The Oxford University Byzantine Society’s 21st International Graduate Conference

Contested Heritage
Adaptation, Restoration & Innovation in the Late Antique & Byzantine World

22nd - 23rd February 2019
History Faculty
Oxford

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Friday, 22nd February 2019

09:00 Registration

09:30
Katerina Vavaliou
(OUBS President)
Opening Remarks

10:00
1a. Compiling and Editing the Past
Chair: Yan Zaripov
Francesco Maria Ferrara
(University of Milan)
The Uses of Zīthē in the Codex Peirescianus (T 980): Cross References and Editorial Comments

Sean Tandy
(Indiana University, Bloomington)
Anonymity, Authority, and Orthodoxy in the “Ecclesiastical History” of Anonymous Cyzicus

Gaia Castaldi
(University of Hamburg)
The Manuscripts of the Aristotelian Posterior Analytics

1b. Synthesising History
Chair: Mathilde Sauquet
Carmelo Nicolò Benvenuto
(Università degli Studi della Basilicata, Potenza)
Ev Nivak: Παραχώρω: A Readaptation of Diodorus within Gregorios “Byzantine Historia”

Thomas Picciola
(Université d’Aix-Marseille)
In Search of George the Monk’s Sources, or the Reconstitution of a Complex Heritage

Stephanie Forrest
(University of Cambridge)
The “Most Learned” and “Most Competent Men”: An Early Eighth Century Byzantine Historian and his Use of the Past

11:30 Coffee Break

12:00
2a. Politicising the Past
Chair: Joshua Hitt
Silvio Roggo
(University of Cambridge)
Reinvention of the Past: the Deposition of Patriarch Eutychius of Constantinople as Depicted in his “Life”

Philip Atkins
(Trinity College, Oxford)
Priscian of Caesaarea and the “Two” Emperors

Boris Shopov
(Independent researcher)
Contested Relics and the Imperial City in Theophylact Simocatta and Evagrius Scholasticus

2b. The Textual and the Physical
Chair: Blake Lorenz
Ekaterina Rybakova
(Lomonosov Moscow State University)
The Adaptation of Classical Heritage in a Medical Treatise: Literacy Device in John Actuarius’ Essay

Thomas Langley
(University of Cambridge)
The Contested Heritage of Bodily Metaphors in Fourth Century Byzantium

Ricarda Gäbel
(Humboldt University, Berlin)
Love as an Illness of the Brain? Or, Zeus, Aetius and Paul and How They Made Use of their Literary Heritage

13:30 Lunch

14:30
3a. Ancient Motifs in a Christian World
Chair: Chloé Agar
Elodie Powell
(St. Hugh’s College, Oxford)
Christ and Dionysus: Adoption and Reuse in Early Christian Iconography

Giulia Rossetto
(Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna)
Neglected Heritage? Classical Texts in the Palimpsests of the Monastery of St. Catherine (Sinaï)

Daria Coscodan
(Frei Universität Berlin)
Depicting the Rewritten Old Testament: the Case of the “Palæa Historica”

3b. Transcending Language
Chair: Lorenzo Sacco
Juan Bautista Juan-López
(University of Grenada)
Allegorical Readings on Odysseus’ Wanderings: the Case of Manuel Gabalas

Mirela Ivanova
(Balliol College, Oxford)
Inventing Slavonic: Contesting the Legacy of Constantine-Cyril the Philosopher

Alessandro Musino
(University of Hamburg)
The Lexicographer at Work. The Transmission of Ancient Scholarship to the Byzantine Age: Orion’s “Etymologicum”

16:00 Coffee Break

16:30
4a. Of what is past, or passing, or to come...
Chair: Cory Johnson
Miranda Gronow
(University of Oxford)
“Pulling Homer’s Gold to Pieces”: Reuse and Polyphony in the Homeric Centones of the Empress Eudocia Augusta

Konstantinos Lygouris
(University of Cambridge)
“Secondary Readings”- Greek Biblical Poetry and the Making of Christian Palimpsests

Chiara Battisti
(“La Sapienza” University of Rome)
The Poetry Book of Christophoras Mitylenaios: between Classical Tradition and Contemporary

4b. Spaces, Places, and Landscapes
Chair: Daniel Gallaher
Michael Burling
(University of Birmingham)
Consigned to the Flames of Oblivion: The Fate of Religious Spaces in Late Antiquity

John Kee
(Central European University, Budapest)
The “Locus Amoenus” and Military Camps: a Landscape Topos in Practice in 11th and 12th Century Byzantine Literature

Daniel Alford
(Corpus Christi College, Oxford)
Sasanian Ctesiphon: The Practical and Ideological Significance of the Royal Capital of the Sasanian Empire (224-651)

18:00 Wine Reception
Followed by Informal Dinner
Contested Heritage: Adaptation, Restoration & Innovation in the Late Antique & Byzantine World

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Saturday, 23rd February 2019

09:00 Registration and Coffee

10:00
5a. Reassessing the Classical Literary Tradition
Chair: Miranda Gronow
Chiara Monaco (University of Cambridge)
“Atticising” Practices in Byzantine Greek

Yan Zaripov (St. Hilda’s College, Oxford)
Challenging Ancient Philosophy in Byzantium: the Case of Theodore Prodromos

Maurits de Leeuw (University of Tübingen)
Classicism as a Language of Failure: Discourses of Interpersonal Influence in Procopius’ “Wars”

5b. Innovation in the Social Sphere
Chair: Mirela Ivanova
Joost Snaterse (Radboud University, Nijmegen)
Contested Urban Experiences: Welfare Provisions in Early Byzantine Constantinople and Antioch

Joshua Hilt (St. Hilda’s College, Oxford)
Literary Heritage and Innovation in Twelfth-Century “Begging Poetry”

Gang Wu (King’s College, London)
Another Parthenon: Female Lay Spirituality in Twelfth-Century Thebes

11:30 Coffee Break

12:00
6a. Enduring Iconography
Chair: Callan Meynell
Mathilde Sauquet (St. Stephen’s House, Oxford)
The Floor Mosaic in the Church of the Virgin in Madaba, Jordan: A Case of Iconoclasm?

Meric Özişler (Independent researcher)
“Byzantine with a Western twist”: Rethinking the Imperial Imagery of Norman Sicily

Sofía Simões Coelho (University College, Oxford)
The Icon and the City in Byzantium and Rus’: Comparing the cults of the Hodegetria and Vladimirskaya

6b. Beyond the Elites
Chair: Peter Guevara
Cahit Mete Öğüz (Simon Fraser University, British Columbia)
Discursive Topoi on the Byzantine Peasantry: the Approaches of Middle Byzantine Historians

Lorenzo Saccon (St. Hilda’s College, Oxford)
Reframing Slavery in the Fourteenth Century Eastern Mediterranean

Raymond Ngho (Linacre College, Oxford)
“Domu Militiaque”: Paideia and Contested Heritage between Soldiers and Senators in Late Antiquity

13:30 Lunch

14:30
7a. Restoring Architecture: Ideology and Pragmatism
Chair: Katerina Vavaliou
Hugh Jeffery (Lincoln College, Oxford)
Ruined Basilicas and Domestic Space

Alexandra Dolea (Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna)
Urban Pragmatism and Adaptation in Late Antique and Early Byzantine Limyra

Jessica Varsallonia (University of Birmingham)
The Palaiologan Restoration of the Myrelaion

7b. On Ceremonies
Chair: Marilia Dlatova
Sarah Gianakon (Christ Church, Oxford)
Bishops and their Relics: Three Western Case Studies

Dilara Burcu Giritlioglu (Middle East Technical University, Ankara)
An Urban Node in the Ritual Landscape of Byzantine Constantinople: The Monastery of St. John of Studios

Angus Russell (Exeter College, Oxford)
Boris Godunov’s Coronation Rite: Symbol, Practice and Legitimacy

16:00 Coffee Break

16:30
8a. Ornaments and Monuments
Chair: Hugh Jeffery
Flavia Vanni (University of Birmingham)
Byzantine Attitudes towards the Past. Restorations and Plaster Reliefs

Allison Kidd (University of Edinburgh)
The Inheritors of Classical Antiquity? Problematising Homogeneity and Heterogeneity in the Architecture of 4th–6th Century Mediterranean Cities

Marcus Chin (Wadham College, Oxford)
Memories of Civic Euergetism and the Evolution of Honorary Culture in Late Antique Western Asia Minor 4th-6th Centuries CE

8b. State Legacies
Chair: Philip Atkins
Valeria Melis (University of Cagliari)
Reusing and Innovating: the Multiple Faces of an Ancient Greek Formula in Byzantine Inheritance Laws

Thomas Adamson-Green (St. Catherine’s College, Oxford)
Ordering Empire – Classical Ethnography and Imperial Power in the “Taktika” of Leo VI

Aliya Ali (University of Exeter)
Majority in Number, Minority in Status, the Legacy of Byzantium in Islamic State Administration

18:00 Closing Remarks

18:30 Wine Reception

20:00 Conference Dinner