Cicero Narrator.
Narrative technique and rhetorical strategy in Cicero's speeches

Panel at the 13th Celtic Conference in Classics
Lyon, France
July 15-18, 2020

Submission deadline: March 20th, 2020

Panel organizers: Francesco Ginelli, Prin Member Università di Verona (francesco.ginelli@univr.it)
Tommaso Ricchieri, Università di Padova (tommaso.ricchieri@unipd.it)

Sous le parrainage de la SIAC: Société internationale des Amis de Cicéron

Under the patronage of the SIAC: Société internationale des Amis de Cicéron

In classical rhetoric, the Latin word *narratio* refers to the part of a speech where the orator provides an account of what has caused the trial, explains the nature of the debate, and gives essential background information. Following the *exordium* and preceding the *argumentatio* and *peroratio* as the second of the four *partes orationis*, *narratio* aims to persuade the audience to view a case, judge events, and look at the acts of the characters from a specific (and oriented) point of view. The importance of this part of the *oratio* clearly emerges in Cicero's rhetorical manuals, especially in *Partitiones Oratoriae* (*part.* 31) and in *De oratore* (*de orat.* 2.79-83), where we can read surveys on structures, functions, and style of the *narratio* that, according to Cicero, must be *brevis, dilucida, verisimilis*. It follows that Cicero as orator can be seen as the chief Roman author to study nature, composition, and themes of the *narratio*.

This panel aims, therefore, to analyse Cicero's narrative technique in its formal and technical aspects (use and purpose of the *narratio*, its linguistic and stylistic markers, and intersection with the other *partes orationis*) as well as its contents (themes, characters, places, social and political context, cultural background shared by the orator and his audience). Moreover, the panel will further stimulate debate on the narrative techniques of Cicero's speeches from multiple perspectives, in order to promote a fruitful dialogue between different approaches concerning the same author. In particular, we invite papers dealing with, but not exclusively, the following topics found in Cicero's narratives:

- Forms of narration in Ciceronian oratory, e.g. long vs. short narrations, multiple narrations within the same speech, etc.
- Ciceronian narration in the context of ancient rhetoric: common features, *topoi*, narrative patterns.
- The use of narration in invectives and eulogies.
- Ciceronian characters and the use of *prosopopeia*.
- Narrating politics in Cicero's speeches.
- History and myth; the use of *exempla* and anecdotes.
- Scandal, conspiracy, and rumor.
- Ethnicity, gender, and prejudice.

The 13th Celtic Conference in Classics will take place in Lyon (France), from 15-18 July, 2020. For this panel we are asking for papers of approximately **35 minutes in length**, with **10-15 minutes for questions and discussion**. The Conference languages are English and French.

Please submit titles and abstracts (as .pdf attachments) of no more than 500 words, together with a short CV, to ciceronarrator.ccc@gmail.com by **March 20th 2020**. Applicants will be notified of the evaluation results by **March 31st 2020**. For further information and questions, please contact ciceronarrator.ccc@gmail.com or either of the panel organizers.