



Universität  
Basel

Departement  
Altertumswissenschaften



# Light and Splendour: precious metal as a medium of ritual and social interaction in Late Antiquity

International conference in Basel, 20–22 January 2022



The conference will take place in hybrid mode (in-person at Hotel Odelya in Basel, Missionsstr. 21, and virtually via Zoom). Registration until 13 January 2022. For in-person attendance by email to [annemarie.kaufmann@unibas.ch](mailto:annemarie.kaufmann@unibas.ch).

Zoom: <https://unibas.zoom.us/j/68889057751>

# Organisation

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**Organising Committee** Prof. Dr. Martin Guggisberg, University of Basel  
Dr. Annemarie Kaufmann-Heinimann, University of Basel

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**Conference Venues** The conference will take place in hybrid mode.

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Attendance in-person: Hotel Odelya, Room Campesino, Missionsstrasse 21, 4055 Basel.

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Remote on Zoom: registration see below.

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The evening lecture on Thursday will be at Wildt'sches Haus, Petersplatz 13, 4051 Basel. Remote on Zoom: registration see below.

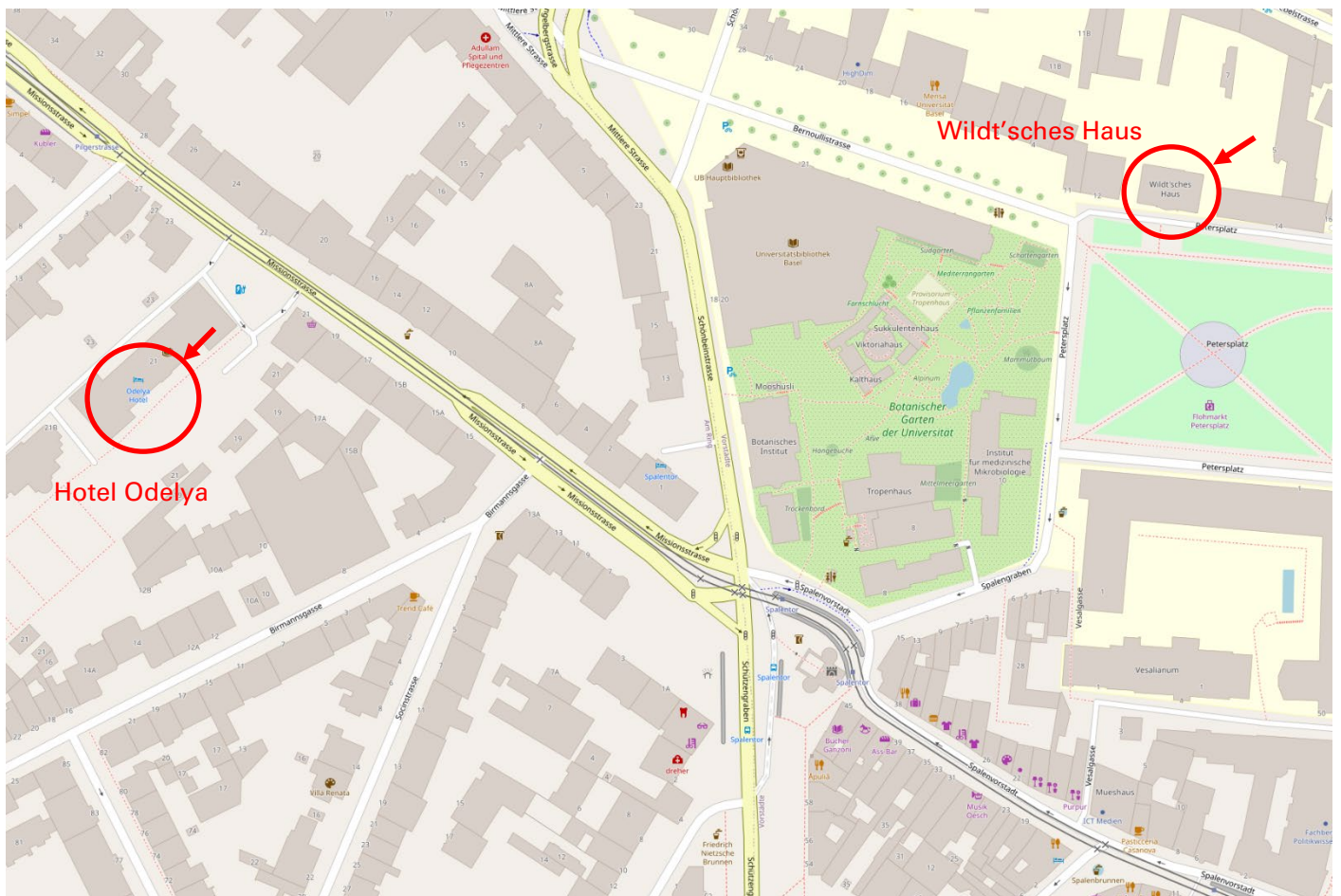
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**Registration** Until 13.1.2022. For in-person attendance by email to [annemarie.kaufmann@unibas.ch](mailto:annemarie.kaufmann@unibas.ch).

For the Zoom meeting of the conference please register on <https://unibas.zoom.us/j/68889057751>.

For the Zoom meeting of Prof. Wallraff's lecture please register on <https://unibas.zoom.us/j/64572205103>.

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<https://www.openstreetmap.org>

# Programme

## Thursday, 20 January 2022

Venue: Hotel Odelya, Basel (Missionsstrasse 21, 4056 Basel)

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**14:00** Welcoming address / Introduction  
Prof. Dr. Martin Guggisberg

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**14:30–15:30** *Splendour in use: dress, jewellery, rank insignia*

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**PD Dr. Christoph Eger, Xanten**

Schein und Sein: Schmuck und goldgeschmückte Kleidung barbarischer Eliten in der Spätantike

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**Dr. Petra Linscheid, Bonn**

Sparkling garments - Late Antique clothing with gold threads, appliqués and beads

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**15:30–16:00** **Coffee Break**

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**16:00–17:00** *Light and splendour in literature*

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**PD Dr. Raphael Schwitter, Bonn**

Words of gold and silver: iconic and symbolic mimesis of precious metal in Late Antique poetry

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**Dr. Judith Hindermann, Basel**

A new splendour: the *recusatio* of precious materials in Sidonius Apollinaris' letters and poems

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**17:00–17:30** *Discussion*

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**Evening lecture followed by drinks and buffet**  
**Wildt'sches Haus, Basel (Petersplatz 13)**

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**19:00** **Prof. Dr. Martin Wallraff, München**  
*Lux hic nata est.* Zum Lichtcharakter der Spätantike

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# Programme

## Friday, 21 January 2022

Venue: Hotel Odelya, Basel (Missionsstrasse 21, 4056 Basel)

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09:00–11:30 *Glass, mosaics, illumination*


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**Dr. Susan Walker, Oxford**

Lighting the tomb: late antique gold-glass medallions in context 


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**Dr. Yael Gorin-Rosen, Haifa**

"All that glitters is not gold" – Byzantine gold-glass from excavations in the Holy Land 

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**Dr. Veronika Scheibelreiter-Gail, Wien**


"...wirf Gold und Silber über mich..." - Frauenporträts auf spätantiken Mosaiken im östlichen Mittelmeerraum 

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10:30–11:00 **Coffee Break**

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11:00–11:30 **Prof. Dr. Harald Wolter-von dem Knesebeck, Bonn**

Gold und Silber in der spätantiken und frühmittelalterlichen Buchmalerei 

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11:30 *Discussion*

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11:30–14:30 *Rome and her neighbours*

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**Dr. Richard Hobbs, London**

Relationships between late imperial Rome and Sasanian Iran: the evidence of silver plate 

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12:30–14:00 **Lunch Break**

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14:00–14:30 *Rome and her neighbours (cont.)*

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**Prof. Aleksander Bursche, Warsaw / Dr. Kyrylo Myzgin, Warsaw**

Late Roman gold and political power in Barbaricum

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14:30–17:00 *Image and liturgy*

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**Dr. Anne de Pury-Gysel, Basel**

*Imago* – the golden portrait of the emperor in late Antiquity. Reflections on the head of Saint Fides in Conques (F): a portrait of Valentinian I?

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**Prof. François Baratte, Paris**


Foi, lumière et matériaux précieux dans l'Afrique chrétienne

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15:30–16:00 **Coffee Break**

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**Dr. Marco Aimone, Durham**

Early Byzantine silver censers (fifth to seventh century): general reflections and a case study 

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**Prof. Dr. Barbara Schellewald, Basel**

*Ecce vides quantus splendor...* Paulinus von Nola und seine Zeitgenossen über das Zusammenspiel von Licht und Bildtechnik(en)

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17.00 *Discussion*

# Programme

## Saturday, 22 January 2022

Venue: Hotel Odelya, Basel (Missionsstrasse 21, 4056 Basel)

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09:00–10:00 *Silver and banquets*


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**Prof. Dr. Stefanie Martin-Kilcher, Basel**

Im Glanz der spätantiken Tafel: spezielles Trinkgeschirr aus Silber

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**Dr. Matteo Braconi, Rom**

Specchiati nell'argento. Aristocrazie, latifondi, *otium e clientes* nei programmi decorativi dei recipienti argentei tardoantichi 

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10:00–10:30 **Coffee Break**

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10:30–12:00 *Metal, economy, power*

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**Dr. Fraser Hunter, Edinburgh**

Roman silver transformed: *Hacksilber*, its nature, uses and effects 


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**Dr. Markus Peter, Augusta Raurica**

Made for daily business? Functional aspects of Late Roman silver coinage

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**Hrvoje Vulic, Vinkovci**

*Lux abstrusa* – current state of research and conservation of the Vinkovci silver hoard 

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12:00–13:00 **Dr. Annemarie Kaufmann-Heinimann**

Final discussion

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13:00–14:00 **Lunch Break**

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14.00–16.00 Visit of the Kaiseraugst silver treasure, Museum Augst

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