ABSTRACT

Premodern alchemists often presented their own discipline as an unchangeable form of knowledge. Yet despite this impression of immutability that the historical actors wished to convey, the discipline of alchemy underwent profound changes during its long history. Our workshop "Alchemy between Practice and Theory" brings together historians of alchemy who work on distant historical periods and diverse cultural and linguistic contexts in order to explore the discipline of alchemy in its mutability. In particular, the workshop will address some specific problems that have characterized the study of alchemy in its diverse practices and theories.

ORGANIZERS

The workshop is organized by the Research Group "Experience in the Premodern Sciences of Soul and Body" at Max Planck Institute for the History of Science and the Research Training Group "Philosophy, Science and the Sciences" at Humboldt University of Berlin.



MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE FOR THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE

Philosophy Science and the Sciences



If you would like to attend the workshop, please register separately for the program and the keynote before Dec 2, 2019, 12:00 via email:

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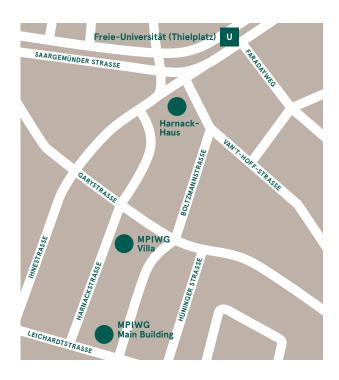
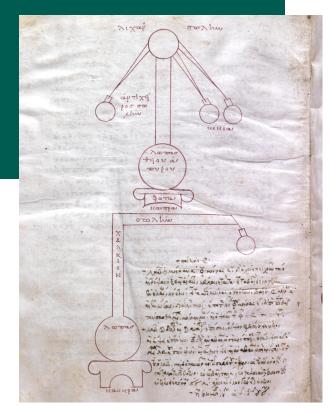


Image: Ms. Marcianus gr. 299 (10th/11th c.), fol. 194v (detail of an alembic).

WORKSHOP

Alchemy between Practices and Theories

DEC 3, 2019 · 11:30-18:00





MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE FOR THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE

PROGRAM

MPIWG VILLA · ROOM V005 HARNACKSTR. 5, 14195 BERLIN

11.30-12.00 Opening and welcome by

KATJA KRAUSE MPIWG/Technical University of Berlin VINCENZO CARLOTTA Humboldt University of Berlin

12.00-12.45 VINCENZO CARLOTTA

Humboldt University of Berlin

"Utility and Futility of Practicing Alchemy in Stephanus's *Lessons*"

12.45-13.45 Lunch break

13.45-14.30 SEBASTIAN RICHTER Free University Berlin

"The Coptic Purple Dye Recipe P.Berlin P8316"

14.30-15.15 MEAGAN ALLEN Indiana University

"Roger Bacon's Alchemy and the *Epistola de secretis operibus artis et naturae*"

15.15-15.45 Coffee break

15.45-16.30 CURTIS RUNSTEDLER University of Tübingen

"John Gower the Alchemist? Elias Ashmole's Alchemical Reading of Jason and the Golden Fleece"

16.30-17.00

0 Coffee break and <u>change of location</u> within MPIWG

KEYNOTE

MPIWG · MAIN CONFERENCE ROOM BOLTZMANNSTR. 22, 14195 BERLIN

17.00-18.00

LAWRENCE M. PRINCIPE Johns Hopkins University

"Corrupt Texts, False Authors, Obscure Practices and Inexplicable Results: The Problems of Understanding Alchemy"

Chair: PHILIP VAN DER EIJK Humboldt University of Berlin

