Theories of Vision and Light
from Antiquity to the Renaissance

17-18 May 2018

Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
TOPOI main building, room 1.03
Hannoversche Str. 6, Berlin 10115

PROGRAMME
Thursday 17th May 2018
----------------

13:00-13:30
Introduction
Mikhail Silian, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
Michalis Sialaros, University of Athens

13:30-14:30
Chasing the Light: What Happened to the Ancient Theories?
Isidoros Charalampos Katsos, Cambridge University

14:30-15:30
Is it Possible to See Darkness? Goethe and Aristotle on the Role of Light in Vision
Svetlana Mesiats, Russian Academy of Sciences

15:30-16:00
Break

16:00-17:00
Rereading Ptolemy’s Optics in Search for a Theory of Vision
Harald Siebert, Technische Universität Berlin

17:00-18:00
How Similar are Shapes to Melodies in Ptolemy?
Mikhail Silian, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

19:00
Conference dinner
Friday 18th May 2018

09:00-10:00 New Light on Transmission Studies: Optics in Arabic and Persian (ca. 1020s-1520s)
Elaheh Kheirandish, Harvard University

10:00-11:00 Extramission as a Model for Apprehension in Abū l-Barakāt al-Baghdādī
Lukas Muehlethaler, Freie Universität Berlin

11:00-11:30 Break

11:30-12:30 Byzantine Philosophers on Vision
Katerina Ierodiakonou, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

12:30-13:30 Colour and Light in Democritus’ Theory of Vision
Kelli Rudolph, University of Kent

13:30-14:30 Lunch

14:30-15:30 “Somewhat Diaphanous, Somewhat Thick”: Light, Color, Density, Rarity, and the Crystalline Humor in the Early Seventeenth Century”
Tawrin Baker, University of Pennsylvania

15:30-16:30 All the Light We Cannot See: Theories of Vision in Johannes Kepler and ibn al-Haytham – A Comparison
Sinem Derya Kılıç, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin