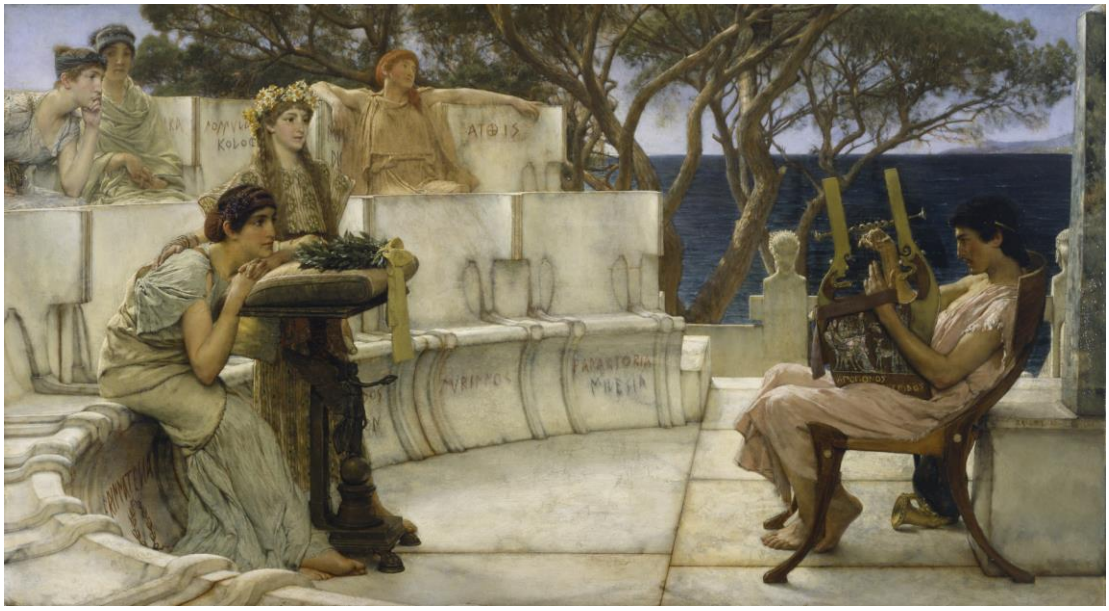
Classical Antiquity and its Heritage
Research Seminars
Spring 2017



André Lardinois, Radboud Universiteit, Nijmegen

"New Philology and the Classics: Accounting for variation in the textual translation of Greek lyric and elegiac poetry"

In this paper I will argue for a new type of edition of the Greek lyric poets in which due consideration is given to the variants in which the fragments of these poets are found on papyri, in quotations by later authors, and in (a limited number of) medieval manuscripts, using as my point of departure an approach to the editing of texts that has been developed in medieval studies under the name of New or Material Philology. I will first lay out the principles of New Philology, especially its concern with divergent versions in which poetic texts are preserved. Next I will focus on several examples of divergence in the textual transmission of Greek lyric and elegiac poetry, including the fragments of Solon, Theognis, Tyrtaeus, Alcaeus and Sappho. I will argue that these variations should be printed side by side in new editions of these poets, instead of being used only to reconstruct the supposedly "original" version.

Wednesday 5 April 14.15
Location: Nobelparken 1461-516

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