

“To fill the contours with some shading in order to give proper life to the monster”.

De Diis Arctoïs by Carl Georg Brunius compared to its sources

**Arsenii Vetushko-Kalevich
(Lund University)**



Swedish scholar Carl Georg Brunius (1792–1869), professor of Greek at Lund University, is nowadays mainly known as an architect. Meanwhile, he is also the author of the longest Latin poem ever written in Sweden, *De Diis Arctoïs Libri Sex* (1822), composed at the time when Neo-Latin poetry in the country was declining, but well in line with the dominant Romantic interest for Norse mythology.

The poem covers all the main mythological episodes from the creation of the universe until Ragnarök. Although fully classical in language and style (with Ovid as the main model) and frequently using allusions to hint on similar characters and motives from classical mythology, Brunius manages to closely follow the texts of his sources, namely the *Prose Edda* and the mythological poems of the *Poetic Edda*.

The present lecture will particularly focus on the ways in which Brunius reproduces or modifies the wording of the sources, one of the key aspects to shed light on in the introduction to a new edition of the poem.

Wann: 25.06.2025 – 18:00 Uhr

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