

## SUMMARY

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ABY WARBURG'S MISSING LADIES: THE EXCLUSION OF MID-16<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY NYMPHS

When thinking of the research which has been made on the *Nachleben* of the famous *Ninfa* in the Renaissance of which Aby Warburg was so fond of, there is a strange lack of interest regarding the pictures of striding women appearing in the mid-16<sup>th</sup> century Rome. Although Aby Warburg stayed the last year of his life in Rome he didn't include Roman examples of striding women in his *Mnemosyne-Atlas* project, in the panel number 46. Probably he didn't even know those ladies or was suspicious of all Manneristic images after Michelangelo. Warburg is not alone here: Also Georges Didi-Huberman does not pay any attention to these Mannerist lady-figures in his numerous *Ninfa*-publications. Because it is a common opinion that Warburg's concept of the Pathos formula is a flexible one, we can apply the formula to those anonymous striding women of Mannerist fresco decorations – those vague figures which can be characterized with the epithet of the time: *vaghezza*. It is also quite possible to call them nymphs of the day, different from those of the late Quattrocento, but interesting as such, especially when taking into account the changed cultural situation of the mid-16<sup>th</sup> century Italy.