

Rigorous Rivals: On Leo Frobenius and Aby Warburg

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A common meeting of the two is not reported, despite ample opportunities for an encounter. Rather they avoided one another, a relationship which seemed to have its effects also on the research on the two figures. While the literature on both Aby Warburg and Leo Frobenius is extensive, the two have been kept separate. No attempt has been made to discuss them together. A connection between the two appeared to be out of question. And yet they were rivals who competed over minds and money. The paper wishes to explore this contentious relationship thereby hoping to outline the contours of a largely unknown chapter in the history of anthropology and art history.