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
23rd October 2017, 10–18

Place
Cambridge University
Faculty of Divinity
Room 6

Contact
Cambridge Centre for the Study of Platonism
Professor Douglas Hedley (Director)
Dr Christian Hengstermann
Dr Isidoros Ch. Katsos
(Research Associates)

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.