

THE DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS AND THE OFFICE  
OF THE DEAN OF THE COLLEGE PRESENT:

# CHARICLEIA'S TAINIA (ταλνία) AND THE CLASSICAL TRADITION

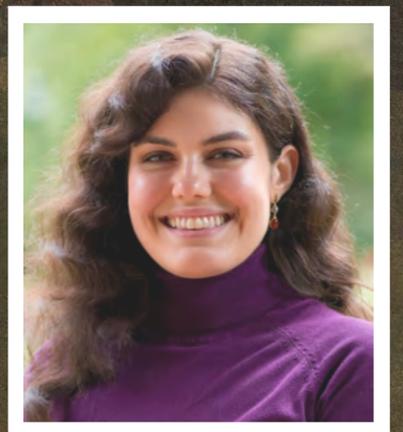
The fillet (tainia), or woven ritual band, plays a key role in the ancient Greek novel *Charicleia and Theagenes* by Heliodorus. Charicleia, an Ethiopian princess separated from her household at birth, must find her way home while wearing a tainia originally woven by her mother and bearing a record of her lineage. As the inscribed band recurringly remains unread, unrecognized, and unbelieved, the author reformulates how we might come to know the limits of natural and artificial kinship—and, at a meta level, of literary descent in Greek texts of the Roman Empire. Although monumental ruins dominate visions of the classical Mediterranean, this talk imagines a softer antiquity, woven from the reproductive power of textiles.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH

2:30 P.M.

Timothy Fuller Event Space, Tutt Library  
Refreshments will be served

Mary Danisi  
HSP Postdoctoral Associate  
Cornell University



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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Photo: Wall painting representing Perseus rescuing Andromeda, from the Imperial villa at Boscotrecase, last decade of the 1<sup>st</sup> century BCE. Fresco, 118.75 cm x 159.39 cm. New York: The Metropolitan Museum of Art (20.192.16). Rogers Fund, 1920.