



Consulate General of Sweden  
Istanbul



SRII FALL LECTURES 2022

## Searching for the Sacred

September 7, 2022, 6 p.m.

Venue: The Andrén Auditorium, SRII

# In Search of Troy: Between Myth and History

Prof. Barry Strauss with introduction from Philippe Bohström

We approach Troy through Homer. The Iliad and the Odyssey are as paradoxical as they are brilliant. Homer stands at the beginning of the Iron-Age literary tradition and sums up the achievement of the Bronze Age; he represents the early Greek city-states and the lost Bronze-Age kingdoms; he is a product of both literacy and the oral tradition; he is a man of the West and the East. And Troy, that most enigmatic and storied of archaeological sites, sums up the meaning of Homer and the Trojan War for us today. While recent scientific excavations at Troy and in the Troad greatly increase our knowledge of the material reality, they only increase our admiration of the human imagination as illustrated in the two epics. The real Troy is neither simply archaeology or poetry, myth or history, but a dialogue between genres.

Please register at  
[generalkonsulat.istanbul-events@gov.se](mailto:generalkonsulat.istanbul-events@gov.se)  
no later than 5 September 2022.

A reception, hosted at the Swedish Palace by the Consul General of Sweden in Istanbul Mr. Peter Ericson, will follow the lecture.

The Swedish Research Institute in Istanbul  
Istiklal Caddesi 247 (Beyoğlu – Tünel) Limited seating 50 persons.