



**International Conference**

**“The great protector of wits. D’Holbach 1789-2019”**

Lichtenberg-Kolleg, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen,  
Historic Observatory, Geismar Landstraße 11  
9-11 May 2019

**Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> May**

- From 09.00 Registration
- 9.15 – 9.30 **Franziska Meier** (Georg-August-Universität, Göttingen), Welcome
- 09.30 – 10.00 **Laura Nicoli** (Lichtenberg-Kolleg), Introduction
- Session 1** Chair: Nicholas Cronk
- 10.00 – 11.30 **Brunello Lotti** (Università di Udine), The concept of natural order in *The System of Nature*  
**Enrico Galvagni** (Lichtenberg-Kolleg), Luxury, Mystification and Oppressive Power in d’Holbach’s Philosophical Writings  
Discussion
- 11.30 – 11.45 Refreshment
- Session 2** Chair: Laura Nicoli
- 11.45 – 13.15 **Mladen Kozul** (University of Montana), Holbach stratège et philosophe  
**Ruggero Sciuto** (Hertford College / Voltaire Foundation, University of Oxford), The Absent Guest: D’Holbach’s Strategic Usage of Voltaire’s Texts  
Discussion
- 13.15 – 14.30 Lunch
- Session 3** Chair: Maria Susana Seguin
- 14.30 – 16.00 **Alain Sandrier** (Université de Caen Normandie), De quelques aspects de la contribution du baron d’Holbach à l’*Encyclopédie*  
**Mélanie Ephrème** (Université Paris Diderot), Le baron d’Holbach, traducteur discret de la chimie allemande  
Discussion
- 16.00 – 16.30 Refreshment
- 16.30 – 18.30 **Public Lecture: Alan Charles Kors (University of Pennsylvania), Holbach’s Skepticism**  
Discussant: Tony La Vopa (North Carolina State University / Lichtenberg-Kolleg)
- 19.30 Dinner

## Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> May

- Session 4** Chair: Mladen Kozul
- 09.30 – 11.00 **Gianni Paganini** (Università del Piemonte Orientale), D’Holbach and the “spirit of Judaism”  
**Jacopo Agnesina** (Università di Roma “La Sapienza”), The role of Prophecies. Baron d’Holbach as translator of Anthony Collins  
Discussion
- 11.00 – 11.30 Refreshment
- Session 5** Chair: Franziska Meier
- 11.30 – 13.00 **Maria Susana Seguin** (Université Paul-Valéry Montpellier / ENS Lyon), Le rôle d’Holbach dans la diffusion de la littérature philosophique clandestine  
**Paolo Quintili** (Università di Roma “Tor Vergata”), D’Holbach et Diderot: une amitié plus que philosophique  
Discussion
- 13.00 – 15.00 Lunch and visit to the Historic Observatory
- Session 6** Chair : Alain Sandrier
- 15.00 – 16.30 **Gerhardt Stenger** (Université de Nantes), Voltaire contre les athées parisiens  
**Emilio Mazza** (IULM, Milano), How many “atheists” at d’Holbach’s table?  
Discussion
- 16.30 – 17.00 Refreshment
- 17.00 – 17.40 **“Towards a born-digital critical edition of d’Holbach’s complete works”.**  
**Round table organised by Nicholas Cronk and Ruggero Sciuto**
- 19.00 Dinner

## Saturday, 11th May

- Session 7** Chair: Gianni Paganini
- 09.00 – 9.45 **Jonathan Israel** (Institute for Advanced Studies, Princeton), D’Holbach’s Political Thought. A subdued monarchism not unlike Voltaire’s, or a decisive step in laying the crypto-republican underlay of the late 18<sup>th</sup> century revolutionary consciousness?  
Discussion
- 9.45 – 10.00 Refreshment
- Session 8** Chair: Tony La Vopa
- 10.00 – 11.30 **Nicholas Cronk** (Voltaire Foundation, University of Oxford), Who are d’Holbach’s readers?  
**Iryna Mykhailova** (Lichtenberg-Kolleg), D’Holbach’s Legacy in Russian Empire and Soviet Union: Translations and Receptions  
Discussion
- 11.30 – 12.30 **Final round-table discussion chaired by Alan Charles Kors**
- 12.30 Departure