

Fiftieth Annual
Byzantine Studies Conference

October 24–27, 2024

Italian Academy, Columbia University
Graduate Center of the City University of New York
(CUNY)

Lincoln Center Campus, Fordham University
New York, NY



DRAFT PROGRAM

BSC 2024 Draft Program

Governing Board, Byzantine Studies Association of North America

President: George Demacopoulos, Fordham University

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2024 BSC Program Committee

Chair: Nathanael Aschenbrenner, Bard College

Candace Buckner, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State College

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Ella Kirsh, University of Cambridge

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Holger Klein, Columbia University

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Warren Woodfin, Queens College



DUMBARTON OAKS

ART • NATURE • SCHOLARSHIP

The Byzantine Studies Association of North America acknowledges the generous financial contributions of the Mary Jaharis Center, Hellenic College Holy Cross, and the Byzantine Studies Program, Dumbarton Oaks, which support graduate student and early career and contingent scholar programming, travel stipends, and awards.

The recipients of the Dumbarton Oaks travel grants to support the participation of Early Career and Contingent Scholars for the 2024 Byzantine Studies Conference are Shannon Steiner (Independent Scholar) and Jessica Plant (University of Cambridge).



Byzantine Studies Association
of North America, Inc.

Presidents of the Byzantine Studies Association of North America

1975 – Present

Walter Kaegi and Alice-Mary
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Dorothy Abrahamse

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Asen Kirin

Lynn Jones

Linda Safran

Sarah Bassett

Robert Ousterhout
Derek Krueger
Glenn Peers
Christina Maranci
Sarah Brooks
Emmanuel Bourbouhakis
Benjamin Anderson
Lynn Jones
George Demacopoulos

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24
Italian Academy, Columbia University
1161 Amsterdam Ave, New York, NY

4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Registration

Italian Academy, Columbia University

6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Keynote Address

Henry Maguire, Emeritus, Johns Hopkins University

“The Politics of Imperial Dress in Byzantium, Sicily, Venice, and Rome”

Teatro, Italian Academy, Columbia University

7:30 pm – 9:00 pm

Opening Reception

Italian Academy, Columbia University

8:00 pm – 9:30 pm

BSANA Governing Board Meeting

TBD

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25
Graduate Center of the City University of New York (CUNY)
365 5th Ave, New York, NY

8:30 am – 5:00 pm
Registration
TBD

8:30 am – 5:00 pm
Book Exhibit
TBD

8:30 am – 9:30 am
Coffee/Breakfast
TBD

8:30 am – 10:15 am
Session 1A: Visual and Verbal Expressions in the Menologion of Basil II
(Part I)

Session Organizer: Alicia Walker and Charles Kuper
Chair: Alicia Walker, Bryn Mawr College

Discontinuity between Text and Image in the Menologion of Basil II: How
(Mis)communication Can Illuminate Aspects of Production
Charles Kuper, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Idols and Icons in the Menologion of Basil II
Nava Streiter, Bryn Mawr College

Gender Fluidity in Byzantine Painting: Heroic Nudity and Female Holiness in the
Menologion of Basil II
Valentina Cantone, Università degli Studi di Padova

Session 1B: Sex, Gender, and Power
Chair: Yuliya Minets, University of Alabama

The Sexuality of a Eunuch
Noel Lenski, Yale University

Queer Phenomenology, Liminal Spaces, and the Erotic Cave in the Life of St.
Makarios the Roman
Tiffany Van Winkoop, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Legacies of the Fall of Man: The Surprising Connection between Marriage and Slavery
in Byzantine Thought
Nathan Leidholm, Bilkent University

**Session 1C: Digital tools and Projects for Medieval and Byzantine Art: Value,
Impact, and Challenges**

Session Organizer: Maria Alessia Rossi and Alice Isabella Sullivan
Chair: Alice Isabella Sullivan, Tufts University

Smarthistory and Byzantine Art: Writing an Accessible Digital Art History
Ariel Fein, Institute for Advance Study

Mapping Eastern Europe: Connecting Students and Scholars
Maria Alessia Rossi, Princeton University

Fifty Ways of Seeing Islamic Art: Khamseen and Islamic Art History Online
Michelle Al-Ferzly, Yale University

10:15 am – 10:30 am
Break

10:30 am – 12:15 pm
Session 2A: Visual and Verbal Expressions in the Menologion of Basil II
(Part II)

Session Organizer: Alicia Walker and Charles Kuper
Chair: Charles Kuper, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Devotional Durations: Liturgical Processions and Timescapes in the Menologion of Basil II

Peter Boudreau, Princeton University

Performative Reenactment in the Martyrdoms of the Menologion of Basil II (Vat. gr. 1613)

Elena Gittleman, Bryn Mawr College

Blood and Empathy: The Military Affect of the Menologion of Basil II

Roland Betancourt, University of California, Irvine

Session 2B: Winged Words from a Different Time: Homer and Komnenian Literature

Session Organizer: Alberto Ravani

Chair: Vessela Valiavitcharska, University of Maryland

Tzetzes Will Give you a Thousand of Achilles

Alberto Ravani, Princeton University

The Hidden Homer. Form and Sound in Byzantine Learned Poetry

Ugo Mondini, University of Oxford

Myth, Memory, and Resistance in Anna Komnene's *Alexiad*

Marina Bazzani, University of Oxford

Session 2C: Martial Matters

Chair: Tia Kolbaba, Rutgers University

From Taurus to Constantinople: Analyzing the Geographic and Spatial Dynamics of the Byzantine Fire Beacon System in Central Anatolia

Annalise Whalen, University of Central Florida

Know Your Enemy: Climate and Difference in the *Taktika* of Leo the Wise

Dane Smith, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Reasons for Abandonment of the Byzantine Navy in the 13th Century: A Hypothesis from an Ethnic Identity Perspective

Ziyao Zhu, King's College, London

12:15 pm – 1:30 pm
Lunch Break

12:15 pm – 1:30 pm
**Graduate and Early Career Lunch Sponsored by the Mary Jaharis Center for
Byzantine Art and Culture**

Publishing in Byzantine Studies

Moderator: Christina Christoforatos, Baruch College, City University of New York

Darlene L. Brooks Hedstrom, Brandeis University

Peter Constantine, University of Connecticut

Michael Sharp, Cambridge University Press

1:30 pm – 3:45 pm
**Session 3A: Desperately Seeking Doxapatres: Middle Byzantine Culture and
the Corpus of Hermogenes**

Session Organizers: Aglae Pizzone and Byron MacDougall

Chair: Alexander Riehle, Harvard University

Joy of Division: John Doxapatres' Commentary on Hermogenes' *On Issues* and
Porphyry's *Isagoge*

Byron MacDougall, University of Southern Denmark

'Every (Exegetical) Move You Make': Tzetzes' References to Doxapatres in the
Commentary on *On Forms*

Elisabetta Barili, University of Southern Denmark

Counting Down the Line: Doxapatres and Tzetzes in Dialogue over Aphthonios

Aglae Pizzone, University of Southern Denmark

Classic (Better than Hermogenes Has Ever Been): Christian Rhetoric and *Logos*
Panegyrikos from John of Sardis to John Doxapatres

Daria Resh, University of Southern Denmark

Rhetoric as a Rational Art in Doxapatres' *Prolegomena* to Aphthonios

Vessela Valiavitcharska, University of Maryland

Session 3B: Materials in Cross-Cultural Context

Chair: XXX

The Khakhuli Triptych and the Art of Repurposing
Sopio Gagoshidze, Rutgers University

Imperial Imagery beyond the Borders of Byzantium: A Byzantine coin pendant found
in Java, Indonesia
Arielle Winnik, Yale University

“Qui dicitur Rendlæsham”: A Survey of Eight Byzantine folles from the Rendlesham
Productive Site
Molly Johnson, Cardiff University

The Joseph Textiles Reassessed
Andrea Olsen Lam, Independent Scholar

Colors of the Black Sea: Polychrome Ceramics in Medieval Bilhorod-Dnistrovskyi
Madeline Newquist, Case Western Reserve University

Session 3C: Anthony Cutler—A BSC Remembrance

Session Organizers: Glenn Peers and Charles Barber
Chairs: Glenn Peers, Emeritus, University of Texas at Austin,
and Charles Barber, Princeton University

Reflections from:

Merih Danah, Wake Forest University
Annemarie Carr, Emerita, Southern Methodist University
John Cotsonis, Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology
Robert Nelson, Emeritus, Yale University

3:45 pm – 4:00 pm
Break

4:00 pm – 6:00 pm
Session 4A: Contemplating God in Space, Sound, and Image

Chair: Amy Gillette, Woodmere Art Museum

Shimmering at the Margins: Aporia and Anagoge in the Justinianic Mosaics of Hagia Sophia

George Yfantidis, Indiana University

Yearning to See Through the Cloud: The Theophany on Mount Sinai in the Late Byzantine Palatina Psalter

Andrei Dumitrescu, Stanford University

AudioVision in Byzantium: The Narthex Mosaics at Hosios Loukas and the Liturgy for Easter

Bissera Pentcheva, Stanford University

Iconic Subject: Looking with the Eyes of Faith in the Byzantine Church

Rossitza Schroeder, St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary

Session 4B: Imperial Propaganda and Image

Chair: Darlene L. Brooks Hedstrom, Brandeis University

Theodosius II: From “Little Theodosius” to Legitimated Warrior Emperor

Ralph Mathiesen, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Manuel the Great? Alexander the Great and the Shaping of an Imperial Masculinity

Luke Sturm, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Visualizing and Legitimizing Imperial Piety: Reconsidering the Early Byzantine Elephant

Quentin Clark, Florida State University

A Triumph to Dishonor: The Interplay between the Triumph and the Parade of Infamy

Merve Savas, The Ohio State University

Session 4C: Music and Metamorphosis in Byzantine Religion

Session Organizer: Georgia Frank

Chair: Susan Ashbrook Harvey

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Worship Among the Flames: The Babylonian Furnace in the Constantinopolitan
Liturgy

Jillian Marcantonio, Duke University

The Charms of Horus in Byzantine Egypt: Incantations to Bind, to Seduce, to Heal

David Frankfurter, Boston University

Songs in the Key of Time: Non-Human Music in Early Byzantine Christianity

Georgia Frank, Colgate University

Apocrypha and Anthems: The Hymnography for the Dormition in Late Ancient
Jerusalem

Stephen Shoemaker, University of Oregon

6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Self-Guided Tour of the Metropolitan Museum of Art

8:00 pm – 10:00 pm

Graduate Student and Early Career Mixer

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26
Lincoln Center Campus, Fordham University
113 W 60th St, New York, NY

8:00 am – 5:00 pm
Registration

8:00 am – 5:00 pm
Book Exhibit

8:00 am – 9:00 am
Coffee/Breakfast

8:30 am – 10:30 am
Session 5A: “Misbehaving” Women
Chair: Ella Kirsh, University of Cambridge

The New Jezebel: Constructing a Biblical Queen in Byzantine Invective
Briana Grenert, Duke University

“The Share of This Diaconate”: Recognizing Women’s Agency in the Vitae of St.
Domnika
Laura Wilson, Antiochian House of Studies

And in Her Prayers, She Begged God, “...Take Away the Fruit of My Sin Which I
Have Born...”: Maternal Regret in Early Female Asceticism
Candace Buckner, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Orthodox or Occult? The Material Culture of Reproduction in the Middle Byzantine
Period
Caitlin Mims, Florida State University

Session 5B: Art and Nature in Byzantium
Session Organizers: Robert Nelson and Amy Gillette
Chair: Nancy Patterson Ševčenko

Byzantine Birds

Robert Nelson, Emeritus, Yale University

The Forest in Byzantine Landscape Painting

Benjamin Anderson, Cornell University

The Identifying Traits of Birds and Beasts of Prey in Written Texts and Popular
Images

Eunice Maguire and Henry Maguire, Emeritus, Johns Hopkins University

Ways of Thinking about Flowers in Byzantine Sacred Art

Amy Gillette, Woodmere Art Museum

**Session 5C: Small Object, Big Picture: New Insights into Middle Byzantine
Matters from Coins, Seals, and Textual Fragments**

Session Organizer: Niels Gaul

Chair: Jake Ransohoff, Bowdoin College

Empire of Saints: Niketas David Paphlagon's "Secret History" Reconsidered

Bilal Adigüzel, University of Edinburgh

Growing Up in his Father's Image. Constantine V's Changing Portrait on the Coinage
of Leo III (720–741) as a Case Study of Promotion and Popularity

Ivan Marić, Dumbarton Oaks

Rise of Second Names Rise of the Aristocracy?

Clément Adoir, Dumbarton Oaks and Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne

Analogical Investigations from Constantinople to Kaifeng: Byzantium and Song
China as Empires of Learning in the Long Eleventh Century

Niels Gaul, University of Edinburgh

10:30 am – 10:45 am

Break

10:45 am – 12:45 pm

Session 6A: Graduate Student Session Sponsored by the Byzantine Studies Program, Dumbarton Oaks

Chair: Nathanael Aschenbrenner, Bard College

Burial Ambitions in Kievan Rus': The Sarcophagus of Yaroslav the Wise
Luke Hester, Case Western Reserve University

Portrait of a Family: The Kratigos-Mytilene Hoard as Assemblage and Microhistory
Allison Grenda, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

“This Beautiful Spot”: Armenian Monastic Landscape at Tat’ev
Whitney Kite, Columbia University

Serving Tongue: Aesopica in Morgan MS. M. 397 and the Role of Greek in Medieval Italy
Nastasya Kosygina, University of California, Irvine

Session 6B: Byzantium Beyond Byzantium

Chair: Ariel Fein, Institute for Advanced Study

The Palma Passion Panel and Palaeologan Painting in the Age of Milutin
Amy Neff, Emerita, University of Tennessee, Knoxville and Anne Derbes, Hood College

Integrated Views in Post-Byzantine Church Designs: The Case of Pătrăuți Monastery
Alice Isabella Sullivan, Tufts University, and Vladimir Ivanovici, University of Lugano

1453 is not the End: Byzantine Traditions in Post-Byzantine Epigraphy.
The Case of Metrical Inscriptions
Andreas Rhoby, Austrian Academy of Sciences

Searching for the Origins of Zacharias Kalliergis’ Script: An Unknown Manual for Greek Scribes and Typographers (?)
Elias Petrou, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Session 6C: Icons and Iconography

Chair: Jacquelyn Tuerk-Stonberg, Kean University

The Seat of Mary in Early Christian Iconography: Illuminating Marian Devotion

Michelle Keefe, Yale University

Byzantine Icons, Liturgical Objects, and Veneration

Evan Freeman, Simon Fraser University

Pilgrimage and Martyrial Multivalency along the Lycian Coast: An Iconographical
Case Study of Two Sixth-Century Syrian Bracelets

Serena D'Alessandro, Florida State University

Earthly Architecture in Heavenly Icons: Represented Architecture in Early Byzantine
Icons and its Role in Veneration

Anna Carroll, The Graduate Center at City University of New York (CUNY)

12:45 pm – 2:30 pm

BSANA Business Lunch

All registered attendees are welcome!

2:30 pm – 4:30 pm

**Session 7A: Relief Art in Late Antiquity and Byzantium: Materiality and
Meanings of Making Space (ca. 400–1400)**

Session Organizers: Jessica Plant and Elisa Galardi

Chair: Benjamin Anderson, Cornell University

“Authentic” Images: The Byzantine & Byzantinizing Relief Icons of the Basilica di
San Marco

Sarah Cohen, Columbia University

Plaster “Incrustations” Between Sculptural and Imaginative Planes in Late Antiquity

Jessica Plant, University of Cambridge

Between Ornament and Practicalities. Discussing the Role of Sculpture in Shaping
Windows of Rural Churches of Greece

Flavia Vanni, Newcastle University

Weaving the Exterior of Churches in Late Byzantine Thessalonike

*Sofia Pitouli, University of California, Los Angeles,
and Catherine Volmensky, University of British Columbia*

Session 7B: Byzantium and Africa

Chair: Andrea Achi, Metropolitan Museum of Art

The Neglected Nubian Realms: A Byzantine-Nubian Syncretism Case Study

Artur Obluski, University of Warsaw

Aidesia of Alexandria and the Social Worlds of Late Antique Philosophy

Colin Whiting, Dumbarton Oaks

Gädlä Gärima: A Six Century Textual Witness for Ethiopian Mythology and Monastic
Ties between Axumite and Roman Empire

Teweldeberhan Mezgebe, St. Yared Center for Ethiopian Philology and Manuscript Studies

A Freudian Slip in the Chronicle of John of Nikiu?

Daria Elagina, Universität Hamburg

Session 7C: Byzantium in Comparative Frameworks

Chair: XXX

Through a Glass Darkly: Byzantine and Islamic Diversity Management after 950 CE

Thomas A. Carlson, Oklahoma State University

Early Byzantine Relic Veneration, East and West: A False Dichotomy

Michelle Freeman, University of North Carolina

Nomadic Bones, Network Building, and The Hellenistic Heritage of Relic Translation

Sunil Persad, Stanford University

Island Networks, Boundaries, and Transferability: The Elaphiti Archipelago and the
Renegotiation of Islandness

Franka Horvat, University of California, Los Angeles

4:30 pm – 4:45 pm

Break

4:45 pm – 6:45 pm

Session 8A: Reconfiguring the Past

Chair: XXX

John Lydus and the Sibyls in Byzantium
Sviatoslav Dmitriev, Ball State University

Living in an Old Politeia: The Ancient and Recent Past in Kekaumenos
Arie Neubauser, University of Chicago

Unraveling an Antiquity: The Role of “Origin” in the Obelisk of Theodosius in the
Fourth Century
Madison Gilmore-Duffy, Florida State University

Re-imagining Rome: Irene, Imperial Representation, and the Crossroads of Power
Julie Pace, The Westminster School

Session 8B: Saints and Sensibility in Byzantine Hagiography

Chair: Candace Buckner, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State College

The Life of St. Nephon (BHG 1371z): a Most Underestimated Piece of Byzantine
Hagiography
Sergey Ivanov (Northwestern University)

The Ambiguity of the Mauroi in The Life of St. Paul the Younger
Tyler Wolford, Cornell University

Divine Dust: The Martyrdom of Irene and the Ecological Imagination of Holy Bodies
and the Earth in Late Antique and Byzantine Literature
Bailey Freeburn, Brown University

The Life of Empress Eirene and St. Philaretos’ Kin
Alexander Riehle, Harvard University

Session 8C: Byzantine Political Culture and Practices

Chair: Roland Betancourt, University of California, Irvine

Civic Religion, Citizenship, and Exclusion in the Eastern Roman Empire
Leonora Neville, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Oaths in a Book vs. Oaths in the Books: The Peira of Eustathios Rhomaios and the
Middle Byzantine Historians
Daniel Berardino, University of California, Berkeley

Clever with their Hands: Artistic Virtuosity and Skilled Labor as Instruments of
Byzantine Imperial Power
Shannon Steiner, Independent Scholar

Imperial Injustices and Elite Assertiveness in Early Palaiologan Political Thought
James Cogbill, University of Oxford and Princeton University

4:45 pm – 6:15 pm
BSANA Governing Board Meeting
TBD

8:00 pm – 9:30 pm
Guided Tour of St. Nicholas
Greek Orthodox Church and National Shrine at the World Trade Center at
Ground Zero *with John Cotsonis, Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology*
130 Liberty Street, New York, NY

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27
Lincoln Center Campus, Fordham University
113 W 60th St, New York, NY

8:30 am – 12:00 pm
Book Exhibit

8:30 am – 10:00 am
Coffee/Breakfast

8:30 am – 10:00 am
**Graduate and Early Career Breakfast Sponsored by the Mary Jaharis Center for
Byzantine Art and Culture**

Applying for Academic Jobs
Moderator: Luke Hester, Case Western Reserve University
Marica Cassis, University of Calgary
Christina Christoforidou, Baruch College, City University of New York
Georgia Frank, Colgate University
Lynn Jones, Florida State University

10:00 am – 12:00 pm
**Session 9A: Expressing the Inexpressible: The Language of Theology.
Semiosis and Meaning-Making in Byzantium**

Session Organizer: Andrea Cuomo
Chair: Elias Petrou, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

The Virgin Mary as *υπερνήτης* in Photios's Theotokarion: The Semiotic Value of the
Metaphor Between Tradition and Innovation
Alessia Rovina, University of Ghent

Translating the Ineffable: Logic and Incarnation in Manuel Kalekas' Translation of St.
Anselm's *Cur Deus homo*
Marthe Nemegeer, University of Ghent

‘Proper Names’ and Medieval Greek Linguistics: Semiotics and Meaning-Making in
Byzantium

Andrea Cuomo, University of Ghent

Session 9B: Confronting Byzantine Heritage in Modernity

Chair: XXX

Byzantine Cultural Heritage in Turkey: Ideological and Practical Challenges in
Conservation

Ufuk Serin, Middle Eastern Technical University

‘Appropriating’ Syriac Orthodox Heritage Places as World Heritage in Turkey:
Controversies, Receptions, and Expectations

Pinar Aykaç, Middle Eastern Technical University

Rival English Byzantiums: Patrick Leigh Fermor and Robert Byron on Mount Athos

Geoffrey Benson, Colgate University

Session 9C: Late Antique Transitions

Chair: Colin Whiting, Dumbarton Oaks

Clerics’ Competitive Edges: Using Bishops’ Known Ego-Networks to Simulate the
Social Impact of Trinitarian Partisanship in the 370s and 380s

Adam Schor, University of South Carolina

Building Byzantine Bureaucracy: The Rise of the Magister Officiorum after the Fourth
Century CE

Alessandro Giovanni Battaglia, University of Cincinnati

Recovering Justinianic Edessa: Chalcedonian Policies, Literary Production, Urban
Elites, and Imperial Patronage

Yuliya Minets, University of Alabama

Monastic Transitions from Late Antiquity to Middle Byzantium: A Material Approach

Elizabeth Zanghi, Sorbonne Université