

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 Chrysorrhöe' 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.