

14:00–15:00 Marilyn LEWIS, Bristol  
Theo Kobusch, Origen and the  
Cambridge Origenists

Karen D. FELTER, Münster  
Creating Selves: Kobusch's Reading of  
Freedom in Origen and Its Importance  
for a New Interpretation of Lady  
Conway's Philosophy

Coffee Break

15:30–16:30 Christian PELZ, Bochum  
The inner man as the moving principle  
– Origen's concept of *προαίρεσις* and  
*πρόθεσις* or Kant meets the "Kant of  
Ancient Ethics"

Thomas HANKE, Cambridge/Frankfurt  
Is Freedom of Choice Crucial for the  
Concept of Freedom? Remarks on  
Origen and Hegel

**Time**

23<sup>rd</sup> October 2017, 10–18

**Place**

Cambridge University  
Faculty of Divinity  
Room 6

**Contact**

Cambridge Centre for the Study of  
Platonism  
Professor Douglas Hedley (Director)  
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## Colloquium Adamantium



### I. Divine and Human Freedom The Philosophical Significance of the Church Father Origen (Theo Kobusch)

## Colloquium Adamantianum

Origen is the founder of Christian Platonism. The *Colloquium Adamantianum* is a biannual workshop hosted by the Cambridge Centre for the Study of Platonism. Each of the *Colloquia* revolves around the research of one pre-eminent contemporary scholar on Origen and the Alexandrian tradition, exploring the Platonist origins of Christian metaphysics.



### I. Divine and Human Freedom The Philosophical Significance of the Church Father Origen (Theo Kobusch)

Theo Kobusch's interpretation of Origen, put forth in a series of seminal articles and his magisterial monograph *Christian Philosophy*, views Origen as the founder of a first distinctly Christian metaphysics. In contradistinction both to Greek and Gnostic thought, it posits freedom, rather than being, as the fundamental principle of all reality. God is viewed not as an unmoved mover, but as "unbegotten freedom" choosing to undergo suffering for the sake of humankind in universal love. Man, created in his "image" and called upon to achieve "likeness", freely chooses his place in a sacramental cosmos.

## Theo Kobusch and the Philosophical Significance of the Church Father Origen

10:00–10:30 Douglas HEDLEY, Cambridge  
Introduction: The Cambridge Centre for the Study of Platonism and the Significance of Origen's Christian Philosophy

10:30–11:00 Isidoros KATSOS, Cambridge  
Metaphysics and Method – Christian Exegesis as Ethics, Physics and Epoptics in Origen's Prologue to the *Commentary on the Song of Songs*

Coffee Break

11:00–12:00 Ilaria SCARPONE, Reading  
The Notion(s) of Freedom in Origenian Metaphysics

Daniel TOLAN, Cambridge  
Christ in the Midst of the *ἡγεμονικόν* – Human Subjectivity in Origen's Anthropology

Lunch Break

13:00–14:00 Christian HENGSTERMANN, Cambridge/  
Münster  
The Father's *passio caritatis* – The Doctrine of Divine Passability in Origen's Metaphysics of Freedom

Pui Him IP, Cambridge  
Christology of the *ἐπίνοιαί* – Christ and the Trinitarian God in Origenian Exegesis