

# Symposium Peregrinum 2026

## Brescia, Italy, June 18 to June 20, 2026

### *Catastrophes and Rebirth in the Greek and Roman World*

**Thursday 18 June 2026.** Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore – sede di Brescia (Via Trieste 17) – Sala della Gloria. 9 a.m.

Online: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82058410872?pwd=FUXZ3QhOgTXxO9P13nnE9PBwktbRXa.1>

#### Greece

Chair: Giulia Tampalini

**Amelia Robertson Brown**, “Always Fair in Love AND War: Armed Aphrodite/Venus of Acrocorinth in Context as Civic Protector Goddess of Archaic to Roman Corinth”

**Marco Zanelli**, “Medea without Witnesses: Tragedy and Rhetoric in a Fragment of Carcinus II”

**Alain G.F. Blomart**, “The Rebirth of the Soul from Hinduism to Orphism, Pythagoreanism, Platonism, Neoplatonism, Mithraism, and Christianity”

Coffee break

Chair: Stev Talarman

**Krzysztof Nawotka**, “Two-stage Disaster and slow Recovery: Miletos and Didyma versus great Empires of the late-Archaic and Classical Age”

**Giulia Tampalini**, “The End is just the Beginning: “Sweet Hopes” and the Reevaluation of Death in Greek Mystery Traditions and Plato”

**Alessandro Stavru**, “Socrates’ Death and the Birth of Socratic Dialogue”

Lunch

Università Cattolica di Brescia – Sala della Gloria. 3 p.m.

Chair: Krešimir Vuković

**Elena Santagati**, “Disaster and Resilience: The Earthquake of 226 BC and the Reconstruction of Rhodes”

**Iaria Bultrighini**, “Pausanias between ἐρείπια and the Regeneration of Memory”

**Daniel Sarefield**, “Unspeaking Acts: A Typology of Agos and Nefas in Greek and Roman Catastrophes”

#### Rome

**Stev Talarman**, “The (Re)birth of Eloquence from the Ashes of the Republic? State Crises and the Ideal Orator in Cicero’s De Oratore”



**Steve Rutledge**, “You Only Die Twice: A Double Death in Tacitus”

Coffee break

Chair: Steven L. Tuck

**Gaius Stern**, “Civil War and Rebirth on the Ara Pacis Augustae and in the Year of Four Emperors, 69 CE”

**Krešimir Vuković**, “Disaster, Rivers, and Renewal in Georgics IV”

**Elena Santagati**, “The Proceedings of the Noto-Syracuse 2025 Symposium”

**Friday 19 June 2026.** Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore – sede di Brescia (Via Trieste 17) – Aula Gemelli. 9 a.m.

Chair: Krzysztof Nawotka

**Lucia Degiovanni**, “From the Pyre to the Stars: The Apotheosis of the Stoic Sapiens in the Hercules Octaveus”

**Henry Walker**, “Lucan’s Catastrophe and the Rebirth of Liberty”

**Katarina Petrovićová**, “Catastrophe and Rebirth in Cicero’s Self Representation: Metaphors of Ruin, Renewal, and the Emergence of Human Divinity”

Coffee break

Chair: Attilio Mastrocinque

**Steven L. Tuck**, “Differential Identities among Survivors of Vesuvius from Herculaneum and Pompeii”

**Christopher Star**, “Dies illa: One Day of Destruction in Ancient Apocalyptic Thought”

**Francesco Nicolai**, “Bubbles in the Apocalypse: the pungent levity of Parody in Lucian’s Charon 17-24”

**Attilio Mastrocinque**, “Rebirth in the Severan Age”

Lunch

3 p.m. Archaeological site of Roman Brescia and Santa Giulia Museum

**Saturday 20 June 2026.** Palazzo Martinengo delle Palle – Sala del Camino Via S. Martino della Battaglia 18. 9 a.m. Online: <https://u.garr.it/7wkUa>

Chair: Gaius Stern

**Cosimo Bettoni**, “The ἀλωσις Ἱεροσολύμων from Flavius Josephus to Nicephorus Xanthopoulos”

**Anna J. Tóth**, “The Collapse of the Danubian Limes in Late Antique cultural Memory”

**László Takács**, “The Christian Interpretation of the Sack of Rome (410 AD)”

**Etienne Wolff**, “The Fall of Rome in 410 and the Eternity of Rome”

**Hainalka Óbis**, “Catastrophes and Rebirth of Cities in the Letters of Augustine”

**Zsuzsanna Turcsán-Tóth**, “Building Sanctuaries in Hazardous Landscapes”

Conclusions

Lunch

4 p.m. Visit to the Centro Culturale MITA

**26 June 2026. Online 5 p.m. (Rome’s time)**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82058410872?pwd=FUXZ3QhOgTXxO9P13nnE9PBwktbRXa.1>

Chair: Henry Walker

**Jelena Pilipović**, “The Killing Song – The Dialectic of Destruction and Pleasure in the Homeric Narrative of the Sirens”

**Ioannis Mitsios**, “The Plague of Athens, the Leokorai and the Hyacinthids”

**Kerasia A. Stratiki**, “A disastrous Marriage: Jason and Medea and the Death and Cult of their Children”

**Shalabh B. Ghodsi**, “Volcanic Landscapes and Cultural Memory: Vesuvius and Etna in Antiquity”

**Benjamin Scolnic**, “Thy brother’s Blood: Did two Hasmonean Brothers destroy the Dynasty Created by Brothers?”

**Ulla Rajala**, “The End of the Road? Tomb 18 at Cisterna Grande, Crustumerium, Rome, and the Demise of the City”

**Patrick Hunt**, “How Hannibal Exploited Etruscan Hope for Peripety Against Rome”

**Dan-Tudor Ionescu**, “Troy and Rome: Augustus, the new Aeneas or Romulus reborn?”

**Fernando López Sánchez**, “The Murder of Geta as the Beginning of Rome’s Catastrophe in the East”

**Claudia Santi**, “Catastrophic Ending and Providential Rebirth in Late Antiquity: the Destruction of the Sibylline Books”

Organizers: Attilio Mastrocinque Maria Pia Pattoni Gaius Stern Giulia Tampalini  
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