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## Melammu Workshop

### Creating the Woman in Antiquity: Gender Aspects of Human Creation

2-3 June, 2022

Hörsaal B and Hörsaal F

(Innrain 52, main building, ground floor and 2<sup>nd</sup> floor)

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One of the most striking features of the account of human creation in Genesis is that it offers a separate account of the creation of the woman. While many aspects of the Biblical story of creation have clear similarities with other Ancient Near Eastern creation texts, the separate creation of man and woman does not seem to have clear parallels in the creation accounts of the surrounding cultures with the exception of Aristophanes' humoristic account of the creation of man in Plato's Symposium.

Therefore, one of the aims of the workshop is to reexamine different accounts of human creation with a clear focus on the creation of the different sexes and closely look at the following questions: When did the different sexes emerge? Had the first human being two sexes? Was humanity created as a whole? Is the first natural birth described?

As the narratives seem to differentiate human creation, they also give an amount of information concerning the *weltanschauung* and the ways humans, in their unity and diversity, are conceptualized and socialized. The theological question should also be scrutinized: do creation narratives infer a particular relation, physical or spiritual, between the created human and its creator? The aim of the workshop is thus to bring comparative evidence for the creation of humans, man and woman, in their distinctiveness, discuss how these narratives inform us on the place of man and woman, the powerful and less powerful, in distinct visions of the world. Additionally, the comparative approach will enable us to identify the emergence of certain motifs and ideas and their transmissions in the Ancient World.

### Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> of June 2022 (main building, Hörsaal B)

- 10:00-10:15 Welcoming of Participants
- 10:15-11:00 "The Creation of Humans in Genesis 1 and 2-3: Philological, Gender and Comparative Aspects" | **David Carr** (New York)
- 11:00-11:45 "Other Narratives concerning Human Creation in the Bible" | **Stéphanie Anthonioz** (Paris)
- 11:45-12:30 "The Creation of Man and Woman in Genesis: History of Reception" | **Pierluigi Piovanelli** (Paris)
- 12:30-14:15 Lunch break

- 14:15-15:00 "Human Creation in Sumerian Sources" | **Sebastian Fink** (Innsbruck) and **Peeter Espak** (Tartu)
- 15:00-15:45 "Human Creation in Hittite Texts" | **Gerfrid Müller** (Würzburg)
- 15:45-16:15 Coffee break
- 16:15-17:00 "Human Creation in Egyptian Sources" | **Dominique Lefèvre** (Geneva)
- 17:00-17:45 "Human Creation in Akkadian Sources" | **Simonetta Ponchia** (Verona) and **Silvia Gabrieli** (Verona)
- 17:45-18:15 General Discussion

### Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> of June 2022 (main building, Hörsaal F)

- 09:00-09:45 "Human and Divine Creation in the Texts from Ugarit" | **Clemens Steinberger** (Göttingen) and **Reinhard Müller** (Göttingen)
- 09:45-10:30 "Creation through the Ancient Iranian Sources" | **Céline Redard** (London)
- 10:30-11:00 Coffee break
- 11:00-11:45 "Human Creation in Greek Texts before Plato" | **Alberto Bernabé** (Madrid)
- 11:45-14:00 Lunch break
- 14:00-14:45 "Plato's symposium on Human Creation" | **Marco Antonio Santamaría** (Salamanca)
- 14:45-15:45 Response, **Martti Nissinen** (Helsinki) and final discussion