

Raf Van Rooy

(KU Leuven)

Gastvortrag

Weaving in words like emblems: Erasmus and Latin–Greek code-switching

When:

15th November 2023 – 18:00

Where:

Seminarraum 7, Ágnes-Heller-Haus, Innrain 52a, Universität Innsbruck

This seminar proposes to explore the different dimensions of Greek in the oeuvre and material culture of humanist scholar and Neo-Latin author Erasmus of Rotterdam (ca. 1469–1536). Erasmus used Greek in various ways: he wrote it on paper, both in self-standing poems and through extensive code-switching in his vast oeuvre. He oversaw how Greek was printed by means of the new technology, and how works with Greek titles were typeset. He had himself portrayed with Greek on various media (paintings, engravings, and medals) and consciously displayed Greek text in public spaces.

After surveying the different dimensions of Erasmus' uses of Greek in his oeuvre and material culture, the seminar will delve into two case studies of code-switching in further detail. On the one hand, we will analyse his self-standing Greek poems and the way they interact with Latin. On the other hand, we will discuss the place of Greek in his *Praise of Folly* (Μωρίας ἐγκώμιον), focusing in particular on a meta-passage, where Folly makes remarks on contemporary practices of Latin–Greek code-switching (or better 'word-weaving'), and presenting an automated language identification method that will help map Erasmus' uses of Latin and Greek. The seminar will also serve to introduce two research projects that have Erasmus' Latin–Greek code-switching as (part of) their subject and are in the start-up phase.

We hope to see you there!

For any inquiries or additional information, please contact Maximilian Fill, Institut für Klassische Philologie und Neulateinische Studien, Maximilian.Fill@uibk.ac.at