

PHIROZE VASUNIA

Professor of Greek, University College London (UCL)

THE PROSE
OF THE WORLD:
HEGEL, PLUTARCH, HERODOTUS

19/11/2018 ώρα / time: 19:30

Εθνικό Ίδρυμα Ερευνών, Αμφιθέατρο «Λεωνίδα Ζέρβας»
Λεωφ. Βασιλέως Κωνσταντίνου 48, Αθήνα
National Hellenic Research Foundation, Auditorium "Leonidas Zervas"
48 Vasileos Constantinou Av., Athens

PHIROZE VASUNIA is Professor of Greek at University College London. Educated in India and the United States, he has taught at universities in California, North Carolina, and England. He has given lectures in many countries and has written on a range of texts and periods, from antiquity to the modern era. He has longstanding research interests in the study of cross-cultural contact, colonialism, and empire. His books include *The Gift of the Nile* (2001) and *The Classics and Colonial India* (2013). Forthcoming are two edited volumes, one on the politics of form in Greek literature and another on the literatures of the Roman Empire. Work in progress includes a monograph on postcolonialism and another book on the relationship between prose and poetry.

[ABSTRACT] The Prose of the World: Hegel, Plutarch, Herodotus

In many cultures, prose comes after verse. Masters of Greek prose such as Herodotus and Plato were acutely self-conscious of the poets and poems that preceded them and they sought to fashion a medium that would hold its own against the great verse compositions of the past. In the ancient world and later, numerous theories were put forward to explain the 'invention' of prose, and intellectuals across many centuries argued over its evolution and its relationship to poetry. This lecture explores the lively history of attitudes to Greek prose (mainly in relation to Plutarch and Herodotus), the theories of its origins, and the arguments over its status and value.

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