

Claudia Baracchi: "**Rhetoric, Imagination, and the Transfiguration of Enmity: A Platonic Movement**"

The presentation addresses the question of the rhetorical/affective strategies contributing to the construction/invention of the enemy. By the same token, I undertake to cast light on the resources, inherent in these very strategies, for the overcoming and radical transformation of such constructs. The analysis of the decisions and assumptions regarding human nature, as well as the examination of the dynamic force of imagination, will be crucial to this discussion. The theme is mostly addressed by reference to Plato (*Republic* in particular) and a few other motives in ancient Greek thought.