

TO: Conference's Secretary General, Prof. Dr. U. Schmitzer

SUBJECT: Application Form

I would like to submit my application to the **XIII Congreso de la Federación Internacional de Asociaciones de Estudios Clásicos** (FIEC), Berlin, 24 al 29 de Agosto de 2009).

NAME

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CATEGORY

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PREFERRED PANEL

Greek epic

TITLE OF THE PAPER

"Rhetoric and *eros* in the *Homeric Hymn of Aphrodite*".

Length of the paper: 20 minutes.

OUTLINE OF THE PAPER

The *Hymn of Aphrodite*, rightly regarded as the most Homeric of the Hymns, is an important document in its treatment of age and sexuality. Draws on the epic tradition, the Hymn uses the Tithonus myth as a rhetoric *exemplum* of the tension between «geras» and «eros» in a significant way, that provides a set of paradigms for the human existence, consonant with Greek cultural ideals. Locating ideal physical beauty and sexual attractiveness in youth, whether of gods or mortals, the *exempla* are rhetorically explored as the centre piece of the Hymn.

The goal of my paper is to examine how the dynamics of *eros*, in both mythic *exempla*, draws an interwoven and pervasive tension between age/ sexuality and mortal/immortal, and how these embodied pieces of rhetoric carry social and symbolic meanings, attached to human condition in particular and sexuality in general.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Maria Fernanda Brasete