



THE UNIVERSITY  
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## PAIXUE Symposium

Classicising Learning, Performance, and Power  
*Eurasian Perspectives from Antiquity to the Early Modern Period*

School of History, Classics & Archaeology  
The University of Edinburgh  
12–14 December 2019

*Venue*

Meadows Lecture Theatre  
William Robertson Wing/Doorway 4  
Old Medical School  
Teviot Place  
Edinburgh EH8 9AG



**THURSDAY 12 DECEMBER 2019**

8:30 Registration and coffee  
*McMillan Room, William Robertson Wing/Doorway 4, Old Medical School – first floor*

9:15 Welcome and opening remarks  
Niels Gaul and Curie Virág

**1. Classicising learning and political thought**

*Chair* Curie Virág (University of Edinburgh)

9:30 Christophe Erismann (University of Vienna)  
*Educating students, burying Iconoclasm, and advising the prince: The classicising approach of Photius, patriarch of Constantinople*

10:00 Javier Cha (Seoul National University)  
*Creativity in the service of the state: autocracy without orthodoxy in the political philosophy of Sōng Hyōn (1439–1504)*

10:30 Discussion

11:00 Coffee

**2. Classical models of rulership and education**

*Chair* Gavin Kelly (University of Edinburgh)

11:30 Elvira Wakelnig (University of Vienna)  
*Ibn Bahrīz's definitions and divisions*

12:00 Florian Hartmann (University of Aachen)  
*Classicising learning within the political system of the Italian communes (twelfth–thirteenth centuries)*

12:30 Discussion

13:00 Lunch

**3. The politics of classicising learning**

*Chair* Joachim Gentz (University of Edinburgh)

14:30 Elizabeth Tyler (University of York)  
*'A Theban Song': Fratricide, civil war and the politics of classicism in eleventh-century England*

15:00 Michael Fuller (University of California, Irvine)  
*The Confucian canon and the construction of cultural identity in Song dynasty China*

15:30 Luka Špoljarić (University of Zagreb)  
*Humanism and politics in Renaissance Dalmatia: Split, c.1490–c.1520*

16:00 Discussion

16:30 Tea

**4. Establishing political authority through classicising learning**

*Chair* Michael Höckelmann (University of Erlangen-Nürnberg)

17:00 Julian Yolles (University of Southern Denmark)  
*Performing learned Latinity in the Levant (twelfth–thirteenth centuries)*

17:30 Marina Loukaki (National and Kapodistrian University of Athens)  
*Politics and religion in Byzantium: Bishops and classicising learning in the provinces; Athens in the twelfth century*

- 18:00 Ming-kin Chu (University of Hong Kong)  
*Performance of learning through imperial voice: Parallel proses by Wang Zao and Sun Di in the northern–southern Song transition*
- 18:30 Discussion
- 19:00 Welcome reception  
*McMillan Room, William Robertson Wing/Doorway 4, Old Medical School – first floor*

## FRIDAY 13 DECEMBER 2019

### 5. Receiving and reconstructing the ‘Classics’

*Chair* Foteini Spingou (University of Edinburgh)

- 9:00 Christopher Nugent (Williams College)  
*Thinking through categories: The Chuxue ji and literary composition*
- 9:30 Jaakko Hämeen-Anttila (University of Edinburgh)  
*Regaining the Zoroastrian past: Muslim elites and Zoroastrian wisdom*
- 10:00 Justin Stover (University of Edinburgh)  
*The Spring of Pergusa: Greek into Latin in the eleventh and twelfth centuries beyond the philosophical*
- 10:30 Discussion

11:00 Coffee

### 6. Examinations of classicising learning

*Chair* Stephen McDowall (University of Edinburgh)

- 11:30 Robert Ashmore (University of California, Berkeley)  
*Dui yang 對揚, or ‘responsive exalting’: Performative aspects of the Early Tang civil service examination*
- 12:00 Floris Bernard (Ghent University)  
*Exploiting the talent for words: The sociological value of poetry and rhetoric in eleventh-century Byzantium*
- 12:30 Discussion

12:45 Lunch

### 7. Classicising education

*Chair* Anna Shields (Princeton University)

- 14:00 Pascale Hugon (Austrian Academy of Sciences)  
*Tibetan Buddhist scholars and the Indian heritage*
- 14:30 Alberto Rigolio (Durham University)  
*Education and paideia in early Syriac*
- 15:00 James Hankins (Harvard University)  
*Philosophy, the liberal arts, and the humanities in Renaissance Italy*
- 15:30 Discussion

16:00 Tea

### 8. Competing with the Classics

*Chair* Divna Manolova (University of York)

16:30	Asuka Sango (Carleton University) <i>The acts and texts of commentary: Debate (rongi) as a means of classicising learning in medieval Japanese Buddhism</i>
17:00	Michael Hope (Yonsei University) <i>The wisdom of royal glory: The oral transmission of knowledge at Mongol Quriltai ceremonies</i>
17:30	Bram Fauconnier (University of Ghent) <i>The artists around Dionysos: Performing Greek culture in the Roman empire</i>
18:00	Discussion
18:30	End of proceedings

## SATURDAY 14 DECEMBER 2019

### 9. The social dynamics of classicising learning

*Chair* Patricia Ebrey (University of Washington)

9:00	Lieve van Hoof (University of Ghent) <i>Libanius' letters: Culture as an instrument for political power</i>
9:30	Ashton Lazarus (Kyushu University) <i>Scholars and performers in Heian Japan: Addressing commoners in Fujiwara no Akihira's writings</i>
10:00	Milan Vukašinović (ANAMED, Koç University) <i>Style, identity or legal argument? Classicising learning in the writings of thirteenth-century Epirote bishops</i>
10:30	Discussion

11:00 Coffee

### 10. Classicising learning and elite formation

*Chair* Eduardo Manzano Moreno (St Andrews/CSIC Madrid)

11:30	Griet Vankeerberghen (McGill University) <i>The Ban family of western and eastern Han and the performance of classicising learning</i>
12:00	Takeshi Inomata (The University of Arizona) <i>Elite performance and power in Classic Maya society</i>
12:30	Discussion

12:45 Lunch

### 11. Enacting classicising learning

*Chair* Lucy Grig (University of Edinburgh)

14:00	Elena Gittleman (Bryn Mawr College) <i>Holy actors: Christian learning and the ancient theatre in the Menologion of Basil II</i>
14:30	Stephen West (Arizona State University) <i>Classicisation and humour: Upending classicism in quotidian texts in the Song</i>
15:00	Ariel Stilerman (Stanford University) <i>Classical poetry across the spatial and social expansion of court culture in early medieval Japan</i>
15:30	Discussion

16:00	Tea
	<b>12. Classicising learning in law and diplomacy</b> <i>Chair</i> Niels Gaul (University of Edinburgh)
16:30	Jonathan Skaff (Shippensburg University) <i>Sui-Tang diplomatic protocol as Eurasian ritual performance</i>
17:00	Daphne Penna (University of Groningen) <i>Classical literature in Byzantine legal sources</i>
17:30	Discussion
17:45	Closing remarks Foteini Spingou and Michael Höckelmann
18:00	Farewell reception <i>McMillan Room, William Robertson Wing/Doorway 4, Old Medical School – first floor</i>
19:15	Speakers and Chairs Symposium Feast <i>Teviot Row House, Bistro Square, ‘The Dining Room’ – 3<sup>rd</sup> floor</i>