



**Institutskolloquium
der Klassischen Philologie
an der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin**

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**Looking Back and Forward:
Statius' Allusive Program in the Thebaid's closure**

16. Dezember 2021 – 18 Uhr c.t. per Zoom

<https://hu-berlin.zoom.us/j/62574757233?pwd=aGxYdDV5RTQxYzR1aC82ellmb2pLUT09>

Meeting-ID: 625 7475 7233 Passwort: 093089



The *Thebaid's* closure programmatically displays Statius' layered re-adaptation of the epic tradition. Ovid's elegiac code (both erotic and exilic) and Lucan's reshaping of Virgil's epos place the *Thebaid* in a new position within the Roman literary system. Such a position results from a complex interweaving of some topoi and generic features that look back to the poet's tradition, and simultaneously appeal to future receptions of his work. In the light of this double dynamics, I show how the association between the ideas of return and renown in the poem's ending allows Statius to disclose an intratextual and intertextual allusive program especially focused on beginnings and endings.

