

Call for Papers

15th MOISA International Conference

THEATRES IN ANCIENT MEDITERRANEAN: ARCHITECTURAL SPACES AND VENUES FOR MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

Aquileia (Italy), 19–21 June 2024

National Archaeological Museum of Aquileia

The theatres of the ancient Mediterranean regions were both venues for comedies, tragedies, mimes, and pantomimes, and places for cultural encounter and exchange of knowledge and technologies.

The aim of the 15th conference of MOISA (The International Society for the Study of Greek and Roman Music and Its Cultural Heritage) is to trigger a broad reflection and arouse discussion on these topics. Proposals are invited for presentations on all kinds of sources (e.g., literary and epigraphic texts, ancient musical instruments, visual evidence, etc.) that can provide new data on vocal, instrumental and dance performances in ancient theatres, as well as on the role and social status of male and female musicians and artists who performed in these venues.

Given the importance of the relationship between the performer and the audience, it will also be relevant to consider emotional resonance and sensorial stimuli and, thus, the relationship between body and voice in the contexts of ancient performance, including the sound environment of ancient theatres. In this regard, digital humanities applied to acoustic studies in theatrical contexts could also shed light on architectural acoustics by revealing the history of devices used to enhance sound propagation. Hence, proposals on the use of new technologies for the study and evaluation of material artefacts and acoustic environments will provide an opportunity to dive into modern and advanced research on ancient music and acoustics to enrich our knowledge of urban soundscapes in the ancient Mediterranean.

A specific session will be dedicated to the theatrical buildings of the ancient Adriatic regions, such as the Roman theatre of Aquileia, which has been excavated and examined by scholars and researchers from the University of Padua since 2015. Studies related to the comparison between the recent discoveries and other material finds found in Aquileia in the last century will be welcomed, with the aim of highlighting the importance of archaeological, epigraphic and visual evidence such as musical instruments, epigraphic texts and reliefs or statuettes that are preserved at the National Archaeological Museum of Aquileia.

Proposals of 250–300 words for 20-minute papers are invited.

Conference language: English

Proposals should be sent to alessia.zangrando2@unibo.it by **January 14th, 2024**, and will be evaluated by the Scientific Committee by February 18th, 2024. Together with the proposal, please provide a short biography (up to 150 words). Applicants whose abstracts are accepted will be notified immediately by email and asked to confirm their participation by March 1st, 2023. Only MOISA members are eligible to present a paper. It is possible to join the Society at <http://www.moisasociety.org>.

Scientific Committee: Daniela Castaldo (MOISA President, University of Salento, Italy), Timothy Moore (Washington University in St. Louis, USA), Sylvain Perrot (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Strasbourg, France), Stelios Psaroudakēs (The National & Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece), Donatella Restani (University of Bologna, Italy), Marta Novello (National Archaeological Museum of Aquileia, Italy), Eleonora Rocconi (University of Pavia, Italy), Alessia Zangrando (University of Bologna, Italy).

Organising Committee: Daniela Castaldo (University of Salento), Marta Novello (National Archaeological Museum of Aquileia), Alessia Zangrando (University of Bologna).