

Registration is now open for the *Text in Context Day 2025*, entitled

**“The Exaltation of Inana”:
Goddesses, Priestesses, and Female Authorship in the Ancient World**

Enheduanna, an Akkadian priestess and daughter of Sargon (c. 2300 BCE), is the first named author in history. Her hymn in Sumerian, exalting the goddess Inana (Ishtar), is not only itself a masterpiece of ancient poetry, but also an invitation to explore broader concepts in the ancient world, including religion, cult, literature, and authorship. Our speakers will bring these contexts together through varied perspectives from across the Mediterranean world.

When: Friday 24-10-2025, 11:00 - 17:00

Where: Vrije Universiteit, Main Building (De Boelelaan 1105, Amsterdam), room 01A33

Programme

10.30 – 11.00 *Coffee and tea*

11.00 – 11.15 Opening words of welcome

11.15 – 12.15 Annette Zgoll (Göttingen): “Priests as Deities in Mesopotamia: The Case of Enhedu-ana” (Recommended literature: Zgoll 2021, Zgoll 2025)

12.15 – 13.15 *Lunch Break* (lunch will be offered by VU)

13.15 – 14.00 Sophus Helle (Princeton): “Enheduana in Her Time: Experiments in Context” (Recommended literature: Helle 2023 [Introduction and Translation hymn; Chapter “The Honeyed Mouth”])

14.00 – 14.45 Dina Katz (Leiden): “Who are you Inana? Inana’s image in the literary tradition” (Recommended literature: Harris 1991)

14.45 – 15.15 *Break*

15.15 – 16.00 Christian Zgoll (Göttingen): “Sappho, ‘Author’ of ‘Texts’?” (Recommended literature: Bierl 2019)

16.00 – 16.45 Klazina Staat (Amsterdam, VU): “Female authors and women’s literacy in Graeco-Roman Antiquity: Textual and visual evidence” (Recommended literature Meyer 2009, Hauser 2016)

Drinks

Credits

The OIKOS TiC Day is part of the recommended ReMA and PhD Curriculum. PhD and ReMA students of OIKOS receive 1 EC for preparing and attending the TiC-day. Literature will be sent to the registered participants in advance.

Registration

To register for the TiC-Day, please send an email to Rutger Allan (r.j.allan@vu.nl) before 1 October. Please indicate whether you will be attending lunch and drinks, and whether you have any dietary requirements.