

Canadio-Byzantina

A Newsletter published by the Canadian Committee of Byzantinists

No.27, January 2016

Introductory remarks

Welcome to the fifth bulletin that I have put together, incorporating, as usual:

(1) Reports on our members' activities in the form of publications, lectures, curatorships and so forth;

(2) Reports on excavations (e.g. at Baturyn) or on conferences (e.g. on the BSC);

(3) Announcements concerning Byzantine matters, e.g. the next International Congress in Belgrade, but also about publications, internet resources, and other conferences and so forth.

Our committee is also undergoing a change as we begin 2016: Richard Greenfield has kindly stepped in as secretary / treasurer of the committee, taking over from George Bevan. George began to take over the post from Greg, but it became clear that other commitments meant that he would be unable to deal with his tasks as efficiently as he would have liked. His colleague at Queen's, Richard Greenfield, has therefore taken over the post and has already been in contact with many members in the last months to solicit membership dues and information for this bulletin.

I have the impression nonetheless that members' reports are not as numerous this year as in the past; please do keep me apprised of your work. On the other hand, I am delighted that four new members have introduced themselves in this bulletin, one of whom, Foteini Spingou, I had the opportunity to meet in Toronto in November. It is clear that there is a growing interest in Byzantine (and Late Antique) studies at PIMS

and in the Centre for Medieval Studies there; I do hope that this can be built upon for the future.

This is a congress year: the international conference will take place in August in Belgrade, Serbia. I have given a few details below, p.17. Grants to support student participants are available. I hope that I shall not be the only Canadian present, as I think I was in Sofia in 2011!

Here and there I have inserted some photographs from my trip to Turkey; I report below, p.15, on the conference I attended at Denizli, after which I had the good fortune to travel around various Ionian cities in the company of Dr Jonathan Bardill, author of numerous contributions to Byzantine history.

In conclusion, do remember our undergraduate essay competition (details below, p.23). It is possible also that a Late Antique / Byzantine conference could take place in the autumn at Queen's; at any rate, the idea has been mooted. Naturally we shall keep you posted.

Our website remains at:

<http://www.scapat.ca/canbyz/>

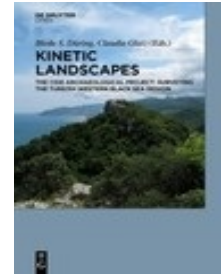
Suggestions for improvements are always welcome. I look forward to seeing some of you in Belgrade in August.

Geoffrey Greatrex

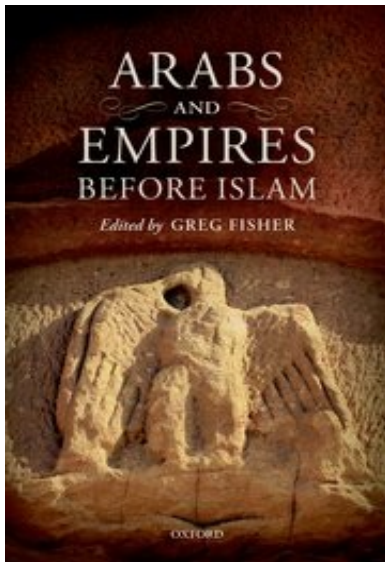
ACTIVITIES OF MEMBERS

Marica Cassis, Memorial University, St John's

'The Cide-Şenpazar Region in the Byzantine Period' in *Kinetic Landscapes*, ed. Bleda Düring and Claudia Glatz. Pp. 294-363. De Gruyter, 2015. Open Access at: <http://www.degruyter.com/viewbooktoc/product/462641>



Greg Fisher, Carleton University, Ottawa



In the summer of 2015 Oxford University Press published *Arabs and Empires Before Islam* (ed. Fisher). This book is a collaboration with over 20 international scholars, including fellow Can-Byz members George Bevan, Geoffrey Greatrex, and Conor Whately. *Arabs and Empires* collates nearly 250 translated extracts from an extensive array of ancient sources, illuminating the relationship between the Arabs and their Roman, Persian, Ethiopian, and Yemeni neighbours in antiquity. Find out more at: <http://ukcatalogue.oup.com/product/9780199654529.do>.

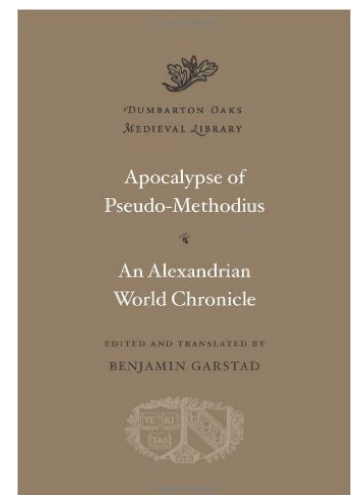
I also completed a parallel life of Hannibal and Scipio, due out with The History Press in the spring of 2016 as part of their Pocket Giants biography series. For more information on this series, see this site:

<http://www.thehistorypress.co.uk/index.php/pocketgiants.html>

Finally, Routledge is launching a new series, Studies on the History of the Ancient Near East, under my editorial direction. Five books are now contracted in the series with the first due out in June 2016. For more on the series, see: <http://www.tandf.net/books/series/HISTANE/>. New proposals are always welcome! I also served on committee 1B (Medieval, Classics and Religious Studies) for the SSHRCC Insight Grants competition in the 2014/15 cycle.

Benjamin Garstad, MacEwan University, Edmonton

Benjamin Garstad is associate professor of Classics at MacEwan University in Edmonton, Alberta. He is interested in various aspects of late antiquity, including John Malalas and the sources and origins of the Byzantine chronicle tradition, the Alexander Romance and the Alexander tradition, Euhemerus and the Christian cooption of his ideas, the survival and interpretation of myth, Dictys Cretensis and Dares Phrygius, and Nonnus of Panopolis, but broadly speaking in the interstices of history and fiction in the period. He recently published a reader's edition of the Greek and Latin texts of the Apocalypse of Pseudo-Methodius and the Excerpta Latina Barbari as *Pseudo-Methodius, Apocalypse; An Alexandrian World Chronicle* in Harvard University Press' Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library. He is currently anticipating the publication of the following articles:



‘Authari in Paul the Deacon’s *Historia Langobardorum*, Secundus of Trent, and the Alexander Tradition in Early Lombard Italy’ in the *Journal of Late Antiquity*.

‘Nebuchadnezzar and Alexander in the *Excerpta Latina Barbari*’ in *Iraq*.

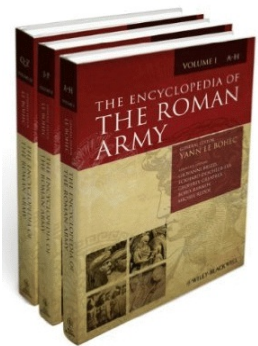
‘Nebuchadnezzar’s siege of Tyre in Jerome’s Commentary on Ezekiel’ in *Vigiliae Christianae*.

‘Rome in the Alexander Romance’ in *Harvard Studies in Classical Philology*.

This October he was also the only Canadian delegate to a conference on the Alexander Romance in Wrocław, Poland. He is presently at work on studies of the source of the euhemeristic passages in the Chronicle of John Malalas, Alexander’s route in the Alexander Romance, how the insertion of the episode of the enclosure of the Unclean Nations from the Apocalypse of Pseudo-Methodius into the Alexander Romance changed Alexander’s character, and, as part of the RAVEN research group, Alexander’s feasting in disguise as his own emissary in the Romance.

Geoffrey Greatrex, University of Ottawa

In December 2014 there appeared the proceedings of the 2013 Shifting Frontiers conference, entitled *Shifting Genres in Late Antiquity* (Ashgate: Farnham, 2015), edited with Hugh Elton and with the assistance of Lucas McMahon. In the course of the year appeared the *Encyclopedia of the Roman Army*, 3 vols. (Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell’s, 2016), ed. Y. Le Bohec, for which I was the sub-editor for the entries devoted to Late Antiquity. I was also among the contributors to Greg Fisher’s newly published work on the Arabs in Late Antiquity (noted above). Work proceeds meanwhile, albeit slowly, on the commentary on Procopius’ *Persian Wars*.



Articles published:

‘Government and Mechanisms of Control, East and West’ in M. Maas, ed., *The Cambridge Companion to the Age of Attila* (Cambridge, 2015), 26-43.

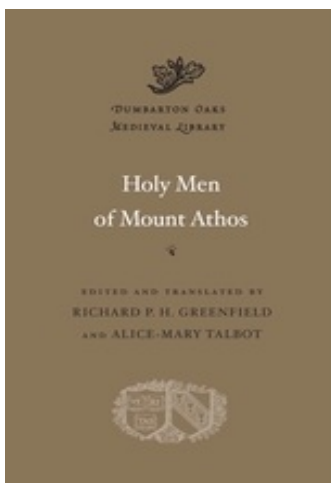
‘Les Jafnides et la défense de l’empire au VIe s.’ in D. Genequand and C. Robin, eds., *Les Jafnides. Des rois arabes au service de Byzance (VIe s. de l’ère chrétienne)* (Paris, 2015), 121-54.

‘Théodore le Lecteur et son épitomateur anonyme du VIIe s.’ in P. van Nuffelen and P. Blaudeau, eds., *L’historiographie tardo-antique et la transmission des savoirs* (Berlin, 2015), 121-42.

‘Théophane et ses sources sur la guerre perse d’Anastase Ier’ in M. Jankowiak and F. Montinaro, eds., *Studies in Theophanes* (= *TM* 19, 2015), 269-78.

Richard Greenfield, Queen’s University, Kingston

I completed work with Alice-Mary Talbot on the 745pp volume *Holy Men of Mt Athos* which we are publishing jointly in the *Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library, Greek Series* (Harvard UP) [forthcoming April 2016]. In addition to editorial work on the whole volume, I was involved in the English translation of the Life of Niphon and the two Lives of Maximos Kavsokalyvites. I spent



two weeks at Dumbarton Oaks in April/May on a DOML short term residency working on this project.

I also continued active work on other volumes as a member of the Byzantine Greek Editorial Board of the Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library.

I completed a chapter on 'Magic and the Occult Sciences' to be published in Antony Kaldellis and Niketas Sinioglou eds., *The Cambridge Intellectual History of Byzantium* [forthcoming, 2016].

I published a review of Stephanos Efthymiadis, ed., *The Ashgate Research Companion to Byzantine Hagiography, Volume II: Genres and Contexts in Speculum*.

I am now supervising four PhD students [Abdulkerim Kartal, Grant Schrama, Paul Gebhardt and Julian Yang], had two MA students complete [Tyler Berlet 'Emulating Angels: Gender Ambiguity in the Lives of Byzantine Holy Men, Women and Eunuchs'; Alex Taylor 'Medieval Monastic Medicine: An Examination of Byzantine and Latin Traditions of Healing in the Tenth to Thirteenth Centuries'], continued supervising two more, and took on one new MA.

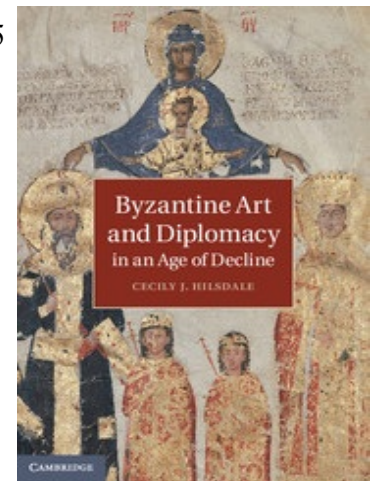
I taught an introductory undergraduate seminar on Byzantine society, an upper year seminar on the Crusades, a grad seminar on 'Religious identity, dissidence and interaction in Byzantium', and another on 'Miracle and Magic in Byzantium'.

Cecily Hilsdale, McGill University, Montreal

My book *Byzantine Art and Diplomacy in an Age of Decline* (Cambridge University Press, 2014) was awarded the 2015 Dionysius A. Agius Prize for a distinguished first book in the field of Medieval Mediterranean Studies by the Society for the Medieval Mediterranean (<http://www.societymedievalmediterranean.com/dionysius-a-agius-prize-2015.php>).

In addition to invited lectures at Bowdoin College and the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, I participated in a conference reassessing the global turn in medieval art in Evanston at Northwestern University and another on 'Decline Management and Power Transitions' in Montreal (sponsored by McGill and Université de Montréal Centre for International Peace and Security Studies, funded by the FQRSC project on 'Globalization and the Changing National Security State').

In July 2015 I also participated in the National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute in Barcelona dedicated to the theme of 'Negotiating Identities: Expression and Representation in the Christian-Jewish-Muslim Mediterranean.' For this Institute, I lectured and led seminars relating to the topic of the medieval gift and the negotiation of cultural and confessional difference.



Kerim Kartal, Queen's University, Kingston

I am a third year PhD candidate in the History department at Queen's University. I completed my comprehensive exams in 2014, and I am currently in the process of writing my dissertation which is entitled 'The Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople and its Political, Religious, and Intellectual Relations with the Contemporary World in Late Byzantium, 1261-1453' under the supervision of Dr. Richard Greenfield.

In 2015, I completed my preliminary research and wrote the first chapter of my dissertation. Also, I presented two papers in two conferences: in March I presented a paper with the title 'How to Rescue the Eastern-Roman (Byzantine) Empire from Eurocentrism' at McGill-Queen's Graduate Conference in History; and in April I presented another paper entitled 'Jewish Identity in Byzantium: An Overview' at the Hellenic College Holy Cross, Brookline, MA.

I also worked as a teaching assistant of the courses HIST 221 (Jews and Arabs in History until 1492) in the winter term and HIST 124 (Canada and the World) in the summer term; and in the fall term HIST 250 (The Middle Ages) and GREK 112 (Introductory Greek). In addition to those, I worked as a research assistant under Dr. Richard Greenfield in the winter term.

Currently I am holding two awards from Queen's University: Queen's Graduate Award (2013-2017) and International Student Award (2013-2017). In 2015, I also received a grant from the same university: the Doctoral Field Travel Grant. As for an extra-curricular activity, I started to volunteer for Kingston Community Health Centre in January 2015, and have been volunteering in the seniors group since then.

Dimitris Krallis, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver

In 2015 Dr Krallis Krallis presented papers at two conferences. He presented *Managing Fortune: Virtue and Tyche in Byzantine Generalship* at 'The International Medieval Congress' at The University of Leeds in July and *Urban Affinities and the Running of the Pre-modern State: Impersonal Administration, Medieval Politics, and the Bias of Modernity* at the 'Cities, Saints, and Memory in Late Antiquity' conference held in October at the University of Michigan. He also delivered the 2015 Medieval and Renaissance Studies Annual Lecture in November at the University of Missouri. His paper was entitled 'Angry words in God's Mirror: Psogos and Personal Attacks in Byzantium.'

His review of W. Treadgold's *The Middle Byzantine Historians* appeared in *Speculum* (vol. 90/1) and in the fall he submitted to an agent the completed manuscript of his second book, *An Empire of Quills: The Life and Deeds of a Byzantine Mandarin*. At SFU Dr. Krallis has been active reviewing the curricular offerings of the growing Hellenic Studies program, while designing a new course entitled 'From Alexander to the Caesars' and coordinating the first ever offering of a Hellenic Studies introductory co-taught course entled 'The Greek World'.

Antony Littlewood, University of Western Ontario, London

Apart from a couple of Byzantine essays on Byzantine Gardens and the Geoponica in the Wiley Online Library, he has reviewed in *The Medieval Review* Martin Hinterberger's important 'The Language of Byzantine Learned Literature' (*Studies in Byzantine History and Civilization* vol. 9, Brepols, Turnhout,

2014), but as an inveterate antediluvian he does not consider these ethereal productions as real publications.

He is at present completing an article on the Leicestershire and England cricketer W.E. Astill (including some information and photographs not in his recent biography of this player) and has started work on a biography of G. Geary, his colleague for both county and country.

This last year he spent about eight weeks, mainly on his own, over two trips in Ethiopia, which he considers the most interesting country in Africa (and not only for a Byzantinist), exploring all areas except the far south-east, and with side-trips into Eritrea and Somaliland. In addition he spent a week or so with a friend in each of Eritrea and the northern part of Sudan (which latter he certainly prefers to Egypt), and a few days alone in (Moroccan) Western Sahara; and my collection of photographic alba is becoming rather too large for our house.

Lucas McMahon, Princeton

This year I completed the one year MA program in medieval studies at Central European University in Budapest, where I wrote a thesis on *de Velitatione Bellica* and Byzantine guerrilla warfare. I have since moved to Princeton to pursue the PhD, where I am currently working towards completing the courses I need to take before advancing to the research stage of the degree.

Glenn Peers, Austin, Texas

Awards: 2015-16 Fellow, Israel Institute for Advanced Study, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel; Fellowship from the European Institutes for Advanced Study (EURIAS); Research Associate, W.F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research, Jerusalem.

Forthcoming book:

Co-edited with Barbara Crostini, *A Book of Psalms from Eleventh-Century Constantinople: On the Complex of Texts and Images in Vat. gr. 752*, to appear in the *Studi e Testi* series, Vatican City.

Published articles:

‘Transfiguring Materialities: Relational Abstraction in Byzantium and its Exhibition,’ forthcoming in *Convivium: Exchanges and Interactions in the Arts of Medieval Europe, Byzantium, and the Mediterranean (Seminarium Kondakovianum Series Nova)* 2.2 (2015): 116-37.

‘Framing and Conserving Byzantine Art at the Menil Collection: Experiences of Relative Identity,’ *Zeitschrift für Medien- und Kulturforschung* 6.2 (2015): 25-44.

‘We Have Never Been Byzantine: On Analogy,’ in *Byzantium/Modernism: The Byzantine as Method in Modernity*, ed. Roland Betancourt and Maria Taroutina, Brill: Leiden, 2015, 349-60.

‘Icons,’ in *Oxford Bibliographies Online: Medieval Studies*, ed. Paul E. Szarmach, New York: Oxford University Press, 2012 [revised May 2015].

Book review: Spike Bucklow, *The Riddle of the Image: The Secret Science of Medieval Art*, London, 2014, in *The Medieval Review* 15.06.07.

Conferences and lectures:

Oct., 2015 'Greek and Arabic Christians in Fourteenth-Century Trebizond: A Manuscript in New York and Chicago,' First Symposium on the Religious Life in Trabzon from Past to Present, Karadeniz Technical University, Trabzon, Turkey.

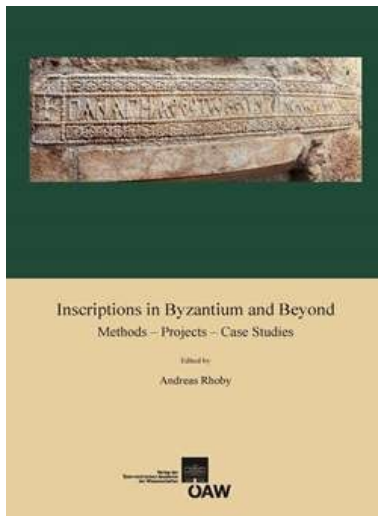
May, 2015 'Re-Purposing West for East at Resafa: A Woman Patron in the Christian Middle East,' 50th International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI.

March, 2015 'The Matter of Crossing Beyond (and Back) in the Byzantine World,' at the conference *The Aesthetics of Crossing: Experiencing the Beyond in Abrahamic Traditions*, Utrecht University, Utrecht, The Netherlands.

January, 2015 'Thinking about Byzantine Things,' DePaul University, Chicago, Illinois.

Linda Safran, Toronto

Linda Safran spent the first half of 2015 in Jerusalem with a fellowship at the Israel Institute for Advanced Studies, working on Middle Byzantine opus sectile pavements. She has just returned from nine weeks of teaching in Guangzhou, China, as part of the Getty Foundation 'Connecting Art Histories' project on Global and Postglobal Perspectives on Medieval Art and Art History, a collaboration between the University of Toronto and the Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts. She taught a graduate seminar on 'Art and Architecture of Medieval Sicily,' which was also offered simultaneously in Toronto by Jill Caskey (participating students and faculty will all go to Sicily in February 2016), and an undergraduate lecture course, 'Introduction to 'Western' Medieval Art,' on Byzantine, European, Islamic, Jewish, and Polytheistic arts.



One article appeared in 2015: 'Greek in the Salento: Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Public Texts,' in *Inscriptions in Byzantium and Beyond: Methods–Projects–Case Studies*, ed. Andreas Rhoby, Veröffentlichungen zur Byzanzforschung 38 (Vienna: Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften, 2015), 227–39.

Book reviews: Helen Evans and Brandie Ratliff, eds. *Byzantium and Islam: Age of Transition, 7th–9th Century* (New York: Metropolitan Museum of Art, 2012), *Common Knowledge* 21, no. 1 (2015): 109–10; and Jamal J. Elias, *Aisha's Cushion: Religious Art, Perception, and Practice in Islam* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2012), in the next issue of *Common Knowledge*. She lectured in Guangzhou, Jerusalem, Beer Sheva, and Nicosia. With Adam S. Cohen and Jill Caskey, Linda was awarded a SSHRC Insight Grant for 'Art and Architecture of the Middle Ages,' under contract with Cornell University Press. With Adam S. Cohen, she continues to edit *Gesta*, the journal of the International Center of Medieval Art.

contract with Cornell University Press. With Adam S. Cohen, she continues to edit *Gesta*, the journal of the International Center of Medieval Art.

Grant Schrama, Queen's University, Kingston

This year (2015) I successfully defended my dissertation proposal on Western European diasporas in Constantinople and Greece from 1081 to 1453. Under the supervision of Dr. Richard Greenfield, I will continue to research and write for my thesis throughout the upcoming year. In addition I presented the following papers at these 2015 conferences:

'Migrants and Settlers: The Presence of a European, Latin Christian Diaspora in Constantinople and Greece, 1081-1204.' Byzantine Studies Conference, Fordham University, New York, NY, October 22-25, 2015

'The New World Revised: Colonialism and Post-Colonialism in Constantinople and Greece, 1204-1330.' Third Annual Symposium on Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Saint Louis University, St. Louis, MO, June 15-17, 2015

'Home is where your heart is: Latin Diaspora and Identity in Constantinople and Greece, 1204-1300.' 48th Spring Byzantine Symposium, The Open University, Milton Keynes, March 28-30, 2015

'The Varangian Dilemma: Scandinavian Cultural Integration and Byzantine (In)Tolerance c. 840-1200.' The Practical and Impractical Past: 12th Annual McGill-Queen's Graduate Conference in History, Queen's University, March 6-7, 2015

In 2016 I have been confirmed to speak at the following conference:

'(Un)Masculine Qualities of Byzantines and Latins during the Crusades: Effeminacy and Postcolonial Narratives in Byzantine and Crusading History.' Crusading Masculinities International Workshop, University of Zurich, March 30-April 1, 2016.

Foteini Spingou, PIMS, Toronto

Foteini Spingou is a new member of the Canadian Committee of Byzantinists, as she arrived in Canada in September 2015 having being elected Andrew W. Mellon Post-Doctoral at the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies in Toronto. Foteini completed her D.Phil. thesis at the University of Oxford and under the supervision of Marc Lauxtermann in 2013. She works at the intersections of art and literature, and she is currently completing her monograph on the anthology of poetry in the famous manuscript Marc. gr. 524. She has spent a year in Dumbarton Oaks and a further at the Department of Art and Archaeology of Princeton University.

Three of her articles appeared in print in 2015. The first concerns a conjecture game that appears in both Greek and Latin medieval sources (in *Byzantion* 84, 2014, 357–69). The second is on three eleventh-century epigrams from MS Marcianus Gr. 524 (*Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies* 39, 2015, 50–65). The third article presents the first results of her research on an unpublished epistolary from later Byzantium (in *The Annual of Medieval Studies at Central European University* 21, 177–92).

Foteini also contributed in the translation of the letters of Theodore the Stoudite to Eirene the Patrician (also published in the *Annual of Medieval Studies at Central European University* 21, 162–76) and she reviewed the edited volume by Fl. Bernard and Kr. Demoen, *Poetry and its contexts in eleventh-century Byzantium* (Ashgate, 2012), for the journal *Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies* 39, 152–53.

She organized the ICMA-sponsored session on ‘Gifts of Devotion to ‘Outer Places’’ in the latest BSC in New York City. The session was chaired by another member of the Can-Byz, Cecily Hilsdale. In the past year, Foteini also presented papers in Liège, Warsaw, Athens, Kalamazoo, Princeton and Toronto.

Kristina Terpoy, Oxford

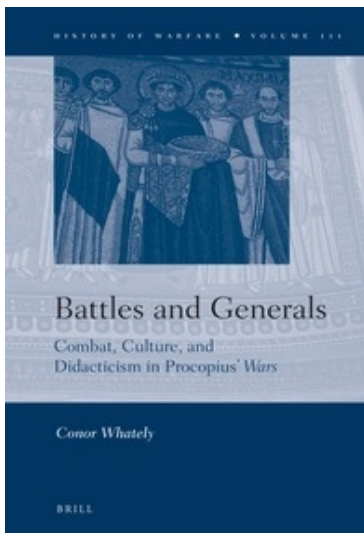
I have entered my second year of DPhil research at the University of Oxford. Over the past year, I have had the opportunity to develop my thesis as well as present papers regarding my research at the university. My thesis is a comparative study of Lycia, Isauria and the south coast of the Black Sea and examines late antique socio-economic developments in these regions by analysing both archaeological and literary sources. I research to what degree late antique prosperity can be identified in coastal and inland settlements with the aim of investigating the networks of exchange in which these settlements participated. Since much attention has been paid to the Mediterranean basin regarding the study of the late antique economy, I am keen on incorporating an analysis of the south coast Black Sea region and offering a comparative northern Anatolian perspective in my research as well.

I also had the opportunity to travel to Turkey at the end of the summer last year in order to sightsee sites of my research. Over the course of my travels, I was able to journey along the south coast of Turkey and visit a number of significant sites such as Seleucia, Anemurium, Myra, Tlos, Patara, and Gemiler Island, to name but a few. It was a pleasure to have had the chance to visit these places in person.

I look forward to continuing my research in the year to come as well as presenting papers at conferences and networking with fellow late antique and Byzantine historians.

Conor Whately, Winnipeg

Publications



2016: *Battles and Generals: Combat, Culture, and Didacticism in Procopius' Wars*. Leiden.

2015: ‘Soldiers and Their Families on the Late Roman Frontier in Central Jordan’, in G. Wrightson (ed.), *The Many Faces of War in the Ancient World*, Cambridge Scholars Publishing, pp. 283-301

2015: ‘Making Sense of the Frontier Armies in Late Antiquity: an Historian’s Perspective’, in R. Collins and M. Weber (eds.), *Roman Military Architecture on the Frontiers: Armies and Their Architecture in Late Antiquity*, Oxbow, pp. 6-17

2015: ‘Dispositions and Strategy in the Moesias from Trajan to Commodus’, *Limes XXII: Roman Frontier Studies*, Vagalinski & Sharankov (eds.), Sofia, pp. 137-143

2015: with Peter Edwell and others, ‘Arabs in the Conflict between Rome and Persia, AD 491-630,’ in *Arabs and Empires Before Islam*, edited by G. Fisher, OUP, 214-275.

2015: with Michael C. Macdonald and others, 'Arabs and Empires before the Sixth Century,' in *Arabs and Empires Before Islam*, edited by G. Fisher, OUP, 11-89.

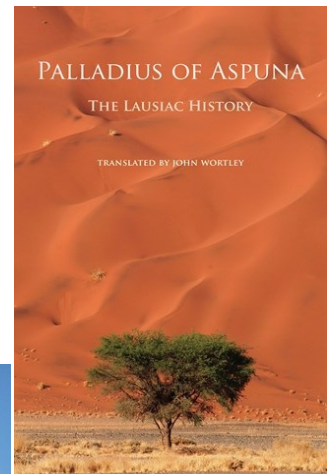
2015: 'baggage train', 'booty', 'camp security', 'ceremonies', 'comes', 'death in battle', 'discipline', 'general', 'guerrilla warfare', 'historians', 'Justinian', 'literacy', 'police, policing', 'senior officers', 'small wars', 'adlocutio', entries in Le Bohec, Y., Greatrex, G., et al. (eds.). *The Wiley-Blackwell Encyclopedia of the Roman Army*. Malden, MA.

2015: 'The Genre and Purpose of Military Manuals in Late Antiquity', in G. Greatrex & H. Elton (eds.), *Shifting Genres in Late Antiquity*, Ashgate, pp. 249-261

John Wortley, Winnipeg

The appearance of a new translation of Palladius of Aspuna, *The Lausiaca History*, Cistercian / Liturgical Press, 2015.

A paper, on 'The anomalous transition of beneficial tales', presented at an international symposium, 8-9 Oct. 2015 at Odense, Denmark, on 'Rewriting hagiographical texts and legends in Byzantium', proceedings to be published by Brill.



The Byzantine shops at Sardis, looking E; on the left in the foreground is what is interpreted as a restaurant (W2-W1). See J.S. Crawford, *The Byzantine Shops at Sardis* (Cambridge, MA, 1991).

REPORTS

Excavations at Baturyn in 2015

In August 2015, the Canada-Ukraine archaeological expedition continued its annual excavations at the Ukrainian town of Baturyn, Chernihiv province. The project is sponsored by the Kowalsky Program for the Study of Eastern Ukraine at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS) of the University of Alberta, the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies (PIMS) at the University of Toronto, and the Ucrainica Research Institute in Toronto. The expedition involved 45 students and scholars from universities and museums in Chernihiv, Kyiv, and Hlukhiv. It was led by archaeologists Dr. Viacheslav Skorokhod and Yurii Sytyi of Chernihiv National University. Prof. Zenon Kohut, ex-director of CIUS, is the academic adviser of the Baturyn project. Dr. Volodymyr Mezentsev (CIUS) and Prof. Martin Dimnik (PIMS) participate in this research and the publication of its findings.

Baturyn, the capital of the Cossack state, flourished during the notable reign of Hetman Ivan Mazepa (1687-1709), benefiting from its extensive economic and cultural ties with Western Europe, Poland, Lithuania, Russia, and the Ottoman Empire. But in 1708, Mazepa raised a revolt for the independence of Cossack Ukraine from Moscow's Tsardom. The tsar's forces ruthlessly put down this uprising and razed the hetman capital to the ground. The enterprising Hetman Kyrylo Rozumovsky (1750-64) rebuilt Baturyn, renewed its status as the capital of the Cossack realm, and turned it into a major manufacturing centre in Chernihiv province in the second half of the 18th century.

Last summer, the expedition continued excavating the remnants of Mazepa's estate in the Baturyn suburb of Honcharivka. In the late 1690s, he commissioned there a masonry palace with three stories, a basement, and a mansard (20 x 14.5 m). This main residence of the hetman was pillaged and burned by Russian troops in 1708.



Fig. 1. Mazepa's palace in the Baturyn suburb of Honcharivka before 1708. Hypothetical reconstruction by V. Mezentsev, computer graphic by S. Dmytrienko, 2015

Archaeological and architectural research of the palace debris, along with analysis of a 1744 drawing of its ruins preserved at the National Museum in Stockholm, have allowed investigators to determine the ground plan, size, design, and decoration of the structure. They have completed hypothetical computer reconstructions of the exterior of Mazepa's palace. It had no counterparts among other contemporaneous secular buildings of central Ukraine but was similar to the tower-like royal and aristocratic palatial halls of early modern Poland. Some analogous examples of the latter include the three-story masonry residential tower of King Sigismund I the Old in the town of Piotrków, Łódź Voivodeship (1519, 20 x 18 m), the lost mansions of magnates Kazanowski (late 16th century) and Kotowski, as well as the restored castle of princes Ostrogski from the 1680s in Warsaw. Mazepa could well have modelled his Baturyn residence on

fashionable baroque palaces either in the neighbouring Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth or Western

Europe where he studied and served at the royal court in the 1650s.

Archaeologists have unearthed hundreds of fragments of fine ceramic glazed polychrome and terracotta floor and stove tiles as well as plate-like rosettes and plaques bearing Mazepa's coat of arms that revetted the facades of his villa in Honcharivka. These details are valuable pieces of Ukrainian baroque decorative and heraldic arts, fashioned most likely by accomplished Kyivan craftsmen. Thus, the imposing adornment of the hetman's principal residence represented a blending of Western and Ukrainian baroque styles.

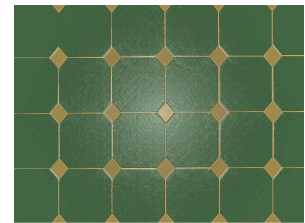
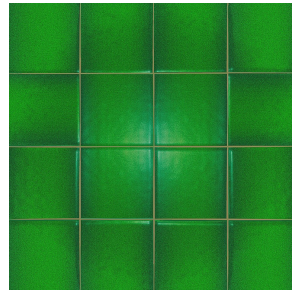
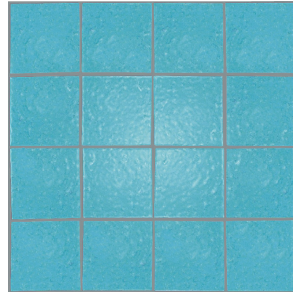
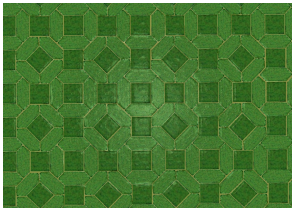


Fig.2 Floor pavement patterns of glazed ceramic tiles at Mazepa's palace prior to 1700. Hypothetical reconstructions by V. Mezentsev and S. Dmytriienko, computer photo collages by Dmytriienko, 2015.

The floors of the superstructure at Mazepa's palace were paved with ornate ceramic tiles of several geometric forms. Many of them were faced with green and blue glazing, while others were plain terracotta. On the basis of a detailed examination of numerous tile fragments, researchers have prepared computer reconstructions of nine possible floor patterns from the reception hall, living quarters, and service premises of the Honcharivka palace. This suggests there were at least nine rooms, halls, vestibules, corridors, storage areas, and the like on the ground and upper levels, as well as five vaulted chambers and corridor with brick floors, and a staircase in the basement.

The practice of paving floors with glazed ceramic tiles in masonry churches and palaces was introduced to Kyivan Rus' by imported Constantinopolitan builders and artisans in the late 10th century. Examples of early modern floor designs and inlays comparable to those discovered at the Honcharivka palace have been found in St. Sophia Cathedral (the 17th-century floor in its altar apse) in Kyiv; the Holy Trinity Cathedral (1675) at the Hustyn Monastery in Chernihiv province; the 16th-18th-century castle of the Ostrozky princes in the town of Ostroh, Rivne province, Ukraine; as well as the residences of Polish kings on Wawel Hill in Cracow and the Wilanow district of Warsaw (1696). Nevertheless, from amongst all the known architectural monuments of early modern Ukraine, Mazepa's main residence in Baturyn is remarkable for the largest number, variety, and distinctive features of ornamental types of glazed and terracotta floor tiles uncovered there as well as the recreated pavement patterns. This attests to the comparatively large dimension, multistoried and multi-chamber design, and exceptional embellishment of the Honcharivka palace.

In 2015, the expedition finished excavating the footing of the wooden church at Mazepa's court. The hetman founded it before 1700. Following the 1708 destruction of Baturyn, this church stood damaged and abandoned, and ceased to exist by 1760. Researchers have established that it was of medium size (21.6 x 12 m) with an elongated layout and a single altar apse. They have reconstructed the ground plan of this edifice and intend to create a graphic reconstruction of its elevations.

Archaeologists partially excavated the site of the court of Judge General Vasylyl Kochubei in Baturyn. They unearthed many shards of terracotta tiles with relief floral motifs, which once revetted a heating stove of the extant late 17th-century masonry residence of this dignitary. The stove was evidently demolished during an 18th-century renovation of this building.

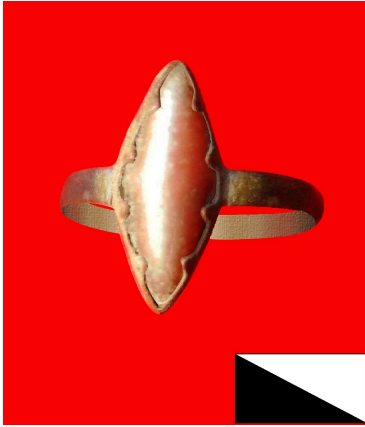


Fig.3 Bronze ring with gem, 17th or 18th century. 2015 excavations at the site of Kochubei's court. All photos by Yu. Sytyi.

Also found at Kochubei's court were: five 17th-18th-century Polish and Russian silver and copper coins, two lead musket bullets, two copper buttons, a costly bronze wedding ring with a semi-precious stone, two iron belt clasps, a bronze oval plain clasp, and three bronze figured belt appliques. One of the latter was gilded and broken. These bronze and gilt ornaments were probably manufactured locally for the consumption of the Cossack elite at the hetman capital.

Two intact belt appliques were shaped and engraved in the form of a stylized three-petal flower, or lily. They resemble (one is even identical to) three bronze figured belt appliques uncovered among the remnants of the military barracks at Mazepa's manor in Honcharivka in 2012-13. Consequently, all these analogous artefacts can be dated to a time preceding the 1708 destruction of Baturyn. Leather belts with such characteristic bronze decorations were apparently produced for the local market and commonplace among well-to-do Cossack officers and state officials in Baturyn during the Mazepa era.



Fig.4 Bronze clasp and decorative appliques from belts of Cossack officers, pre-1708, unearthed at Kochubei's household in 2015.

On the town market square, remnants of an unidentified 18th-century structure have been unearthed. Its foundation trenches were filled with broken 17th-century bricks, many of which exhibit fire damage. Investigators believe that these burnt bricks came from masonry churches and houses destroyed during the conflagration of the town in 1708. Rozumovsky dismantled their ruins and reused the bricks for his buildings.



Fig.5 17th-18th-century lead neck crosses from graves excavated at the Baturyn fortress in 2015.

Last year, within the former Baturyn fortress, near the site of the Holy Trinity Cathedral (1692), which was burned in 1708, archaeologists excavated the remnants of households and graves of ordinary burghers from the 17th and 18th centuries. They found iron tools, a piece of flint from a flint-lock rifle, four coloured glass beads, a fragment of a carved bone comb, and four small-denomination silver and copper Polish-Lithuanian and Russian coins from this period. A miniature hatchet cast from lead and fragments of a ceramic glazed horse figurine were identified as early modern folk toys of local manufacture. Two lead neck crosses and an iron icon were discovered in the graves. At the cemetery of the Trinity Cathedral, eighty 17th-18th-century graves of regular townsfolk were excavated. Some contained casualties of the 1708 Muscovite attack on Baturyn.

The 2015 excavations in this town obtained important source materials for the research and reconstruction of the architectural design and embellishment of the Mazepa and Kochubei residences and Honcharivka church as well as personal adornment of the Cossack elite at the hetman capital. The latest historical and archaeological findings have also shown the vibrancy of crafts, folk arts, and the prosperity of common residents in early modern Baturyn. Field research in this town will be renewed next summer.

Martin Dimnik and Volodymyr Mezentsev

41st Byzantine Studies Conference
New York City, October 22-25, 2015

The 41st Annual Byzantine Studies Conference was held in New York City from October 22 to 25, 2015. An impressive multi-campus collaborative enterprise, the local arrangement committee included George Demacopoulos (Fordham), Helen Evans (Metropolitan Museum of Art), Warren Woodfin, (Queens College, CUNY), Kostis Smyrlis (NYU), Holger Klein (Columbia), Eric Ivison (College of Staten Island, CUNY), and Jenn Ball (Brooklyn College, CUNY), who chaired the committee.

The conference opened on the Thursday with a keynote lecture by Judith Herrin, Professor Emerita, King's College, London, on 'Ravenna Springboard of Europe.' This was followed by a convivial opening reception at the Casa Italiana, Columbia University.

Friday's conference panels, which were held at The Graduate Center, City University of NY, were dedicated to such topics as asceticism, poetry, medicine, and archaeology. Of particular note was the presentation of Amy Papalexandrou representing the research of the 'team of 6' (Donohue, Gerstel, Kyriakakis, Papalexandrou, Raptis, Antonopoulos) on the soundscapes of Byzantine Thessaloniki, an interdisciplinary model of research that sets new standards for experimental and interpretive research in Byzantine studies.

The day concluded with a Byzantine evening at the Metropolitan Museum of Art thanks to the good offices of Helen C. Evans, Mary and Michael Jaharis Curator of Byzantine Art, and of C. Griffith Mann, Michel David-Weill Curator in Charge of the Department of Medieval Art and The Cloisters. In addition to the Met's outstanding holdings in Late Antique, Early Christian and Byzantine Art, two special exhibitions of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine textiles were on view. The Mary and Michael Jaharis Crypt Gallery housed 'New Discoveries: Early Liturgical Textiles from Egypt, 200-400,' which featured an extraordinary Late Antique painted linen textile and a unique example of a Late Antique Christian hanging (curated by Helen Evans, Kathrin Colburn, Met Conservator, and guest curator Brandie Ratliff, Director, Mary Jaharis Center for Byzantine Art and Culture). A selection of Orthodox vestments, veils, and woven textiles from the 15th-18th centuries were on view in the Ratti Center Gallery as part of the 'Liturgical Textiles of the Post-Byzantine World' exhibition (guest curated by Warren Woodfin, Kallinikeion Assistant Professor at Queens College).

Saturday and Sunday's sessions were held at Fordham's midtown Lincoln Center campus. Over these two days, the topics ranged across a wide cross-section of Byzantine studies, including history, literature, archaeology, and material culture. Specific topics included, among others, apocalypticism, cultural exchange, identity, diplomacy, liturgy, manuscripts, and the art of medieval Cyprus.

Of particular note on these two days were the sponsored sessions. Two of these sessions were sponsored by The Mary Jaharis Center for Byzantine Art & Culture. The first, which took place on Saturday, focused on 'Reading Circles and Cultures in 7th-Century Byzantium', while the second, 'Archaeology of Byzantine Neighborhoods', occurred on Sunday. This panel provided a fascinating glimpse at a chronological and geographical cross-section of urban Byzantine landscapes. Finally, The International Center of Medieval Art sponsored a panel on Sunday dedicated to 'Gifts of Devotion to Outer Places (exo chori),' which represented a new take on monastic patronage.

The Business Lunch on Saturday, which was generously underwritten by the Jaharis Family Foundation, featured reports from the BSANA President, Secretary, Treasurer, and representatives of Dumbarton Oaks and the United States National Committee for Byzantine Studies. In addition, the new members of the Governing Board of the organization were elected (Jenn Ball, Elena Boeck, Emmanuel Bourbouhakis, Betsy Williams), and the winners of the 2014 and BSANA Graduate Student Prizes were announced. Congratulations go to Christopher Timm (first place), Tera Lee Hendrick (second place), and Norman Underwood (third place). The complete conference program and news can be downloaded from the BSANA web site (www.bsana.net) under Annual Conference archives.

Details about the next meeting of the BSC were also announced: Cornell, October 6-9, 2016. Benjamin Anderson delivered the formal invitation.

In the spirit of collaboration and of raising the visibility of the CCB, please consider proposing a paper or a complete panel for the Cornell conference. Please also encourage your graduate students to submit paper proposals, as some funding is available for graduate students giving papers at the BSC who do not reside in the area of the conference (see the BSANA web site for further details).

- Respectfully submitted by Marica Cassis (mcassis@mun.ca) and Cecily Hilsdale (cecily.hilsdale@mcgill.ca), both members of CCB and BSANA.

Report on the 2nd International Symposium on Archaeological Practices:
The Lykos Valley and Neighbourhood in Late Antiquity, 22-23 May 2015, Denizli, Turkey

It seems almost incredible that this most stimulating conference lasted only two days. In this brief space of time the organisers, Professors Celal Şimşek and Turhan Kaçar, succeeded not only in fitting in 27 papers but also an excursion to the sites of Laodicea and Hierapolis. Most of the papers were just 15 minutes long, but several keynote speakers delivered very interesting longer addresses, such as Stephen Mitchell, concerning the impact of the plague in the region, and Mark Whittow (Corpus Christi College, Oxford) who discussed periodisation in the history of Asia Minor. Many of the members of the teams involved in excavating sites nearby reported on their work, notably the Italians at Hierapolis, such as Francesco D'Andria (who also guided the excursion there), and the Turks at Laodicea and nearby Tripolis. But scholars working on other Asia Minor sites were present, such as Andreas Pülz, who talked on Ephesus, and Bilal Söğüt, who spoke on Stratonicea.

The event itself was impeccably organised: participants were accommodated on the outskirts of Denizli, from which it was possible to reach by a quick bus ride the excavation house at Laodicea, where all the sessions took place. The excavation house was extremely well appointed; lunch and coffee were served there; professional standard simultaneous interpretation was provided (between Turkish and English).

Almost every speaker kept to the allotted time. Although many papers were quite specific, more general discussions were initiated. To give but one example, in my own paper I expressed scepticism about nearly all the available evidence usually cited for the Persian invasions of the early seventh century; but not long



Ilhami Cinemre, Geoffrey Greatrex, and Turhan Kaçar at Laodicea

afterwards Bahadır Duman, who is leading the excavations at Tripolis, showed images of Sasanian spear-heads that had recently been discovered in a layer of destruction from the early seventh century. Indeed, if there was an overall conclusion to the conference, it was that there is a tremendous amount of work going on in this part of the country, whose results are now gradually emerging. The sites themselves are huge in scale and have clearly got much yet to offer.

All in all, the conference was stimulating and convivial. It enjoyed the support of all the local authorities and attracted a good attendance from among those working on the site at Laodicea or studying archaeology or history at Denizli university. The organisers deserve congratulations for the smooth running of the whole event. The proceedings should be published next year; in the meantime, the programme can be found at:

<http://laodikeia.pau.edu.tr/tr/haber/the-lykos-valley-and-neighbourhood-in-late-antiquity-symposium-22-23-may-2015>

Geoffrey Greatrex (this report appeared earlier in the bulletin of SCAPAT)



(Left : conference participants observing the Plutonium at Hierapolis)



Report on activity in 2015



ICBS
2016

The main point to report here concerns the congress this coming August in Belgrade. The congress website is:

<http://byz2016.rs/>

It is now possible to pay one's registration fee on-line; if you're already registered, you need to edit your own entry and the option will appear..

There is information on grants for Younger Scholars to participate in the congress here:

<http://byz2016.rs/grants/?lang=en>



Ephesus: view from the theatre towards the harbour (to the west)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Database of Byzantine Book Epigrams (DBBE)

We are delighted to announce the official launch of the Database of Byzantine Book Epigrams (DBBE), freely accessible at www.dbbe.ugent.be. Hosted by Ghent University, this database seeks to collect all book epigrams (or: metrical paratexts) found in Greek manuscripts up to 1500. You can search our corpus for a specific epigram or browse through it by a number of parameters such as date and type of manuscript. The information provided is based on catalogues, scholarly publications as well as our own consultation of manuscripts. We sincerely hope that DBBE will be of use for classicists and Byzantinists, literary scholars, linguists, palaeographers, art historians, and anyone generally interested in medieval manuscript culture.

Please be aware that this is a beta release. We are constantly including new data and working hard to guarantee the accuracy of the information provided. Moreover, we are counting on your feedback in order to improve and expand our database. Comments, corrections as well as suggestions for the inclusion of new material will be warmly welcomed and duly acknowledged.

We wish you an inspiring journey through the wondrous world of Byzantine book epigrams.

For the whole DBBE team (www.dbbe.ugent.be/about),

Floris Bernard, Marc De Groote, Kristoffel Demoen, Ilse De Vos, Mark Janse, Rachele Ricceri, Dimitrios Skrekas, Maria Tomadaki.

Greek association newsletter available

The Greek association for Byzantine studies has made available on-line (in pdf format) a very extensive first issue of its newsletter. It may be found here:

<http://www.byzantinestudies.gr/content/c33-enhmerwtiko-deltio-newsletter>

Podcasts available

Various Byzantinists have been interviewed on topics relevant to the discipline. The following have come to my attention. Florin Curta (University of Florida) can be heard speaking in Oxford on the topic 'The Long History of Ethnicity and Nationhood, podcast 1: Genetics, the Archaeology of Ethnicity, and Nationhood' at the following site:

<http://www.torch.ox.ac.uk/genetics-archaeology-ethnicity-and-nationhood>

Anthony Kaldellis has also been speaking about his most recent book (at least at the time of going to press!), *The Byzantine Republic*, here:

<http://thehistoryofbyzantium.com/2015/11/12/episode-86-the-byzantine-republic-with-anthony-kaldellis/>

It is perhaps also worth signalling an interesting general article of his entitled 'Late Antiquity Dissolves' published on-line in *Marginalia* (the LA review of books). See

<http://marginalia.lareviewofbooks.org/late-antiquity-dissolves-by-anthony-kaldellis/>

Sinai icons available on-line



We are very pleased to announce the availability of color images of the icons owned by the Monastery of Saint Catherine at Mount Sinai taken during joint expeditions undertaken from 1956 to 1965 by the University of Michigan, Princeton University, and the University of Alexandria. The collection documents, in color, the condition of these icons before and after cleaning and restoration carried out in the 1950s and 1960s. Currently, this website displays about 1,200 transparencies, but additional images will be added and the data will be updated. The online images are limited to a size of 1024 pixels.

The images may be found at sinai.princeton.edu

Lincoln College Summer School of Greek Paleography

The sixth Lincoln College International Summer School in Greek Palaeography will be held on 1-6 August 2016. The school offers a five-day introduction to the study of Greek manuscripts through ten reading classes, four library visits and five thematic lectures.

Costs: The school will charge student fees of 100 British Pounds, payable prior to the first day of classes. Students are individually responsible for their transportation and living expenses in Oxford. A minimum of four bursaries, covering fees and housing (but no board), will be awarded to particularly deserving applicants.

Daily schedule: 8:45-10:45 reading class, 11:00-13:00 library visit, 13:00-14:45 lunch break, 14:45-16:45 reading class, 17:00-18:00 lecture. A final written examination will be administered on Saturday, 6 August, 9:00-12:00.

Instructors: Christos Simelidis (D.Phil. Oxon.), Dimitris Skrekas (D.Phil. Oxon.), Georgi R. Parpulov (Ph.D. Chicago)

Lectors: Nigel G. Wilson FBA (Oxford), Prof. Marc Lauxtermann (Oxford), Dr Petros Bouras-Vallianatos (London), Marjolijne Janssen (Cambridge)

Application: The final deadline for applying is 15 February 2016.

Applicants are requested to send to Dr Simelidis at csimelidis@gmail.com their curriculum vitae, explain in detail their need for attending the summer school, and indicate whether they wish to be considered for a bursary. They should also arrange for one recommendation letter from an established academic to be e-mailed to csimelidis@gmail.com before 15 February 2016. Successful applicants will be notified on 30 February 2016.

Note: The school is intended for students of Classics, Patristics, Theology, Biblical or Byzantine Studies. Potential applicants are advised that it only offers introductory-level instruction in Greek palaeography and codicology. Adequate knowledge of Greek is a must for all students.

Conference: Greek and Roman Military Manuals: Genre, Theory, Influence

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, 21 & 22 October 2016

While scholars acknowledge the ubiquity of military manuals in antiquity, systematic study of this genre has yet to be undertaken. To be sure, military manuals are enigmatic and at the same time intrinsically fascinating texts. This workshop seeks to provide a forum for scholars to reflect upon ancient Greek and Roman military manuals as a genre, with a view to exploring and demonstrating their utility in ancient historical research. Moreover, military manuals ought to be seen not as existing entirely as a separate genre, as has been largely the case heretofore, but rather as texts deliberately constructed to engage with other genres in which warfare plays a central role (for example, epic poetry and historical narrative).

Abstracts for papers of approximately 30 minutes (to be followed by 15 minutes of discussion) are invited. Possible topics of discussion include:

- The ethical context(s) of military manuals;
- The utility of military manuals as historical sources;
- The role of the reader in the genre;
- The relationship(s) between military manuals and other literary genres;
- Narrative and structure of military manuals;
- The political context(s) of military manuals;
- The influence of ancient military manuals in the post-Classical world.

Papers may focus on a particular author or text, or may offer a genre-wide analysis. Proposals for papers on Byzantine and Mediaeval military manuals are also welcome.

Interested participants are invited to contact the workshop organisers: James T. Chlup (james.chlup@umanitoba.ca) and Conor Whately (c.whately@uwinnipeg.ca). The organisers ask that proposals be submitted no later than 31 January 2016.

The Manar al-Athar open-access photo-archive at Oxford

The Manar al-Athar open-access photo-archive <http://www.manar-al-athar.ox.ac.uk> (based at the University of Oxford) aims to provide high resolution, searchable images, freely-downloadable for teaching, research, heritage projects, and publication. It covers buildings and art in the areas of the former Roman empire which later came under Islamic rule (e.g. Syro-Palestine/the Levant, Arabia, Egypt, and North Africa), from ca. 300 BC to the present, but especially Roman, late antique, and early Islamic art, architecture, and sacred sites.



Many of the monuments are now inaccessible to the West making this archive an important long-term resource for research, with downloadable high resolution images which are not watermarked. The records of monuments which are damaged or destroyed will also play a vital role in future restoration. Low resolution copies of these photographs for Powerpoint make them readily suitable for classroom use and demonstrating the shared heritage of the regions covered and the West. The images download with the caption, etc. and credit line in the metadata.

The archive has over 17,000 images already online, as of September 2015. Material is labelled in both English and Arabic to facilitate regional use, with the main instructions also available in some other languages.

Papers from the Palladas conference now all on-line

We are delighted to announce that the papers from the UCL conference on Palladas and the Yale epigram papyrus are now available online at http://www.ucl.ac.uk/classics/engagement/palladas_and_the_new_papyrus.

Experts on ancient epigram explore the new text from a range of perspectives: author, date, structure, as well as historical, literary, cultural, textual and generic context.

The papers will interest not only students of Greek epigram but also anyone with an interest in Greek literary history, Greek literature under the Roman empire and ancient manuscripts and papyri.

The conference was co-organized by Maria Kanellou, Edith Hall and Chris Carey.

The 49th Spring Symposium of Byzantine Studies, Oxford, U.K.

Inscribing Texts in Byzantium: Continuities & Transformations
Exeter College, Oxford, 18-20 March 2016

In spite of the striking abundance of extant primary material – over 4000 Greek texts produced in the period between the sixth and fifteenth centuries – Byzantine Epigraphy remains largely uncharted territory, with a reputation for being elusive and esoteric that obstinately persists. References to

inscriptions in our texts show how ubiquitous and deeply engrained the epigraphic habit was in Byzantine society, and underscore the significance of epigraphy as an auxiliary discipline. The growing interest in material culture, including inscriptions, has opened 2 new avenues of research and led to various explorations in the field of epigraphy, but what is urgently needed is a synthetic approach that incorporates literacy, built environment, social and political contexts, and human agency. The SPBS Symposium 2016 has invited specialists in the field to examine diverse epigraphic material in order to trace individual epigraphic habits, and outline overall inscriptional traditions. In addition to the customary format of panel papers and shorter communications, the Symposium will organize a round table, whose participants will lead a debate on the topics presented in the panel papers, and discuss the methodological questions of collection, presentation and interpretation of Byzantine inscriptional material.

Panels

Panel One: Collecting and reading inscriptions in Byzantium

Panel Two: Traditions and transitions

Panel Three: Seventh-century epigraphy three ways

Panel Four: Place, placement, paratextuality

Panel Five: The (in)formality of the inscribed word

Panel Six: Material turn

Round Table: SPBS Debate on Byzantine epigraphy

Call for Communications

Academics, research students, and other members of the scholarly community are invited to offer communications – ten minutes papers – that explore any aspect of Byzantine Epigraphy from a textual, visual, historical, religious, social or cultural angle. Abstracts of no more than 300 words of proposed communications, including their titles, should be sent to Ida Toth (ida.toth@history.ox.ac.uk) by 15 January 2016 at the latest.

Registration

Delegates are offered early registration at the following rates:

- o Full: £95
- o Members of the SPBS: £85
- o Students / Unwaged: £45
- o From 1 March 2016 rates rise to £105, £95, and £50 respectively
- o The fees for one-day registration are £45 (full fee), £40 (Members of the SPBS), and £30 (Students / Unwaged)
- o From 1 March 2016, the fees for one day participation are £55, £50 and £40 respectively

Booking & Paying

A booking form will soon be available online, on the website of the History Faculty (Oxford University), with further details of registration and payment. See also:

<http://www.byzantium.ac.uk/events/spring-symposium-2016.html>

Symposiarchs: Marc Lauxtermann and Ida Toth

Undergraduate Essay Contest in Byzantine Studies

We are pleased to announce that Will McClelland (Queen's University) is the winner of the first Canadian Committee for Byzantine Studies undergraduate essay contest. The topic of Will's paper was the fall of Constantinople in 1453. We also want to congratulate all the other students who participated in the contest. Mr. McClelland's prize consists of \$100.

We are also pleased to announce the second Undergraduate Essay Contest in Byzantine Studies, which is designed to celebrate and reward exceptional research undertaken by undergraduate students in Canada who have written essays, in English or French, on any theme relating to Byzantine studies, i.e., concerning the eastern Roman empire from A.D. 312 to 1453. Applicants do not need to be a major in a pertinent discipline (Archaeology, Art History, Classics, History, etc.) to submit their work. Furthermore, the course for which the essay was written need not be focused specifically on Byzantine Studies. The prize for the winner will be \$100. Essays should be submitted electronically (from a university e-mail address) by either the student or the instructor on the student's behalf. In either case, the student should have the instructor's endorsement. They should be sent in pdf format to:

Dr. Conor Whately
Department of Classics
University of Winnipeg
515 Portage Ave.
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Canada

Tel.: 204-786-9879

c.whately@uwinnipeg.ca

There should be no indication of the student's identity on the essay document itself. Instead, the required information should be provided on a separate document (also sent electronically) that indicates the student's name, email address, university affiliation, and the title of the paper. If the essay is being submitted by an instructor the name and email address of the applicant should be included.

The essay should be submitted as it was written for its course without revisions, with the exception of typographical corrections. It should be 10-20 pages in length (including bibliography) and double-spaced. Students may submit only one essay per year.

The judging is based on both the essay's content and its form: the winning essay must be well written, clearly organized and free from errors of grammar and syntax; and the contest winner will have made good use of the pertinent sources, have covered their chosen subject thoroughly, and ideally have provided new insights on their chosen topic. The deadline for submitting material to the competition is May 15th, 2016. The winner will be notified in July (2016) and will be announced in a subsequent CAN-BYZ newsletter.

It is possible to submit the same essay both to this contest and to that organised by SCAPAT, the Section canadienne de l'Association pour l'Antiquité Tardive, www.scapat.ca.

E-mail addresses of members

George Bevan	george.bevan@gmail.com
David Buck	dbuck@upei.ca
Sheila Campbell	sheila.campbell@utoronto.ca
Marica Cassis	mcassis@mun.ca
A.-L. Caudano	a.caudano@uwinnipeg.ca
Martin Dimnik	martin.dimnik@utoronto.ca
Erica Cruikshank Dodd	edodd@uvic.ca
Andrew Faulkner	afaulkner@uwaterloo.ca
Greg Fisher	greg_fisher@carleton.ca
John Foreman	jforeman@sympatico.ca
Thanos Fotiou	tfotiou@rogers.com
Benjamin Garstad	Garstadb@macewan.ca
Patrick Gray	patrickgray@xplorernet.ca
Geoffrey Greatrex	greatrex@uottawa.ca
Richard Greenfield	greenfie@queensu.ca
Cecily Hilsdale	cecily.hilsdale@mcgill.ca
Kerim Kartal	kerimkartal86@gmail.com
Dimitris Krallis	dkrallis@sfu.ca
Antony Littlewood	splinter@uwo.ca
Ariane Magny	amagny@tru.ca
Eric McGeer	ericmcgeer@gmail.com
Lucas McMahon	lmcmahon@princeton.edu
Volodymyr Mezentsev	v.mezentsev@utoronto.ca
Marcus Milwright	mmilwrig@finearts.uvic.ca
Paul Moore	pmoore@uts.utoronto.ca
Jim Payton	jpayton@redeemer.on.ca
Glenn Peers	gpeers@mail.utexas.edu
Linda Safran	linda.safran@utoronto.ca
Grant Schrama	13gs12@queensu.ca
Franziska Shlosser	feshloss@sympatico.ca
Kristina Terpoy	kristina.terpoy@lincoln.ox.ac.uk
Alexandra Vukovic	av347@cam.ac.uk
Conor Whately	c.whately@uwinnipeg.ca
John Wortley	myscelus@gmail.com
Susan Young	susanhyoung@eastlink.ca

If you have not renewed your subscription for this year, please send a cheque (\$20 or \$10 for students) payable to 'The Canadian Committee of Byzantinists' to Prof. Richard Greenfield, Department of History, Watson Hall, Queen's University, 49 Bader Lane, Kingston ON, K7L 3N6.

Please advise me of changes to these addresses: I fear that some of them are no longer valid.