

Giovanni Fanfani

Biographical data

Date of birth: July 28<sup>th</sup> 1978

Birthplace: Florence, Italy

Nationality: Italian

Address: Grindögatan 124, 25732 Rydebäck, Sweden

E-mail address: g.fanfani@deutsches-museum.de

Education:

2006-2009: PhD degree in Greek and Latin Philology, Department of Classics and Medieval Philology, Faculty of Humanities, University of Bologna. Title of dissertation: “The Intertextuality of Euripides’ *Trojan Women*” (original title “L’intertestualità delle *Troiane* di Euripide”. Supervisor: Prof. Camillo Neri.

2003-2005: Post-graduate teaching qualification diploma (SSIS). University of Pisa.

1998-2003: M.A. degree in Classics, Department of Sciences of Antiquity, Faculty of Humanities, University of Florence (Firenze).

Academic positions:

2017 – 2021: Postdoctoral researcher, ERC Project “PENELOPE: A Study of Weaving as Technical Mode of Existence”. Research Centre for the History of Technology and Science, Deutsches Museum, Munich.

2014 – 2016: Postdoctoral researcher, DFF-MOBILEX Fellow (COFUND). The Danish National Research Foundation’s Centre for Textile Research, Saxo Institute, Faculty of Humanities, University of Copenhagen. Title of the project “Performing the Fabric of Song. Textile Technology and Imagery in Ancient Greek Poetry and Poetics. A Study in Metaphors and Terminology”.

2012 – 2014: Research assistant. The Danish National Research Foundation’s Centre for Textile Research, Saxo Institute, Faculty of Humanities, University of Copenhagen.

2010: Full time lecturer in Italian Language and Literature. Department of Western Languages, Faculty of Arts, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand.

Research areas:

Weaving imagery in archaic and classical Greek poetry; weaving terminology in Presocratic philosophy; weaving in early Greek cosmology and in Pythagorean number theory; the poetics and metapoetics of archaic Greek literature; the interaction of lyric and tragedy; intertextuality in late Euripidean drama; the soundscape of Pindaric poetry.

Research projects:

2017 – 2021: *PENELOPE. A Study of Weaving as Technical Mode of Existence*. Team member, postdoctoral researcher. ERC Consolidator project directed by Dr. Ellen Harlizius-Klück. Munich, Deutsches Museum, Research Institute for the History of Technology and Science.

2014 – 2016: *Performing the Fabric of Song. Textile Technology and Imagery in Ancient Greek Poetry and Poetics. An Interdisciplinary Study in Metaphors and Terminology*. DFF-MOBILEX Mobility Grant (COFUND), funded by the Danish Minister for Independent Research/Humanities and FP7 Marie Curie Actions. Postdoctoral individual fellowship hosted at the Centre for Textile Research, SAXO Institute, University of Copenhagen.

2012 – 2016: *Textile Economies in the Mediterranean Area*. Team member. Research programme hosted at the Centre for Textile Research, SAXO Institute, University of Copenhagen, and directed by Prof. Marie-Louise Nosch.

Webpage: <http://ctr.hum.ku.dk/economy/>

Organization of conferences, workshops, and symposia (select):

2019 (September 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>). International conference “HOMO TEXTOR: Weaving as Technical Mode of Existence”. Munich, Deutsches Museum, Research Institute for the History of Science and Technology. (Webpage: <https://penelope.hypotheses.org/homo-textor-programme>)

2019 (May 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>). Conference “Weave, Sweet Phorminx (Pind. *Nem.* 4.44): the Sound of Imagery and the Imagery of Sound in Pindar” (Organizer, with Francesco Buè). Louvain-la-Nueve, Université Catholique de Louvain.

2018 (April 7<sup>th</sup>). The Classical Association of UK Conference, Panel “Modes of Engagement with Textile Technology in the Ancient World” (Panel convenor, with Magdalena Örhman). University of Leicester, School of Ancient History and Archaeology.

2017 (May 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>). PENELOPE Kickoff Workshop. Munich, Deutsches Museum, Research Institute for the History of Science and Technology.

2015 (November 10<sup>th</sup>): Workshop “The interaction between ancient textile craft, Greek poetry and music – with an introduction on the methodologies of the disciplines involved”. Centre for Textile Research, University of Copenhagen.

2012 - 2013: International round-table “The Spinning Fates and the Song of the Loom. The Use of Textile, Clothing and Cloth Production in Greek as Metaphor, Symbol and Narrative Device in Greek and Latin Literature.” Round I (2012) and II (2013). (Organizer, with Mary Harlow and Marie-Louise Nosch). Centre for Textile Research, Saxo Institute, University of Copenhagen.

Publications:

(forthcoming) Giovanni Fanfani, Ellen Harlizius-Klück ‘Pattern Weaving as Knowledge in Early Greek Thought’. In R. Hahn, A. Herda *Knowledge in Archaic Greece*. Hellenic Studies Series.

2018 Giovanni Fanfani ‘Craftsmanship and Technology as Chorality: the Case of Weaving Imagery in Archaic and Classical Choral Lyric’. *Dionysus ex Machina* 9: 6-40.

2018 Giovanni Fanfani ‘What *melos* for Troy: Blending of Lyric Genres in the First *Stasimon* of Eurpides’ *Trojan Women*’. In R. Andujar, T. Coward, T. Hadjimichael (eds): *Paths of Song. The Lyric Dimension of Tragedy*. Berlin, Boston, 239-263.

2018 Giovanni Fanfani, Alex McLean, Ellen Harlizius-Klück ‘Cyclic Patterns of Movement across Weaving, Epiplokē and Live Coding’. *Dancecult: Journal of Electronic Dance Music Culture* 10: 5-30.

2017 Giovanni Fanfani ‘Weaving a Song: Convergences in Greek Poetic Imagery between Textile and Musical Terminology. An Overview on Archaic and Classical Literature’. In S. Gaspa, C. Michel, M.-L. Nosch (eds): *Textile Terminologies from the Orient to the Mediterranean and Europe, 1000 BC to 1000 AD*. Lincoln NE, 421-436.  
doi:10.13014/K2154F74

2017 Giovanni Fanfani ‘Moduli di rappresentazione corale nelle *Troiane* di Euripide’. In: F. Citti, A. Iannucci, A. Ziosi, (eds): *Troiane classiche e contemporanee*. Spudasmata 173. Zurich, New York, 31-48.’

2017 Giovanni Fanfani, Ellen Harlizius-Klück ‘On Weaving and Sewing as Technical Terms for Ancient Greek Verbal Arts’. *Classical Inquiries* 20.03.2017: <https://classical-inquiries.chs.harvard.edu/on-weaving-and-sewing-as-technical-terms-for-ancient-greek-verbal-arts/>

2016 Giovanni Fanfani, Mary Harlow and Marie-Louise Nosch (eds) *Spinning Fates and the Song of the Loom. The Use of Textiles, Clothing and Cloth Production as Metaphor, Symbol and Narrative Device in Greek and Latin Literature*. Ancient Textiles Series 24, Oxbow Books. Oxford, 355 pages. ISBN 978-1-78570-160-3.

2016 Giovanni Fanfani and Ellen Harlizius-Klück “(B)orders in Ancient Weaving and Archaic Greek Poetry”. In G. Fanfani, M. Harlow & M.-L. Nosch (eds) *Spinning Fates and the Song of the Loom. The Use of Textiles, Clothing and Cloth Production as Metaphor, Symbol and Narrative Device in Greek and Latin Literature*. Oxford, pp. 61-100.

2016 Giovanni Fanfani, Mary Harlow and Marie-Louise Nosch “Textiles and Clothing Imagery in Greek and Latin Literature: Structuring, Ordering and Dissembling”. In G. Fanfani, M. Harlow & M.-L. Nosch (eds) *Spinning Fates and the Song of the Loom. The Use of Textiles, Clothing and Cloth Production as Metaphor, Symbol and Narrative Device in Greek and Latin Literature*. Oxford, pp. 323-339.

2013 Giovanni Fanfani, “La μωρία θνητῶν (Eur. *Tr.* 95ff., 1203-1206)”, *Eikasmos* 24, 91-112.

#### Selected talks:

2019 (September 17<sup>th</sup>). Giovanni Fanfani ‘How poetry appropriates (textile) technology: one methodological point in the investigation of the vocabulary of ancient weaving’. Munich, Deutsches Museum, Conference “HOMO TEXTOR: Weaving as Technical Mode of Existence”.

2019 (July 29<sup>th</sup>). Giovanni Fanfani, Ellen Harlizius-Klück ‘How to weave a double square: textile technology and the discovery of incommensurability’. Munich, Deutsches Museum, Oberseminar.

2019 (May 17<sup>th</sup>). Giovanni Fanfani ‘Interlacing chorality: plaiting, braiding, and weaving in ancient Greek choral performances’. Sheffield, Algomech Festival, Symposium on ‘Braiding and Dancing’.

2019 (May 16<sup>th</sup>). Giovanni Fanfani ‘Order in varigation: weaving, plaiting, and *poikilia* in Pindar’. Leuven-la-Neuve, Université Catholique de Louvain, Conference “Weave, Sweet Phorminx (Pind. *Nem.* 4.44): the Sound of Imagery and the Imagery of Sound in Pindar”.

2019 (January 22<sup>nd</sup>). Giovanni Fanfani ‘*Hymnos poikilos, kosmos poikilos*: aspects of weaving in Greek choral lyric and presocratic cosmology’. Oslo, University of Oslo, Department of Philosophy, Classics, History of Art and Ideas, Classics Seminar Series.

2018 (April 7<sup>th</sup>). Giovanni Fanfani ‘The (textile) root of it all: weaving imagery and technology in archaic Greek literature’. University of Leicester, Classical Association of UK Conference, Panel “Modes of Engagement with Textile Technology in the Ancient World”.

2017 (November 11<sup>th</sup>). Giovanni Fanfani ‘Dancing Automata: the Chorus as Machine and Artefact in Archaic Greek Poetry’. Sheffield, Algomech Festival, Symposium on ‘Unmaking’.

2017 (May 11<sup>th</sup>). Giovanni Fanfani ‘Image and Structure. Weaving as Technical Term in Early Greek Literature’. Munich, Deutsches Museum, “PENELOPE Kickoff Workshop”.

2017 (April 24<sup>th</sup>). Giovanni Fanfani ‘Gender, Genre and Textile imagery in Ancient Greek Literature: Observations on Recognizable Patterns from Archaic to Hellenistic Poetry’. University of Leicester, Workshop “Textile, Dress and Gender in the Ancient World”.

2015 (February) Paper: ‘Alcune osservazioni sugli stasimi delle Troiane euripidee’. International conference *Le Troiane. Testi classici e riscritture moderne*, Ravenna (University of Bologna).

2014 (November) Paper: ‘Patterns of textile-like structure in archaic Greek poetry’. Workshop *Ancient Textiles in Context*, The Hunter College Department of Classical and Oriental Studies, NY.