MORBID LAUGHTER

EXPLORING THE COMIC DIMENSIONS OF DISEASE IN CLASSICAL ANTIQUITY

12-13 September 2016
UNIVERSITY OF PATRAS, DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS

Organizers:
George Kazantzidis (University of Patras)
Natalia Tsoumpra (University of Glasgow)

The event is generously sponsored by the School of Humanities, University of Glasgow, and the Special Account for Research Grants in Greece, University of Patras.
PROGRAMME

Monday, 12th September

9.20-10.00

WELCOME George Kazantzidis (Patras) and Natalia Tsoumpra (Glasgow)

INTRODUCTION Katerina Kostiou (Patras): The surplus deficit: subverting normalcy

SESSION ONE: DRAMA (1) (Chair: Natalia Tsoumpra, Glasgow)
10.00-10.35 Ian Ruffell (Glasgow): Stop making sense: the politics of Aristophanic insanity
10.35-11.10 Dimos Spatharas (Crete): Disgust, slander, and comedy
11.10-11.45 Sara Hobe (Freiburg): Political nosology in Aristophanes’ Wasps

11.45-12.15: COFFEE BREAK

SESSION TWO: SATIRE (Chair: Aristoula Georgiadou, Patras)
12.15-12.50 Paul Martin (Exeter): Cleansing the palate: vomit as a metaphor for satire in Lucian's Lexiphanes
12.50-13.25 Ian Goh (Birkbeck): Spewing fit to laugh in Roman moralising texts
13.25-14.00 Andreas Michalopoulos (Athens): Mocking the (disabled) dead: Seneca’s Claudius in the Apocolocyntosis

14.00-15.30: LUNCH BREAK

SESSION THREE: DRAMA (2) (Chair: Ian Ruffell, Glasgow)
15.30-16.05 Ben Cartlidge (Oxford): Doctor, invalid, charlatan: medicine and madness in New Comedy
16.05-16.40 Michael Fontaine (Cornell): A cute illness in Epidaurus: morbus hepatiarius and other sick jokes in Plautus’ Gorgylio (Curculio)

17.00-18.30: WINE RECEPTION

20.00: DINNER
Tuesday, 13th September

SESSION FOUR: DEFORMED BODIES (Chair: Dimos Spatharas, Crete)
10.00–10.35 Edith Hall (KCL): Hephaestus the hobbling humorist
10.35–11.10 Anna Potamiti (Patras): *Inguine suspensam gestas sub ventre lagenam*: hernia jokes in Graeco-Roman antiquity
11.10–11.45 Charilaos Michalopoulos (Democritus University of Thrace): LOL in the Corpus Priapeorum

11.45–12.15: COFFEE BREAK

SESSION FIVE: ORATORY AND SECOND SOPHISTIC (Chair: Chiara Thumiger, Warwick)
12.15–12.50 Jasper Donelan (Nottingham): A tragic or a comic figure? Lysias 24 reconsidered
12.50–13.25 Georgia Petridou (Erfurt/Liverpool): Pain as a laughing matter in Lucian's *Podagra*

13.25–15.00: LUNCH BREAK

SESSION SIX: GREEK AND ROMAN MEDICINE (Chair: George Kazantzidis, Patras)
15.00–15.35 Chiara Thumiger (Warwick): Aretaeus’ *Stomachikon* disease: comical features in a pathological portrayal
15.35–16.10 Eleni Plati (Hamburg): ‘Playful’ and ‘consequential’ laughter in Galen

16.30–17.30: ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION (Chair: Peter Singer, Birkbeck)