Call for Papers

IMAGINES VII: PLAYFUL CLASSICS

(Göttingen, 9 – 11 October 2020)

Antiquity is not to be trifled with, or so one might believe from the majority of serious scholarship. Classical reception, however, is rich in playful recreations, inventions and parodies of antiquity. The results are anything but mere entertainment. Their variety and their impact would be ignored at the peril of understanding fashions of classical reception – and the historical traditions they in turn shaped, influenced or undermined.

The 7th Imagines conference will therefore turn to all kinds of playful reception in the visual and performing arts from the 19th to the 21st century. This can include – but is by no means restricted to – improv theatre, video games and installations, caricature, classical and popular music, sculpture, living history and role-playing, board games, graffiti art and other kinds of playful interaction with classical antiquity. We are particularly interested in the creative aspects of “traditions in the making”, issues of alternate realities and non-European tradition, but we welcome contributions relating to the theme of “playful classics”.

Imagines VII will take place 9 – 11 October 2020 at the University of Göttingen, Germany. Speakers will be refunded for hotel expenses and receive a contribution to their travel expenses. There will be no conference fees. Please address your proposals consisting of an abstract of max. 300 words and a short biography to Juliette Harrisson, Antje Kuhle and Martin Lindner (martin.lindner@uni-goettingen.de) no later than 6 January 2020.

The contributions must be original works not previously published. Papers may be presented in either English or German and should not exceed 25 minutes. The abstract should clearly state the argument of the paper, in keeping with the topic of the conference. A selection of contributions will be considered for an English publication in the Bloomsbury series Imagines – Classical Receptions in the Visual and Performing Arts.