

Course Program

Monday – Tuesday

- General introductions to ancient myths and histories
- Librettology
- Adaptation and transformation of myths for the stage
- Gluck's approach to setting librettos to music
- Baroque stagecraft

Wednesday – Friday

- Comprehensive portraits of selected operas by Chr. W. Gluck
- Excursion to the Baroque theater in Schwetzingen
- City tour of Mainz

Saturday

Final discussion and results of the Summer School

Contact

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Imprint

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Ancient Histories
and Narratives
in Chr. W. **Gluck's**
Operas

III. Interdisciplinary
Summer School of
Musicology and
Ancient Studies
Mainz

Supported by



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September 10–15, 2018

III. Interdisciplinary Summer School in Mainz

Ancient Histories and Narratives in Chr. W. Gluck's Operas

Orpheus, the hanging gardens of Semiramis, and the olympic gods – through the ages, ancient myths and subjects have strongly impacted the arts. The III. Summer School in Mainz will approach these topics from an interdisciplinary perspective by combining methodologies from musicology and the field of ancient and classical studies, focusing on the operas of Christoph Willibald Gluck (1714–1787). His compositions will be introduced from a holistic perspective,

highlighting the interconnectedness of the many processes involved in the production of his operas and giving participants more insights into Baroque music theater and the reception of ancient subjects in the arts in general.

How did narratives change through librettists' adaptations of the myths and histories and how did this impact their understanding? How did Gluck approach setting these librettos to music? What restrictions and possibilities did Baroque stagecraft impose on the representation of the ancient subjects? In exploring these and other questions, comprehensive portraits of selected operas will be developed which contribute to an understanding of Gluck's operas as a form of representational art.

The Summer School will be accompanied by a colorful program, such as introducing the participants to the city of Mainz and its history.

Furthermore, we will visit the Baroque Schloss-theater in Schwetzingen of 1753 in which architectural conventions of Gluck's time come to life. The tour contributes to a better understanding of the circumstances under which his operas were performed in the eighteenth century.



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Application

The Summer School is a cooperative course, jointly organized by the Musicology Division and the Department of Ancient and Classical Studies of the Johannes Gutenberg University as well as the Academy of Sciences and Literature Mainz and the project "Christoph Willibald Gluck – Sämtliche Werke."

The course is designed for German and international students of musicology and of ancient and classical studies and thereby offers an international study program in Mainz. We award credits according to the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS). The Summer School will be held in English and in German. As the number of participants is limited, applicants are asked to submit a letter of motivation and a short CV. There is no course fee. Financial support for accommodation might be awarded.

Please submit your application by e-mail (as PDF) by July 1, 2018 to gluck_mz18@uni-mainz.de.

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