

Programme  
**THE ROLE OF THINGS IN HERODOTUS'  
HISTORIES**

25–26 January 2019

---

**ABSTRACT**

The world of Herodotus' *Histories* is replete with things. It is the aim of this workshop to explore this material dimension of Herodotus' work. The presence of things in the *Histories* raises various difficult questions, including: How are we to imagine the relation between Herodotean things and the extra-textual world? What role do things play at the narrative level? Do they function as signs or resist interpretation? Do they have agency? What does the presentation of things in the *Histories* tell us about Herodotus' conception of his narrative project? In the workshop, questions such as these will be addressed by an international group of scholars.

---

**VENUE**

Universität Heidelberg  
Seminar für Klassische Philologie  
Sandgasse 5–7, ZG01 (Übungsraum)  
69117 Heidelberg

---

**CONTACT**

**SFB 933, TP C08:** Inschriften als Meta-Historie in der griechischen Geschichtsschreibung

**E-Mail:**

Benjamin Allgaier  
([b.allgaier@stud.uni-heidelberg.de](mailto:b.allgaier@stud.uni-heidelberg.de))

---

SFB 933 „MATERIAL TEXT CULTURES“



[www.materiale-textkulturen.de](http://www.materiale-textkulturen.de)  
[sfb933.hypotheses.org](http://sfb933.hypotheses.org)  
[@sfb933](https://twitter.com/sfb933)



---

PROGRAMME

---

**Friday, 25 January**

2.00 pm

Introduction

2.15 pm

*Andreas Schwab (LMU Munich)*

Egyptian Things Matter: Herodotus on Material Religion in Egypt

3.15 pm

Coffee Break

3.45 pm

*Lilah Grace Canevaro (Edinburgh)*

Iconatophy and It-Narrative: The Material Agency of the Monument-Novelle

4.45 pm

Coffee Break

5.15 pm

*Benjamin Allgaier (Heidelberg)*

A Polysamous Sema: Herodotus' Presentation of Alyattes' Inscribed Tomb

7.30 pm

Dinner

**Saturday, 26 January**

10.00 am

*Eva Tyrell (Bern)*

On Correlations between Herodotus' Narrative Representations of Relics from the Past and Their Different Persuasive Functions

11.00 am

Coffee Break

11.30 am

*Alex Purves (UC Los Angeles)*

'That thing which...': Ending and Object in Herodotus Book 9

12.30 am

Lunch