

Canadio-Byzantina

A Newsletter published by the Canadian Committee of
Byzantinists

No.24, January 2013

Introductory remarks

Welcome to the second bulletin that I have put together. I hope that you will find it useful. As in the past, it comprises three elements, viz.

- (1) Reports on our members' activities in the form of publications, lectures, curatorships and so forth. We are of course reliant on you to send in your news and thank all of those who contributed to this issue;
- (2) Reports on excavations (e.g. at Baturyn) or on conferences (e.g. on the BSC); of course, shorter reports on conferences and the like also sometimes appear in the first section. We are grateful to those who submit these longer reports, however, particularly that on the BSC.
- (3) Announcements concerning Byzantine matters, e.g. concerning the next International Congress in Belgrade, but also about publications and so forth.

I find that I am still finding my feet as president of our Canadian section. As some members have pointed out to me, our links with the Byzantine Studies Association of North America (BSANA) have been limited of late, and I am therefore all the more pleased that Cecily Hillsdale has sent in a detailed report of the most recent BSC in Boston. Since the BSC in 2014 is due to take place in Vancouver, I hope that our contacts with BSANA will strengthen over the next few years. I have just myself succeeded (after literally months of trying) in subscribing to the electronic list of BSANA, which means I shall be better informed myself. Our own website remains, as before, the following:

<http://aix1.uottawa.ca/~greatrex/canbyz.html>

I hope we can sort out something a little more impressive this year, however.

We circulated an electronic bulletin in July, which I hope was of use. I suspect that we shall continue to do this, in order to keep everyone abreast of developments as the year goes on. The BSANA list serves the same function, of course. In the last bulletin, this section was rather longer; this time I have preferred to insert below, among the reports, a brief summary of the Extraordinary General Meeting of the AIEB that took place in Paris in February last year. In the next issue I shall be able to report on the deliberations that are due to take place at the inter-congrès in Athens in September this year; there ought to be some proposals to modify the statutes of the AIEB. I should note here, however, that the AIEB now has a new president, Professor Johannes Koder of Vienna.

Of interest to members, perhaps, is the tenth Shifting Frontiers in Late Antiquity conference, which is due to take place in Ottawa, 21-24 March 2013; keynote speakers are John Matthews (Yale), Eric Rebillard (Cornell) and Wendy Mayer (Australian Catholic University). Details may be found at www.scapat.ca.

It remains merely to welcome a student, Lucas McMahon, to our number. It seems to me that we are perhaps a little top-heavy as an association, and it would be desirable to increase the number of student members. I have fixed their subscription costs at \$10 per year, i.e. half the normal amount.

Geoffrey Greatrex

ACTIVITIES OF MEMBERS

David Buck, Charlottetown

My entry Maximinus 'Valerius Galerius Maximinus Augustus' has been published in *The Encyclopedia of Ancient History* (2013), print pages 4366-4368.

Greg Fisher, Carleton University, Ottawa

A very busy year with a number of works finalized for submission. I finished a comparison of Arabs and Berbers for a multidisciplinary book project on ancient and modern borderlands, as part of my participation with the Ancient Borderlands Research Focus Group at the University of California. This will appear in due course as:

'Structures of power in late antique borderlands: Arabs, Romans, and Berbers', in J.W.I. Lee and M. North (eds.), *European and American Borderlands. A new comparative approach* (Nebraska).

I also submitted an article on Arab Christianity for a forthcoming Brill volume: 'From Mavia to al-Mundhir: Arab Christians and Arab tribes in the late Roman east', in I. Toral-Niehoff and K. Dimitriev (eds.), *Religious Culture in Late Antique Arabia* (Brill).

And a review of a rather interesting book on Roman administration for a German law journal:

Review of J. Sipilä, *The Reorganisation of Provincial Territories in Light of the Imperial Decision-Making Process. Later Roman Arabia and Tres Palaestinae as case studies* (Helsinki, 2009), *Zeitschrift der Savignystiftung für Rechtsgeschichte, Romanistische Abteilung* (submitted June 2012).

Finally, the conference proceedings for a theology/philosophy conference I attended in Istanbul (under the auspices of McGill) in 2010 appeared:

'The politics of religion. Arabs, Christians, and Romans in the last century before Islam', in R. Acar, B. Bas, and T. Kirby (eds.), *Philosophy and the Abrahamic Religions: Scriptural Hermeneutics and Epistemology* (Cambridge, 2012), 81-94.

I gave a number of papers in 2012, including the closing remarks at the The Third Ancient Borderlands International Graduate Student Conference – Conflict, Consensus, and the Crossing of Boundaries in the Premodern World, University of California, Santa Barbara, April 15, 2012, and a paper entitled 'Between tribe and state: Arab tribal chiefs in sixth-century Syria and Iraq', for *The Arab East and the Bedouin Component: Features and Tensions from Late Antiquity to the Present*, American University Cairo, November 29-December 2 2012.

Together with Jitse Dijkstra at the University of Ottawa, I was co-investigator on a SSHRCC Conference grant of just over \$24,000 for a conference entitled 'Inside and Out: Interactions between Rome and the Peoples on the Arabian and Egyptian Frontiers in Late Antiquity (200-800 CE)', held at Carleton and the University of Ottawa between October 11 and 13, and generously supported by John Osborne, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at Carleton, and the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia in Ottawa. The

conference was a small workshop gathering together experts on both Egypt and Arabia for fruitful discussions about frontier policy, relations with indigenous peoples, anthropological theory, and so on. We were very fortunate to win Christian Robin from CNRS in Paris to deliver the keynote lecture, which took place at Carleton, and then equally fortunate to have Laila Nehmé, a co-director of the Madain Salih excavation in Saudi Arabia, to provide a wonderful closing talk at the University of Ottawa. My own paper focused on applying anthropological theory to better understand the relationship between Romans and Arabs in the sixth century.

Finally, in December 2012 I signed a contract with Routledge for a new textbook on Roman history, under the working title *Ancient Rome. From Romulus to Mohammed*. The book will appear in 2016 (inshallah).

Geoffrey Greatrex, University of Ottawa

My review of Hartmut Leppin's biography of Justinian (Stuttgart, 2011) in *Byzantinische Zeitschrift* has yet to appear. In December I was promoted to Full Professor.

In June I attended a conference in Angers organised by Philippe Blaudeau (Université d'Angers) on sixth-century historiography; there I gave a paper on Theodore Lector's (fragmentary) *Church History*. There were some 20-25 papers, not one of which was in English, it may be noted (mainly French, but also Italian and German). Details of the conference may be found at : <http://historiographie-savoirs.alwaysdata.net/>

In September I participated virtually (by Skype) in the international Theophanes conference in Paris, organised by Federico Montinaro and Marek Jankowiak; I talked on the chronicler's sources for the Persian war (502-506). The programme of this conference may be found at :

<http://oxfordbyzantinesociety.files.wordpress.com/2012/09/the-chronicle-of-theophanes.pdf>

I was also able to attend the conference organised by Greg Fisher and Jitse Dijkstra in Ottawa in October on the Syrian and Egyptian frontiers (see Greg Fisher's report), where I spoke on Procopius and Byzantine perspectives on these two regions. The full programme of the conference can be found at:

http://www.arts.uottawa.ca/csla/en/Conference_Inside_and_Outside_October_2012.pdf

On a completely different note, I also participated, again virtually, in a conference on 'Versions of Vergil' at UBC, Vancouver, discussing different Esperanto translations of the *Aeneid*.

Work in progress: (1) A historical commentary on Procopius, Persian Wars, I-II (for which funding from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada obtained, April 2011). Contract due to be signed imminently with Cambridge University Press. (2) A translation of and commentary on Theodore Lector's fragmentary *Church History*, perhaps part of a wider French project on Theodore Lector led by Bernard Pouderon (the latter being subject to funding) and involving Philippe Blaudeau and Federico Montinaro.

Cecily Hillsdale, McGill University, Montreal

Publications

2012 saw the publication of two articles and one book review: "Gift" in volume 33 of *Studies in Iconography*, "The Imperial Image at the End of Exile: The Byzantine Embroidered Silk in Genoa and the

Treaty of Nymphaion" in volume 64 of *Dumbarton Oaks Papers*, and a review of Jaroslav Folda, *Crusader Art: The Art of the Crusaders in the Holy Land, 1099-1291* (Aldershot, U.K.: Lund Humphries, 2009) for *caa.reviews*, the on-line review journal for the College Art Association.

Grants

Byzantine Art and Diplomacy in an Age of Decline (manuscript in press with Cambridge University Press) was awarded a book subvention from the Medieval Academy of America.

Presentations and Conference Papers

I delivered lectures at Columbia University, the University of Warwick, the University of Southern California, and also at McGill. At the University of Colorado at Boulder I presented a position paper as part of the Mediterranean Studies Group roundtable discussion. I also delivered papers at two international conferences, the first on Cultural Exchanges between Byzantium, East and West in the Late Byzantine World at the University of Haifa, and the second on Vatican Greek Manuscript 752 at the Swedish Institute at Rome and the Institutum Patristicum Augustinianum.

Service and Curation

For the Byzantine Studies Association of North America I was re-elected to serve a second term as vice president of the organization. I also co-curated an exhibition of manuscripts and single leaves in Greek, Arabic, Latin, and Persian along with the Liaison Librarians for Art History and Islamic Studies at the McGill Library ("Book Culture in the Medieval Mediterranean: Selections from Special Collections and Rare Books, McGill University," November 2012-January 2013).

Antony Littlewood, University of Western Ontario, London

'The Gardens of 'Kallimachos and Chryssorrhöe' in M.P. Futre Pinheiro, M.B. Skinner and F.I. Zeitlin, eds., *Narrating Desire: Eros, Sex, and Gender in the Ancient Novel* (Trends in Classics - Supplementary Volumes 14), De Gruyter, Berlin/Boston, 77-86.

Lucas McMahon, Ottawa

I am a first-year M.A. student at the University of Ottawa in the late antiquity program and studying under Professor Greatrex. My interests lie in political and military history, particularly under the later Herakleians and the Isaurians, as well the Komnenoi. In spring 2012 I completed my B.A. thesis at the University of Calgary under Dr. Waldemar Heckel's supervision on foreigners in Byzantine military service under Alexios I Komnenos. Part of the methodological section (pertaining to Anna as an historian and her source material) of that thesis was expanded upon and has been accepted for publication in *Vexillum*. My current work focuses on two major topics. The primary task (and M.A. thesis) is on understanding the issues behind the terminology used to refer to foederati in the east from the fourth to sixth centuries. On this topic I have been assisted through Professor Greatrex's SSHRC funding, and am looking at the possibility of doing a term abroad next academic year. The secondary has been to conduct research on Byzantine-Muslim relations and warfare, ca. 640-717. In late February 2013 I will be presenting a paper at the graduate Byzantine Studies conference at

Oxford on large imperial expeditions in that period. The following week I will be giving a second paper in Calgary on early Muslim responses to Byzantine naval raids.

Publications

“Reading Anna Komnene’s *Alexiad*,” *Vexillum: The Undergraduate Journal of Classical and Medieval Studies* III (2013).

Papers presented

‘Taking Land for Religion: Arab Campaigns Beyond the Taurus from 641 to 717 A.D.’ Land and Religion: Critical Inquiry in Classics and Religious Studies (CICRS) Conference, University of Ottawa, November 27, 2012.

‘From Polis to Kastron: Aspects of the Late Roman City,’ University of Western Ontario Second Annual Graduate History Conference, University of Western Ontario, September 27-29, 2012.

‘Fighting for Christ? Attitudes towards Sacred Violence in Byzantium,’ War and Society Conference, University of Calgary, March 29-31, 2012.

‘Byzantine Irregular Warfare in the Age of the Crusades and its Precedents,’ 14th Annual Graduate Strategic Studies Conference, University of Calgary, February 10-11, 2012.

Glenn Peers, Austin, Texas

Elizabeth A. Whitehead Professor, American School of Classical Studies at Athens, Greece (2011-12).

Forthcoming book: *Byzantine Things in the World* (edited volume in conjunction with an exhibition at the Menil Collection, Houston, TX, to appear May 2013).

Refereed articles (forthcoming)

‘Under Gods: Stories from the Soho Road. Photographs by Liz Hingley,’ in *Material Religion* 9.2 (2013).

‘Forging Byzantine Animals: Manuel Philes in Renaissance France,’ in *Rivista degli studi bizantini e neollenici* 49 (2013).

‘Crosses’ Work Underfoot: Christian Spolia in the Late Antique Mosque at Shivta in the Negev Desert (Israel),’ in *Eastern Christian Art* 8 (2011): 105-23.

‘Showing Byzantine Materiality,’ under consideration for *Beyond Icons: Method and Theory in Byzantine Archaeology*, ed. Kostis Kourelis and William R. Caraher, Cambridge University Press.

Articles Published

‘Real Living Painting: Quasi-Objects and Dividuation in the Byzantine World,’ *Religion and the Arts* 16.5 (2012): 433-60.

‘Object Relations: Theorizing the Late Antique Viewer,’ in *The Oxford Handbook of Late Antiquity*, ed. Scott F. Johnson, New York: Oxford University Press, 2012, 970-93.

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

‘Masks, Marriage and the Byzantine Mandylion: Classical Inversions in the Tenth-Century Narratio de

translatione Constantinopolitum imaginis Edessenae,' in *Symmeitka: Collection of Papers Dedicated to the 40th Anniversary of the Institute for Art History, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade*, ed. Ivan Stevovic, Belgrade, 2012, 45-54.

Curatorial

Guest Curator, 'Exhibiting Byzantium,' at the Gennadius Library. American School of Classical Studies at Athens, March 2012.

Guest Curator, with artist Liz Hingley, 'Under Gods: Stories from Soho Road,' at the Visual Arts Center, University of Texas at Austin, September-October 2012.

Lectures

Nov., 2012, 'Exhibiting Byzantium at the Menil Collection, Houston Texas:Coming and Going,' at the Thirty-Eighth Annual Byzantine Studies Conference, Hellenic College and Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, Brookline, MA.

Sept., 2012, 'Relation and Dividuation in Byzantium,' at Beyond Representation, Institute of Fine Arts/Bard College, New York City.

May, 2012, 'Finding Middle Ground in the Medieval Near East,' Cultural Exchanges between Byzantium, East and West in the Late Byzantine World (12th-16th Centuries), University of Haifa, Israel.

June, 2012, 'Issues at Stake in Vat. gr. 752,' at A Book of Psalms from Eleventh-Century Constantinople: On the Complex of Texts and Images in Vat. gr. 752, Swedish Institute, Rome, Italy.

April, 2012, 'Abstraction, Exhibition and Byzantine Materiality at the Menil Collection,' Byzantine Modernism: Art Cultural Heritage and the Avant-Gardes, Yale University, New Haven.

March, 2012, 'Finding Middle Ground in the Christian Art of the Medieval Near East,' Canadian Institute in Greece, Athens.

Feb., 2012, 'Christian Spolia in Muslim Hands: The Early Islamic Mosque at Shivta in the Negev Desert,' College Years in Athens, Greece; 'Objects Lives in the Middle Byzantine Period,' Oikonimides Seminar of the National Research Foundation, Athens, Greece.

Jan., 2012, 'Forging Byzantine Animals: Manuel Philes in Renaissance France,' American School of Classical Studies at Athens, Greece.

Nov., 2011, 'Showing Byzantine Things,' Canadian Institute in Greece, Athens.

Jan., 2011, 'Border Spanning: Eastern Christian Art and Identity in the Crusader Period,' at Re-Making Borders, Università degli Studi di Catania, Italy.

Linda Safran, Toronto

Linda Safran is now a Research Fellow at the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies in Toronto. She has completed *Art and Identity in the Medieval Salento*, which will be published by the University of Pennsylvania Press in 2013; it received a Millard Meiss publication grant from the College Art Association.

She held a one-month postdoctoral research stipend at Dumbarton Oaks in March 2012. Linda is beginning her appointment as Editor (with Adam S. Cohen) of *Gesta*, the journal of the International Center of Medieval Art, and is actively seeking Byzantine submissions. In 2012 she published "'Byzantine' Art in Post-Byzantine Southern Italy? Notes on a Fuzzy Concept" in *Common Knowledge* 18, no. 3 (2012) ["Fuzzy Studies: Symposium on the Consequence of a Blur," part 3]: 487–504 and "Betwixt or Beyond? The Salento in the

Fourteenth and Fifteenth Centuries,” in *Renaissance Encounters: Greek East and Latin West*, ed. Marina S. Brownlee and Dimitri Gondicas (Leiden: Brill, 2012), 115–44. She also gave several papers: “Late Medieval Multiculturalism and Local Identity: the Case of Vaste (Apulia),” at the Kunsthistorische Gesellschaft, University of Vienna; “Epiphany: Sites and Scenes of Baptism in the Orthodox World,” at the Malcove Collection, University of Toronto Art Centre; and “Greek and Latin (and a Canoodling Couple) in a South Italian Church,” for the 38th Byzantine Studies Conference, Brookline, MA.

Conor Whately, Winnipeg

I am now on a tenure-track contract at the university, having up to now been on one-year contracts.

Publications

Entries on ‘army [Late Antiquity - 1500 words]’, ‘bucellarii [250 words]’, ‘comites [500 words]’, ‘comitatenses [500 words]’, ‘contarii [250 words]’, ‘ducenarii [500 words]’, ‘John Klimax of Sinai [250 words]’, ‘John of Antioch [250 words]’, ‘John of Cappadocia [250 words]’, ‘John Scholastikos [250 words]’, ‘Joshua Stylites [250 words]’, ‘kataphractoi [500 words]’, ‘lancearii [250 words]’, ‘limitanei [1000 words]’, ‘Michael I-III [400 words]’, ‘Oriens, diocese of [300 words]’, and ‘Philippokos, emperor [250 words]’, ‘Riparienses milites [250 words]’, entries in the Wiley-Blackwell Encyclopedia of Ancient History, edited by Roger Bagnall, Kai Brodersen, Craige Champion, Andrew Erskine, and Sabine Hübner

3 papers given

October 2012 (invited): ‘Arabs, Outsiders, and Stereotypes from Ammianus Marcellinus to Theophylact Simocatta’, *Inside and Out: Interactions between Rome and the Peoples on the Arabian and Egyptian Frontiers in Late Antiquity (200-800 CE)*, Ottawa

September 2012: ‘Dispositions on, and the Strategy and Function of, the Moesian Frontier from Trajan to Commodus’, *Triennial Roman Frontier Congress*, Ruse, Bulgaria

March 2012 (invited): ‘Women in a Military Community in Late Antique Central Jordan’, *The Social and Cultural Impact of War from Ancient Times to the Present Day*, University of Calgary

John Wortley, Winnipeg

‘Discretion: Greater than All the Virtues’, *Greek, Roman, and Byzantine Studies* 51 (2011) 634-652.

‘Prayer and the Desert Fathers’ in *The Coming of the Comforter: when where and to whom? Orientalia Judaica Christiana* 3 (2012) 109-129.

The Book of the Elders: sayings of the Desert Fathers, the Systematic Collection, Cistercian / Liturgical Press 2012.

REPORTS

Excavations in Baturyn in 2012

Fig. 1. Schematic plan of Mazepa's fortified villa in the Baturyn suburb of Honcharivka (before 1700) by Yu. Sytyi and V. Mezentsev. Computer graphic by S. Dmytriienko.

universities and museums in Chernihiv and Hlukhiv as well as the Kyiv Mohyla Academy took part in the 2012 excavations.

Baturyn, a capital of the Cossack Hetman state, prospered during the illustrious reign of Hetman Ivan Mazepa (1687-1709). At that time, it was a major centre of Ukrainian baroque architecture and art competing with Kyiv and Chernihiv, the oldest and most important cities in central Ukraine. In 1708, Mazepa rebelled against the Russian tsar seeking independence for the Cossack state. His revolt failed and during the hostilities Muscovite forces razed Baturyn, the rebel base.



Fig. 2. Fragment of a stone Composite capital with a relief volute from a semi column of Mazepa's palace. Excavations at Honcharivka in 2012. All photos by V. Mezentsev.

In August the archaeological team resumed investigating the remnants of Mazepa's palatial residence erected before 1700 and located in Honcharivka, a suburb of Baturyn. The residence, built and embellished primarily in the Central European baroque style, was made of brick, had a basement, three floors, and a mansard. On the basis of the excavations of its foundations and a drawing of the palace from 1744 that has been preserved at the National Museum in Stockholm, the researchers have determined its size (14.5 m. by 20 m.), its ground plan, and its architectural and decorative designs. They also created the hypothetical computer reconstructions of the building's exterior along with the other known structures of the hetman's court.

In 2012, a broken figured ceramic base of a semi column from the facade and

Last summer, the Canada-Ukraine archaeological expedition continued its annual excavations in Baturyn, Chernihiv province, Ukraine. The project is sponsored by the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS), the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies (PIMS) in Toronto, and the Shevchenko Scientific Society of America. Prof. Zenon Kohut, Director of the Kowalsky Program for the Study of Eastern Ukraine at CIUS, heads this undertaking. Dr. Volodymyr Mezentsev (CIUS) and Prof. Martin Dimnik (PIMS) have participated in this research and the dissemination of its results. The Baturyn archaeological expedition is based at the University of Chernihiv in Ukraine. About 60 students of history and scholars from

a carved stone Composite capital with a relief volute were discovered in the palace debris. These finds correspond with the depiction of the Composite order elements in the original drawing of the palace and thus corroborate the accuracy of the graphic reconstructions of the structure and specifically the ornamental details of its elevations.



Fig. 3. Bone chess piece discovered at the excavated wooden dwelling at the hetman's court in 2012.

Mazepa commissioned the erection of a court church near his residence. It survived the destruction of Baturyn in 1708 but was demolished in the 1750s. The latest excavations of its site have revealed that the edifice measured 10.5 m. by 9 m. According to Ukrainian folk building practices the walls were constructed of squared logs and the floor was made with planks. In keeping with the directives of the Byzantine Orthodox canon the single altar apse had an eastern orientation.

The archaeologists continued exploring the remnants of several wooden structures within the Mazepa household that served as living quarters and service buildings. They partially unearthed a sizeable dwelling that may have belonged either to a well-to-do educated Cossack officer or to an official working at the chancellery, archives, or library in the hetman's palace.



Fig. 4. Bronze belt clasps and appliqués, a decorative hinge pin, and a circular copper pendant. Excavations at Honcharivka in 2012.

Included among the finds were the following: a rare chess piece pawn chiselled from bone, three expensive women's ornaments made of silver, rock crystal, coloured glass, a relief copper pendant, two bronze clasps and three figured appliqués for adorning military leather belts, five lead musket bullets, four iron arrowheads, fragmented glassware and a bronze tureen of the 17th-18th-century produced locally. The finds also included the contemporaneous 11 silver Polish and Russian coins, fragments of imported Dutch porcelain tobacco pipes and tableware, as well as fine plates manufactured from milky glass and painted with blue plant patterns. The plates may have been brought to Baturyn from Turkey or the Crimean Khanate.



Fig. 5. Broken milky glass plates painted with floral ornaments, unearthed at the hetman's household in 2012

Of particular interest are three fragments of what was most likely the broken bronze decorative binding/casing of a costly book of Western origin. One of these fragments features the engraved upper part of a nude man playing a trumpet. It was professionally executed in a realistic Classical style. Probably the representation is that of a pagan mythological figure and the work of Italian early modern secular art.

Archaeological finds such as these provide valuable insights into the wealth, intellectual pursuits, and artistic appreciation of the Cossack elite at Mazepa's court, as well as the penetration of European cultural influences to it. These also show the stimulating trade relations of the hetman capital with the West, Russia, and the Ottoman Empire. The Canada-Ukraine expedition intends to renew its field research in Baturyn next summer.

Martin Dimnik and Volodymyr Mezentsev



Fig. 6. Fragment of a bronze book casing with an engraved male figure, found at the wooden residence in Mazepa's court in 2012

Report on Byzantine Studies Conference XXXIII, Brookline, Massachusetts, November 2012

The 38th Annual Byzantine Studies Conference was held at the Hellenic College and Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology in Brookline, Massachusetts, from 2 to 4 November 2012. This year's program featured papers covering a broad range of interdisciplinary Byzantine topics by scholars from North America and abroad. Despite the devastation and travel disruptions caused by Hurricane Sandy, the turnout was impressive and the transatlantic scholarly presence was particularly strong with scholars traveling from such great distances as Austria, Denmark, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, UK, and Sweden.

The conference program featured archaeological and art historical sessions ranging in topic from Settlement Archaeology to Food and Water in Byzantium to Iconographic Complexities; literary sessions attended to such themes as Textual Practices and Liminal Characters; and interdisciplinary sessions covered such topics as Church Fathers, Power in Early Byzantium, Byzantine Women, and Egypt, with sessions on cultural exchange featuring prominently, as evidenced by panels on Byzantium and Italy and Crusader Worlds.

For the first time this year, the program committee accepted submissions of complete panel proposals. The resulting sessions included: Jewish and Christian Hymnography; Translation and Scholarship: the Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library, Byzantine Greek Series; and Hybrids and Mixtures: Genre-crossing in Byzantine Literature. Moreover a round table discussion of 'Exhibiting Byzantium Today' featured the curators of the collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Art Institute of Chicago, the Menil Collection, Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, and Dumbarton Oaks.

The International Center for Medieval Art (ICMA) also sponsored a session dedicated to Perceptions of the Body and Sacred Space in the Medieval Mediterranean. In addition to providing generous funding for participants in those sessions, the ICMA also sponsored a reception on Saturday evening that preceded the concert by the Holy Cross Byzantine Choir 'Romanos the Melodist,' a vocal ensemble composed of students and alumni/ae of Hellenic College and Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School named after Saint Romanos the Melodist, the sixth-century 'Pindar of Christian hymnography.' The concert was immediately followed by a second reception sponsored by the Michael G. and Anastasia Cantonis Chair of Byzantine Studies.

The other special event was the Second Annual Tousimis Lecture and reception on Friday evening. This year's lecture, 'Looking Back on Byzantium: An Icon's Journey,' was delivered by Professor Annemarie Weyl Carr, University Distinguished Professor of Art History Emerita, Southern Methodist University.

The complete conference program can be downloaded from the BSANA web site (www.bsana.net) under Annual Conference archives.

At the Business Lunch on Saturday, in addition to reports from the President, Secretary, Treasurer, and representatives of Dumbarton Oaks and the United States National Committee for Byzantine Studies, the new members of the Governing Board of the organization were elected by acclamation, and the winners of the 2011 Tousimis and BSANA Graduate Student Prizes were announced.

Furthermore, a number of significant policy changes were announced at the Business Lunch. The first concerns the dissemination of the annual conference abstracts. Beginning with the conference in 2013, print copies of the BSC Abstract will cease to be mailed to non-attending members. Instead, all paid members of BSANA will receive the Abstracts by email attachment in advance of the meeting (the Abstracts will also be posted to the BSANA web site). Moreover, institutional subscriptions to the BSC Abstracts will come to an end after the 2014 meeting. Do note, however, that print copies of the Abstracts will continue to be available at the conference itself.

The second major change relates to the payment of membership dues. BSANA will now be able process membership dues and contributions by credit card. The adoption of an online payment option promises to considerably ease the process of dues payment for those without access to a U.S.-based bank account.

The future meetings of the BSC are as follows: 2013 at Yale University (31 October to 3 November 2013), 2014 at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver (exact dates to be determined), and 2015 at CUNY and Fordham University New York (exact dates to be determined).

The upcoming Canadian venue for the 2014 BSC presents a wonderful opportunity to strengthen ties between the American and Canadian parts of BSANA. In the spirit of collaboration and of raising the visibility of the CCB please consider proposing a paper or a complete panel for the Vancouver 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).

— Report submitted by Cecily Hilsdale (cecily.hilsdale@mcgill.ca), member of the Canadian Committee of Byzantinists and Vice President of the Byzantine Studies Association of North America.

Report on the Extraordinary General Meeting of the AIEB in Paris, February 2012

On 11 February 2012 the EGM took place in Paris, France, at which 29 national sections were represented; in some cases, national associations had given their votes by proxy to someone else. I was thus mandated to vote on behalf of the Australian association. The aim of the meeting was to elect a successor to Judith Herrin, who resigned as president after her election in August 2011 in Sofia. Two candidates had come forward, Johannes Koder (Vienna) and Michel Kaplan (Paris), the latter being the treasurer of the AIEB. Both gave an address, after which the voting occurred. Johannes Koder won (by 16 votes to 12). A motion was also put forward in order to ensure that the inter-congrès meeting, due to be held in Greece in September 2013, should be granted the powers of an AGM in order to make changes to the constitution of the AIEB; this motion was approved.



A somewhat sensationalist account of developments within the AIEB may be found on a blog associated with *The Economist* magazine, <http://www.economist.com/blogs/prospero/2012/02/byzantine-studies> (the blog of a certain 'Prospero').

Geoffrey Greatrex

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Byzantino-Turcica

From Peter Pechnyo, peterpechnyo25@gmail.com Internet site: <http://byzantino-turcica.com/>

I would like to ask for your cooperation and help. My main goal is to establish a community in which we can cooperate and work on Byzantine related topics. I realized how important is to know other perspectives of these topics, therefore my original aim with this homepage is to help comprehend other aspects, opinions about Byzantine Period deeper.

Working together, discussing and exchanging different points of view on this subject will help us to understand Byzantium and Post-Byzantine period better. The first phase of this project is to collect as many articles as possible from scholars, then to categorize them, and to post them on the homepage at the end of each month.

In future a virtual Byzantine congress with all participants of the project will be organised, and international publications will be distributed online. Based on the disciplines of Gyula Moravcsik the Institute of Byzantine-Turkish Studies intend to establish a scholar environment.

Dr Pechnyo asked for submissions by 4 January, but I presume that the project will be on-going.

Editions and translations in preparation

Dr Alessandra Bucossi, Sophia Research Fellow in Byzantine Studies at King's College, London, has helpfully collated information on editions and translations of Byzantine texts in preparation or recently published. She has uploaded these to the site academia.edu, where they may be found under her name. Since one has to be registered to access the document, it seems pointless to give the actual (lengthy) website address. I warmly recommend this useful resource; she deserves our gratitude for putting it all together.

An update on the 23rd International Congress of Byzantine Studies, Belgrade, 22-27 August 2016

The following briefing comes from the organisers.

Main theme

The main theme of the congress is:

‘Byzantium – A World of Changes’ / ‘Byzance – un monde de changements’.

The motto of the congress is:

‘Πάντα μὲν γὰρ μεταβάλλεται, ἀπόλλυται δὲ οὐδέν’ (Ovid by Planoudes).

Plenary papers

There will be 6 to 8 session units, each with one main speaker, one or two commentators and discussion. Papers should be published in advance on the website of the congress.

The main speakers should present a summary of their papers in 15-20' and commentators in 15', leaving 30' for plenary discussion. The overall duration of a plenary session should be 60-70 min.

Speakers and commentators should be proposed by the Serbian Committee in cooperation with the Bureau and approved at the inter-congress meeting. The national committees will be informed on the proposals before the meeting.

Round tables

There will be up to 36 round tables with a maximum of 10 participants at each.

The papers should be published in advance at the website of the congress, previously prepared by conveners. Conveners should give a general statement on the goal of a RT and on the contents of the papers. The participants shall present summaries in up to 10 minutes each. Then the topic of the RT will be discussed between the participants and the public present. The overall duration of a RT should be up to 2 hours.

Themes and conveners should be proposed by national committees and then selected by organizers. It would be welcomed if the proposals followed the main theme of the congress, but they may except from it as well. There is no prescribed limits regarding the age and experience of proposed conveners. A welcome profile may be two conveners for a RT: a mature and a younger scholar, or vice versa. The most important criteria for accepting a proposed RT theme will regard its scholarly value and interest for the field of byzantine studies. The deadline for sending the proposals for RT by national committees is 31st March 2013.

So the deadline has been extended to 31 March 2013 - i.e. another two months! If you had intended to submit a proposal but had never quite managed to, you now have plenty of time to complete it.

Editorial note: it may be sensible to envisage collaborating with other national sections in organising a round table, given the relatively small size of our section. Suggestions/proposals should be sent to the president of our association, i.e. the editor, greatrex@uottawa.ca.

Free Communications and Posters

The proposals of the themes with a summary of up to 300 words should be sent to the organizers who will decide on acceptance.

The deadline for submitting the proposals for free communications will be announced later.

Circulated by Srdjan Pirivatric for the organising committee (spirivat@yahoo.com), 15 Dec. 2012.



Constantine Porphyrogenetos

The book of ceremonies

Translated by Ann Moffatt and Maxeme Tall in 2 volumes
with, on the same page, the corresponding Greek text of the
Corpus Scriptorum Historiae Byzantinae (Bonn 1829)
Byzantina Australiensia 18 (1) & 18 (2)
(Canberra 2012)

ISBN: 978-1-876503-42-0 (set of 2 volumes)
xxxviii + 870 pages including 2 maps; available only as a 2-volume set
published by the Australian Association for Byzantine Studies
Australasian price: \$Aus 77.00 the set including postage
All other countries: \$Aus 107.00 the set including sea mail postage
\$Aus 147.00 the set including air mail postage

This is the first modern language translation of the entire text of the tenth-century Greek Book of Ceremonies (*De ceremoniis*), a work compiled and edited by the Byzantine emperor Constantine VII (905-959). It preserves material from the fifth century through to the 960s. Chapters deal with diverse subjects of concern to the emperor including the role of the court, secular and ecclesiastical ceremonies, processions within the Palace and through Constantinople to its churches, the imperial tombs, embassies, banquets and dress, the role of the demes, hippodrome festivals with chariot races, imperial appointments, the hierarchy of the Byzantine administration, the equipping of expeditions, including to recover Crete from the Arabs, and the lists of ecclesiastical provinces and bishoprics.

CONTENTS

Volume 1: Introduction, Glossary, The Book of Ceremonies Book I and the Appendix to Book I (Three military treatises)

Volume 2: The Book of Ceremonies Book II, including Philotheos' Lists of Precedence (Kletorologion) and Pseudo-Epiphanius' The Summoning of Patriarchs and Metropolitans, Addenda to Books I and II, Glossary, Bibliography and Index

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