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PREFERRED PANEL: 1. Images, text, reality

TITLE OF THE PAPER: "Beautiful as in a picture": Greek Tragedy and the art of Painting

LENGTH OF THE PAPER: 20 minutes

The studies on the relation between Greek Theatre and the figurative arts are usually focused on the influence of the former on the latter. In this case, on the contrary, the contribution will try to consider the possible influences of painting on Greek Tragedy (as far as the scattered documentation at our disposal will allow such an analysis) and to understand the way Greek Tragedy uses the art of painting for its symbolical and literary purposes. A start-point will be the *Oresteia* of Aeschylus, where images related to the art of painting recur in some famous verses which appear to be very significant: for instance, in the *Agamemnon*, when Iphigenia, while being brought to the sacrifice, is famously described as "beautiful as in a picture", or in the Prologue of the *Eumenides*, where the Pythia tries a comparison between the Erinyes and a painted image of the Harpies.