

Aesthetics of Facts and the Medieval Image, 11-12 June, 2026, eikones—Center for the Theory and History of the Image, University of Basel

Organized by Masha Goldin

Program

Thursday, 11 June

9:30-9:45 Coffee

9:45-10:00 Introduction, Masha Goldin (University of Basel)

Session 1: Matters of Facts

10:00-11:00 *Blood Stained Rags and Written Speech. A Franciscan Aesthetics of Fact and the Challenge of the Stigmata* Nino Zchomelidse (Johns Hopkins University)

11:00-11:15 Break

11:15-12:15 *San Pellegrino in Bominaco: Generating Sainthood through Artificial Imagery* Assaf Pinkus (University of Vienna)

12:15-13:30 Lunch Break

13:30-14:30 *Fabricating Truth, Producing Authority: The Footprints of Christ and the Institutionalization of Fact in Medieval Rome* Warja Tolstoj (University of Basel)

14:30-14:45 Coffee

Session 2: Generative Images

14:45-15:45 *Tragelaphos, BuffBaff and Shrimp Jesus: The Iconology of Empty Words and Hybrid Creatures* Thomas Rainer (University of Basel)

15:45-16:45 *“Optic Intoxication” and the Power of Images in Early Islam* Nadia Ali (University of Aix-Marseille)

18:30 Dinner for speakers

Friday, 12 June

Session 1: Evidence/Fiction

9:30-10:30 *Imaging Acts, Facts, and Pacts in the Middle Ages. Looking at Old Technologies from an Age of New Technologies: Same Problems?* Brigitte Miriam Bedos-Rezak (New York University)

10:30-11:30 *Written in Hebrew? Text, Image, and Images of Text in Fifteenth-Century German Lands* Reed O'Mara (Case Western Reserve University / Zentralinstitut für Kunstgeschichte)

11:30-11:45 Break

Session 2: Authenticating Images

11:45-12:45 *Micro-architecture as Protection and Sanction: The Insecurities of Public Images in the Later Middle Ages* Niko Munz (Christ Church, University of Oxford)

12:00-13:30 Lunch Break

13:30-14:15 *Superscriptions: Labeling Objects in the Middle Ages* Masha Goldin (University of Basel)

14:15-15:00 Concluding Discussion

15:00 Apéro