



3rd CIRCULAR LETTER

Madrid, May 2026

Dear members of **Asteria, the International Association of Myth Criticism,**

It is a true pleasure to see how our Association continues to grow thanks to the active participation of all of you. Every contribution, however small it may seem, makes a significant contribution to our shared goals. In this circular letter, we would like to report on the activities and developments of Asteria during the period from our last circular (**December 2025**) to **May 2026**.

Since the last circular letter, we have organized the following events:

JANUARY 2026

— At the Complutense University of Madrid, on **January 14, 2026, at 11:00 a.m.**, members of the Andromeda Project (Ref.: PHS-2024/PH-HUM-76), funded by the Community of Madrid, met in the Meeting Room of the Faculty of Philology. If you wish to read the full minutes, you may visit the following [link](#).

— On **January 19**, we held a new session of the reading club *“Reimagining Myths”*, dedicated to *Psyche and Eros* (Luna McNamara), organized by Rosario López Gregoris, María Bazaga Ropero, and Ámbar Caridad Carralero Díaz.

— On **January 28**, the first session of the lecture series *“Mythology in Literature, Film, and Contemporary Arts”* took place, led by Mónica Carbajosa.

FEBRUARY 2026

- On **February 9**, the reading club *“Reimagining Myths”* discussed *Las malas* (Camila Sosa), organized by Rosario López Gregoris, María Bazaga Roperó, and Ámbar Caridad Carralero Díaz.
- On **February 13**, Mercedes Aguirre and Maya Zalbidea presented the book *Tras las huellas de los mitos* at the Eugenio Trías Library.
- On **February 17**, the seminar *“What Is and What Is Not a Myth”* took place, organized by the NYL Group, Universidad de Villanueva, with a lecture by José Manuel Losada.
- On **February 19**, the workshop *“Bible and Cinema”* was held, organized by Guadalupe Seijas de los Ríos Zarzosa and Lidia Rodríguez Fernández.
- On **February 19**, Pablo Úrbez participated in the *Historical Fictions Research Conference 2026*.
- On **February 24 and 26**, the first two sessions of the *“3rd Course on Judaism: Bible, Religion, and Culture”* were held, organized by the BiTel research group of the Andromeda Project.

MARCH 2026

- On **March 3, 10, and 17**, the *“4th Seminar on Cultural Myth Criticism”* took place, organized by José Manuel Losada and Mercedes Pérez Agustín.
- On **March 3, 5, 10, 12, 17, and 19**, the *“3rd Course on Judaism: Bible, Religion, and Culture”* was held.
- On **March 5**, the seminar *“Weaving Myths”* took place, organized by the LITTERAE Group.
- On **March 9**, the reading club discussed *A Thousand Ships* (Natalie Haynes), organized by Rosario López Gregoris, María Bazaga Roperó, and Ámbar Caridad Carralero Díaz.
- On **March 10**, the event *“Ciudade e Mito”* (University of Aveiro) took place, where Cristina Mondragón delivered a lecture.
- On **March 16**, the *“7th Seminar: Mythical Projections”* was held, organized by Ana González-Rivas and Cristina Salcedo.
- On **March 17**, we organized the round table *“Classical Myths and Monstrosity”*, organized by Ana González-Rivas Fernández.
- On **March 19**, Mercedes Pérez Agustín participated in the conference *“Language of the Third*

Millennium 14: The Multimodal Turn in Communication".

— On **March 19**, the "*5th Seminar: The Literature of Terror*" took place, organized by Ana González-Rivas Fernández, with the participation of Debbie Felton and David Punter.

— From **March 23 to 27**, the "*14th International Meeting on Mythical Spaces*" of the University of Alcalá (UAH) took place.

— On **March 25**, the second session of the lecture series "*Mythology in Literature, Film, and Contemporary Arts*" was held, delivered by Sofía López.

APRIL 2026

— From **April 7 to 10**, the workshop "*A Map of Moving Myths and Stars*" was held, led by Dr. Justin Coombes and Dr. Amaia Salazar.

— On **April 7**, we hosted the invited lecture by Dr. Justin Coombes (University of Oxford) entitled "*Queen Maya's Prophecy*".

— On **April 13 and 14**, the international seminar "*Nietzsche and Greek Myths*" took place, organized by the Éticas Griegas group.

— On **April 13**, a new edition of the reading club "*Reimagining Myths*" was held, focused on *Wintergirls* (2010) by Laurie Halse Anderson, organized by Rosario López Gregoris, María Bazaga Roperó, and Ámbar Caridad Carralero Díaz.

— On **April 16**, the "*5th Seminar: The Literature of Terror: Exploring Mythical Figures in Gothic Fiction*" took place, along with several academic participations (Irene Donate, Luz Atenas, and Mónica Carbajosa) in specialized meetings.

— On **April 16 and 17**, Irene Donate and Mónica Carbajosa participated in the International Congress "*Moving Spain's Clock Forward: Women, the Public Sphere, and Intermediality around the Lyceum Club Femenino (1926–2026)*".

— On **April 16**, Luz Atenas participated in the seminar "*'The Blood Is the Life!': Narratives of Disease, Gender, and Identity in Vampiric Fiction*".

— On **April 20**, the Artistic-Mythological Workshop "*Gaia, Our Mother Earth*" was delivered by

Maya Zalbidea.

— On **April 23**, we held the seminar *“Rewriting Myth: Silences and Genealogies in the Poetry and Narrative of Contemporary Women Writers”*, organized by Rebeca Campos Ferreras and Alberto García García-Madrid.

— On **April 25**, the *15th Mythological Gymkhana “Madrid, Capital of Myth”: Achilles* took place.

— At the end of the month (**April 27–30**), various international interventions and participations took place, including contributions by members of our community, notably:

- **April 27–28**: Lecture by María Redondo at the 9th International Conference *“Poetica & Christianity: C. S. Lewis: Speaking of Humanity, Speaking of God”*.
- **April 27**: Lecture by José Manuel Losada, *“The Myth of Don Juan. Myth in the Spanish Literary Tradition: Interpretations and Perspectives”*, at the *“17th Days of Hispanic Culture”*.
- **April 28**: Lecture by José Manuel Losada, *“Cultural Myth Criticism: Defining What a Myth Is and Is Not”*, at the University of Nitra.
- **April 29**: Lecture by Roxana Beatriz Martínez Nieto at the Real Colegio Complutense at Harvard: *“Myth and Representation: Discursive Analysis of the Feminine in the Archaic Period”*.

— On **April 30**, the first day of the *4th Spring Meeting. Aesthetics: Philosophy and Music*

— *“Pop and Its Myths”* took place.

Below we outline the activities scheduled for the coming months:

MAY 2026

— On **May 5**, the International Seminar *“Reinterpretations of Celtic and Iberian Fairies’ Myths & Lore”* will be held, organized by the SIIM research group.

— On **May 6, 13, and 20**, the seminar *“Didactic Applications of Myth. 2nd Seminar on Myth Criticism and Knowledge Transfer”* will take place, organized by Roxana Beatriz Martínez Nieto,

Associate Professor at UNIR.

— On **May 6**, the seminar *“Representations of Greco-Roman and Nordic Mythologies in Film Texts and Translation Challenges”* will be held, organized by Paloma Ortiz-de-Urbina Sobrino and Teresa Martín Merchán.

— On **May 7**, the second day of the *4th Spring Meeting: “Pop and Its Myths”* will take place.

— On **May 8**, we will hold the seminar *“3rd International Study Day: Mediterranean and Insular Myths of Spain and Their Link to Nature”*, organized by the GIECO Group of the University of Alcalá (UAH).

— On **May 14 and 15**, the international and interdisciplinary seminar *“Mythical Archipelagos: Islands, Narratives, and Imaginaries across Cultures and Media”* will take place, organized by Marta Silvera Roig (event president), Francisco J. Álvarez Gil, Mercedes Cabrera Abreu, Ivalla Ortega Barrera, Elena Quintana Toledo, Asun López-Varela, Maya Zalbidea Paniagua, and Rebeca Campos Ferreras.

— On **May 27**, the third session of the lecture series *“Mythology in Literature, Film, and Contemporary Arts”* will be held, with a lecture by Pablo Úrbez.

JUNE 2026

— On **June 2**, the writing workshop *“Myth and Woman”* will be held, organized by Natalia González de la Llana Fernández.

— On **June 4**, the *“14th EMERGE Runway: The Myths of Wine”* will take place, organized by the Bachelor’s Degrees in Fine Arts and Design at the Universidad Francisco de Vitoria.

— On **June 10**, we will hold the teacher-training workshop in myth criticism and knowledge transfer *“The Myth of Perseus and Medusa...”* through digital storytelling (Genially) and active methodologies in Secondary Education, organized by Roxana Beatriz Martínez Nieto, Associate Professor at UNIR.

OCTOBER 2026

— On **October 22 and 23**, the *8th International RECEPTION Conference: “The Reception of the Myth of the Valkyrie in Literature, Music, and the Visual Arts”* will take place.

— From **October 26 to 30**, the *9th International Conference on Myth Criticism “Myth and Woman”* will be held.

NOVEMBER 2026

— From **November 16 to 22**, the collective exhibition *“The Representation of Myths through Concept Art”* will take place.

DECEMBER 2026

— On **December 10 and 11**, the *2nd Cycle “Ciudade e Mito”*, Subgroup *“Mythographies”* of the University of Aveiro (online), will be held.

Finally, we are pleased to highlight two international meetings that will shape our autumn agenda in particular:

- **The 8th International RECEPTION Conference: “The Reception of the Myth of the Valkyrie in Literature, Music, and the Visual Arts” (October 22–23, 2026)**, coordinated by Paloma Ortiz-de-Urbina Sobrino and *RECEPTION* of the University of Alcalá (UAH). Further information is available at the following [link](#).
- **The 9th International Conference on Myth Criticism “Myth and Woman” (October 26–30, 2026)**, coordinated by José Manuel Losada and Carolina López Fic of the Complutense University of Madrid (UCM). Information is available on its official website in both [Spanish](#) and [English](#).
 - We remind you that [proposals](#) for the conference may be submitted until May 15, and the [attendee registration form](#) will remain open until October 27.
 - In recognition of their commitment to the community, Asteria members receive a preferential discount of more than 50% on the conference registration fee.

Amaltea, Journal of Myth Criticism. We continue to publish articles in the journal's eighteenth volume. We invite the academic community to contribute articles and book reviews for future issues. All information for authors, including submission guidelines, is available on our [website](#). To stay up to date with the latest news, we encourage you to follow Amaltea on social media: [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [X/Twitter](#). We also invite those who wish to apply as reviewers for the journal to contact us through our website; please note that eligibility requires holding a doctoral degree.

We also remind you of Asteria's social media presence. It is worth taking a look at our channels to stay informed about updates and announcements. Over the past few months, we have continued to grow in followers, and user interaction continues to rise. We are active on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), and [X/Twitter](#). For further information, please visit our [website](#), where you will find several detailed articles about the Association's activities.

For more audiovisual content, we encourage you to visit our [YouTube channel](#), where we share activities not only from Asteria but also from the Andromeda Project.

In addition, we have a **WhatsApp group** for those who wish to stay up to date with activities in the field of myth criticism. If you would like to join, please send a WhatsApp message to José Manuel Losada (+34 660 455 944) or Paula Sánchez Romero (+34 638 491 664).

With our sincere thanks, we send you our warm regards,

José Manuel Losada

President of Asteria