



## BYZANTINE STUDIES NEWSLETTER APRIL 2014

### Farewell to the Fellows

This group of Byzantine Fellows has been extraordinary, and Dumbarton Oaks will miss each one of them. They have contributed to a collegial and scholarly atmosphere at Dumbarton Oaks through the exchange of ideas and their welcome sociability and sense of humor. We wish them the best in future endeavors and hope that they will visit frequently.

### Sense Perceptions Symposium



From April 25-27, Dumbarton Oaks hosted its spring symposium entitled "Knowing Bodies, Passionate Souls: Sense Perceptions in Byzantium." We explored how the Byzantines conveyed sensory perception and engagement, and how they described and represented the various senses across a range of disciplines.

### Teaching Fellows' Day

On March 29th, Dumbarton Oaks hosted its fourth annual Teaching Fellows' Day, entitled "Center and Periphery: Byzantine Capitals outside Byzantium."

This spring's Teaching Fellows' Day attempted to complement the recent exhibition at the National Gallery of Art, "Heaven and Earth: Art of Byzantium from Greek Collections". Rather than doing a Day Conference on Byzantine Greece per se, we focused on political, religious, and intellectual centers of Byzantine Culture—including Byzantine Greece as one of these—outside of the imperial center of Constantinople. Dumbarton Oaks would like to thank Scott Johnson, Jonathan Shea, Margaret Mullett, and Dimiter Angelov for contributing.

### Publications

We are proud to announce the publication of our current Byzantine Fellow Ekaterina Nechaeva's book, entitled *Embassies--Negotiations--Gifts: Systems of East Roman Diplomacy in Late Antiquity*. The book offers an original approach to late Roman/early Byzantine diplomacy as a system. Assessing both official and clandestine perspectives, Ekaterina examines the working mechanisms of this diplomatic machine and reveals the 'block' organization of embassies as a basic feature of international communication.

### Events

"Knowing Bodies, Passionate Souls: Sense Perceptions in Byzantium." A Dumbarton Oaks Byzantine Studies Symposium. April 25-27

### Byzantine Research Reports

April 7, Dimitris Kastritsis (University of St Andrews), *Byzantines, Ottomans, and Others in the Last Century of Byzantium (1354-1453)*

April 28, Foteini Spingou (University of Oxford), *Anonymous Poems and Epigrams from ms. Marcianus gr. 524. Edition and Translation*

### Informal Talks (in the Study)

April 2 at 5pm, Betsy Williams, From Artemis to Gabriel: Iconography, Technique, and Sources of the Earliest Resist-Dyed Textile Hangings

April 16 at 5pm, (with the Society for the Preservation of the Greek Heritage), Judith Herrin, *Byzantine Journeys to the West in the Fifteenth Century*

April 22 at 11am, Andras Nemeth, Revisiting the Chronology of Constantine VII's Historical Excerpts

April 23 at 5pm, Joshua O'Driscoll, In the Wake of Theophanu? The Byzantine Question in Manuscript Illumination from Ottonian Cologne

### Byzantine Community at Dumbarton Oaks

#### Staff

Susan Boyd (emerita)  
Gudrun Buehl and Michael Sohn  
Deb Brown  
Örgü Dalgiç and Vasileios Marinis  
Fani Gargova  
John Hanson  
Scott and Carol Johnson  
Joel and Colette Kalvesmaki  
Alec Luhring  
Margaret Mullett and Michael McGann  
Cécile Morrisson  
John (emeritus) and Carla Nesbitt  
Irfan and Mary Shahid  
Jonathan Shea  
Alice-Mary (emerita) and Bill Talbot  
Natalia Teteriatnikov (emerita)  
Stephen Zwirn

#### Byzantine Fellows

Ivan Drpić  
Dimitris Kastritsis  
Ekaterina Nechaeva  
Foteini Spingou  
Tolga Uyar  
Elena Velkova Velkovska

#### Byzantine Junior Fellows

Nathan Leidholm  
Jordan Pickett  
AnnaLinden Weller

#### William R. Tyler Fellows

Saskia Dirkse  
Julian Yolles

#### Pre-Doctoral Residencies

Nikos Zagklas

#### Readers

Frances Andrews  
Alison Noble  
Andrew Walker White