Monsters of Alexander the Great’s Legends in World Cultures

A one-day conference at the British Library, 27 January 2023

Programme

9.30 am – 09.50 am – Arrival

9.50 am -10.00 am – Welcome (Scot McKendrick)

10.00 am - 11.30 am – Panel 1: Alexander’s Monsters in the Greek tradition (Chair: Scot McKendrick)

Richard Stoneman (University of Exeter)
Between cosmic creation and cosmic rule: the monsters Alexander did not meet

Fiona Mitchell (University of Birmingham)
Meeting Monsters: Alexander as Heroic Adventurer and Ethnographic Observer

Guen DM Taietti (University of Liverpool)
Bucephalus the monster or Bucephalus the Great? The equine alter-ego of Alexander

11.30 am - 12.00am – Tea & Coffee
12.00 am - 13.30 pm – Panel 2: Alexander’s Monsters in the East (Chair: Ursula Sims-Williams)

Barbara Brend
Iskandar’s Encounters with Monstrosities and Monsters

Sam Lasman (Corpus Christi College, Cambridge)
"No Power Against It": Eskandar’s Draconic Encounters in Ferdowsi and Nezāmi

Vivek Gupta (University of Cambridge)
Visual Narratives of Iskandar and Marvels Across the Indian Ocean

13.30 pm – 14.30 pm – Sandwich lunch

14.30 pm – 16.00 pm – Panel 3: Alexander’s Monsters in Medieval Europe (Chair: Venetia Bridges)

Catherine Gaullier-Bougassas (Professor at University of Lille, ERC AGRELITA)
Alexander the Great and the monsters: a new Hercules? The French Romans d’Alexandre of the 12th and 13th centuries

Henry Ravenhall (University of Cambridge)
The Experience of Monstrosity in Medieval French Alexander Manuscripts (1250–1350)

Giulia Gilmore (Durham University & British Library)
Wondrous Horrors: Gog, Magog, and Eschatological Boundaries in the Roman de toute Chevalerie

16.00 pm – 18.00 pm – Visit to the Alexander Exhibition

18.00 pm – 19.00 pm – Drinks reception (Entrance Gallery)

19.00 pm – 20.30 pm – Public lecture by Robin Lane Fox