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The Bristol Institute of Greece, Rome and the Classical Tradition was established in 2000 under the Directorship of Professor Robert Fowler, Wills Professor of Greek, to support research into any aspect of Greek and Roman civilization and the Classical Tradition, with particular emphasis on the links that bind the ancient and modern worlds together. The Institute emerged from pioneering work at Bristol on the influence of Classical antiquity on subsequent ages, an approach that goes under the banner of ‘reception’ and is now a prominent aspect of the discipline around the world in both education and research. Bristol led the way in this transformative trend, and for the past thirteen years the Institute has provided a platform for visionary work and people, and for the dissemination of their results to a wider public. It has always been an Institute of the Faculty of Arts rather than simply the Department of Classics, because every subject in the Faculty can claim the heritage of Greco-Roman antiquity. Our Board accordingly consists of representatives of many disciplines, and we extend support to students and staff across the Faculty who are united in their interest in the riches of the Classical Tradition.
This year saw another rich array of events, detailed elsewhere in the Report. The Blackwell-Bristol Lectures are the highlight of the year and the intellectual fare served us by our distinguished speakers never disappoints. Mark Vessey’s exploration of the meaning of ‘Rome’ and ‘late antiquity’ in early modern, Romantic and post-Romantic writing was a tour de force of impressive scale. The series is beginning to make itself known precisely as a series, which was the idea from the start; we aim to make the Blackwell lectures a permanent feature of the international scholarly landscape, and part of the modern history of Classics. Our great speakers are playing their part magnificently.

The Thucydides project is coming to the end of its funding after four feverish years of activity. This imaginative and truly interdisciplinary programme has yielded fascinating and often surprising findings. We congratulate Professor Morley and his team on their success and look forward eagerly to the sequel.

The outreach project started by Leventis Fellow Jessica Priestley has after two years brought Classics and Ancient History to ten different schools in Bristol and area, reaching 150 eager pupils in Years 7–9. Owing to the wonderful generosity of the A.G. Leventis Foundation we have been able to hire Jessica’s successor in the person of Dr Adam Lecznar, who will be the Leventis Fellow for the next three years. He is carrying on the outreach work as part of his duties, while spending the bulk of his time writing an exciting book on the use of the Classical tradition by black nationalists, a vast area of Classical reception so far almost unexplored.

As ever the work of the Institute is impossible without the inspired work of its staff and the ever generous support of its donors, to whom I express my heartfelt thanks.

Professor Robert Fowler, Institute Director
Institute People

A.G. Leventis Postdoctoral Fellow in Greek Studies 2012/13

During the third and final year of her time as Leventis Fellow Jessica Priestley focused on two projects, having last year finished her book *Herodotus and Hellenistic Culture*, which is now in production with Oxford University Press (publication due February 2014). The first project explores the interface between mythological and geographic conceptions of the world at times when existing paradigms are challenged by new knowledge. The second project builds on the foundations laid by the Herodotus book to investigate the reception of the Father of History throughout antiquity and into modern times. In connection with these researches Jessica organised two well-attended international conferences in Bristol.
Jessica also managed the outreach programme she started last year, in which after-school ‘taster’ classes in Classics are offered to Bristol state schools where the subject is not otherwise available. The sessions are led by postgraduates and advanced undergraduates from the Department of Classics and Ancient History. As a result of this programme one state school in Bristol will now be offering Classical Civilisation as an optional GCSE subject. Feedback from the pupils was wildly enthusiastic ('fantastic! amazing! best ever!). A subsidiary aim of the project has been to provide Bristol University students considering a teaching career with some training and experience. We are delighted that Madeleine Fforde has now started at King Edward VI High School for Girls, Birmingham, and Olivia Beard has secured a position at Thomas’s London Day School, Clapham. The programme was certainly instrumental in confirming their ambition and strengthening their applications. We thank the national charity Classics for All for its assistance in starting this project, which will now be carried forward with support from the Institute and the University of Bristol.

A.G. Leventis Postdoctoral Fellow in Greek Studies 2013/14

Adam Lecznar took up his appointment as Leventis Fellow in Greek Studies in September 2013. Adam completed his BA at University College London (2009) and an MPhil at Cambridge (2010) and arrives in Bristol after completing his PhD, again at UCL, entitled ‘Soyinka’s Bacchae: reading tragedy in postcolonial modernity’ (2013). His thesis explores the 1973 reception of Euripides’ Bacchae by the Nigerian Nobel laureate Wole Soyinka, entitled The Bacchae of Euripides: A Communion Rite, and tries to make a case for its importance as a postcolonial reading of ancient Greek tragedy. His overarching research interests are in the reception of Graeco-Roman antiquity in the intellectual and literary history of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Soyinka’s Bacchae proved an excellent way into these
debates because of its liminal status on the boundaries of Europe and Africa; though written by a Nigerian playwright, it was commissioned and performed by the National Theatre of Great Britain.

Adam has also developed research interests in the philosophy of Friedrich Nietzsche, the poetry of Matthew Arnold and more broadly in the different attitudes towards ancient Greece that came into being throughout the twentieth century, often in response to the apparent end of the European imperial project. In this vein, Adam wants to use his next project to think about the appearance of ancient Greece and Rome in different areas of twentieth century black nationalist thought, in diverse writers such as C. L. R. James, W. E. B. DuBois and Aimé Césaire. Part of the aim of this will be to consider whether the adoption of European antiquity was a help or a hindrance to these intellectual’s political projects: this will lead into a broader project, tentatively entitled ‘Rejecting the Classics’, that will consider in more depth writers and thinkers who have actively criticized the legacy of Athens and Rome.

P.M. Warren Visiting Professorship in Aegean Prehistory

Dr Marisa Marthari visited Bristol from 15th February to 22nd March 2013 as P.M. Warren Visiting Professor in Aegean Prehistory. During her tenure she completed the draft of a book on the figure-of-eight shield motif on the pottery from Akrotiri in Thera and its religious significance, to be submitted to INSTAP Academic Press. She also worked on the material of her excavations at Raos on Thera, where a Late Cycladic I villa has come to light, focusing in particular on the wall paintings. This work, when completed, will be published by the Archaeological Society at Athens. Dr Marthari gave a research paper in Bristol on the figure-of-eight motif on the pottery from Akrotiri in Thera.
eight motif and another in Oxford on the Raos frescoes, as well as a public lecture to the Bristol Anglo-Hellenic Cultural Society on new discoveries at Santorini. Like the Warren Visiting Professors before her, Dr Marthari also took plenty of time to meet Bristol students and discuss their work with them.

The Warren Professorship is kindly supported by a grant from the Institute for Aegean Prehistory (INSTAP).

Postgraduate Scholars

Our Niarchos Scholar, James McDermott, completed the third year of his PhD on the French Renaissance philosopher and statesman Montaigne (1533-92) and the influence of ancient Sparta on his thought. He has completed the research and is now writing up the final draft for submission. Split into three sections, the first part looks at the definition of nobility in France during Montaigne’s period, and how the Sparta presented in the *Essais* relates to the traditional, martial image of the aristocracy. The second part examines the manner in which the essayist incorporated Sparta into his pedagogic criticism, contrasting his Spartan way with the popular yet increasingly vilified Ciceronian school. The third and final part studies the influence of Montaigne’s Sparta on the nobility and their educational models in France throughout the 17th and 18th centuries. Special attention is given to the writings of Rousseau, a celebrated reader of Montaigne, to ascertain the impact of the *Essais* on one of the great pre-Revolution authors of French literature. During his final year James also gave a seminar paper in Bristol on his research, and submitted an article for publication. Without the support of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation, James’s research and associated travel to archives could not have taken place.

Lisa Van der Volk was the recipient of the 2012/13 Morgan Scholarship for a student enrolled in a Master’s programme in Classics and Ancient History, generously sponsored by Neill and Catrin Morgan. Her outstanding dissertation tackled a puzzling aspect of Herodotus’ great *Histories*, which is its often seemingly random trains of thought and haphazard distribution of material. Earlier scholars have tended to put this down to the ‘not yet’
classical style of the author, comparing him unfavourably with the polished, periodic Thucydides. More recent criticism attempts to understand Herodotus on his own terms, and in this regard Lisa has offered a new way of reading the Histories as a decentralised ‘network’ of ideas, associations, and events, rather than as a single structure. Network theory is used these days in everything from computer architecture to town planning, and it has thrown much light on relations between ancient Greek colonies in the Mediterranean. Lisa is now exploring possibilities of continuing her work at the doctoral level.

Research Projects and Publications

Further volumes of the Oxford History of Classical Reception in English Literature are in advanced states of preparation following the publication of volume 3, covering the period 1660–1790, in 2012. This is an enormous undertaking, the most ambitious of its kind in the world. A proposal for a volume of studies on the Victorian aesthetic critic Walter Pater (1839–1894), following on the Institute colloquium noticed in last year’s Annual Report, has been accepted by Oxford University Press. Another volume in our series New Directions in the Classics, published by I.B. Tauris, has appeared, Duncan Kennedy’s Antiquity and the Meanings of...
Time: A Philosophy of Ancient and Modern Literature, and more are forthcoming. Prof. Kennedy’s book is a summation of decades of thought about literature and its criticism, and the book offers countless insights to anyone interested in interpretation of the Classics. As this year’s Report goes to press, we are expecting the imminent publication of Erika Fischer-Lichte’s Dionysus Resurrected: Performances of Euripides’ The Bacchae in a Globalizing World, her 2010 Blackwell-Bristol lectures. We are delighted also to see The Ancient World in Silent Cinema now in the shops, co-edited by Maria Wyke and Pantelis Michelakis; readers who attended the 2011 Donors’ Event will remember their screening of a selection of the riches they have uncovered.

Neville Morley’s research project Thucydides: Reception, Reinterpretation and Influence, funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council and housed in the Institute, comes to a formal end in autumn 2013, with a final workshop on 25 and 26 November. The four years of the project’s duration have seen a steady stream of conferences, workshops and publications, involving scholars from all over the world and supporting two PhD students and a postdoctoral researcher at home. Among its innovations is the close collaboration of classicists with social scientists, which has revealed just how many different (often
contradictory) ways readers have understood Thucydides, and his often surprising roles in international relations, military education, and philosophy of history. He can be both realist and idealist, democrat and oligarch, the model of objectivity and the pedlar of rhetoric and myth. Prof. Morley is already planning the next phase of research suggested by the results of this exceptionally fruitful project.

Fundraising

Philanthropy continues to play an important role in the life of the Institute – indeed, many of the activities mentioned in this report would not have been possible without it. We are grateful to everyone who has donated to the Institute in 2012/13, and especially to those donors who have supported us over a number of years. It is thanks to this growing group of loyal donors that the Institute has a stable income stream that allows us to plan ahead.

Neill and Catrin Morgan have been outstanding in this regard, committing their support for a postgraduate scholarship in Classics and Ancient History for the fourth year in a row. In the 2013/14 academic year, the Morgans’ gift will also fund two smaller, one-off bursaries to attract exceptional postgraduate students to Bristol.

We are also honoured to have developed close working relationships with a number of grant-making trusts and foundations, whose generosity has been critical to the success of the Institute as a centre of excellence for research in the Classical Tradition. We would particularly like to thank the A.G. Leventis Foundation, for pledging a gift of £120,000 to fund another three-year postdoctoral Fellowship in Greek Studies in 2013–16. The current Leventis Fellow, Jessica Priestley, writes ‘I am extremely grateful to the A.G. Leventis Foundation for the generous research time and opportunities for professional development which this Fellowship has offered.’ We are delighted to be able to offer these opportunities to another bright young scholar seeking their first formal post.
We’re extremely appreciative of the generous support of the Stavros S. Niarchos Foundation over the past seven years. Their most recent grant has funded both a PhD scholarship (awarded to James McDermott) and administrative support for the Institute for the past three years. In the coming year, we plan to use the remainder of the grant to create two part-time administrative support internships for post-graduate students of Classical Studies. These internships will offer a fantastic opportunity for students to gain valuable work experience and enrich their studies, while also supplementing their income.

Finally, we’d like to thank those donors who have offered us their support for the first time in the 2012/13 year. One of our newest donors, Carole Machell (BA 1983), explained what inspired her to make a gift to the Institute:

‘Having had a happy and enriching experience as a Classics undergraduate many years ago, I wanted to play a small part in keeping the Classical Tradition going.’

Thanks to our donors and other supporters, the Classical Tradition is very much alive at the University of Bristol.
We would like to offer our sincere thanks to the following individuals and organisations who made gifts to the Institute in 2012/13:

The A.G. Leventis Foundation
Stavros S. Niarchos Foundation
Institute for Aegean Pre-History (INSTAP)
Weston-super-Mare Archaeological & Natural History Society
The Rev Jeffrey Daly (BA 1973)
Mr William G.R. Davies (BSc 1971) and Mrs Phyllis Davies
Mr Michael Dodgeon (BA 1965, MLitt 1967)
Mr Nicholas Egon and Mrs Matti Egon
Professor Robert L.H. Fowler and Mrs Judith Fowler
Mr Byron Harries (BA 1965)
Mrs Aglaia Hill
Mr Gerald Howell (BA 1950)
Mrs Louise R. Johnston-Harris (BA 1979, MEd 2005)
Mr Nicholas D.E. Jones (BA 1978) and Mrs Sally Jones (BA 1978)
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Mr Anthony S. Minns (LLB 1968) and Mrs Julia Minns
Mr Neill F. Morgan (BA 1990) and Mrs Catrin Morgan (BA 1990)
Professor Neville Morley
Dr Jennifer Secker (BA 1973)
Mrs Dianne A. Shearn (BA 1964)
Mr Douglas E. Waite (MA 1970)
Mr Jerry W. Wright (BA 1982) and Mrs Clare Wright

We would also like to extend our gratitude to those donors who wish to remain anonymous.
Events

Legacy of Greek Political Thought Network: research workshop

The second annual research workshop of the Legacy of Greek Political Thought network, an international group of scholars drawn from the fields of Classics, Political Theory and the History of Ideas, took place in Bristol on 7th and 8th December, organised by Professor Neville Morley and generously supported by the Institute and the Bristol Institute for Research in the Humanities and Arts. Thirty scholars and postgraduates discussed a series of papers given by speakers from Germany, Canada and the US as well as the UK. The programme was designed to offer ample time for discussion and debate, and for considering the perspectives of different disciplines on texts and themes of common interest.

The workshop was organised around two themes: The Idea of the Perfect Constitution, and Universalism and Contextualism in Political Thought. Paul Rahe (Hillsdale College) focused on the vital contribution of Montesquieu to 18th-century constitutional debates, setting the ancient ideals against modern realities, and his influence on the American Founders. Carol Atack (Cambridge) focused on the place of ‘technocracy’ in democracy, while Ryan Balot (Toronto) focused on civic trust, especially as it relates to democratic leadership. Christian Wendt (Freie Universität Berlin) considered Herodotus as an alternative to Thucydides as the founder of ‘realism’ in international relations; Ben Earley (Bristol) explored how Thucydides was evoked in C18 British discussions of colonialism, specifically in relation to the American colonies; Chris Brooke (Bristol) looked at 18th-century debates around the comparison of France and Rome, Britain and Carthage. Helen Roche (Cambridge) focused on Greece as a paradigm for education in Nazi pedagogy, and finally there was discussion of two pre-circulated papers by Steve Hodkinson (Nottingham) on the reception of Sparta in the twentieth century.
Visit of Ryan Balot

In conjunction with the Legacy of Greek Political Thought workshop, Professor Ryan Balot of the University of Toronto was awarded a Benjamin Meaker Visiting Professorship by the university to enable him to stay longer in Bristol and engage with members of the department. Professor Balot is one of the leading international experts on classical Greek political thought and its legacy, on the continuing life of ideas like democracy, citizenship, virtue, justice and courage and the role of the past in contemporary political debates. Trained as a classicist, his current post at Toronto is as a political scientist, and so he is well placed to facilitate communication between the different disciplines.

As well as his paper at the workshop, Prof. Balot participated in a series of events for different audiences: a lunchtime lecture for undergraduates on ‘Courage, equality and military recognition in democratic Athens’; a paper for the departmental research seminar on ‘Thucydides’ critique of democratic courage’, focusing on his current research project; and a workshop for postgraduate students on ‘Studying ancient political thought and its reception: the case of classical rationalism’. He also met for informal discussions with members of the Thucydides project to discuss future activities, and met with a number of members of the department individually.

Donors’ Event: Constitutionalism: ancient, modern and American

Paul Rahe studied Classics at Oxford and received his doctorate in ancient history from Yale; he taught at Cornell University, Franklin and Marshall College and the University of Tulsa before moving to Hillsdale College in Michigan in 2007, where he is Charles O. Lee and Louise K. Lee Chair in Western
Heritage and Professor of History. His scholarly career has focused on the origins and development of self-government in the west, from classical antiquity to the present; his books include Republics Ancient and Modern: Classical Republicanism and the American Revolution (1992), as well as works on Machiavelli and Montesquieu, and he is currently working on a book on the ‘The Grand Strategy of Classical Sparta: The Persian Challenge’.

As well as articles in both classical and political theory journals, he contributes regularly to blogs on current affairs. His lecture on 8th December 2012 considered one of the most important legacies of the ancient world to modern political thought, the idea of the Constitution (and of particular kinds of constitution) as the foundation of society and justice. He traced this idea from its classical origins to its rediscovery and reinvention in the early modern period and on to debates about the significance of the Constitution in the United States today.

International Workshop: Herodotus in Antiquity and Beyond

A workshop organised by Jessica Priestley (Institute Fellow) and Vasiliki Zali (University College London) on 18th–19th April, with attendees from as far away as Australia and New Zealand, explored the reception of Herodotus from ancient to modern times. This workshop and another at UCL in August were preparatory to a volume of essays to be published by Brill (Leiden) in 2015. Some of the key junctures and contexts in the history of Herodotus’ Histories include: their reception by Thucydides; historiographical and geographical writing in the Hellenistic period; the Persian War traditions of the Roman Imperial period; the translation of the Histories into Latin by Lorenzo Valla; the expedition by Napoleon Bonaparte to Egypt in 1798; the oppositional placement of Herodotus and Thucydides in modern historical thought; and the appropriations of Herodotus by modern writers such as Gore Vidal and Ryszard Kapuściński. The project will involve the collaboration of Classicists, Byzantinists, Medievalists, Renaissance scholars, and students of English, Slavic and Italian literatures.
Visit of Alice Oswald

On Wednesday 24th April we joined with the new Bristol Poetry Institute in welcoming the poet Alice Oswald to lead an afternoon workshop for postgraduate students and to give a recital of her poem, Memorial, in the evening. Oswald is an award-winning poet who read Classics at New College, Oxford. Among other achievements, Oswald won the T.S. Eliot Prize in 2002 for her collection Dart and was recently awarded the 2013 Warwick Prize for Writing for Memorial. The afternoon workshop was open to students from the Department of Classics and Ancient History and from the Department of English. The session covered areas as diverse as an abstract ‘translation’ of the Iliad in embroidery to the difficulty of rendering Homer in Japanese. The evening recital was an unforgettable event, at times deeply moving and made all the more remarkable by the fact that the poem was delivered from memory. In the preface to Memorial Oswald describes the work as a ‘translation of the Iliad’s atmosphere, not its story’. She goes on to express the belief that her approach ‘is compatible with the spirit of oral poetry, which was never stable but always adapting itself to a new audience, as if its language, unlike written language, was alive and kicking.’ By the end of the evening, these comments felt entirely vindicated.
By taking the ‘church fathers’ Jerome and Augustine as exponents of a critical memory of Roman institutions and movers of a late Roman cultural revolution, these lectures aimed to unsettle the tacit consensus—of classicists and others—that favours a division between the ‘literary tradition of the schools, the juristic tradition of the state, and the religious tradition of the Church’ (E. R. Curtius). Lecture 1 (‘Legends of the Fall’) proposed that the ‘scriptural’ tenor of Augustine’s City of God, a work launched exactly sixteen hundred years ago this year, might owe as much to the collective cognitive apparatus or ‘mind’ of the later Roman Empire as it did to its author’s conviction of the divine origins of the Old and New Testaments. It then offered instances of the ways in which that work of Augustine’s had been construed as a turning-point in the reception of classical Graeco-Roman culture, by historians, poets and critics from Giambattista Egnazio and Juan-Luis Vives in the early sixteenth century to W. H. Auden and H.-I. Marrou in the mid-twentieth. Lecture 2 (‘Masters of Memory’) then used the speech made in the late 290s by Eumenius of Autun, pleading for the repair of the schools in that city, as an illustration of the public memory-works of the Diocletianic-Constantinian political restoration and also as a spur to revising our modern historical narrative of Latin ‘literature’ of the late imperial age. Lecture 3 (‘Acts of Scripture’) placed Jerome at centre-stage, interpreting his papal commission for a Latin Bible-text as a consummate piece of freelancing, performed in a style adapted from existing chancellery protocols and embellished with the most urbane devices of Roman intertextuality. Finally, Lecture 4 (‘European Literature and Latin Late Antiquity’) turned back to the crisis of western ‘literary’ tradition to which Auden, Curtius and Marrou were reacting in the 1930s and ’40s, in order to sketch a history of conjoined modern romances of ‘literature’ and ‘late antiquity’, having as their shared blind-spot the Augustinian ‘jeromanesque’.
Delegates at the ‘Greek Myths on the Map’ conference, by the statue of Heracles at Goldney Hall, Bristol.

**The Sixth Bristol Myth Conference: Greek Myths on the Map**

Some 50 delegates from Australia, North America, the Middle East, Europe, and the UK attended this fascinating conference held at Goldney Hall 31st July – 2nd August. The aim of the conference was to examine how myths shaped the ancient Greeks’ understanding of the world, and the impact of changing perceptions about the geography of the world on traditions of mythic storytelling. Eighteen papers explored how two powerful intellectual systems — the mythic and the geographic — informed one another and, despite their sometimes contradictory aims, coexisted in antiquity. There were also two keynote lectures, the first by Dr Katherine Clarke, Oxford (Walking through History: Unlocking the Mythical Past), and the second by Professor Richard Hunter, Cambridge (Landscapes in the Soul: Deserts and the Mythic Imagination).
Selected Publications

Edited by Viccy Coltman (University of Edinburgh)
University of Exeter Press 2012

Antiquity and the Meanings of Time: A Philosophy of Ancient and Modern Literature
Duncan F. Kennedy
I.B. Tauris 2013

Seduction & Power. Antiquity in the Visual and Performing Arts
Edited by Silke Knippschild and Marta Garcia Morcillo (University of Wales)
Bloomsbury Publishing 2013

Greek Tragedy on Screen
Pantelis Michelakis
Oxford University Press 2013
Some Shorter Writings


The Ancient World in Silent Cinema
Edited by Pantelis Michelakis and Maria Wyke
(University College London)
Cambridge University Press 2013

Classical Myth and Psychoanalysis. Ancient and Modern Stories of the Self
Edited by Ellen O’Gorman and Vanda Zajko
Oxford University Press 2013

Aristotle on Desire
Giles Pearson
Cambridge University Press 2012
For information about any of these events, please see www.bris.ac.uk/arts/birtha/centres/institute, or contact the Institute Administrator: Marilyn.Knights@bristol.ac.uk  Tel: +44 (0)117 331 8460

- **Performance/Panel Discussion:** *Might is right?*  
  *Ancient and modern debates. Thucydides’ Melian Dialogue*  
  Sunday 10th November 2013.  
  Foyles Bookshop, Cabot Circus, Bristol.

- **Interdisciplinary Workshop:** *Cretomania*  
  Friday 22nd November – Sunday 24th November 2013  
  (Athens, Greece) École Française d’Athènes, Athens.

- **Research Colloquium:** *Thucydides: reception, reinterpretation and influence.*  
  Monday 25th November – Tuesday 26th November 2013  
  Clifton Hill House, University of Bristol.

- **Workshop:** *Reception of late classical theology in early medieval Iberia.*  
  Monday 16th December – Tuesday 17th December 2013  
  Victoria Rooms, University of Bristol.

- **Donors’ Event:** *‘Deep Classics’.*  
  *A public lecture by Shane Butler, Professor of Latin, University of Bristol*  
  Friday 6th December 2013  
  Clifton Hill House, University of Bristol.

- **The 2014 Blackwell-Bristol Lectures:** *After the Past: Sallust on History and Writing History.*  
  *Professor Andrew Feldherr, Princeton University*  
  Tuesday 6th, Wednesday 7th, Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th May 2014.
For further information about the Institute and its work, please see our website
http://www.bris.ac.uk/arts/birtha/centres/institute

BRISTOL INSTITUTE
OF GREECE, ROME,
AND THE CLASSICAL TRADITION

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