

MAGIC AND RELIGION IN COPTIC TEXTUAL CULTURE SEMINAR SERIES

JULIUS-MAXIMILIANS-UNIVERSITÄT WÜRZBURG
LEHRSTUHL FÜR ÄGYPTOLOGIE
RESIDENZPLATZ 2 (RESIDENZ), HÖRSAAL 1
28 NOVEMBER 2019
18:15 - 20:00

The *Apocalypse of Paul* or *Visio Pauli* (CANT 325) is one of the most fascinating and influential apocryphal texts from Late Antiquity. Translated into practically all languages of the Christian world, it profoundly shaped the medieval imagination of Heaven and Hell, up to and including Dante's *Divina Commedia*. In the study of its textual transmission, the Sahidic Coptic version was generally neglected, due to a disastrous editorial history. Only in 2007, Lautaro Roig Lanzillotta (University of Groningen) was able to demonstrate both the excellent quality and the great interest of the principal Coptic witness. Yet, this very version poses considerable text-critical problems. The lecture sketches these problems and invites the audience to reflect about possible solutions.

JACQUES VAN DER VLIET **THE APOCALYPSE OF PAUL** THE RIDDLE OF THE COPTIC TEXT

JACQUES VAN DER VLIET is currently Jozef M.A. Janssen-professor of Religions of Ancient Egypt at the Faculty of Philosophy, Theology & Religious Studies at the Radboud University Nijmegen, affiliated researcher at the Institute for Area Studies of the Leiden University, visiting research fellow of the The Netherlands Institute for the Near East (NINO) in Leiden and staff member at the Institute for Eastern Christian Studies at Radboud University Nijmegen. Jacques van der Vliet was president of the IACS between 2012 and 2016. Among his research interests are Coptic texts from the first millennium in their cultural context, with a focus on gnostic and apocryphal texts, magic, papyrology and epigraphy, including that of Christian Nubia.