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**INVITATION TO THE RESEARCH SEMINAR  
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS**

**When:** Monday 8 April 2019, at 10.30 am

**Where:** Room 826, 8<sup>th</sup> floor, Panepistimioupoli, Zografou, Athens

The Department of Classics, Faculty of Philology, invites you to the lecture of

**Dr Héctor Eduardo García Cataldo**

**Pontificia Universidad Católica de Valparaíso / Universidad de Chile**

entitled

**‘Homer live then and now: *Ὅμηρος ἐν τῷ ζῶντι ἐνταῦθα καὶ νυνί*’.**

Professor Dimitrios Karadimas

Head of the Department of Classics

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# Homer live then and now: "Ὅμηρος ἐν τῷ ζῶντι ἐνταῦθα καὶ νῦν"

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## Abstract

Homer's work entails a series of issues, linked both to the tradition it unveils as to the criticism it raised in the becoming of its own culture. This article addresses one of those critical aspects starting from the analysis that Plato presents in his *Republic* against the content of the verses of Homeric poetry. Plato's criticism is based on ethical and political criteria, consistent with rational principles according to the man-citizen model that the philosopher himself proposes. As a result, the aesthetics of Homer's work does not answer to this model and, thus, all Homeric poetry (and poetry in general) must be excluded from the ideal conformation of the man-citizen. The decisive point of Plato's criticism is particularly focused on the subject of love-passion. The *erasure* of the verses in this aspect means the obliteration of the most intriguing aspect of human nature and that keeps its effect on edge to the date, which Homer observed with all transparency and expressed with unequalled beauty, unraveling that erotic *humus* of the human *physis*, of the one *then* and even of the one *now*.