



The Religious Life of Things

2013 Meeting of the Midwest Consortium on Ancient Religions
University of Michigan
November 1-2, 2013

Friday, November 1

Classics Library (2175 Angell Hall)

1:45 Welcome: Celia Schultz, Dept. of Classical Studies,
University of Michigan

2:00 Session I: Animate Things

Divine Automata and Religious Robots, Clara Bosak-Schroeder, Dept. of
Classical Studies, University of Michigan

Prostitution and Pilgrimage in Aristophanes' Peace Donald Sells, Dept. of
Classical Studies, University of Michigan

Saturday, November 2

Classics Library (2175 Angell Hall)

9:00 Coffee and pastries

9:30 Session II: Little Things

*Objects of Private Devotion in Roman and Late Antique Greece:
Statuettes of Asklepios from the Athenian Agora*, Brian Martens, Dept. of
English, Creighton University

*Take It (Home?) With You: the Religious Life of Mid-Republican Pocula
Wares*, Dan-El Padilla Peralta, Department of Classics, Stanford
University

Miniature Statues as Amulets, Chris Faraone, Dept. of Classics, University of
Chicago

11:45 Lunch in 2115a Angell Hall

12:45 Session III: Kinds of Things

The Furniture of the Gods, Hank Blume, Dept. of Classics, Ohio State

Idols, not Rabbis: Irreligious Objects and Religious Subjects, Rachel Neis,
Dept. of History and the Frankel Center for Judaic Studies, University of
Michigan

4:30 Keynote Address

*From Thing to Sacred Object: The Proprioceptive Experience of Religion
in Greek Antiquity*, Ioannis Mylonopoulos, Dept. of Art History and
Archaeology, Columbia University

University

The Religious Life of Roman Plunder, Isabel Köster, Dept. of Classics,
Washington and Lee University

Gold Has Many Uses: Further on Gold Tablets, Fritz Graf, Dept. of Classics,
Ohio State University

3:00 Coffee

3:15 Session IV: Symbolic Things

*Omen and Anti-Omen: The Role of the Scarlet Wool in the Scapegoat Rit-
ual of the Day of Atonement*, Mira Balberg, Dept. of Religious Studies,
Northwestern University

Pambo's Basket: Ascetic Gift Exchange in the Lausiac History, Beth Platte,
Dept. of Classics, Kalamazoo College

4:45 Concluding Remarks: Ian Moyer, Dept. of History, University of
Michigan