

# Messages in Metal: Legends and Virtues on Roman Coins

## Public Talks on Roman Coinage

### TALK #1 How coin legends work at the rims of the Roman world, in late Republican times

Sven Günther

Institute for the History of Ancient Civilizations,  
Northeast Normal University, Changchun

This talk explores how coin inscriptions in the late Roman Republic provinces blended local traditions with Roman dating, names, and symbols. It shows that legends on coins played a key role in expressing Roman influence beyond just images. The study reveals a unique mix of cultures through coin design.



### TALK #2 Piety and her little ones: on the iconography of virtues in Roman coinage

Elisabeth Günther

Institute for Classical Archaeology and Byzantine Archaeology,  
University of Heidelberg

This talk examines the depiction of female virtues with infants on Roman coins, highlighting imperial values and gender roles. These images reflect dynastic legitimacy and political messages in the 2nd century AD. The iconography is complex and rich in meaning beyond standard symbols.



**Tuesday, August 26, 3:00 pm**

**Faculty of Arts Lounge, HKU**

**Hosted by BA(HDT)**

**Hybrid Event – Zoom attendance welcome**

