



Syria-Palestine
Sixth-seventh century
Bronze. H. 24 cm, W. 16.5 cm
Royal Ontario Museum, acc. no. 906.181.38

Cross with figures and votive inscription

CANADIO-BYZANTINA

A Newsletter published by the Canadian Committee of
Byzantinists

No. 8 - September 1996

FROM THE (TEMPORARY) EDITOR:

As a stand-in for Daniel while he is on sabbatical, let me make one more plea for:

A Byzantine Session as Part of the Canadian Society of Medievalists' meetings at the Learned Societies, 4-6 June 1997.

Response to my call for papers in July has been muted and I am a little disappointed as I have never been to Newfoundland. But it also seemed a good idea to me because such a session might give a sense of collegiality to our widely dispersed members, and a chance to show how our enterprise functions to our western colleagues. The Society was, however, very friendly and open about the idea and has given an extension of the deadline from 15 October to 30 October. If anyone is still interested, please contact me as soon as possible at (519)579-0704 or in writing at 25A Homewood Avenue, Kitchener, Ontario N2M 1X1. Or alternatively, one can fax (519)746-3097 or e-mail (dsahas@uwaterloo.ca) Daniel and the communication will be forwarded to me.

Glenn Peers

Report from the Congress from our Travelling Chair:

(Herewith his notes transcribed for those of us forced, for whatever reason, to stay at home.)

The Congress was not very well attended due to the high cost of living in Copenhagen. But the Canadian contingent was proportionately strong: John Osborne, Jean-Guy Violette and Alexander Lingas. The best attended function was the mayor's reception at the magnificent City Hall of Copenhagen, the 1996 cultural Capital of Europe. Incidentally, the 1997 capital will be Thessaloniki. (Sheila Campbell mentions that many exhibits dealing with Thessalonike's Byzantine history are being organized for the event - ed.)

CANADIO-BYZANTINA 2

Some 300 communications were listed, 25-50 major papers and 20 round table discussions, but several absentees were noticed in all of them. (John Osborne notes a freak heat wave during the Congress but, more à propos, that the plenary session dealing with relations between Scandinavia and Byzantium to be a highlight - ed.) The book exhibit was rather small, and expensive, compared to North American experiences. Prices make books flee from the desks of scholars to the dusty shelves of Libraries.

An exhibit of Byzantine artifacts in the Glyptothek was very interesting for the wealth and the kind of material this nordic city has to offer. A wonderful reception followed the viewing. The Congress was concluded with a concert of Byzantine music by "The Greek Byzantine Choir" directed by Lykourgos Angelopoulos, a real treat for the ears and to the soul.

The 2001 Congress will take place in Paris. Professor Gilbert Dagron made an eloquent presentation and proposal at the executive meeting of the representatives of the National Committees which, as Chair, I attended on behalf of the Canadian Committee of Byzantinists. There were no other proposals or offers. Details will be submitted and discussed at the mid-Congresses meeting of the representatives of the national Committees in 1998. In the past, such meetings were held in Thessaloniki. This time Cyprus has been proposed and been accepted.

At this executive meeting, three new National Committees were received as members of the Association International des Études Byzantines (AIEB): of Albania (with 7 members), of the People's Republic of China (with 20 members!) and of the Ukraine (with 16 members). The AIEB membership now stands at 36. During the meeting, also, a motion was passed expressing concern at deliberations over converting St. Sophia in Istanbul into a mosque.

Members might be interested to know of the various international commissions that comprise the Association: Corpus Fontium Historiae Byzantinae, Commission de Géographie Historique, Commission d'Histoire de l'art byzantin, Commission des lexiques (Les premiers contacts byzantinoslaves. Commission d'études et de recherches; Lexicon des byzantinischen Gräzität; Lexicon des byzantinischen Terminologie).

A new President of the AIEB was elected, Professor Gilbert Dagron (France), and as Secretary General Nicholas Oikonomides (Greece), in the place of Ihor Ševčenko and Ioannis Karayannopoulos respectively.

NOTICE OF FUTURE SUMMER SCHOOLS THROUGH THE CANADIAN ACADEMIC INSTITUTE AT ATHENS:

Sheila Campbell reports that the CAIA is organising a summer school for summer 1997 that will cover a series of ancient topics and include some hands-on

excavation. The school will be designed for undergraduates. Discussion is also taking place for organizing a comparable Byzantine summer school for the summer of 1998. If these courses hold interest to any members or, perhaps, to the students of members, please contact Sheila at the Pontifical Institute for Medieval Studies, 59 Queen's Park Crescent East, Toronto, Ontario, M5S 2C4.

ACTIVITIES OF MEMBERS:

John Osborne (University of Victoria)

- "The 'cross-under-arch' motif in ninth-century Venetian sculpture: a statement of political allegiance to the emperor in Byzantium," at the XIXth International Congress of Byzantine Studies, Copenhagen, 18-24 August 1996. A longer version of this paper will appear in *Thesaurismata* (1997).

James R. Payton (Redeemer College)

articles:

- "John of Damascus on Human Cognition: An Element in His Apologetic for Icons," *Church History* 65(1996):173-83.

book reviews:

- Review of Stephen K. Batalden, ed., "The Recovery of Religious Identity in Orthodox Russia, Ukraine, and Georgia", in *Calvin Theological Journal* 30(1995):512-3.

- Review of Daniel B. Clendenin, "Eastern Orthodox Christianity: A Western Perspective", in *Calvin Theological Journal* 31(1996):218-20.
- Review of Anthony Meredith, "The Cappadocians", in *Calvin Theological Journal* 31(1996):284-7.
- Review of Alphonse and Rachel Goettman, "The Spiritual Wisdom and Practices of Early Christianity", in *Calvin Theological Journal* 31(1996):309.

Glenn Peers (Kitchener, Ontario)

- PhD granted 1995, Department of the History of Art, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, USA. Thesis title: "Representing Angels: Cult and Theology in Byzantine Art".

book reviews:

- Review of Lyn Rodley, "Byzantine Art and Architecture: An Introduction", Cambridge, 1994, in *Speculum* 71(1996):484-6.
- Review of John Cotsonis, "Byzantine Figural Crosses", Washington, D.C., 1994, in *Speculum* 71(1996):937-8.

papers presented this year:

- "The Miracle of the Archangel Michael at Chonae: Commemoration and Supplication in Byzantine Art", at the Conference of Canadian Medieval

Art Historians, McGill University,
Montréal, Québec.

- "‘This Is Not An Angel’: The Angelic Powers in the Church of the Dormition at Nicaea", at the Annual Meeting of the College Art Association, Boston, Massachusetts, USA.

forthcoming:

- "On the Sentience of Images ca. 815", at the Twenty-second Annual Byzantine Studies Conference to be held in October 1996 at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
- "The Uses of Nature in the Smyrna Physiologus (Evangelical School B.8)", at the University Art Association of Canada Annual Conference, to be held in November 1996 at McGill University, Montréal, Québec.

Daniel Sahas (University of Waterloo)

Papers presented:

- "‘Saracens’ and Syrians in the Byzantine anti-Islamic Literature", at the VIIth Symposium Syriacum, Uppsala, 12-14 August 1996.
- "Why did Heraclius not defend Jerusalem?" at the Vth Conference on Christian Arabic Studies, Lund University, 15-18 August 1996.
- "Bartholomeus of Edessa (9th c.?) on Muhammad. A Critical Evaluation", at the XIXth International Congress of

Byzantine Studies, Copenhagen, 18-24
August 1996.

Susan Young (Tusket, Nova Scotia)

- "A preview of Seventh-Century Glass from the Kourion Basilica, Cyprus", *Journal of Glass Studies* 35(1993):39-47
- In press: Entries on Byzantine churches in Cyprus for the *Macmillan Dictionary of Art*, expected 1997.
- "The Glass" in Part III, The Finds, in *Kourion Episcopal Basilica Report*.
- Participation in the final Saranda Kolones Study Season (Paphos, Cyprus) in May, studying and cataloguing the glass finds which are Ancient, Early and Middle Byzantine and Frankish. Saranda Kolones is a Crusader castle at Paphos, Cyprus dating ca. 1196-1222 when it collapsed during an earthquake.

**PARTICIPATION OF CANADIANS
IN THE 1996 BYZANTINE STUDIES
CONFERENCE, UNIVERSITY OF
NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL
HILL, 24-27 OCTOBER:**

A quick look through the program reveals a strong Canadian presence, at least as indicated by locations or institutions. Speaking this year are Patrick Gray (York University), Glenn Peers (Kitchener, Ontario), James Russel (University of British Columbia), Daniel Sahas (University of Waterloo), and Helen Saradi (University of Guelph). (I count sixty seven papers in all.)

**HAGIOGRAPHY SOCIETY
NEWSLETTER:**

Members might find a newsletter dealing with hagiographic topics, east and west, of interest and use. A number of newsletters are distributed throughout the year but most helpful is an annual international directory of Researchers in Medieval Hagiography (six so far) that provides names, addresses, completed projects and current projects under a number of topical and geographical categories. Membership is available for a nominal fee from Sherry L. Reames, Department of English, University of Wisconsin, 600 North Park Street, Madison, Wisconsin, USA 53706.

CONFERENCES:

"Sailing to Byzantium": Approaches and Goals. The Tenth Annual Conference of the Australian Association for Byzantine Studies.

The conference will be held 25-27 April 1997 at the Australian National University in Canberra. Nancy Sevçenko will be the Special Guest Speaker. If anyone is lucky enough to be going that way in April and wants more information write Dr. Ann Moffatt, Art History Department, ANU, Canberra, ACT 0200, Australia, fax (61) 6-2 4 9 . 2 7 0 5 , e - m a i l Ann.Moffatt@anu.edu.au

BOOK NOTICES:

• The proceedings of a conference held under the rubric, "El diablo en el

monasterio", has been published as *Actas del VIII Seminario sobre Historia del Monacato* (Madrid, 1996). It includes several papers on Byzantine topics, patrological and art historical. The book can be ordered at 4000 pesetas (including shipping and handling) from Fundacion Sta Maria la Real-C.E.R., Monasterio Sta. Maria la Real, 43800 Aguilar de Campo (Palencia), Spain [fax: (+34-79) 125680; e-mail: montanes@escuelas-taller.es]

• Member Gregory Myers has published a facsimile, in collaboration with the Ivan Dujcev Centre of Slavo-Byzantine Studies in Sofia, Bulgaria, of a late twelfth-century edition Russian musical manuscript: "The LAVRSKY-TROITSKY KONDAKAR", *Monumenta Slavico-Byzantina et Mediaevalia Europensia*, vol. IV, Sofia, 1994, ISBN 954 580 006 2. It is available for sale in a limited edition for \$125 (US). Contact Gregory at gmyers@direct.ca

• Publication of the Directory of American Byzantinists (1996) has been announced. Copies can be obtained for \$17.50 (US) or \$22.75 (Canadian) from Prof. John W. Barker, Department of History, Humanities Building, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin, USA 53706-1483.

• The Hydruma Archiepiskopou Makariou III has sent a catalogue announcing new publications on Cypriot topics, including a fine book on Cypriot icons by A. Papageorgiou from 1991.

Address: T.0. 1269, Lefkosia, Cyprus.

• A book on Byzantine Silk Weaving (400-1200) by Anna Muthesius was published in late 1995 by Fassbaender Verlag, Lichtgasse 10, A-1150, Vienna.

• The *Encyclopaedic Prosopographical Lexicon of Byzantine History and Civilisation* has been the project of Professor Alexis Savvides, at the Centre for Byzantine Research, Hellenic National Research Foundation in Athens, since 1987. It aims to be a multi-volume encyclopedia encompassing the whole Byzantine period (ca. 300-ca. 1500). The first volume (Aamar to Alphios) is due to be published this year. All entries are in Greek but the contributors have been drawn from the international community. For information contact Professor Savvides at 7 Tralleon Street, Nea Smyrne, Athens 171 21, Greece.

OTHER NOTICES:

The Österreichische Byzantinische Gesellschaft has sent their latest report and it is full of information on current research, publications, dissertations of the Society's members. For copies and membership information write to the Institut für Byzantinistik und Neogräzistik der Universität Wien, Postgasse 7, A-1010 Wien, Austria.

BOOKS RECEIVED:

‘Ελληνική ‘Ιστορική ‘Εταιρεία
ΙΣΤ’ Πανελλ’ηνιο ‘Ιστοικοῦ
Συνέδρου (26-28 Μαΐου 1995),
Thessalonike, 1995, 555 pp. from Prof. J.
Karayannopoulos, Greek Historical
Association, University of Thessalonike,
Thessalonike 54006, Greece.



Diptyque du consul Anastasius,
Constantinople, 517:
Paris, Bibliotheque nationale (detail).

CANADIO-BYZANTINA
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CANADIO-BYZANTINA 7

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CURRENT PROJECT(S):

