

Seminarium doktoranckie w Instytucie Filologii Klasycznej UW  
3 listopada 2021, godz. 16.45

Dr Regina Höschele (University of Toronto)  
*Pessimi poetae – A Worst of*

Streszczenie:

My paper is concerned with the type of the *poietes kakos* or *pessimus poeta*: How are bad poets represented and perceived in ancient texts, what, if any, consequences does the terrible quality of their verse have, and who were the most notorious of the lot? Contemplating both biographical anecdotes relating to historical figures and literary invectives against known as well as unknown characters (in part surely fictional), I will ask why bad poets are good to think with.

Prof. Peter Bing (University of Toronto)

*The Death of the Author: Hesiod's Double Burial in Epigrams by "Pindar" (Page FGE p.159-60), Mnasilkes (AP 7.54 = 18 GP), Alkaios (AP 7.55 = 12 GP), and in the Biographical Tradition*

Streszczenie:

From an early date, ancient writers took epigrams – whether composed originally for inscription or as literature – and incorporated them into prose narratives, embedding them within stories. One such story is my focus here: the death of the author, Hesiod. This well-known tale is part of a biographical discourse that arose in response to the poems of Hesiod, and which forms a paratextual corpus spanning various genres of poetry and prose. Several epigrams about Hesiod's burial belong to this discourse – though in varying ways, explicit or implicit: the poems may appear within prose accounts that provide concrete biographical context; they may on the other hand appear separate from such accounts, e.g. in a poetry book, in which case readers must supply information from their own prior knowledge. Since the discourse is present either way, one and the same epigram may slip easily between contexts, sometimes appearing in an explicitly biographical framework, sometimes where the discourse is merely implicit. This illustrates the general inclination of the genre toward “intermediality”, that is, its tendency to migrate between media – monuments, poetry books (collections and anthologies), extended narratives – in each of which the same poem can function to quite different effect.