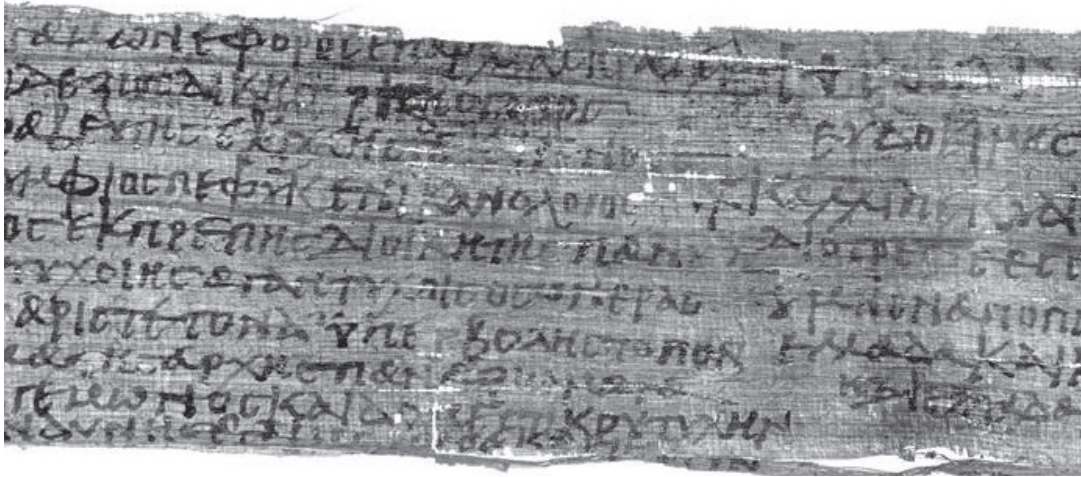


13. JUNI 2016
 BEGINN: 18.00 UHR
 ÖSTERREICHISCHE AKADEMIE
 DER WISSENSCHAFTEN
 THEATERSAAL
 SONNENFELSGASSE 19, 1010 WIEN



P. Aphrod. Lit. IV 51: epithalamium of a civil governor. © Egyptian Museum, Cairo

EINLADUNG ZUM VORTRAG

DIOSCORUS OF APHRODITE

HOW THE 'WORST POET' CAN ILLUMINATE LATE ANTIQUITY

JEAN-LUC FOURNET

Collège de France, Paris

The archive of Dioscorus of Aphrodite (6th century A.D.) is among the most important and famous papyrological discoveries ever made in Egypt. It contained about 650 papyri. Most of them are documents regarding all the aspects of social, administrative, economic and religious history of this province of the Byzantine empire one century before the Muslim conquest. But some are compositions in verse by Dioscorus himself. Since their discovery, these poems have been subject to the mockery of the academic world and Dioscorus is known as "the worst poet of Antiquity". Jean-Luc Fournet will show that this judgment is the result of mistakes made by modern commentators and of a global disappreciation of Late Antiquity. If correctly read, Dioscorus's poetry permits us to draw the cultural profile of the village élites of the Late Roman empire. It provides evidence for some facts which are not attested anymore because of the scarcity of the documentation, and which can be generalized. Lastly, Dioscorus' poems are actual historical documents that illuminate certain changes and trends characteristic of Late Antiquity.

Nähere Infos unter www.oeaw.ac.at/antike