

The 11th international conference on Origen studies: Colloquium Origenianum Undecimum

'Origen and Origenism in the History of Western Thought'

Aarhus University

Monday, 26 – Friday, 30 August 2013

Second circular letter

The reception of Origen's thoughts has been the theme of previous conferences. The theme of *Colloquium Origenianum Septimum*, Hoffgeismar 1997, was *Origenes in den Auseinandersetzungen des 4. Jahrhunderts* and that of *Colloquium Origenianum Octavum*, Pisa, 27-31 August 2001, was *Origen and the Alexandrina Tradition*. *Colloquium Origenianum Undecimum* will therefore focus on the later reception of Origen's thoughts in the West. It will, however, also be possible to present papers on the earliest phases of the reception of Origen's thoughts, although that will not be the main focus of the conference.

It is well known that Origen's thoughts have been studied and received positively or negatively in the Western traditions through almost all periods from the Middle Ages until now. This process of reception, however, has not been studied sufficiently until now. There are thus many gaps in our knowledge of how Origen's thoughts have influenced and been received by Western theological and philosophical traditions. *Colloquium Origenianum Undecimum* is therefore dedicated to studies of this theme. We hope to fill some of the gaps in our knowledge of Origen's reception in Western traditions and, at the same time, to inspire further studies.

Below is a list of themes and names relevant for the theme of the conference. The list includes suggestions already received, but it is not yet complete. I therefore encourage all of you to send me suggestions for further themes, which I will then add to the list. Suggestions may include themes which you would like to present yourself, or themes which you want others to talk about. All suggestions should be sent to me before 1 March 2012. Please note that these suggestions are not yet to be considered as titles of papers to be presented at the conference. In the next circular, I will present a more complete list of themes. After that I will open for submission of concrete

suggestions for papers to be given at the conference.

History of theology from the Middle Ages to the 21st century

- Reception of Origen's theology of the free will
- Reception of Origen's allegorical exegesis
- Reception of Origen's cosmology
- Reception of Origen's eschatology
- Johannes Scotus Eriugena
- Hugo from St. Victor
- Richard from St. Victor
- Wilhelm from St. Thierry
- Bernhard from Clairvaux
- Abelard
- Thomas Aquinas
- Erasmus from Rotterdam
- Luther
- Melancthon
- Calvin
- Zwingli
- Pierre Halloix
- Reception of Origen's thoughts in contemporary theology (H. de Lubac, H. Rahner, H.U.v. Balthasar, J. Danielou and others)

History of philosophy from Augustine to the 21st century

- Marsilio Ficino
- Pico della Mirandola
- Cambridge Platonists
- Leibniz
- G.E. Lessing
- I. Kant
- Reception of Origen in contemporary philosophy

History of religious experience (mysticism)

- Bernhard of Clairvaux
- Hildegard from Bingen
- Meister Eckhart
- Völker and the German and French mystical Origen-interpretation in the 20th century

History of culture

- Modern editions of Origen's works from P. D. Huet to the present

Reception of individual works of Origen

- The Reception of Origen's *Commentary on Paul's Letter to the Romans* has been suggested as a theme. The reception of other works can of course be included. Even if the theme and the focus of the conference will be on the reception of Origen's thoughts in Western traditions, also other themes are accepted. Colleagues have, for example, asked whether it

will be possible to present papers on the reception of Origen's thoughts in Eastern traditions. This is possible. There will probably also be a paper session called 'varia', which allows colleagues who are presently working on themes in Origen studies which are quite different from the conference theme to present their work.

The conference will be organised as a mixture of lectures in plenum, parallel paper sessions and, as something new, workshops, where central themes in the history of reception of Origen's thoughts in Western traditions will be studied and discussed. It will thus, for example, be possible to suggest a common reading of central texts from the history of reception of Origen. In connection with the conference, there will be a special seminar for PhD students on Friday, 30 and Saturday, 31 August. More information about the organisation of the conference will follow in the next circular letter.

Practical information

Together with the administrative staff at Aarhus University, I am currently working on the practical organisation of the conference. We are booking accommodation, searching for funding, planning an excursion in Aarhus and its surroundings, organising meals, exhibitions of books and posters etc. I look forward to presenting these plans to you in more details in the next circular letter and at the conference homepage <http://conferences.au.dk/origen>. The conference homepage will open 15 March 2012.

Yours sincerely

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