



Università
degli Studi di
Messina



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UNIVERSIDADE D
COIMBRA



CENTRO DE ESTUDOS
CLÁSSICOS E HUMANÍSTICOS
DA UNIVERSIDADE DE COIMBRA
Criado em 1967
FCT - Fundação
para a Ciência
e a Tecnologia
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REPÚBLICA
PORTUGUESA



CLASTEA VIII

International Conference

Conferenza Internazionale sulla ricezione di modelli antichi nel teatro moderno e contemporaneo
International Conference on the Reception of Ancient Models in Modern and Contemporary Theatre

Sulla scena. Mito e Rito tra passato e presente
On the Stage. Myth and Ritual between Past and Present

Università di Messina
4-7 novembre 2025

<https://clastea8.unime.it>

CLASTEA VIII, International Conference on the Reception of Ancient Models in Modern and Contemporary Theatre will take place on November 4-7, 2025, at the University of Messina. The title of VIII edition is **"On Stage. Myth and Ritual Between Past and Present"**.

The CLASTEA VIII International Congress serves as an academic forum of international relevance, designed to foster in-depth critical analysis and methodological examination of ancient theatre and its evolution in contemporary contexts. Thanks to its interdisciplinary approach, the Conference aims to encourage the intersection of multiple hermeneutic perspectives, generating a productive dialogue among specialists in the field. During the event, internationally renowned scholars and experts from various disciplinary backgrounds will offer significant contributions to both theoretical and practical research on Greco-Latin theatrical heritage, focusing in particular on its processes of reception, appropriation, and reformulation in contemporary performative practices.

The eighth edition represents a further step in the evolution of CLASTEA, an international scientific network born from the synergistic collaboration of four prestigious universities: the University of Coimbra (Portugal), the University of Granada (Spain), the National University of Mar del Plata (Argentina), and the National University of Rosario (Argentina). Since its foundation, the CLASTEA project has pursued the goal of promoting comparative analysis and epistemological discussion on the foundations of classical Greco-Latin theatre and its persistence, metamorphosis, and reinterpretation within the contemporary cultural landscape. The continuity and geographical expansion of the network are evidenced by previous editions of the Conference, hosted respectively by the National University of Mar del Plata (Argentina), the National University of Rosario (Argentina), the University of Coimbra (Portugal), the University of Santiago de Compostela (Spain), the University of Clermont-Ferrand (France), the University of the Azores in Ponta Delgada (Portugal), and the University of Rio de Janeiro (Brazil).

The scientific program of the Conference will follow a tripartite architecture: three intensive days dedicated to academic sessions, complemented by a guided cultural excursion that will allow participants to deepen their knowledge of Syracuse's archaeological and cultural heritage and its Theatre.

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The organization of each day will alternate between plenary sessions and parallel thematic sessions resulting from a rigorous selection of contributions received through an international Call for Papers. This structure ensures a wide and representative overview of the most current research lines in the field of classical theatre studies and of their reception.

WHEN: November 4-7, 2025

WHERE: University of Messina – Piazza Pugliatti 1, Rectorate Building

The Conference will be held at the Rector's Palace of the University of Messina, Piazza Pugliatti 1, 98100 Messina.

The Plenary Sessions will be held in the *Aula Magna* of the Rectorate. Multiple Sessions will be held in the *Aula Cannizzaro* and in the *Aula dell'Accademia Peloritana dei Pericolanti*.

PROGRAMME

SCHEDULE

November 4, h. 9-13: Opening Conference and Multiple Sessions

November 4, h. 15-18.30: Multiple Sessions

November 5, h. 9-13: Multiple Sessions

November 5, h. 15-18.30: Multiple Sessions

November 6, h. 9-13: Special Session and Multiple session

November 6, h. 15-18.30: Plenary Session and Closing conference

EVENTS

November 4 & 6 (h. 20.30): Theatrical Performance

November 5 (h. 21.00): Social Dinner

November 7 (h. 8-21): Tour of Siracusa. Visiting INDA Archive and Academy and Ancient Greek Theatre

CALL FOR CONFERENCE

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The CLASTEA international network, now in its eighth edition, continues its well-established path of epistemological investigation into Greco-Latin theatre and its processes of transmission, reception, and transformation with the VIII Conference dedicated to the paradigmatic theme: "On Stage: Myth and Ritual Between Past and Present". This event is part of a long-standing research tradition that has progressively expanded its interpretative scope, moving beyond purely philological inquiry to embrace broader analytical perspectives on classical dramaturgy.

The symposium is conceived as a broad-spectrum scientific platform, open to contributions from scholars with diverse academic backgrounds and methodological approaches. Its inclusive vocation of the event is reflected in its openness to researchers working in various disciplinary areas, including

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classical philology, history of religions, theatre history, performance studies, anthropology, linguistic analysis of ancient dramaturgy, studies of aesthetic philosophy, theatrical phenomenology, and reception studies concerning classical traditions in modern and contemporary contexts.

The proposed theme, “On Stage: Myth and Ritual Between Past and Present”, is marked by its polysemic nature and its ability to stimulate a multi-perspective exploration of ancient theatrical phenomena and their contemporary resonances. The conceptual framework of the Conference is organized according to an interdisciplinary approach aimed at overcoming traditional academic compartmentalization and encouraging a productive dialogue across methodologies and disciplines. Priority will be given to contributions that, with methodological rigor and theoretical innovation, focus on:

1. Philological-literary analysis of Greco-Latin dramatic texts, especially in relation to mythical narrative structures and ritual components.
2. The investigation of performative practices and stagecraft in antiquity.
3. Study of processes of reception, appropriation, and reinterpretation of classical theatre across historical periods.
4. Analysis of contemporary dramaturgical experimentations re-elaborating the mythical and ritual paradigms of classical antiquity.
5. Reflection on methodologies of translation and adaptation for classical texts in today's performance contexts.

The scientific committee will give special consideration to proposals that encourage multidisciplinary comparison and dialogue, integrate diverse methodological approaches, and trace innovative connections between past and the present. The conceptual dichotomy between myth and ritual constitutes the theoretical backbone of the Conference. A diachronic inquiry into ancient theatrical tradition – reinterpreted through their layered reception – will offer a deeper understanding on these two foundational components of classical theatre, to discern and evaluate their profound meaning and structuring function within Greco-Latin dramaturgical architecture. The proposal will articulate around some key epistemological questions, such as:

- How do mythical dimension and ritual praxis interact across the temporal continuum in different cultures and different historical-social contexts?
- What is their semantic value and performative potential for the contemporary audience?
- To what extent do myth and ritual still provide us with effective interpretative tools for our understanding of contemporary's theatrical practices?

The international scientific community recognizes the vitality and disruptive power of ancient theatre, whose capacity to engage with an ever-changing present seems inexhaustible. This intrinsic aptitude for re-semanticization and renewal requires ongoing scholarly attention. The Conference thus positions itself as a privileged space for discussion, comparison, synthesis of the most recent scientific acquisitions in the field of classical theatrical studies. It also aspires to delineate new research trajectories and stimulate innovative methodological approaches in the analysis of the complex dialogue between antiquity and contemporaneity.

TARGET AUDIENCE

The CLASTEA VIII International Congress is explicitly interdisciplinary and transnational, positioning itself as an inclusive academic forum open to a diverse range of participants working across the humanities and performing arts. The audience comprises multiple categories of academic

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and cultural stakeholders. The event brings together various categories of academic and cultural professionals, serving as a key meeting point for researchers and scholars of high scientific standing across multiple disciplines, including:

- Specialists in Greek and Latin classical philology.
- Historians of religions and anthropologists of the ancient world.
- Theatre historians and scholars of comparative dramaturgy.
- Specialists in Ancient Philosophy and Drama.
- Experts in classical reception and tradition.
- Researchers in the field of contemporary performing arts.
- Scholars of theatrical semiotics and scenic languages.
- Theorists of dramaturgical interpretation and translation.

The conference also actively engages professionals working in theatrical production and practice, along with cultural operators working to promote and preserve ancient theatrical heritage.

Particular attention is directed toward the local university community, including: University of Messina students with specific reference to those enrolled in humanities programs; PhD candidates affiliated with humanities departments; Professors of classical, theatre, and performance studies at the University of Messina and other Sicilian universities. Additionally, the Conference addresses representatives of eastern Sicilian theatre foundations; museum institutions and professionals responsible for ancient theatre collections, and cultural associations involved in the promotion of theatrical archaeological heritage.

Approximately 100 participants are expected to attend the three-day event. To encourage the involvement of student and early-career researchers, the University of Messina will recognize academic credits (CFU) for students who actively participate in Conference sessions. A certificate of attendance will be issued to scholars, PhD students (both Italian and international), and professionals in theatrical and cultural sectors.

Conference Languages

Italian, Portuguese, Spanish, French, English

Publishing Proceedings

The conference proceedings will be published by the University of Coimbra Press, following a double-blind peer-review process.

PROPOSALS SHOULD BE SENT VIA THE FORM PROVIDED

ABSTRACT FORM: https://clastea8.unime.it/?page_id=31

Submission Guidelines

Proposals must be submitted via the form provided as a Word document including the following information: full name of the proposer, institutional affiliation, email address, title of the proposal, and abstract (max. 300 words) and a short bio (max. 150 words).

Abstract Template: download here https://clastea8.unime.it/?page_id=31

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DEADLINE – 15 JULY 2025

All proposals must be received by this date. Accepted participants will be notified shortly thereafter.

REGISTRATION

To attend the conference, all participants must complete the registration form available at:

https://clastea8.unime.it/?page_id=33

DEADLINE – 10 August 2025

REGISTRATION FEE

1. Panel Organizers & Speakers

- a) basic registration* = 75€
- b) basic registration + lunches = 115€

2. Attendants:

- a) attendance only** = 20€
- b) attendance only** = free for students
- c) attendance only + lunches = 65€
- d) only lunches = 45 €

Optional Social Program

- a) Social Dinner (November, 5) = 30€
- b) One-day excursion to Syracuse + lunch (November, 7) = 60€

*Basic registration includes:

- conference materials
- access to all documentation
- certificate of attendance
- coffee breaks

**Attendance only includes:

- conference materials
- certificate of attendance

REGISTRATION FEES MUST BE SENT TO:

QA- QuasiAnonimaProduzioni (MESSINA)

Indirizzo Via XXIV maggio 28, 98122 Messina

Mail: qaproduzioni@gmail.com

QA QUASI ANONIMA PRODUZIONE

IBAN : IT97Y0503416501000000002276

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SWIFT : BAPPIT21P55

Deadline – 10 August 2025

ACCOMODATION

FOR HOTEL RESERVATIONS, PLEASE CONTACT:

direzione@fontanafalconieri.it

+39 3939934500

All accommodation arrangements will be managed by the Hotel Manager, and all lodgings will be located in the central area of Messina.

1. Non-hotel accommodations (B&B, Guesthouses)

Double room for single use (incl. breakfast and tourist tax) = 65€

Additional guest supplement = 15€

2. 4-Star Hotels

Double room for single use (incl. breakfast and tourist tax) = 95€

Additional guest supplement = 20€

Reservations must be confirmed by **August 31, 2025**, via email with a 30% deposit of the reservation amount by bank transfer. Further modifications after this date may be arranged between the parties even at a later date.

COMMITTEES

DIRECTOR IN CHARGE

Mariangela MONACA (Full Professor of History of Religions - DICAM University of Messina)

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Giuseppe GIORDANO (Full Professor of History of Philosophy - DICAM University of Messina, Vice Rector UniME)

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Vincenzo QUADARELLA (PhD in History of Religions - DICAM University of Messina, co-founder

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of QA-QuasiAnonima *Produzioni*)

Annunziata ROSITANI (Associate Professor of History of the Ancient Near East - DICAM University of Messina)

Maria de Fátima SILVA (Jubilee Professor of Classical Studies at FLUC - University of Coimbra)

Salvatore SPEZIALE (Associate Professor of History of Africa and the Near East - DICAM University of Messina)

Auretta STERRANTINO (Research Fellow in Classical Philology – UNICATT; Professor of Theatre History and Tragic Staging - ADDA, co-founder of QA-QuasiAnonima *Produzioni*)

CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT

Mariangela Monaca, Mauro Mormino, Vincenzo Quadarella, Auretta Sterrantino

Dipartimento di Civiltà Antiche e Moderne, Office 312, University of Messina

LOGISTICAL COORDINATION

QA-QuasiAnonima *Produzioni* (Messina)

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Fabrizio **SUDANO** (Museo Archeologico Nazionale of Reggio Calabria, Italy))

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Rui TAVARES DE FARIA (University of Azores, Portugal)
Giuseppe UCCIARDELLO (DICAM University of Messina)
Stéphanie URDICIAN (Blaise Pascal University, Clermont-Ferrand, France)
Anna Maria URSO (DICAM University of Messina)
Ana C. VICENTE SÁNCHEZ (University of Zaragoza)

PROMOTERS

- **Dipartimento di Civiltà Antiche e Moderne** (DICAM), University of Messina
- **Center for Classical and Humanistic Studies** (CECH), University of Coimbra*
- *This event is financed with National Funds through the Portuguese FCT - Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, I.P., within the project UIDB/00196/2025 and UIDP/00196/2025.
- **QA-QuasiAnonimaProduzioni** (Messina)

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- University of Malaga (Spain), coordinator: Marta González González
- University of Zaragoza (Spain), coordinator: Ana Vicente Sánchez
- National University of Mar del Plata (Argentina), coordinator: Rómulo Pianacci
- National University of Rosario (Argentina), coordinator: Aldo Pricco

PATRONAGE

- Associazione Italiana di Cultura Classica- Sezione Ibico - R.C.
- Anassilaos, Culturale Associazione, Reggio Calabria
- Accademia Peloritana dei Pericolanti, Messina
- Portuguese Association of Classical Studies-Center for Languages, Literatures and Cultures, Aveiro
- CUSR - Consulta Italiana di Storia delle religioni
- NutrimentiTerrestri, Messina
- Officina di Studi Medievali, Palermo
- Erasmian Society, Malaga
- SISR - Società Italiana di Storia delle religioni
- Museo Archeologico Nazionale, Reggio Calabria
- IMMEDIA Spa, Italy
- BRIA - Byzantine Route International Association, Italy

PATRONAGE REQUESTED

- Fondazione Inda, Siracusa
- Teatro Vittorio Emanuele, Messina



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CONTACTS:

Conference Secretariat

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