



*Pathways on Ancient Dance and Performance:
Philology and Contemporary Visions*

International Study Conference

Paestum Archaeological Park, 3-5 July 2025

The locution *Choròì parálleloi* echoes the title of the historian Plutarch's *Parallel Lives* (*Bioi parálleloi*) in order to produce a significant synthesis of all that scenic movement can encompass (*choròs* in the choreutic; musical performative in the round) in a parallel construction not only related to the multiple branches of classical studies and their interest in history, archaeology, philology, iconography and music, but also and above all aimed to consider the parallel processes pursued by classical and performing art studies. We seek to promote a dialogue open to all aspects of research, pursuing paths which in some cases have already been paved and/or re-tracing other ones, in an attempt to start new processes or encourage new visions.

The International Conference *Choròì parálleloi. Pathways on Dance and Ancient Performance: Philology and Contemporary Visions* will accept work proposals and outcomes reflecting the multiple research lines in the field of dance in the Classical and Late Antiquity as well as in the Middle Ages, taking into account recent philological acquisitions (literary and documentary sources, exegesis of Christian texts) and contemporary investigation methodologies. Our goal is to project historical-philological studies onto a terrain of dialogue encompassing performance and performance practice studies, both reconstructive and 'exegetical' through the incorporation of ancient myths.

The investigation of dance in the ancient and medieval world, with special reference to the international activities to recent research, will be reconsidered through cultural and receptive perspectives. This approach allows us not only to grasp aspects strictly related to the theoretical, historical, artistic, musical and performing arts' professions, but also to observe this past and its evolution/dissolution in modern and contemporary theatre, analyzing experiences which, since the 15th century, have used the classics as intertexts and subtexts, so as to enable a dialogue between complementary fields of research through documentary, literary and iconographic sources.

In particular, the conference will focus on:

- **ARCHAEOLOGY AND PHILOLOGY-LITERATURE:** the results of the most recent archaeological, historical and philological research on dance in classic and late antiquity through the end of the late Middle Ages in book and documentary sources of a literary, philosophical, musical, artistic, technical, accounting nature in the context of theatrical and non-theatrical performances.
- **PERFORMING ARTS DISCIPLINES/CULTURAL HISTORY:** the reception of the classical in modern and contemporary theatre as a major feature of Western culture, with a focus on choreographers who have developed an autonomous vision of 'Classicism' through the reinterpretation of myths and stories from the Greco-Roman or Christian cultural heritage; focus on performers and traditions of repertoires which have spanned the centuries, with the consequent stratifications which have modified (enriched/strained/discovered) their original essence.

Languages admitted: Italian, English, Spanish, French, German.

Submissions (maximum 400 words), along with a short CV of the Author, should be sent to the email address choroiparalleloi.conference2025@gmail.com by 10 January 2025. The results will be communicated by 30 January 2025.

Scientific Committee

Roberta Albano (National Academy of Dance, Rome - AIRDanza Directorate)
Alessandro Arcangeli (University of Verona, AIRDanza President)
Alberto Bentoglio (State University of Milan, President of the University Theatre Council)
Francesco Cotticelli (University of Naples Federico II)
Tiziana D'Angelo (Director of the Archaeological Parks of Paestum and Velia)
Anthony R. Del Donna (Georgetown University, Washington D.C.)
Paologiovanni Maione (University of Campania Luigi Vanvitelli)
Francesca Maltomini (Università degli Studi di Firenze – Istituto Papirologico “G. Vitelli”)
Teresa Marino (Archaeological Parks of Paestum and Velia)
Gabriella Messeri (Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II)
Daniela Milo (University of Naples Federico II)
Angelo Meriani (University of Salerno)
Alessandro Pontremoli (University of Turin)
Massimo Raffa (University of Salento)
Maria Venuso (University of Naples Federico II)

Organizing Committee

Francesco Cotticelli, Paologiovanni Maione, Maria Venuso