aegina, the Cyclades, and Crete. Indeed, the longevity of the site is almost certainly owed to the important role that its residents played in mediating access for people from different Aegean regions to the polymetallic resources of Lavrion, located just opposite Ayia Irini on the eastern coast of Attica. That residents of the town were well-connected to wider Aegean exchange networks is clear from a variety of imported objects—especially ceramics—that have been recovered from the site, in addition to the extensive evidence for local metallurgical activity.

This summer, I returned to Kea to continue my research on local economy and society during the Bronze Age. Thanks to the efforts of the local staff of the Chora Museum and the Ephorate of Cycladic Antiquities, it was possible to spend much of May analyzing clay pastes and traces of manufacturing methods of earlier Middle Bronze Age (MBA) ceramics (ca. 1900–1700 BCE). This project is a collaboration with John C. Overbeck (SUNY



(View toward Attica from Chora on Kea)

Albany) and Donna May Crego (independent researcher), who are completing a study of the earlier MBA period at Ayia Irini. My part of the research focuses on clarifying exchange networks and local production patterns through macroscopic, petrographic, and analytical characterization of the ceramic

assemblage. Patterns of exchange and local production suggest that even though the town itself was quite small—probably only a couple of hundred people—residents were interacting in a variety of ways with major players of the Aegean, including the relatively new Minoan palaces on Crete, as well as the powerful town of Kolonna on Aegina, in a manner unlike other Cycladic islands.

During June and July, I continued work on a different project on the island, the Kea Archaeological Research Project (KARS), for which I am the Bronze Age pottery and ceramic fabric



(Examining ceramic pastes using a hand lens )

consultant. The project, directed by Joanne Murphy of the University of North Carolina Greensboro, aims to test the validity of archaeological survey data and to illuminate patterns of human activity in the landscape of northwestern Kea. With the help of the rest of the staff, our undergraduate field school students, and graduate student assistants (including two from the University of Michigan), I was able to study many of the ceramics that had been collected during fieldwalking in previous seasons and to clarify characteristics of local pottery in different periods. This season we focused especially on units that were made up primarily Late Roman and Early Modern ceramics.

I am looking forward to returning to Kea to continue my research next year, and I am grateful to the Department of Classical Studies for supporting my work there.



## Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program, Winter

By Sara Ahbel-Rappe

This past Winter semester, I taught Classical Civilizations 479, “Socrates and other Prisoners of Conscience,” to a class of 30 students who met once a week at Macomb Correctional Facility, a men’s prison about 70 miles outside of Ann Arbor.

15 “Outside” undergraduate students from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, studied alongside of 15 “Inside” incarcerated students. Together we read works from Plato, Soltzchenizen, Primo Levi, Gandhi, King, Angela Davis, and Deitrih Bonhoffer.

The students, who hailed from departments as diverse as political science and nautical engineering, showed their commitment to the class by making the long trip to the prison together, taking turns driving vans after hours, and weekly going through the ritual pat-down before entering onto the prison grounds.

The Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program was founded back in 1997 and is still directed by Dr. Lori Pompa of Temple University. Now, Inside-Out runs an international teacher training institute, where professors come from all over the world to learn this unique model of education.

Together, the class read through an impressive list of books written by some of the world’s greatest humanists, all of whom happened also to be incarcerated—not for what they had done, but for who they were and even what they thought.

Together the class exchanged ideas about the readings and, more importantly, learned to explore the world through each other’s eyes.

We came ever closer to issues that touched on our own identities and began to see each other as first and foremost, human beings who want to understand more fully what it is to be human.

As one of the Inside students wrote, “whether you’re from college or prison, we all want to learn.”

**“whether you’re from college  
or prison, we all want to  
learn.”**

What I found, personally, is that the stories we read about in the news, urban injustice and mass incarceration, don’t begin to fathom the intellectual cost of systematic racism and profound economic inequality. What saddened me the most was the wasted potential of so many students on the Inside who, like the University of

Michigan students we teach everyday, care about the world, have gifts, insight, and talent, and believe in lives governed by justice.

At the end of the class, we held a “graduation ceremony,” complete with catered dining in the prison gym, with food prepared by culinary students inside the prison.

We were honored by the presence of the Chair of the Department of Classical Studies, Professor Sara Forsdyke, who later spoke movingly of her experiences that night during our Departmental graduation ceremony.

Inside-Out classes are taught jointly through host departments and through CEAL, the Center for Engaged Academic Learning. Inside-Out training is available to faculty and graduate students through the Inside-Out center at Temple University. Below is a picture of our graduating class.



# Copley Latin Day at the University of Michigan

By Ruth Caston and Cathy Person

The Department held its 3rd annual Copley Latin Day on May 17, welcoming to campus over 300 students, plus teachers and chaperones, from high schools in SE Michigan. This year we moved from our usual location on Central Campus to the Sports Coliseum and Athletic Fields on Hill St., to better enjoy our (modified) *ludi saeculares* in conjunction with the University's Bicentennial. True, we were limited to one day, and did not have any animal sacrifices, but we did have some impressive chariot races!

The morning program was located in the Coliseum, where the Chair of Classical Studies, Sara Forsdyke, delivered a special welcome to the assembled group, followed by an invitation to learn



more about LSA from Recruiting and Outreach Coordinator Richard Cleare. We then got to the business of the day and a richly illustrated talk by David Potter about amphitheatres in Italy, which provoked a lively question period afterwards. To conclude the morning portion of the day, students came up to the microphone school by school and recited Horace's *Carmen Saeculare* beautifully in Latin.

Then it was time to hit the fields. The students took turns at four different stations: foot races, long jump, discus throw and mask making. After a short break for lunch, everyone returned to the fields for chariot races and performances of Roman comedy, carefully judged by our team of judges, Netta Berlin, Arthur Verhoogt, and Malia Piper. You can get a sense of the fun from some of the photos posted on our [website](#). Many thanks to Anna Cornel for capturing these.

As always, we are immensely grateful to all of those who help make this day possible: the staff and faculty in Classical studies, our amazing undergraduate and graduate volunteers, who went above and beyond the call of duty on a very hot day, and of course the high school teachers who make the arrangements to bring their students to campus each year and inspire them to study Latin and the ancient world.

## The Art and Science of Healing

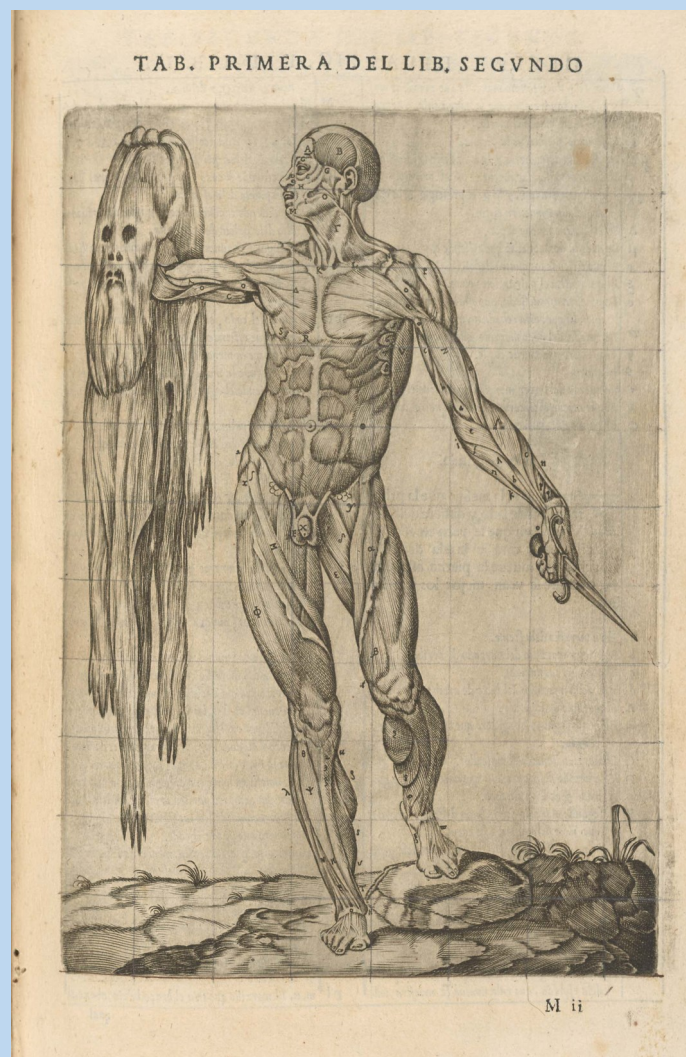
By Aileen Das

As part of the bicentennial celebrations, the Kelsey Museum of Archaeology and the University of Michigan Library hosted the exhibition the "Art and Science of Healing: From Antiquity to the Renaissance," which included medical artifacts and manuscripts from pre- and early-modern Europe and the Near East. The range of objects selected by Dr. Pablo Alvarez, the curator of the exhibition, from the university's collections charted the development of medicine as a discipline from Hellenistic Egypt to 16th-century Italy. Many of these items were donated by alumni who after graduation went on to pursue careers in medicine and retained a strong interest in the history of their profession. For example, the highlight of the exhibition, an early edition of the illustrated anatomical book of Andreas Vesalius (1514–1564), was gifted to the university by Le Roy Crummer, who received his BS from Michigan in 1893 and became a cardiologist after serving in WWI.

Two major themes of the exhibition were the relationship between "irrational" and "rational" medical practices and the transmission of medical learning across different linguistic, religious, and geographical boundaries. Medical amulets engraved with the figures of deities such as the Egyptian goddess Isis and anatomical drawings showed how magic was an integral part of medical practice in antiquity. To demonstrate that elite as well as non-elite patients relied on magical healing practices, Dr. Alvarez incorporated into his display a passage from the pharmacological work *On Simple Medicines* by the 2nd-century physician Galen that discusses his use of a jasper amulet for his own digestive problems. Despite the hostile attitude of some medical writers towards amulets and charms, doctors in the pre-modern Near East and Europe continued to recommend various magical modes of healing. For instance, the exhibition contained a medieval Islamic manuscript that lists the different names of God that patients could recite for protection against illness and other evils.

Visitors to the exhibition also learned how the Greek medical “classics,” namely the works of the Hippocratic writers (5-2nd c. BCE), Galen, and Paul of Aegina (7th c.), were translated into Arabic during the 8-10th centuries in Baghdad for elite Christian and Muslim patrons, some of whom were doctors. Literate physicians working in the medieval Islamic world often adapted their ancient texts to reflect new theoretical discoveries and native medical substances. A good example of this synthesis of ancient and contemporary learning in the exhibition was a short manuscript on medicinal syrups by the Muslim writer al-Abhari (14th century), for his text lists recipes that contain sugar—an ingredient that was virtually unknown to Greco-Roman doctors. As the section on Renaissance medicine revealed, before the 15th and 16th centuries, European doctors primarily had access to Galen and other Greco-Roman medical writers through medieval Latin translations of earlier Arabic versions of the original Greek texts.

A two-day symposium, organized by Professor Aileen Das and Pablo Alvarez, took place on March 9–10, and it included talks from international scholars on the artifacts and themes of the exhibition. The keynote speakers Professors Christopher Faraoane (University of Chicago) and Sachiko Kusukawa (University of Cambridge) discussed respectively amulets worn by ancient Greek children and Andreas Vesalius’ critical engagement with Galen in his anatomical textbook. The other presentations covered a broad range of topics from *Dreckapotheke* (the use of bodily fluids in drugs) in Galen and the manufacture of prostheses in the Holy Roman Empire.

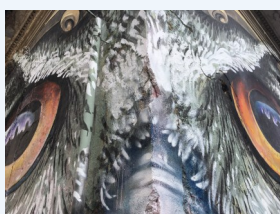


## UM Modern Greek and the “Global Graffiti Project”

By Artemis Leontis

In 2015, the explosion of wall writing in Athens inspired me to introduce international graffiti to Ann Arbor through my teaching and public art.

The streets of Athens became a gallery of graffiti and street art after 2010, when the European economic and migration crises hit the city. Even before that, tags (signatures) and slogans covered many street walls, with some brilliantly aphoristic sociopolitical commentary standing out. Graffiti mushroomed when austerity became the official economic policy of Greece and businesses closed down. The tighter the budgets, the bigger and better the graffiti. It did not just multiply. It positively boomed as art and thought.



A vibrant international scene now exists with both local and foreign artists, female and male, self-taught and university-trained, who prolifically write, draw, spray, stencil, glue, and paint their images and words in dialogue with

the world’s most pressing matters. Athens is now known as a Mecca of street art.

My project had two parts. One was a collaboration with Amanda Krugliak, Curator of Arts at the Institute for the Humanities, called the “Global Graffiti Project.” She arranged the city permissions for the painting of an outside wall of the Panera building on Thayer Street opposite Hill Auditorium. Between September 9 and October 26, people watched as the wall became the canvas of Cacao Rocks and Olga Alexopoulou, two Athens-born artists. A self-taught artist, [Cacao Rocks](#) began writing as a teenager in the early 2000s. His tags expressed the desire to become part of something big. A few years later, as police and youth clashed, he traded in his markers for spray paint and brushes. His painted work became filled with symbolism: scissors represent austerity cuts; broken glasses the loss of a clear political vision; and the word ΛΕΦΤΕΡΙΑ meaning freedom is written alongside these images exactly as it appeared on Athens’ walls 75 years ago to protest the German occupation of Greece. (cont.)

As one of the most visible, accessible, and articulate graffiti writers and street artists in Athens, he is known for both his bold interventions and his collaborations. He has spearheaded large creative projects to fill abandoned factories and dull, downgraded neighborhoods with color.

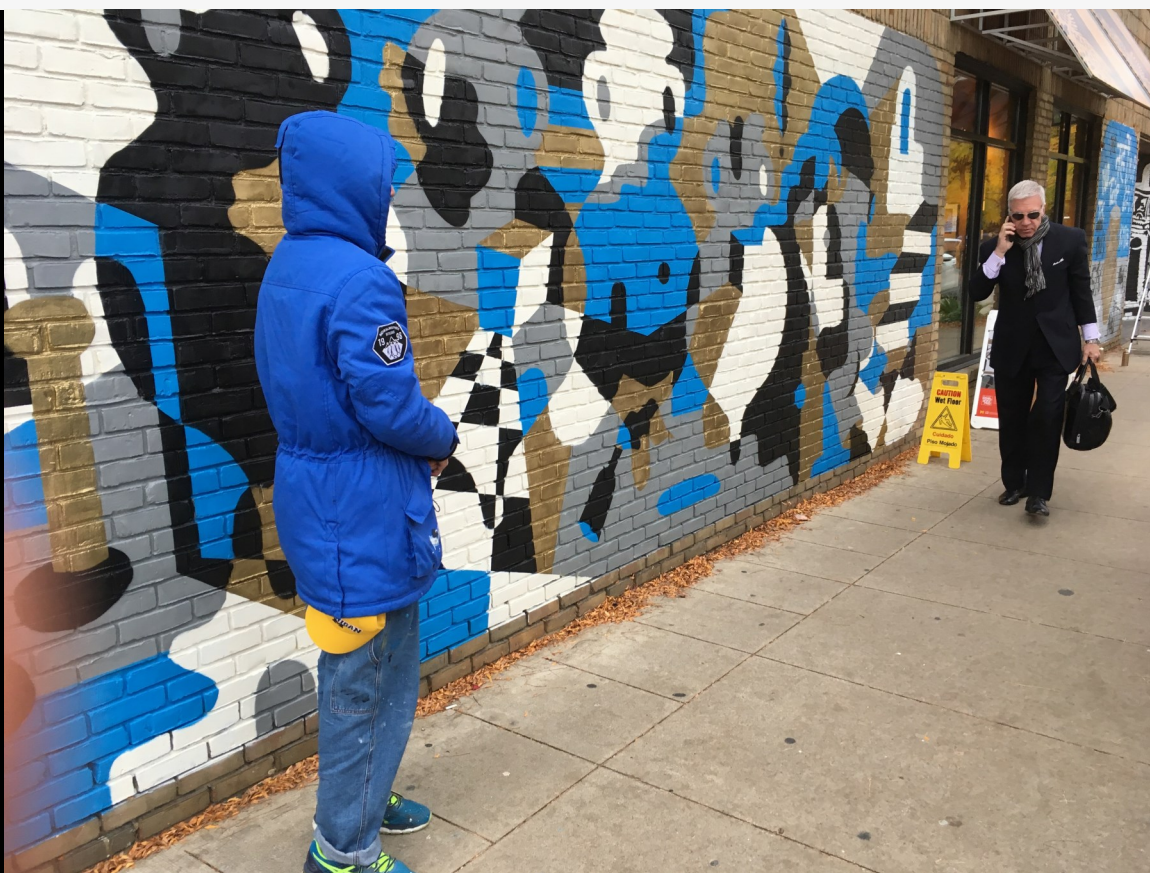
Cacao's completed his work, "Paros to Mykonos," draws on influences from photography, Greek architecture of all eras, streets items, and work by artists in France, Britain, and the US. The colors are vibrant, the lines clear, and the forms are highly complex. A signature item, set between buildings that look like Cycladic Churches around a town square, is a Molotov cocktail—front and center.

**Olga Alexopoulou's** art expresses movement and flight. Herself a person on the move, she was born in Athens, trained at Oxford University's John Ruskin School of Art, moved to Istanbul in 2005 after finding inspiration in that city's atmosphere, and paints on canvas and walls in cities throughout the world. On her canvases, the color blue simply explodes. She is so passionate about blue that she even flew to China to study techniques of painting blue and white porcelain. Her city murals are usually black and white, pushing against urban environments flooded in color, and she works on a massive scale. She enjoys painting city walls because people openly express opinions about public art. Olga's completed project, in black and white, is entitled "Seated & Blindfolded." It comprises a double meditation on crisis in the automobile city of Detroit and the classical city of Athens. The seated figure is reflecting on the fate of the two cities.

Teaching was another dimension of this project. I taught Classical Civilization 121, a freshman writing seminar, under the title, "Writing on the Wall." This was a new course introducing students to both writing and community engagement through the Global Graffiti Project of the Modern Greek Program and the Humanities Institute. I incorporated on site visits to watch the graffiti artists work and discussions with the artists. We conducted a classroom debate on a controversial matter. I worked with IT to create a blog for the last writing assignment, which was centered on studying, evaluating, and then curating a page presenting graffiti in a digital format.

Throughout the fall semester of 2015, I found myself talking to people about street art. Several conversations were filled with tension. As Olga Alexopoulou has observed, art on the streets inspires people to talk, whereas they would feel shy to talk about the same art in a gallery. By engaging the campus and the Ann Arbor community with international artists, the project—and the resulting murals—offer a global perspective of art in the public sphere and its critical role in effecting social change.

The Global Graffiti Project was made possible by a partnership between the Institute for the Humanities, the Modern Greek Program, and the Department of History of Art as part of the Institute for the Humanities 2016–2017 Year of Humanities and Public Policy, with generous support from Mr. Sam Roumanis.





# MLK Symposium: Teach-In on Racist Appropriations of the Classical World: Past and Present

*By Benjamin Fortson*

On January 16, 2017, I participated in a teach-in on racist appropriations of Classical Studies and allied disciplines as part of the campus-wide Martin Luther King Jr. Day events, in what was then and still is a very contentious political climate. Also presenting at the teach-in were Profs. David Potter, Heidi Morse, and Despina Margomenou. My own field of Indo-European studies, which is rooted in both Classical philology and linguistics, provided excellent illustrative material for this purpose: due partly to some early intellectual missteps, it became a springboard for ideas that contributed to the rise of white-supremacist nationalism in the late 19th century. Here I briefly sketch parts of that complex development.

The Indo-European language family contains Latin and Greek plus Sanskrit, English, Russian, Irish, and many other languages historically spoken from India to Europe (hence its name). Scientific study of this family began in the 19th century and was primarily centered in Germany. Scholars realized early on that these languages were descended from a prehistoric common ancestor (now called Proto-Indo-European); the question naturally arose as to where that ancestral population had lived and what they looked like. Operating within the then-prevailing view that language was equatable with race, the German Classicist and philosopher Lazarus Geiger observed, in a posthumous publication from 1871, that almost all peoples with light hair and blue eyes spoke Indo-European languages, and opined that the swarthier tones of other Indo-European-speaking populations (in India, for example) could only have arisen by admixture of an original fair type with darker indigenes. Therefore, he concluded, the ancestral Indo-Europeans had been racially Nordic and their homeland had been in northern Europe. (Ironically in light of what was to come, Geiger was Jewish.)

It took a few years for the idea of an original population of blond Proto-Indo-Europeans located in northern Europe to catch on, but once it did, it became the most prominent alternative view to the competing theory of an Asian homeland (the theory that is nowadays accepted by most specialists). Soon it was combined with another intellectual strand (now also discredited) that arose from philological studies of ancient Sanskrit texts. Certain passages in these texts were interpreted as describing battles between blond-haired, light-skinned “Aryan” invaders dispatching indigenous “black” foes. For independent reasons, the “Aryans”—the native Sanskrit term for high-caste Hindus—had become identified in Indo-Europeanists’ minds with the ancestral Proto-Indo-Europeans themselves. The heady vision of blond-haired conquering heroes ancestral to the great peoples of culture—the Greeks, the Romans, and of course the Germans—was too much for scholars and romantics of a certain stripe to resist.

These notions could have passed into oblivion were it not for the addition of another and far more sinister intellectual current. In 1854 the French count Joseph de Gobineau propounded the view that the Nordic race was superior to all other races and destined to be their master. The early Sanskrit texts that portrayed invading Aryan heroes with their rigid social hierarchy were especially appealing to this jaded aristocrat, who was plagued by doubts about the purity of his own racial ancestry and nursed a lifelong hatred of the lower social orders. In the 1870s, Gobineau’s views were popularized in Germany by none other than composer Richard Wagner in self-published newspaper articles.

Discussions about where the Indo-European homeland was and what the Proto-Indo-Europeans looked like were never the central issues of the discipline, which was chiefly concerned with the reconstruction of linguistic rather than ethnic prehistory. In fact, voices were already being raised in the 19th century against the use of “Aryan” as a racialist term and against trying to discover the Proto-Indo-Europeans’ race at all. But the horse had long since left the barn. For all its being a small corner of a small and specialized discipline, that racialist enterprise—which was also fed by folklorists, historians, religious scholars, and archaeologists—played an outsized role over the next few decades in firing up the imaginations of a motley collection of racists, nationalists, anti-Semites, and imperialists who harnessed it to legitimate their various agendas. It fed directly into the ethnic mythology of the National Socialists. Arguably the most powerful academic of the Third Reich was Walther Wüst, a Sanskritist and Indo-Europeanist and the right-hand man of Heinrich Himmler.

The central misstep of 19th-century Indo-Europeanists who trafficked in racialist investigations of the Proto-Indo-Europeans (whatever their motivations) was an irresponsible extension of their proper purview. One cannot fault them for coming up with ideas that would be proved wrong, nor for wanting to add flesh and blood to a long-gone people (philologists and archaeologists do this every time they engage with an ancient text or artifact). But one must know one’s limits and stick to what one does best. This was something the field took a long time to learn, and its technical scientific methods were not fully worked out for decades. Historical linguistics is a very powerful tool for uncovering things about humans of the past, but only things that have to do directly with their languages, not their ethnicities.

Misappropriations are next to impossible to prevent, but specialists have a responsibility not only to denounce them, to educate the public on the proper use of scientific findings, and to insure that their fields adhere to rigorous method. That kind of maintenance is an important goal of instructing new generations of scholars, as well as of peer review broadly construed.



## UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN BICENTENNIAL

The classical tradition has been integral to the identity of the University of Michigan since its foundation in 1817, when its first name, seal, and names of classes had direct Greco-Roman associations. It is no surprise therefore that the Department of Classical Studies participated in numerous ways in the University's 2017 bicentennial festivities and commemorations. We have, almost literally, "flown the flag" with the commissioning of public bicentennial-themed street banners. Tagged "Always Ancient, Forever Valiant," the banners juxtaposed an image of a performance of 'The Birds' (showcasing a very young James Earl Jones) with one from a cheerfully irreverent recent Classics play. The bicentennial also inspired investigation of certain mysteries surrounding Michigan's first classicist, Joseph Whiting. While graduate student John Posch has yet to discover the body, a fine recently rediscovered portrait of Whiting now hangs in the Departmental library. Finally, our teaching has intersected with the University's bicentennial quest to consider both its history and its future, for example in "The Greek Life" (Modern Greek 350), which revealed the sheer ubiquity of "Greeks" at Michigan. The Department of Classical Studies will continue for the rest of the bicentennial year to highlight the Greco-Roman classical tradition of U-M, a tradition everywhere apparent in University activities, symbolism, art and architecture, scholarship, and pedagogy, and now thoroughly documented in a new web site, "[The Greek Campus](#)"

### Department of Classical Studies' Bicentennial Events

**Winter 2017** "The Greek Life" was an undergraduate course offered by Vassilios Lambropoulos. The course looked for "Greeks" on campus over the last two centuries, and found them everywhere—in student groups, facades, immigrants, sculptures, museums, departments, and more.

**January 26, 2017** Dimitris and Irmgard Pallas Lecture by Yiorgos Anagnostou: "Speaking Greek at the American University Over the Last Two Centuries."

**February 2, 2017** Grand Unveiling: Portrait of Joseph Whiting, First Classics Professor at the University of Michigan (pictured left).

**March 22, 2017** "Black Classicism: Some theories, some practice and some dilemmas" by Tessa Roynon.

**March 29, 2017** Collegiate Lecture by Nic Terrenato: "Imperialism by Dialogue and Inclusion: The other story of the Roman expansion."



# Faculty News

**Sara Ahbel-Rappe** won a Michigan Humanities Award and an ACLS Fellowship. She will be using the idea of a "text network" to study the reception of Plato's myth of the soul from Late Antiquity to the Renaissance.

**Aileen Das** was awarded a year-long fellowship at the Institute for the Humanities.

**Ben Fortson** and **Francesca Schironi** were promoted to Full Professor.

**Vassilis Lambropoulos**, who holds the C. P. Cavafy Chair in Classical Studies and Comparative Literature, will retire at the end of the academic year in 2018.

**Lisa Nevett** received a grant from the National Geographical Society and a Loeb Classical Foundation Fellowship.

**Nic Terrenato** has received an NEH grant and a Humanities Collaboratory Award. Additionally he won a Michigan Humanities Award. He will be continuing his project of rethinking the early history of Roman civilization based on his remarkable discoveries at Gabii and at Sant'Omobono in central Rome. He gave the inaugural lecture for his Collegiate Professorship in March 2017.

**Arthur Verhoogt** will be Associate Dean for Academic Programs and Initiatives in Rackham for a three year term.

**Brendan Haug** and **Donald Sells** both lectured for the Warrior-Scholar Program. Brendan and Donald led two, two-hour sessions; check out the program [here](#).

## Featured faculty news story:

### Richard Janko Inducted into Academy of Athens

This spring, Richard Janko was inducted into the Academy of Athens, where he gave an illustrated lecture, titled Ο πάπυρος του Δερβενίου· καινούριες εικόνες, καινούριες γνώσεις, on his new method for imaging the Derveni Papyrus, the oldest surviving European book, and the light that the new images shed on the thought of Socrates and his contemporaries.

Richard Janko (left center), pictured with (left to right) the President of the Academy, Dr. Loukas Papademos, Prof. Michèle Hannoosh of the University of Michigan, and Secretary of the Academy Prof. Antonios Rengakos.



## Collin Ganio Awarded the 2017 Glenn M. Knudsvig Award for Outstanding Teaching in Michigan Secondary Schools



Collin Ganio received his M.A. in Classical Studies from the University of Michigan in the late 1990s. While a graduate student at Michigan, Mr. Ganio taught Latin under the direction of Glenn Knudsvig. Mr. Ganio said in his remarks on the award, "Glenn Knudsvig had a profound effect on my idea of what it means to teach Latin. His insistence that students should think actively about their knowledge and should critically analyze words, phrases, and clauses to build reading expectations and comprehension became cornerstones of my own approach to teaching. Thus, it is a great honor to be chosen for this recognition."

Mr. Ganio served as the Classics editor at the University of Michigan Press before he decided to move back into the classroom. He has taught at the Bentley School in California; the Roeper School for Gifted Students in Birmingham, MI; and has been teaching Latin at Skyline High School in Ann Arbor since it opened in 2008. Mr. Ganio and his wife Suzanne live in Ann Arbor with their cat Flash.

## Graduate News

### Classical Studies, Graduating Ph.D. Students

**October 5, 2016, Zacharias Andreadakis** (Richard Janko)  
*Reading for Clues: Detective Narratives in Heliodorus' Aithiopika*

**December 12, 2016, Amy Pistone** (Ruth Scodel)  
*When the Gods Speak: Oracular Communication and Concepts of Language in Sophocles*

**February 8, 2017, Jacqueline Stimson** (David Potter)  
*Killing Romans: Legitimizing Violence in Cicero and Caesar*

### IPGRH, Graduating Ph.D. Students

**December 14, 2016, Alexandra McLaughlin** (Raymond Van Dam)  
*Christian Pedagogy and Christian Community in the Fifth- and Sixth-Century Mediterranean*

### IPCAA, Graduating Ph.D. Students

**May 2, 2017, Dan Diffendale** (Nicola Terrenato)  
*An Archaeology of the Temples of Fortuna and Mater Matuta at Sant'Omobono during the Roman Middle Republic*

**March 28, 2017, Jenny Kreiger** (Elaine Gazda and Elizabeth Sears)  
*The Business of Commemoration: A Comparative Study of Italian Catacombs*

**April 17, 2017 Jana Mokrisova** (Christopher Ratté)  
*On the Move: Mobility in Southwest Anatolia and the Southeast Aegean during the Late Bronze to Early Iron Age Transition*

### Latin, Graduating MA Students

**Andrew McCaffrey**

#### Kudos

**David Morphew** was awarded a Rackham Predoctoral Fellowship for his dissertation project, "Passionate Platonism: Plutarch on the Positive Role of Non-Rational Affects in the Good Life."

**Megan Wilson** was awarded the year-long James Rignall Wheeler Fellowship at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens for her project, "An Interdisciplinary Study of Theater and Polis in Hellenistic Ionia." She will spend next year in Athens.

#### Awards

**Amy Pistone** was awarded the Contexts for Classics Graduate Translation Prize for Euripides, "Electra" (translation of lines 1011–1051).

**Megan Wilson** was awarded the Contexts for Classics Graduate Translation Prize for Sophocles, "Electra" (translation of lines 472–515).

## Undergraduate News

**Laurel Fricker** was awarded the Classical Archaeology Prize, recognizing the top undergraduate senior for distinguished achievement in the study of Classical Archaeology.

**Sophie Lemish** was awarded the Classical Civilization Prize, recognizing the top undergraduate senior for distinguished achievement in the study of Classical Civilization.

**Alexandra Andre and Elyse Lisznyai** were awarded the Copley Prize, recognizing the most outstanding undergraduate senior who excels in the study of Latin.

**Jonas Sese** was awarded the Seligson Prize, recognizing the most exceptional undergraduate Classical Greek major.

**Anthony Struthers-Young** was awarded the Phillips Classical Prize for Greek 1a.

**Scott Morton** was awarded the Phillips Classical Prize for Greek 2.

**Glory Brar** was awarded the Phillips Classical Prize for Latin 1.

**Ajilan Potter** was awarded the Phillips Classical Prize for Latin 2.

**Anna Morrison** was awarded the Phillips Classical Prize for Latin 3.

**Elyse Lisznyai** was awarded the Phillips Classical Prize for Latin 5.

**Christina Triantafillopoulos** was awarded the Modern Greek Prize in Intermediate Modern Greek.

**William Fuerst** was awarded the Modern Greek Prize in Advanced Intermediate Modern Greek.

**Michael Demetriou** was awarded the Contexts for Classics Undergraduate Translation Prize for "Antigone" (translation of Modern Greek poem by Tasoula Karageoriou).

**William Fuerst** was awarded the Contexts for Classics Undergraduate Translation Prize for "The Fourteen Children" (translation of Modern Greek poem by Tasoula Karageoriou).

**Anna Haritos** was awarded the Contexts for Classics Undergraduate Translation Prize for "Do Not Send Me Mother to America" (translation of Modern Greek story by Anna Siganou).

### Senior Honors Theses

**Alexandra Andre** (Sara Forsdyke)  
*Exploring the Various Experiences of Ancient Women in Prostitution*

**Luke Berri** (Richard Janko)  
*A Journey into the Unknown: Pytheas and the Discovery of Britain in the Fourth Century B.C.E*

**Nicholas Cullen** (Laura Motta)  
*Diet, Cultural Contact and Identity: The Archaeobotany of Iron Age Central Italy*

**Amia Davis** (Ian Fielding) - expected completion in Fall 2017  
*There Goes the Motherland: Why Rutilius Claudius Namatianus Went Home*

**Sophie Lemisch** (Sara Forsdyke)  
*Democracy Lost the War: Holding the Demos Responsible in Thucydides' History of the Peloponnesian War*

**Elyse Lisznyai** (Arthur Verhoogt)  
*A Popular Poet: Ovid's Challenge to Augustan Legal Reforms*

**Kaitlyn Schuster** (Ruth Caston and Richard Janko)  
*Polemic Poetics: Tracing Discourses of Recusatio from Alexandria to Rome*

**Justin Sese** (Sara Forsdyke and Ruth Scodel)—**Highest Honors**  
*A Stone for a Loaf: Expectations and Genre in Herodotus' Histories*

# Carrie Arbour Study Abroad Scholarships, Summer 2017 Awardees

Made possible thanks to a bequest from Belle Arbour,  
who graduated in 1909 from the University of Michigan and died in 1967.



## *Molly Schaub | Gabii*

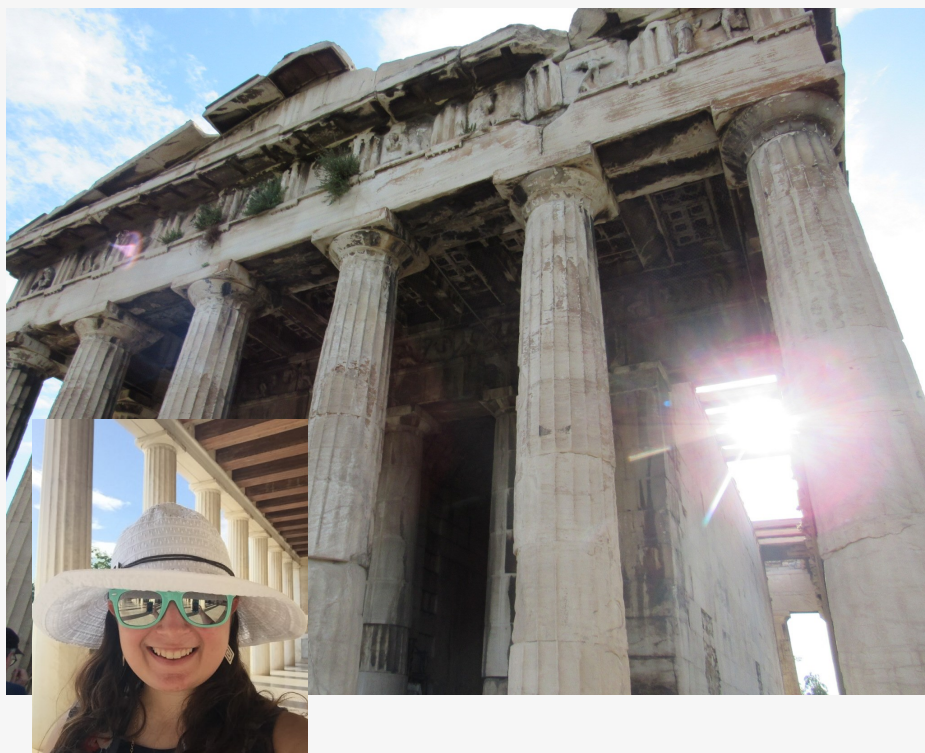
Thanks to the Carrie Arbour scholarship, I was able to spend five weeks in Italy this past summer working on the Gabii Project. Going into this experience, I was not sure how I would feel about the long days working in the sun, but, little did I know, I would come to love the work, the people, and—most importantly—the dirt.

The directors and staff of the Gabii Project foster an environment that focuses on learning and teamwork. Even those with no dig experience, like myself, felt like we were capable of gaining the new skills required and that we were contributing to the project in a meaningful way. Every experience we had on site held a lesson. As we washed pottery, sorted charred seeds, and learned to identify different types of animal bones, we developed a skillset to take into the field and became more informed archaeologists.

When we weren't digging under the hot Italian sun at Gabii, we were busy experiencing the hustle and bustle of Rome, where we lived in student apartments. Rome is a city that just begs to be explored and offers opportunities to learn around every corner. For me, my participation in the Gabii Project was also chance to return to the city that I called home for a whole semester last fall, and I find that it not only becomes more dear to me every time I return but also never ceases to teach me something new.

## *Sophia Christos | Athens*

I spent my summer in Athens, Greece completing research on Eva Palmer Sikelianos with Professor Artemis Leontis. Sikelianos was an American actor and director married to Angelos Sikelianos, a famous Greek poet. My research focused on the letters sent and received by Eva Palmer Sikelianos, which include both friends and family. We first organized the actual letters by sender and date. Afterwards I digitized them into an excel sheet. The most important letters were the ones sent and received by Natalie Clifford Barney, Palmer's passionate lover. I analyzed those letters and documented the ones that included the most interesting scripts. Finally we scanned most of the letters in order to have digital copies. Professor Leontis is returning the following summer to scan the rest.



## Anthony Struthers-Young | Gabii

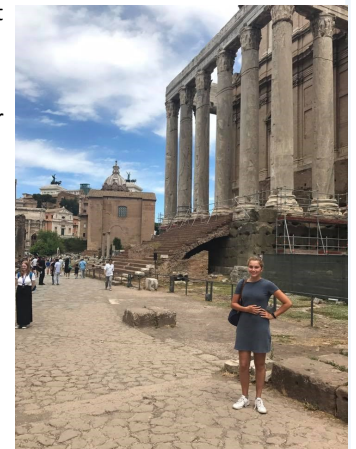
My Carrie Arbour Scholarship went towards tuition for the Gabii Project. It was an amazing experience for a plethora of reasons. I study the philosophical side of classics, and prior to Gabii, had had no archaeological experience, so I learned a great deal of what archaeology truly is. The project dispelled many misconceptions I held about archaeology; the largest misconception I held was that archaeologists only digs for finds and for structures. I was surprised when we went about recording each layer of soil and its relationship with other layers, compiling a database of every wall, floor, layer of earth, cut, and hole. I also learned first-hand how difficult the work of archaeologists is, and the profession gained my respect because of this.

What I appreciated most, though, was the opportunity to live in Rome for such a long stretch of time. Being a classics major, I have learned a great deal about Rome, and it was amazing to have time to explore and develop a sense of what the city is and was. I spent many evenings wandering, visiting museums and monuments, and otherwise admiring the city. Seemingly every corner has some significant relic of the past, whether it be classical, medieval, or renaissance, but it melds surprisingly naturally with modern life in the city. It is wild to see that many of the same things that the ancients admired and derided about the city are still present in the city. The majesty of the ancient monuments remains, the busy cosmopolitan atmosphere, the crowded and noisy streets—it does not take much imagination to piece together how the city would have been, which I find remarkable. Rome was the first city to never sleep, and it is still wide awake and lively.



## Cheyenne Paulson | Gabii

My experience on the Gabii project was incredible. I feel that my archeological methodologies greatly increased due to both my excavating in the field and my researching in the Finds Lab. While out in the field, I worked with a team digging the corner of an open square. What we found was super cool: we came upon a little room which was possibly used as a bathroom or an opening into the drainage system. During the last two weeks I had the opportunity to take part in the Finds Lab, which I think I found the most rewarding. A small group of us worked under the Finds director, and we learned about sorting pottery and proper techniques for drawing and recording the pottery. We also had the opportunity to closely study the objects we found most interesting on a more intimate level. I decided to study the bone hair pins we found on site. My research was very eye opening. I came to realize that the study of many Roman artifacts comes from Roman Britain, which in the end doesn't really help me in my study of early Roman hair pins. Realizing this made me want to do more. I thought it would be beneficial to look at other hairpins from sites around Rome, but to my surprise they weren't well published; I found just three articles that mention hair pins from Rome. Doing this project has made me want to delve deeper into the study of lesser studied artifacts such as the bone hairpins. I found being in Rome a rewarding part of this program as well. Living amongst the Romans with easy accessibility to the archeological sites allowed me to freely explore the monuments and buildings I studied in class.



# WINTER EVENTS

For updates, visit: [lsa.umich.edu/classics/news-events](https://lsa.umich.edu/classics/news-events)

**January 9th, 2018, 4-5:30PM:** *Rome and the Latins in the Early Republic, from Narrative to History; New Considerations and Perspectives*, a lecture by Nicholas Meunier, 2175 Angell

**January 15th, 2018, 2-4:00PM:** A reading of *Antigone* for Martin Luther King Jr. Day, 2175 Angell

**January 29th, 2018, 4 -5:30PM:** *Philhellenism and the Invention of American History*, Dimitris and Irmgard Pallas Lecture by Johanna Hanink, Brown University, 2175 Angell

**February 6th, 2018, 7:30PM:** Valley of the Muses: World of Hesiod's "Ἔργα καὶ Ἡμέραι" (Work and Days) a talk by Ruth Scodel, St. Nicholas Church, 3109 Scio Church Rd., Ann Arbor MI 48103

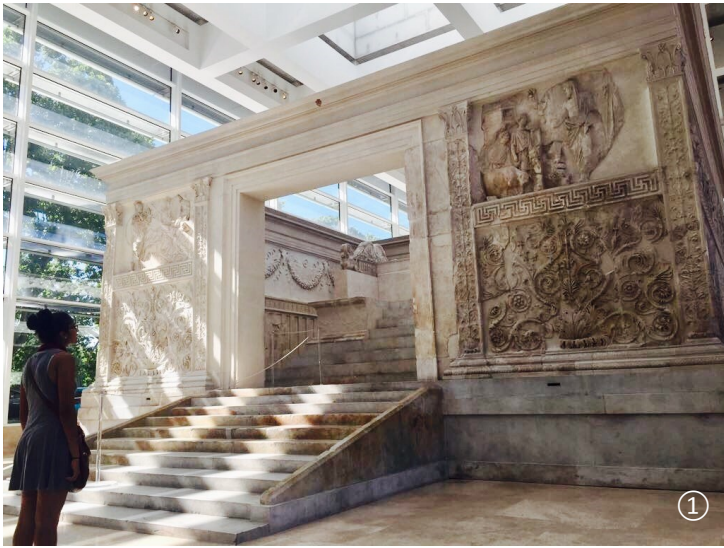
**February 8th, 2018, 4-5:30PM:** *Between Swords and a Mountain: Tarpeia, the Gauls, and Elaborations of Roman Myth*, a lecture by Dr. Jaclyn Neel, Temple University, 2175 Angell

**March 16th, 2018, 4:00PM:** *The Medea Project*, a play by Rhodessa Jones and the Cultural Odyssey Company, Keene Theater, East Quadrangle

**March 22nd, 2018, 7:00PM :** *The Fall of Athens*, a reading by Gail Holst-Warhaft, Cornell University, Literati Bookstore

**March 27th, 2018, 4-5:30PM:** *Writing Roman Empire in the Republican Period of China (1911-1949)*, a lecture by Dr. Jinyu Liu, Depauw University

# 2017 SUMMER PHOTO CONTEST



① *Looking at the Ara Pacis*, Samia Elahi (co-winner)

② *Vesuvius engulfed in flames, from the Garden of the Fugitives in Pompeii*, Gregory Tucker (co-winner)

③ *Boyce goes to the Acropolis*, Boyce Taylor (runner up)

④ *Tassels of Capestrano Warrior*, Katherine Beydler (runner up)

Artemis Leontis

Chair, Department of Classical Studies,  
Professor of Modern Greek & Newsletter  
Editor

Rachel Sutton

Events Coordinator

Sarah Kandell-Gritzmaker  
Newsletter Designer

Department Website:

<http://www.lsa.umich.edu/classics>

## Regents of the University

Michael J. Behm

Mark J. Bernstein

Shauna Ryder Diggs

Denise Ilitch

Andrea Fischer Newman

Andrew C. Richner

Ron Weiser

Katherine E. White

Mark S. Schlissel (ex officio)

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