

DATABASE OF BYZANTINE BOOK EPIGRAMS (DEPARTMENT OF LITERARY STUDIES – DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS)

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REACHING OUT FROM THE MARGINS: SPOTLIGHTING BYZANTINE BOOK EPIGRAMS IN THE DIGITAL ERA

The DBBE project

The *Database of Byzantine Book Epigrams* project maps the presence, development and function of metrical paratexts in Byzantine manuscripts.

The DBBE team has been collecting Byzantine book epigrams since 2010. More than 12.000 unique epigrams have been made available to the scholarly community in our Database. Beside the texts, the project has also focused on providing contextual information that situates book epigrams within a broad cultural-historical framework.

Our project has a pronounced **interdisciplinary character**. Philologists, linguists and computer scientists have joined forces to reveal the connections between linguistic patterns and text-historical developments in book epigrams.

The **dissemination** of our results is crucial to us. While we regularly present and publish our research within the academic environment, we also value the importance of inclusive outreach activities, addressed both at specialists and at a wider audience. The combination of different forms of communication has ensured the development of fruitful **collaborations** with parallel research projects, students and schools.

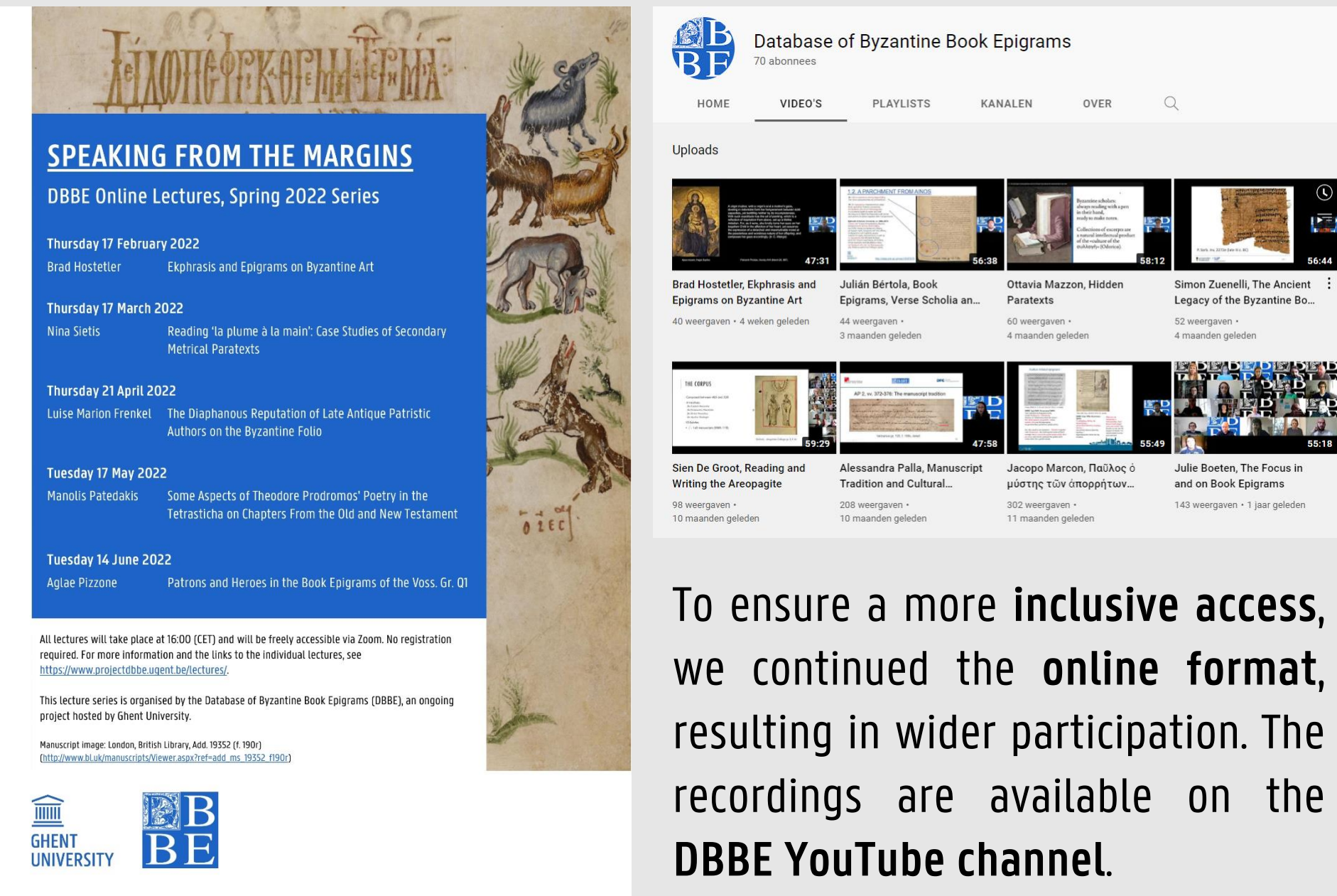


Speaking From the Margins

DBBE Online Lectures

Book epigrams continue to elicit many questions, in fields ranging from **palaeography to art history**, from **metrics to the history of text transmission**. We therefore invite scholars to share their perspectives on the multifaceted genre of Byzantine metrical paratexts.

We kicked off *Speaking From the Margins* in February 2021 and are now into the **third series**.



To ensure a more **inclusive access**, we continued the **online format**, resulting in wider participation. The recordings are available on the **DBBE YouTube channel**.

Writing From the Margins

DBBE Blog

Our blog sheds light on various interesting dimensions of the Byzantine book epigrams contained in our database. It is a space to discuss topics that go beyond the limits of a database record, such as:

- **stories behind the transmission** of remarkable book epigrams
- preliminary results of **in-progress research**
- **larger-scale overviews** of metrical paratexts on various subjects
- **discoveries of exciting new material** transmitted in beautiful manuscripts

Whether you are well acquainted with Byzantine paratexts or a complete neophyte, this blog holds ideas (and pictures!) that will spark everyone's interest.



We encourage scholars, interested non-academics as well as students to dig into some interesting epigrams and write a blog post to valorize little-known texts.

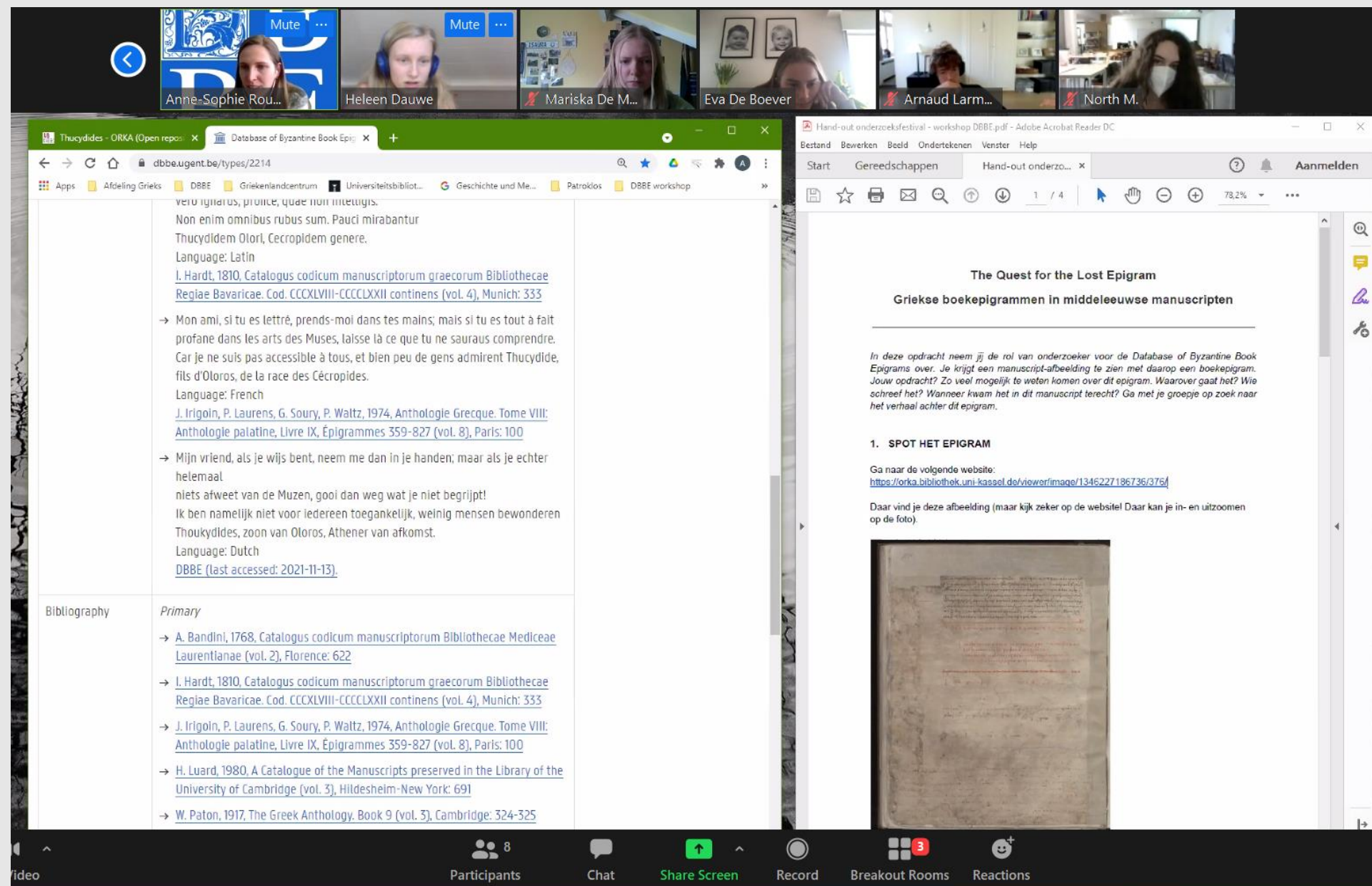
The Quest for the Lost Epigram

Book Epigrams at School: Workshop & Teaching Material

In “The Quest for the Lost Epigram: Griekse boekepigrammen in middeleeuwse manuscripten” we bring book epigrams to the **classroom!** Our database offers plenty of interesting material to **introduce high school pupils** to the Byzantine world and the basics of **text transmission**.

We offer two formats:

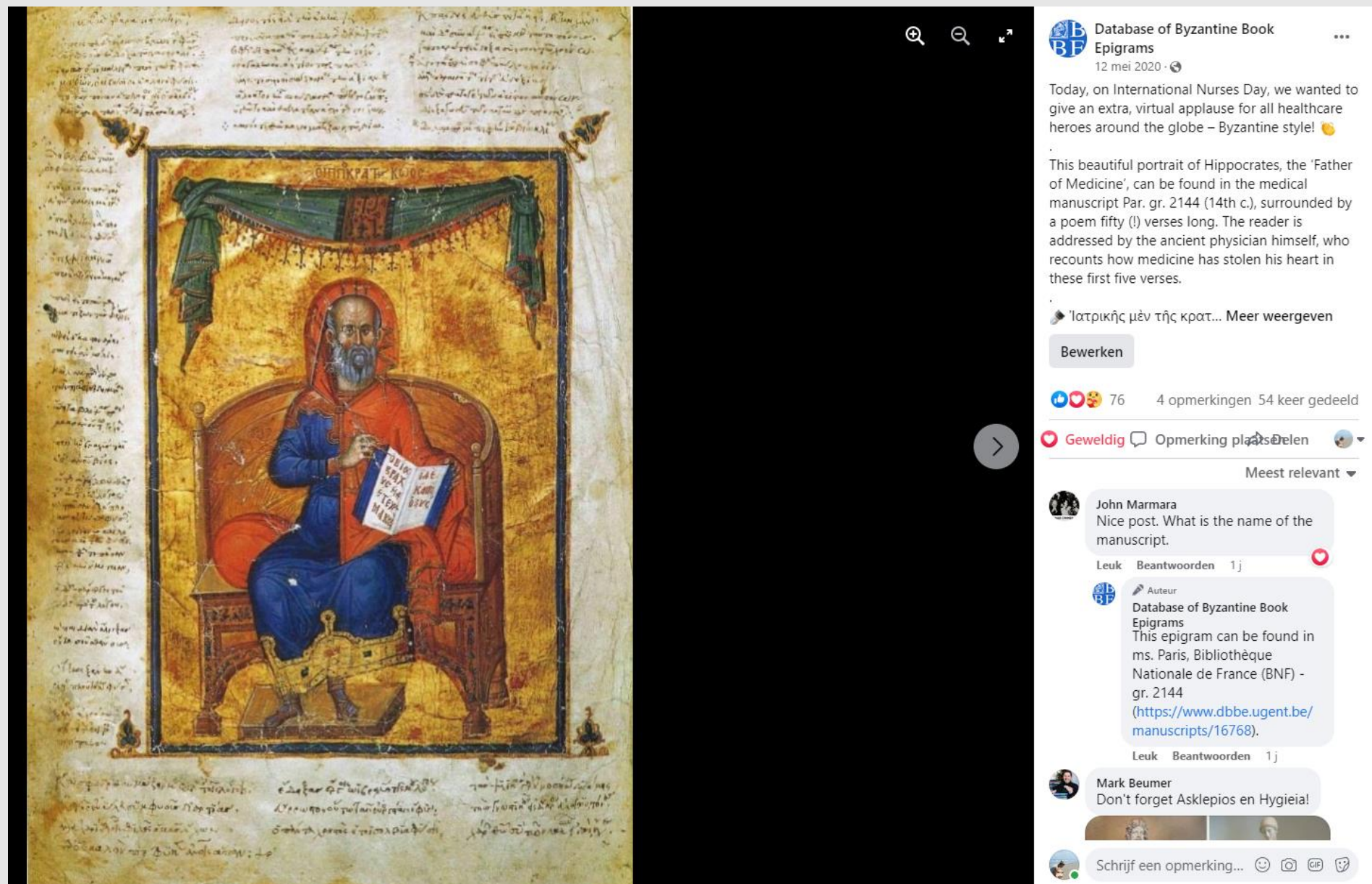
- **teaching material:** an introduction and a standard exercise
- a flexible and easily adaptable **on-request workshop**



#epigramsinthepicture

Book Epigrams & Social Media

We regularly put some of our hidden gems in the spotlight in the **social media** series “Epigrams in the picture”. It is the perfect way to give DBBE's **3000+ followers** on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter a glimpse of what our database is all about.



All of our social media posts feature:

- an **image** of the manuscript
- the **text of the epigram** with a **translation**
- some **contextual information**

Have a look at our posts on e.g. Saint Nicholas, Hippocrates, Alexander the Great, Mount Etna or World Poetry Day!



Contact

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