Science, Faith & Superstition
Conference programme
June 27th - June 29th, 2024
University Library „Svetozar Marković“
Thursday, June 27th

09:30 - 10:00
Conference opening

Session 1
(Chair Ljiljana Radenović)
10:00 - 10:45
(Keynote speaker) Steve Fuller (University of Warwick)
*The Religious Retreat From Divine Agency as an Explanatory Principle of Science*
10:45 - 11:15
Slobodan Perović (Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade)
*Romantic versus Toolbox Science: Assessing the Value of Modern Cosmology*
11:15 - 11:45
Ivan Kovačević and Danijel Sinani (Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade)
*Two Eclipses – Contribution to Understanding Nature and Society*
11:45 - 12:00
Coffee break

Session 2
(Chair Rastko Jevtić)
12:00 - 12:30
Dragana Dimitrijević (Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade)
*Dreaming the Future in Ancient Times: The Prophetic Dream of Tarquin the Proud and Its Interpretations (Cic. Div. 1.43-45)*
12:30 - 13:00
Ana Elaković Nenadović (Faculty of Philology, University of Belgrade)
*On the Use of the Term Superstitio in Quintilian’s Institutio Oratoria*
13:00 - 15:00
Lunch break

Session 3
(Chair Dragana Dimitrijević)
15:00 - 15:45
(Keynote speaker) Marcela Andoková (Faculty of Arts, Comenius University)
*Fatum est infirmioris potentioris uoluntas. Augustine on Fate and Astrology Revisited*
15:45 - 16:15
Pavle Stojanović (Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade)
*Can a Skeptic Be Pious and Should He Be: Lessons from Ancient Pyrrhonism*
16:15 - 16:45
Ana Šumenković (Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade)
*Doctors on Trials: The Physician as a Witness in Demosthenes’ Oration Contra Cononem*
16:45 - 17:00
Coffee break

Session 4
(Chair Dejan Dželebdžić)
17:00 - 17:30
Noel Putnik (Institute of Ethnography of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts)
*A Wrong Kind of Piety: Plutarch on Superstition*
17:30 - 18:15
(Keynote speaker) The Rt Rev Maxim Vasiljević (Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, MA, USA)
*The Relational Cosmos: Exploring Contingency, Relationality, and the Mode of Existence* (online)
Friday, June 28th

Session 1
(Chair Ljiljana Radenović)
10:00 - 10:45
(Keynote speaker) Gerasimos Merianos
(Institute of Historical Research, National Hellenic Research Foundation, Athens)
Alchemy as a Path to Divine Knowledge in Byzantium
10:45 - 11:15
Dejan Dželebdžić (Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade)
Why and how is the Earth Shaking? Michael Psellos’ Explanation between Science and Religion
11:15 - 11:45
Isidora Tolić (Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade)
Whodunit: A Comparative Analysis of Bouphonia
11:45 - 12:00
Coffee break

Session 2
(Chair Dejan Dželebdžić)
12:00 - 12:30
Dušan Popović (Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade)
From Science to Faith through Superstition, and vice versa: Philology, Alchemy and Kabbala in the Works of Blaise de Vigenère
12:30 - 13:00
Enrico Piergiacomi (Department of Humanities and Arts of the Technion University of Haifa)
Fracastoro's Dissemination of Theology: the Case Study of His Unfinished Ioseph (online)
13:00 - 15:00
Lunch break

Session 3
(Chair Anastasija Filipović)
15:00 - 15:45
(Keynote speaker) Elia Marinova (Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski")
A Quest for Prohibited Knowledge: Remakes of the Descent Motive from the Medieval exemplum to the Modern Science Fiction
15:45 - 16:15
Petar Nurkić (Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade)
Snakes, Sticks, and Shattered Mirrors
16:15 - 16:45
Ljiljana Radenović and Rastko Jevtić (Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade)
Descartes’ Demon and his Powers: The Break up with Medieval Demonology
16:45 - 17:00
Coffee break

Session 4
(Chair Petar Nurkić)
17:00 - 17:30
Miloš Vuletić (Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade)
Many a good, old honest woman hath been condemned innocently": Cavendish on Witchcraft and Spirits
17:30 - 18:15
(Keynote speaker) Bianca-Jeanette Schröder (Ludwig Maximilians Universität München)
Medicine and Prayers in a Deacon's Letters
19:30
Conference dinner
Saturday, June 29th

Session 1
(Chair Petar Nurkić)
10:00 - 10:45
(Keynote speaker) David Lloyd Dusenbury (Danube Institute, Budapest)
Leibniz’s I Ching, the Book of Genesis, & the Birth of Binary Code
10:45 - 11:15
Anastasija Filipović and Aleksandar Drašković (Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade)
The Cartesian Shift: Redefining Passions from Medieval to Contemporary Perspectives
11:15 - 11:45
Giulio Marchegiani (Bergische Universität Wuppertal)
Recognising the Legitimacy of Religion on the Basis of the Kantian Distinction between Knowing and Thinking
(online)
11:45 - 12:00
Coffee break

Session 2
(Chair Aleksandar Drašković)
12:00 - 12:30
Jack Chun (The Hong Kong Polytechnic University)
Science and Religion in Isaac Newton
12:30 - 13:00
J. Brian Pitts (University of Cambridge, University of Lincoln)
Does Meta-Induction Justify Induction, or Maybe Something Else?
(online)
13:00 - 15:00
Lunch break

Session 3
(Chair Rastko Jevtić)
15:00 - 15:30
Abdi Kitesa (University of Szeged)
Verifiability Principle and the Leap of Faith: a Philosophical Examination
15:30 - 16:00
Alex Barrientos (University of Utah)
Christianity not Superstitious: Locke’s Science of Miracles
(online)
16:00 – 16:15
Coffee break

Session 4
(Chair Ljiljana Radenović)
16:15 - 17:00
(Keynote speaker) David Ellis (Leeds Trinity University)
Hume and Wittgenstein: The Risk of Reasoning Religion into Superstition
Organizing committee:
Ljiljana Radenović, Department of Philosophy, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade
Dejan Dželebdžić, Department of Classics, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade
Rastko Jevtić, Institute for Philosophy, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade
Petar Nurkić, Institute for Philosophy, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade

Scientific committee:
Marcela Andoková, Department of Classical and Semitic Philology, Faculty of Arts, Comenius University, Slovakia
David Lloyd Dusenbury, Danube Institute, Hungary
Elia Marinova, Classical and Modern Philology, Sofia University „St. Kliment Ohridski”, Bulgaria
Steve Fuller, Auguste Comte Professor of Social Epistemology, University of Warwick, UK
Gerasimos Merianos, Institute of Historical Research, National Hellenic Research Foundation, Athens, Greece
Slobodan Perović, Department of Philosophy, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade, Serbia
Bianca-Jeanette Schröder, Ludwig Maximilians Universität München, Germany