

Dumbarton Oaks

Research Library and Collection

Annual Report 2016–2017



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Cover photograph: The Byzantine Courtyard for the reopening of the museum in April 2017.

Frontispiece: The Music Room after the installation of new LED lighting.

www.doaks.org/about/annual-reports

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From the Director

A Year of Collaboration

Even just within the walls and fencing of our sixteen acres, too much has happened over the past year for a full accounting. Attempting to cover all twelve months would be hopeless. Instead, a couple of happenings in May exemplify the trajectory on which Dumbarton Oaks is hurtling forward and upward. The place was founded for advanced research. No one who respects strong and solid traditions would wrench it from the scholarship enshrined in its library, archives, and research collections; at the same time, it was designed to welcome a larger public. These two events give tribute to this broader engagement.

To serve the greater good, Dumbarton Oaks now cooperates vigorously with local schools. It is electrifying to watch postdoctoral and postgraduate fellows help students enjoy and learn from our gardens and museum collections. On May 16, we hosted a gathering with delegates from the DC Collaborative. This partnership of more than one hundred members advances and advocates learning experiences in the arts and humanities for students and teachers in Washington public and public charter schools. For us, the moment was historic. We celebrated our commitment to deploying our people and objects toward the ends of increasing knowledge and appreciating beauty. We exist to fulfill multiple missions and satisfy many constituencies; connecting our youngest citizens with the arts

and humanities is essential to the continued survival of the nation and municipality in which we are embedded.

Our institution is the product of well-tended cultural benefaction. It came to Harvard in 1940 as a gift from two well-to-do donors who created it to minister to a beautifully eccentric set of fields and causes. Anyone who logs many hours around Dumbarton Oaks becomes accustomed to the tripartite mantra of Byzantine Studies, Pre-Columbian Studies, and Garden and Landscape Studies, as well as to paying tribute to the library, archives, museum, and publications that go with them. Running all these operations requires staff for gardens, facilities, security, information technology, human resources, finance, and administration. Why does all this exist? As the U.S. teetered on the verge of a horrific second world war, Robert Woods Bliss and Mildred Barnes Bliss passed on to Harvard—his alma mater—not merely their home, collections, and monies but also their values and way of life. Their idea was first and foremost to foster top international and national researchers in the study of Byzantium who could advance learning in gorgeous surroundings. Yet from the beginning, the founders were also committed to welcoming visitors from near and far to connect with art they had collected, gardens they had constructed, and musical events they sponsored.

The aspirations of the Blisses remain both a breathtaking challenge and a keen inspiration. Their hopes for Dumbarton Oaks make appropriate that we should seek to create and perpetuate altruism. Without being told, charities and philanthropists know that such giving is gratifying. It brings returns in the intense satisfaction that comes from doing good. Despite measures of cynicism and pessimism, I remain optimistic—and never more so than when watching the talent and generosity of earlier career colleagues.

Those whose tastes run to music may recall the *Dumbarton Oaks Concerto* by Igor Stravinsky. Others who are historically minded may know our establishment best for the Dumbarton Oaks Conversations. The locution refers to meetings in the late summer and early fall of 1944 that paved the way for the foundation of the United Nations. The Blisses strongly supported holding the discussions within the precincts of their former estate. Although the negotiations will soon be seventy-five years old, we have not forgotten what prompted them or what good they have brought.

On the face of it, the concerto of a great composer and the conversations among diplomats might seem to have nothing in common, beyond the casual coincidence of the site with which they have become associated. Yet they share more. The arts and humanities are essential attributes of a level of civilization and culture that is conducive to peace. No one who has been thrilled by the museum, concerts, or gardens of Dumbarton Oaks has missed this reality, but others may have been deprived of such opportunities. All we can do is what we have done all along: our utmost in passing on a baton to a generation yet to have its day. I am grateful for the effort and vision of all those within Dumbarton Oaks and outside it who support a venture that still possesses all the urgency and nobility it had in the mid-twentieth century.

Although Robert Woods Bliss's career reached its apex in the ambassadorship of Argentina from 1927 to 1933, he had previously held diplomatic posts throughout Europe. As these postings might lead a person to suspect, the Bliss family cared deeply about culture worldwide. Latin America bulked large, but the heaviest accent rested upon Europe. Europe and America remain inseparable. The two have mattered to each other for centuries, and continue to do so today. The concept of the European arose only because of contact with the New World. In fact, the adjective originated in the early seventeenth century, to differentiate freshly arrived colonials from natives who came to be called Indians. Most of us learn tidbits about the transatlantic exchange of peoples, diseases, plants, animals, and more. We find out that without America the Irish would not have had potatoes, the Italians tomatoes. In the other direction, it would be pointless to list all the biota introduced from the other side of the ocean. To take just one example, how many of us in the United States realize that most of our earthworms are technically invasive species, imports or stowaways from Europe?

But let us not wallow in wormholes. The great-hearted and great-minded givers of this institution relinquished what had been their home to be a venue mainly for the furtherance of scholarship but also for the celebration of artistry. The name of this estate must not devolve into being a secret password, known only to a small club of habitués. My hope is that with the energy and talent of staff and fellows, the syllables Dumbarton Oaks will become renowned far and wide for the knowledge and beauty our mission emphasizes.

On May 21, we ascended from the soil beneath our feet to the heavenly experience of music. In an ambience deeply committed to the humanities and arts, the academic year was appropriately capped by a concert to mark the European Month of Culture. It was delivered by two musicians who pride themselves on their undergraduate studies of poetry as much as of music. Nothing would have pleased more the couple who donated Dumbarton Oaks to Harvard than to have known that in their Music Room two graduates of the college, Keir GoGwilt and Matthew Aucoin, played works of Johann Sebastian Bach, Matthew Aucoin, and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. The middle piece, of which we heard the world premiere, is entitled *Its Own Accord*. In these times, the more accords we can attain the better. I thank the composer and his coperformer for sharing with us. The audience too deserves appreciation for participating in that same spirit. More now than ever, we matter to each other, Americans and Europeans, humanists and artists, fellow human beings.



Director's Office

European Month of Culture Open House

For the first time ever, Dumbarton Oaks took part in the European Month of Culture in Washington, D.C., a monthlong celebration of European culture organized each spring by the Delegation of the European Union to the United States. This May, Dumbarton Oaks hosted a concert, open house, and reception as a part of the festivities. The concert in the Music Room included the world premiere of a composition by Matthew Aucoin, the second recipient of the Early-Career Musician Residency. Dumbarton Oaks and First Nights, with support from the Fromm Music Foundation, commissioned the violin sonata, *Its Own Accord*. The concert featured violinist Keir GoGwilt with composer and conductor Matthew Aucoin on piano. In addition to *Its Own Accord*, the duo performed works by Bach and Mozart.

After the concert, the museum, Rare Book Reading Room, and special exhibition galleries were open to the public for an extended evening. Nearly 350 guests attended the reception in the historic Orangery and the open house. Dumbarton Oaks staff and fellows interacted with guests throughout the galleries and behind the scenes, sharing information about the collections and the history of the house. Displays of photographs and personal correspondence illuminated the Blissés' lives and their many deep connections to European art, politics, and culture.



Jan Ziolkowski delivers the opening remarks at the European Month of Culture concert in the Music Room, May 2017.

News from the Director

Jan Ziolkowski, director of Dumbarton Oaks, has been elected to the American Philosophical Society, the oldest learned society in the United States. It was founded in 1743 for the purpose of “promoting useful knowledge” and has elected 5,573 members since its inception.

With Julia Barrow (University of Leeds) and Danuta Shanzer (Universität Wien), Ziolkowski offered “Translation in the Trenches: Medieval Latin—A Round Table Discussion” at the International Medieval Congress at the University of Leeds in July 2016. As part of the session, Ziolkowski presented on “The Verse for the Where?: Identifying Audience for Texts and Translations.”

At “The Arts of Editing: Past, Present, Future—Swedish Colloquium and International Conference,” held at Stockholm University in August 2016, Ziolkowski gave the final address. Later that month, he attended the International Congress of Byzantine Studies in Belgrade.



Students from the International High School at Langley Park visit the Pre-Columbian Collection, May 2017.

In April, he attended the Medieval Academy of America Annual Meeting in Toronto; in May, he attended the International Congress on Medieval Studies at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo. Ziolkowski also attended the James Loeb Biennial Conference, “The Loeb Classical Library and its Progeny,” in Munich/Murnau, where he chaired a session on “The Challenges of Premodern Translation.”

Public Programs and Collaborations

In furtherance of our mission to support the humanities, Dumbarton Oaks emphasized collaborations with educational organizations this year. Dumbarton Oaks joined the DC Arts and Humanities Education Collaborative in 2015, and this year hosted the Spring Members Meeting. The DC Collaborative brings together cultural organizations and public and public charter schools to advance access to learning opportunities in the arts and humanities for local students.

Over the course of the year, students from Hyde-Addison Elementary, a public school within walking distance of Dumbarton

Oaks, visited the gardens to supplement their science curriculum. In October 2016, we launched a pilot garden program for Hyde-Addison second graders, as part of a growing long-term partnership with the local school. The children made three trips to the garden in the fall and another three in the spring, thus allowing them to experience seasonal changes in plant and insect activity.

In the spring, Dumbarton Oaks hosted students from the International High School at Langley Park, a community school serving English-language learners. These students visited the museum to participate in educational programming with an emphasis on cultural identity. Dumbarton Oaks developed this programming in partnership with CASA Maryland, an immigrant services and advocacy nonprofit organization.



Academic Programs

We received 253 fellowship and project grant applications across the three areas of study. We awarded forty-one fellowships in these core fields: twenty-two in Byzantine Studies, nine in Garden and Landscape Studies (including four Mellon Fellowships in Urban Landscape Studies), and ten in Pre-Columbian Studies. Visiting scholars in Byzantine Studies, Garden and Landscape Studies, and the Director's Office, as well as a Mellon Practitioner Residency in Urban Landscape Studies, were in residence for a portion of the academic year. Six departments welcomed a total of fifteen interns from Harvard University over the summer. We also awarded five project grants, eleven one-month research awards, and eleven short-term predoctoral residencies.

Byzantine Studies

Visiting Scholar

Paul Magdalino, emeritus Bishop Wardlaw Professor of Byzantine History, University of St Andrews (spring)

Fellows

Marco Aimone, University of Turin (spring), "Interpreting Material Culture: Silverware in Ostrogothic and Byzantine Italy"

Fellows Lane Baker and John Wang examine a new acquisition in the Rare Book Collection.



Dumbarton Oaks fellows, 2016–2017.

Nicolas Beaudry, Université du Québec à Rimouski (spring), “The Backstage of a Cathedral: An Archaeological Study of the Episcopal Quarter of Byllis, Albania”

Andrea Cuomo, Austrian Academy of Sciences (fall), “The Concept of Linguistic Variation in Manuel Moschopoulos’s *Commentaries on Sophocles*”

Hendrik Dey, Hunter College, City University of New York, “A New Profile of Medieval—and Byzantine!—Rome”

Adam Goldwyn, North Dakota State University, “Byzantine Ecocriticism: Humans, Nature, and Power in the Medieval Greek Romance”



Sergey Ivanov, National Research University, Moscow (spring),
“‘Vernacular’ Byzantine Hagiography of the 10th Century: New
and Unnoticed Evidence”

Ioli Kalavrezou, Harvard University (fall)

Michail Kappas, Greek Ministry of Culture, “Kastania: Visualizing
a Byzantine Village in the Peloponnese”

Eleni Kefala, University of St Andrews, “On the Cusp of Modernity:
Byzantium, America, and the Trauma of the Conquest”

Anna Leone, Durham University (spring), “Dibsi Faraj and the
Euphrates Frontier: The Rediscovered Harper Archive”

Junior Fellows

Mihail Mitrea, University of Edinburgh, “The Saints’ Lives of
Philotheos Kokkinos in Late Byzantium”



Byzantine Studies fellows, September 2016.

James Morton, University of California, Berkeley, “Byzantine Canon Law and Medieval Legal Pluralism: Southern Italian Manuscripts from the Tenth to the Fourteenth Century”

Agnieszka Szymanska, Temple University, “Divine Spectacle: The Early Byzantine Triconch at the Red Monastery in Egypt”

William R. Tyler Fellows

Nathaniel Aschenbrenner, “Rome Contested: Byzantine, Humanist, and Holy Roman Discourses of Empire in the Fifteenth Century”

Polina Ivanova, “From Byzantium’s East to Iran’s West: Economic Change and the Rise of Cities in Medieval Asia Minor, 1000–1400”

David Ungvary, “The Anxiety of Artifice: Latin Poetic Culture in the Early Medieval Mediterranean, ca. 500–700”

John Zaleski, “Asceticism in the Eastern Mediterranean, Seventh through Ninth Century”

Summer Fellows

Stefania Gerevini, Università L. Bocconi, “A Question of Style: Visualizing Politics in the Baptistry and Chapel of St. Isidore at San Marco, Venice”

Fotini Kondyli, University of Virginia, “Local Responses to Global Crises: Resilience and Vulnerability in Late Byzantine Rural Communities in the Northern Aegean”

Marketa Kulhankova, Masaryk University, “Byzantine Edifying Stories: Narratives between Oral and Learned Literature”

Jaakko Olkinuora, University of Eastern Finland, “A Monastic Mother of God? The Development of the Cult of the Virgin Mary as a Model for Monks”

Paolo Tedesco, Austrian Academy of Sciences, “State, Taxation, and Power in the Late Roman World (AD 300–700)”

Jeffrey Wickes, Saint Louis University, “Reassessing the Performative Context of Ephrem’s *Madrashe*”

Luca Zavagno, Bilkent University, “Beyond the Periphery: The Byzantine Insular World between Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages”

Project Grants

Melissa Bailey, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, “Economic Networks in Byzantine Dhiban”

Jordan Pickett, University of Michigan, “Gölören Archaeological Project (GÖLAP)”

Natalia Poulou, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, “Archaeological Research at Loutres, Mochlos: Investigation of a Bath Complex of Medieval Crete”

One-Month Research Awards

Anthi Andronikou, University of Athens, “Italy and Cyprus: Cross-Currents in Visual Culture (Thirteenth and Fourteenth Centuries)”

Antje Bosselman, Johannes Gutenberg University, “Late Byzantine Goldsmiths’ Works of the Thirteenth to Fifteenth Centuries”

Micha Lazarus, Trinity College, “Hellenistic Rhetoric and the Renaissance Reception of Aristotle’s *Poetics*”

Danielle Slootjes, Radboud University, “The Voice of the People in the *Book of Ceremonies*”

Short-Term Predoctoral Residencies

Danilo Valentino, University of Hamburg, “Iatrosophia, i.e., Collections of Greek Medical Recipes, the Use of Which Was Widely Spread from the Fifteenth Century”

Roxanne Radpour, University of California, Los Angeles, “Ancient Rock-Cut Tomb Wall Paintings from the Hellenistic and Byzantine Periods”

Marco Fasolio, University of Eastern Piedmont, “Pontos/Chaldia/Trebizond and Epirus in a Diachronic Perspective (from Basil II’s Reign to the Mid-Fifteenth Century)”

Raf Praet, University of Groningen, “Finding the Present in the Distant Past: The Cultural Meaning of Antiquarianism in Late Antiquity”

Nikos Mastrochristos, University of Athens, “The Church of St. Nicholas at Fountoukli, Rhodes”

Francesco Monticini, University of Rome and École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales–Paris, “Neoplatonism and Byzantine Oneiromancy”

Garden and Landscape Studies

Visiting Scholar

Elizabeth Meyer, University of Virginia, “Landscape Entanglements: Aesthetic Practices in a Networked World”

Fellows

Verena Conley, Harvard University, “From the Colony to Ecology: Theory and Practice of the Jardin d’essai du Hamma (Algiers)”

Jan Haenraets, Boston University (fall), “Planting Paradise: Mughal Garden Networks in Kashmir, India”

Hartmut Troll, Heidelberg University (spring), “Nature as Model, Taste and Convenience as Criteria: The Position of Friedrich Ludwig von Sckell within Garden Theory”

Junior Fellow

Alexander Brey, Bryn Mawr College, “The Caliph’s Prey: Hunting and the Landscape in Umayyad Visual Culture”



Garden and Landscape Studies fellows, September 2016.

William R. Tyler Fellows

Abbey Stockstill, “Crafting an Identity: Landscape and Urbanism in Almohad Marrakesh”

John Davis, “The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the American Landscape, 1865–1904”

Deirdre Moore, “Indigenous Knowledge and Breeding of Cochineal Insects in Eighteenth-Century Colonial Mexico”

Mellon Fellows in Urban Landscape Studies

Megan Asaka, University of California, Riverside (fall), “The Unsettled City: Migration, Race, and the Making of Seattle’s Urban Landscape”

Sara Carr, University of Hawaii, Manoa (spring), “The Topography of Wellness: Health and the American Urban Landscape”

Peter Ekman, University of California, Berkeley (spring), “Suburbs of Last Resort: Vitality and Ruin on the Edges of San Francisco Bay”

Burak Erdim, North Carolina State University (fall), “The Academy and the State: Situating Land Economics and Development Planning in the Cold War Middle East”

Mellon Practitioner Residency in Urban Landscape Studies

Udo Weilacher, Technische Universität München

One-Month Research Awards

Douglas Williams, University of Illinois, “David A. Williston: The First Black Landscape Architect among Contemporaries”

Karen Lewis, Ohio State University, “The Oregon Trail: A Landscape of Transportation and Communication Technology”

Saskia de Wit, University of Technology in Delft, “Interstitial Spaces in the Metropolitan Landscape”

Melissa McEuen, Transylvania University, “Cultivating Freedom: Women and Garden Design, 1890–1945”

Ramón Pico Valimaña, Universidad de Sevilla, “Learning from the Pre-Columbian Pavilion”

Chris Barrett, Louisiana State University, “The Underside of the Map: Cartographic Anxieties in Early Modern English Literature”

Short-Term Predoctoral Residencies

Thalia Allington-Wood, University College London, “Grounded: Myth, History, Landscape, and Sculpture in Sixteenth-Century Italy, with Bomarzo as a Primary Case Study”

Alicia DeMaio, Harvard University, “History of Botanical Gardens in the United States, circa 1780 to 1860”

Guy Sechrist, Villanova University and University of Cambridge, “Early Modern Botanical Exchanges between England, America, and the Caribbean”

Margot Lystra, Cornell University, “Envisioning Environments: Designs for Urban U.S. Freeways, 1956–1968”

Patricia Yu, University of California, Berkeley, “Reproducing and Reconstituting the Fragmented Body of the Yuanming Yuan”



Pre-Columbian Studies fellows, September 2016.

Pre-Columbian Studies

Fellows

Brian Bauer, University of Illinois, Chicago, “The Lord of Vilcabamba”

Ryan Clasby, University of Missouri, Saint Louis, “Bridging the Andean-Amazonian Divide: Examining Sociopolitical Developments at the Eastern Edge of the Andes”

Tom Cummins, Harvard University

Lori Boornazian Diel, Texas Christian University (fall), “An Aztec History Painting in the Codex Mexicanus”

Junior Fellows

Ximena Chávez Balderas, Tulane University, “The Offering of Life: Human and Animal Sacrifice at the West Plaza of the Sacred Precinct, Tenochtitlan”

Eric Dyrdahl, Pennsylvania State University (fall), “Interregional Interaction and Craft Production at Las Orquídeas, Imbabura, Ecuador, during the Late Formative (800–400 cal BC)”

Jessica MacLellan, University of Arizona, “Early Households and Ritual in the Preclassic Maya Lowlands”

William R. Tyler Fellow

Ari Caramanica, “The Forgotten Landscapes of the Peruvian North Coast: Cupisnique, Moche, and Chimú Peripheral Occupation”

Summer Fellows

Melanie Miller, University of California, Berkeley, “Social Inequality and the Body: Food, Labor and Health in a Prehistoric Colombian Population”

Paz Nuñez-Regueiro, Musée du quai Branly, “Metalwork from Patagonia (Tenth–Nineteenth Centuries): Origins, Uses, and Distribution of Silverwork Jewelry”

Project Grant Awards

Joanne Baron, University of Pennsylvania, “La Florida/Namaan: Research and Preservation at a Classic Maya Commercial Port”

Maria Masucci, Drew University, “Stone Figures and Funerary Complexes: Tracing the Manteño-Guancavilca of Coastal Ecuador”

One-Month Research Award

Lisa Dunbar Solas, Australian National University, “Becoming Inka: Pathways of Enculturation and Place-Making during the Late Horizon”

Harvard University Class Visits

Dumbarton Oaks hosted two class visits from Harvard University professors and students. In December 2016, Jan Ziolkowski and his Literary Theory and Criticism in the Middle Ages course visited the Byzantine manuscript collection. In April 2017, Professor Eurydice Georganteli and her Crusades in Material Culture class visited the Byzantine Collection and the Coins and Seals Collection. These class trips are an opportunity to interact with artifacts and primary

sources, which reinforce and enrich classroom learning and emphasize the interdisciplinary possibilities in the humanities.

Director's Visiting Scholar

Between March 15 and April 12, 2017, we hosted Professor Racha Kirakosian, who holds a joint appointment in the Germanic Languages and Literatures Department and the Committee on the Study of Religion at Harvard, serving also on the Committee on Medieval Studies. Her publications include studies on medieval German mysticism, female sanctity, and medieval law. Kirakosian pursued her research on the interplay between material culture and mysticism, delivering a talk on the material phenomena underpinning the life of Saint Gertrude of Helfta.

Humanities Fellows

This year, we introduced humanities fellowships, offering nine months of professional development to Harvard seniors and recent graduates in order to bridge the gap between college and career. This fellowship aims to help exceptional students begin their careers in the humanities with experience at museums, libraries, archives, and cultural nonprofits. Our inaugural cohort spent the fall term at partner institutions in Washington, D.C., before returning to Dumbarton Oaks for the spring term.

Priyanka Menon was at the Folger Shakespeare Library, then worked alongside archivist James Carder on the Dumbarton Oaks digital project of mapping cultural philanthropy in Washington, D.C. Rebecca Rosen was at the George Washington University Museum and the Textile Museum before working with museum director Gudrun Bühl on a projected joint textile exhibition of the two institutions. John Wang went to the National Gallery of Art, then worked with John Beardsley on a rare book exhibition on river cities.

Wintersession Course

Since 2015, we have hosted the Wintersession course Culture and Power: Art, Philanthropy, and Diplomacy in America. The course examines questions such as: What is the place of philanthropy in a

democracy? What are the ethics of donating money to a museum as opposed to, say, medical research? How does culture serve as a kind of diplomacy? And how was cultural philanthropy involved in creating an American sense of self in the early twentieth century?

Seminars were supplemented with talks and trips to cultural institutions in Washington, D.C. The guest speakers were Mara Tekach, deputy assistant secretary for public diplomacy at the Department of State's Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs; Maria Molina, cultural counsellor and head of the cultural office for the Spanish embassy; Alberto Fierro Garza, counsellor for culture and education at the Mexican embassy and executive director of the Mexican Cultural Institute; Stanley Katz, president emeritus of the American Council of Learned Societies, professor of public and international affairs, and director of the Center for Arts and Cultural Policy Studies at Princeton; and Linda Zachrisson, cultural counselor at the Swedish embassy.

Wintersession Students

Avika Dua '17

Thomas Dumbach '18

Vivian Fernandez '18

Julia Fine '19

Isa Flores-Jones '19

Cherie Hu '17

Phoebe Lakin '18

Shreya Menon '20

Jules Qiu '19

Juliana Rodriguez '19

Theo Serlin '18

Jessica Zhao '18

Postbaccalaureate Fellowships

These one-year appointments encourage recent Harvard graduates to apply research skills and introduce them to curators, librarians, archivists, and nonprofit administrators.

Rebecca Frankel has an AB in classics. As a postbaccalaureate fellow in medieval Latin, she worked on volumes for the

Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library and helped the director prepare a multivolume publication on the modern reception of the Middle Ages.

Spencer Lenfield received his AB in History and Literature, then attended Oxford on a Rhodes Scholarship. Since coming to Dumbarton Oaks as media fellow in September 2015, he has worked on video and writing projects, including the garden video tour online.

Nathalie Miraval has an AB in Art History and received a Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship. She is the communications and public outreach fellow, and has developed collections-based educational programming for local elementary and high school students.

Bailey Trela has an AB in English. A Harvard Magazine Berta Greenwald Ledecy Undergraduate Fellow for the 2015–2016 academic year, Trela has been covering institutional research and scholarly events and writes content for the *Oaks News*.

Postdoctoral Fellowships

Three-year appointments designed to engage early-career scholars in research and publication.

Bryan Cockrell (PhD, University of California, Berkeley, 2014) researched and supported the development of a catalogue of jade, metal, and shell museum objects from Central America and Colombia. The catalogue profiles over two hundred objects from the Dumbarton Oaks Collection and presents the latest archaeological research in the region, exploring human origins, technological transmission, and the representation of fauna in various media.

Jeanne Haffner (PhD, University of Virginia, 2008) is Mellon postdoctoral fellow in urban landscape studies. Before lecturing in the Department of the History of Science at Harvard, Haffner was a visiting fellow at the Harvard Graduate School of Design, the ETH in Zürich, the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, and the Center for Metropolitan Studies at the Technical University in Berlin. At Dumbarton Oaks, she coordinated the scholarly, publishing, and outreach activities

of the Urban Landscape Studies Initiative, funded by a five-year Mellon Foundation grant.

Konstantina Karterouli (PhD, Harvard University, 2015) is post-doctoral fellow in Byzantine art history. Working in the Image Collections and Fieldwork Archives, Karterouli researched collection materials to better situate them in their intellectual and scholarly contexts and to advise on digitization priorities. She contributed to processing, cataloguing, and digitizing the collection of photographs of Syrian monuments recently donated by Frank Kidner.

Postdoctoral Teaching Fellowships

Jonathan Shea (PhD, University of Birmingham, 2010), postdoctoral teaching fellow in Byzantine history, oversaw the publication of the Online Catalogue of Byzantine Seals. He also taught at George Washington University, notably a survey course on the crusades and another on the Heroic Age of Byzantium.

Elizabeth Williams (PhD, New York University, 2015), postdoctoral teaching fellow in Byzantine art history, coordinated the Online Catalogue of Late Antique and Egyptian Textiles. She also taught at George Washington University.

Harvard University Summer Interns

Andrea Brown '19 worked on the garden biodiversity project with garden staff and the Garden and Landscape Studies program.

Brett Davis '17 completed institutional video projects as the outreach media intern.

Noah Delwiche '17 assisted with Latin translations for the Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library series.

Theodore Delwiche '17 assisted with Latin translations for the Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library series.

Tyler Dobbs '16 helped catalogue the Byzantine seals collection.

Melda Gurakar '17 worked on the Mapping Cultural Philanthropy in Washington, D.C. project.

Iriowen Ojo '19 worked in the Director's Office to support public programming and outreach initiatives.

Melissa Rodman '18 worked on the Mapping Cultural Philanthropy in Washington, D.C., project.

Jude Russo '16 assisted with Latin translations for the Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library series.

Madeleine Stern '18 helped museum staff deinstall the collections for substantial renovations in the galleries.

Sam Vasquez '18 helped compile the catalogue of Pre-Columbian objects from Central America and Colombia.

Joy Wang '16 worked on the Mapping Cultural Philanthropy in Washington, D.C., project.

Abby Westover '17 worked on the ephemera project, acquiring and cataloguing early postcards and other materials related to Byzantine, Pre-Columbian, and Garden and Landscape studies.

Leah Yared '19 worked on the Mapping Cultural Philanthropy in Washington, D.C., project.

Bliss Undergraduate Research and Writing Award

Leib Celnik '18 used his award to travel to Dumbarton Oaks and study the Armenian manuscript of the Romance of Alexander.



Fellowship Reports

Byzantine Studies

Fellows

Andrea Cuomo, Austrian Academy of Sciences (fall), “The Concept of Linguistic Variation in Manuel Moschopoulos’s *Commentaries on Sophocles*”

My second book, a critical edition of Manuel Moschopoulos’s commentaries on Sophocles’s *Electra*, focuses on the authorship of the comments on Sophocles and the teaching of Greek in the Palaeologan period. I think my edition will be an important source of reception and sociolinguistic studies, even if it is impossible to detect who the author of every single note was. This commentary had an impact on generations of students and their language. Specifically, I observed that the “Moschopoulean” comments on Sophocles were used for teaching Atticized Medieval Greek. These works taught Byzantine authors how to write, and audiences to read and to demand that poetical forms and conventions be respected; they show what the Byzantines considered to be Atticized Greek. During my stay at Dumbarton Oaks, I also started organizing a two-day workshop, “The Editing of Textbooks and the Study of Medieval Greek Literature,” which takes place in Vienna at the end of November. In addition, I also prepared two articles—on some interesting extra-Moschopoulean scholia on Sophocles’s *Electra*

and on the sociolinguistic implications of studies on medieval textbooks, respectively—which have been accepted for publication.

Hendrik Dey, Hunter College, City University of New York,
“A New Profile of Medieval—and Byzantine!—Rome”

The principal aim of my fellowship was to make headway on my current book, which seeks to complement and update Richard Krautheimer’s classic *Rome: Profile of a City*, 312–1308. I made good progress on the section dealing with the two centuries, mid-sixth to mid-eighth, when Rome was under Byzantine rule. I also wrote several articles/book chapters dealing with aspects of urbanism and topography in later medieval Rome, which have helped shape my thinking about that period in the city’s history and paved the way for later sections of the book. The spring semester witnessed an especially fortunate confluence at Dumbarton Oaks of scholars in urban history, topography, and archaeology, among them Paul Magdalino, Anna Leone, and Nicholas Beaudry. Much informal discussion and a lunchtime roundtable discussion ensued, which inspired me to conceive what will probably become two articles on the potential of nonarchaeological approaches for the study of medieval urbanism. I was also fortunate to be invited to speak at this year’s Garden and Landscape Studies symposium on “Landscapes of Pre-Modern Cities.”

Adam Goldwyn, North Dakota State University, “Byzantine
Ecocriticism: Humans, Nature, and Power in the Medieval
Greek Romance”

My work differs from previous studies of nature by focusing not on historical reconstructions of the Byzantine environment, but on the Byzantine sensory, ideological, and emotional experience of nature. As a corollary, I attempt to understand how modern environmental ideologies shape scholarship about the natural world depicted in Byzantine sources. Ultimately, I want to bring Byzantine studies into dialogue with the contemporary environmental movement by advocating a more animal- or nature-centered criticism, such that Byzantinists consider the ethical parameters of scholarship about hunting, animal cruelty, or exploitative environmental practices and become more aware of how anthropogenic climate change affects Byzantine studies.

Michail Kappas, Greek Ministry of Culture, “Kastania:
Visualizing a Byzantine Village in the Peloponnese”

My year at Dumbarton Oaks was dedicated to writing a monograph on Kastania, a wealthy village on the Taygetos mountain range in the southern Peloponnese that boasted ten churches built between the twelfth and the fifteenth century. I drafted four chapters of my book. I started with an examination of the economic basis of the village’s prosperity and location in important communication, trade, and artistic networks. I then analyzed the early core of the settlement, still marked by its oldest building (St. Peter, twelfth century). In the third chapter, I examined how Kastania expanded during the thirteenth century, following the return of the Mani to Byzantine control. One major theme I interpreted in the fourth chapter (concerned with relations of centers and peripheries) is Kastania’s interactions with the two major administrative centers of the region, initially Monemvasia and subsequently Mystras. The plan of the village and its buildings reveals critical information about patrons, both elite and common villagers. The close study of Kastania—its setting, its churches, and its secular architecture—allowed me to write a history of a site and to create a model of investigation for other Byzantine settlements.

Eleni Kefala, University of St Andrews, “On the Cusp of
Modernity: Byzantium, America, and the Trauma of the
Conquest”

My work is a decided attempt to turn the “improbable marriage” of Byzantine and Pre-Columbian studies into a meaningful partnership. It rehistoricizes the conquests of Byzantium and America “on the cusp of modernity” and their role in modernity’s self-imagining with a view to explaining the rationale of the comparison. It then probes issues of collective memory and cultural trauma in *threnoi* (laments) and *icnocuicatl* (songs of sorrow) for the fall of Constantinople and Tenochtitlan. Composed soon after the conquest of the Byzantine and Mexica Empires in 1453 and 1521, respectively, these texts impart the trauma of the fall of the imperial cities from the viewpoint of the defeated. I have also finalized the manuscript of a project on which the Dumbarton Oaks study builds. Among others, *The Ideolepsy of the Modern* examines modernity’s discursive construction of Byzantium and Amerindian America to cast new light on their epistemic and cultural subalternization during modernity.

Sergey Ivanov, National Research University, Moscow
(spring), “‘Vernacular’ Byzantine Hagiography of the 10th
Century: New and Unnoticed Evidence”

I worked on commentaries to the edition of the *Life of St. Niphon* that Albrecht Berger and I are preparing for publication. This huge text has never been an object of scholarly attention, not even by such connoisseurs of Byzantine hagiography as Alexander Kazhdan, who insisted that self-flagellation was not practiced by Byzantine saints—but this is exactly what Niphon is described as doing. This intriguing text abounds with realia and toponyms, some well known, some unknown or not localized with any precision. It is also full of hapax legomena and unattested names. The text substantially broadens our knowledge of Byzantine life: it tells us about home chapels and priests, the financial obligations of godparents before godchildren, the dates for grapes-tending. It poses questions not tackled by Byzantine theology: do evil thoughts have roots outside the Devil’s instigations? Why can gluttony become a basis for sainthood? These topics will become entries of my commentary and will enable us to put this *Life* into proper cultural context. Another thing I worked on was the topography of Constantinople: I updated my guidebook of Byzantine Istanbul that has been recently translated into English and will, I hope, be published soon. Many new books and articles have appeared since it was published in Russian in 2011, so I added new data and introduced new identifications and localizations.

Nicolas Beaudry, Université du Québec à Rimouski (spring),
“The Backstage of a Cathedral: An Archaeological Study of
the Episcopal Quarter of Byllis, Albania”

I prepared the monographic publication of the excavations I did in the late antique episcopal quarter of Byllis, Albania, from 2000 to 2012. I reviewed the latest literature on parallel sites of Albania, the western Balkans, and the wider early Byzantine world, and gained a better understanding of the economic functions of the episcopal quarter, and of their regional and historical context. While writing my research report, I focused on how the site may illustrate and contribute to the understanding of a number of processes at work in late antique cities. These processes were further explored in the context of a discussion on late antique cities organized by Paul Magdalino; they

will feature in a paper, and I intend to further explore them in a new field project whose funding was confirmed recently.

Marco Aimone, University of Turin (spring), “Interpreting Material Culture: Silverware in Ostrogothic and Byzantine Italy”

Rather than focusing on their aesthetic value, I considered official, domestic, and liturgical silver objects as part of “material culture” and as forms of social, political, and religious expression. A comprehensive study on sixth- and seventh-century silverware from Italy is still lacking. I have listed thirty-nine groups of objects, of which sixteen come from hoards that were hidden for protection. Nine were church property, five were funerary goods, two are of uncertain provenance—they could perhaps be added to the latter group—and one was part of the cargo of a shipwreck. For the remaining seven silver vessels, now in museums or private collections, we simply know that they were found in Italy. I addressed questions on the use of these objects and the criteria employed to date them, as well as issues of technique and decoration. Finally, my analysis centered on the historical and cultural contexts of the silverware to gather important information on the gradual transition of Italian society from antiquity to the Middle Ages. My study sheds new light on the economic, technical, and social contexts to which the Ostrogothic and Byzantine silverware belong, and opens the way for future research in the field.

Anna Leone, Durham University (spring), “Dibsi Faraj and the Middle Euphrates: The Rediscovered Harper Archive”

I worked on the publication of the excavation of Dibsi Faraj in Syria. The site was a late Roman, Byzantine, and early Islamic citadel on the Euphrates; its excavation was undertaken by the late Richard Harper between 1972 and 1974 and funded principally by Dumbarton Oaks. Results from the excavation have been only partially published in three papers in the 1970s; a detailed final publication of this important and long-occupied site is still lacking. The site was a fortified citadel occupied from the first century into at least the twelfth century. It was probably fortified at the end of the third century, and extended between the end of the fifth century and the beginning of the sixth. The complex included two churches, one inside the citadel

(ca. 345–346) and a martyrium outside the city wall (ca. 428–429). The archive of Harper’s work was recently rediscovered. I defined the chronologies of the site and the stratigraphic interpretation, and prepared for publication studies of the mosaics from the site, a comparative analysis of the forts with other structures in the region, and an initial architectural analysis of the churches.

Junior Fellows

Mihail Mitrea, University of Edinburgh, “The Saints’ Lives of Philotheos Kokkinos in Late Byzantium”

Investigating the role and societal impact of hagiographical discourse in fourteenth-century Byzantine politics and theology, my project offers the first systematic historical contextualization and literary and theological analysis of Philotheos Kokkinos’s (ca. 1300–1378) *vitae* of contemporaneous saints: Nikodemos the Younger, Sabas the Younger, Germanos Maroules, Isidore Boucheir, and Gregory Palamas. These saints’ lives sought to shape and were shaped by the political and theological disputes of fourteenth-century Byzantium, especially those surrounding hesychasm. I show that Kokkinos was a gifted hagiographer and theologian who played a leading role in orchestrating the societal breakthrough of hesychasm through both his ecclesiastical authority and literary activity, especially his lives of contemporaneous hesychast saints. I also completed the first draft of a forthcoming article—tentatively entitled “Gendered Ventriloquism in Late Byzantium: A Woman Writer or Character Sketch in a Letter of Maximos Neamonites?”—in which I contextualize and analyze a hitherto unedited letter transmitted in the short letter collection of the Constantinopolitan schoolmaster Maximos Neamonites. I also started designing an online course for Greek paleography.

James Morton, University of California, Berkeley, “Byzantine Canon Law and Medieval Legal Pluralism: Southern Italian Manuscripts from the Tenth to the Fourteenth Century”

My main goal was to make the transition from primary source research to writing the main body of my dissertation text. Save for minor editing, I have produced final drafts of two chapters and am approximately halfway through a third. In addition to direct work on my PhD dissertation, I was the invited speaker at the very first

Byzantine Studies Seminar at the University of Notre Dame on November 11, 2016. I have also been fortunate enough to be awarded both the Mary Jaharis Center Dissertation Fellowship and the John Boswell Dissertation Fellowship of the Medieval Academy of America while at Dumbarton Oaks. Finally, I completed the last stages of editing my third article, on the twelfth-century Sicilian Greek Neilos Doxapatres, which appears in the July 2017 issue of *Speculum*.

Agnieszka Szymanska, Temple University, “Divine Spectacle: The Early Byzantine Triconch at the Red Monastery in Egypt”

I wrote, defended, and submitted the final draft of my doctoral dissertation. My project focuses on the Red Monastery church, an early Byzantine monument in Egypt. Between 2000 and 2015, Elizabeth S. Bolman directed a major multidisciplinary project focused on the triconch sanctuary of the Red Monastery church. Its interior elevation adopts an architectural type called multistory aedicular facades. These kinds of facades adorned elite public buildings in the eastern Mediterranean region. Bolman and Dale Kinney have substantially advanced the state of knowledge about monastic visual culture in late antique Egypt by focusing on the Red Monastery church. My dissertation builds on their conclusions. I identified sacred spectating as a different perspective from which to understand the late antique triconch at the Red Monastery. I presented my project’s main conclusions at the Middle Atlantic Symposium held on March 3–4, 2017, at the National Gallery of Art. I also gave a talk at the Byzantine Studies Conference held on October 6–9, 2017, at Cornell University.

Summer Fellows

Stefania Gerevini, Università L. Bocconi, “A Question of Style: Visualizing Politics in the Baptistery and Chapel of St. Isidore at San Marco, Venice”

My project addresses questions of artistic interaction and political identity in the late medieval Mediterranean through analysis of the visual programs of the Baptistery and Chapel of St. Isidore at San Marco, Venice. The two rooms were embellished with extensive mosaic cycles during the dogate of Andrea Dandolo (1343–1354), and were pronounced by Hans Belting to be “the great enigma of

Trecento art in Venice” because of their ostensible juxtaposition of contemporary Byzantine and western visual elements. This project attends to the nexus between aesthetics and politics by examining the two cycles and their composite visual language in the context of the increased geopolitical instability and social interconnectedness of the central and eastern Mediterranean in the mid-fourteenth century. I also consider institutional and legal reforms and the international conflicts Venice faced. My goal was to complete the research for an article on this subject, surveying the Otto Demus and San Marco Mosaics Project Papers and relevant sections of the Corpus for Wall Mosaics in the North Adriatic Area, and sharpen my understanding of the politics of style in the late medieval Mediterranean.

Fotini Kondyli, University of Virginia, “Local Responses to Global Crises: Resilience and Vulnerability in Late Byzantine Rural Communities in the Northern Aegean”

I argue for rural communities’ agency and resilience, particularly non-elites, and seek to reinstate them in the Byzantine historical narrative long dominated by the actions of emperors and urban elites. During my fellowship, I researched rural communities and resilience, the topic of my first monograph. I explored the social and economic makeup of late Byzantine rural communities on Lemnos and Thasos, and considered how changes in their socioeconomic strategies allowed them to respond to and survive the economic and demographic challenges of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. I also took advantage of Dumbarton Oaks’ holdings on Mediterranean and Mesoamerican studies on rural communities to better understand from a cross-cultural perspective how social ties contribute to resilient communities. I worked on questions of community-building and explored Byzantine processes and practices that enhanced a sense of belonging and collectiveness, and consequently contributed to community resilience. I focused on the role of shared experiences, perceptions, and responsibilities in rural landscapes.

Marketa Kulhankova, Masaryk University, “Byzantine Edifying Stories: Narratives between Oral and Learned Literature”

I finished a comparative study on protagonist construction in three collections of stories (*History of the Monks in Egypt*, Palladius’s

Historia Lausiaca, and the Daniel Sketiotēs Dossier). I focused on four types of heroes: the desert father, the female fool, the restored sinner, and the fallen ascetic. I explored how heroes are constructed and featured in each collection. I also examined which parts of the stories are emphasized in discourse and how the telling and showing modes are used and combined. I started to research the issue of pseudo-orality in the same genre. My aim is to explore techniques and devices originating in and related to oral tradition (e.g., oral structure, historical present, story incipits, discourse markers, etc.). The second part of the fellowship term was dedicated primarily to collecting secondary bibliography and searching for a promising theoretical framework. The rich collection and resources of the library enabled me not only to study Byzantine material, but also to consult necessary works on modern literary theory such as natural narratology, cognitive narratology, and pragma-narratology.

Jaakko Olkinuora, University of Eastern Finland, “A Monastic Mother of God? The Development of the Cult of the Virgin Mary as a Model for Monks”

I began working on my research project on Byzantine devotion to the Virgin Mary as a model of ascetic life. This is an important part of the cult of the Theotokos, recognized in recent Marian scholarship, but usually discussed only alongside more prominent aspects of Marian devotion. The scope of this literary study goes from the fourth to the fourteenth century, when this “cult” reached its peak in the work of Gregory Palamas. I worked on the first chapter, which discusses the first appearance of Marian asceticism in the fourth century, particularly in the works of Athanasius of Alexandria. After an examination of primary sources, I constructed a more detailed reception history of these ideas in different geographical areas, including Egypt, Cappadocia, Syria, and Rome.

Paolo Tedesco, Austrian Academy of Sciences, “State, Taxation, and Power in the Late Roman World (300–700 CE)”

I completed chapter four of my forthcoming book, which offers a new approach to the understanding of late Roman fiscality, and helps explain the extent to which changes in tax collection and redistribution reflected political and economic transformations. Chapter four investigates the emergence of the successor kingdoms of the

Visigoths and the Burgundians in southern and eastern Gaul, and of the Vandals in North Africa, through the fifth century. Evidence indicates that state formation in these three areas determined a shift to a political economy of appropriation of resources no longer predominantly tax-centered. Since the fiscal subordination of the provinces from the center of the empire broke up, new forms of alliance between rulers and the provincial aristocracy were established. Finally, since a substantial degree of surplus production and peasant exploitation were preserved, it did not matter how weak tax extraction had become. For the Visigothic and Burgundian kingdoms, in addition to slender literary sources, most of my study relied on a thorough investigation of legislative corpora. For Vandal North Africa, the absence of a codification was supplemented by abundant numismatic evidence and noteworthy literary sources, including epigraphic evidence. In connection with this book, I intend to present a full discussion tentatively entitled “A Story of Two Transitions: North Africa under Byzantium and Early Islam,” to be published in the *Journal of European Economic History*.

Jeffrey Wickes, Saint Louis University, “Reassessing the Performative Context of Ephrem’s *Madrashe*”

I pursued two projects: the completion and submission of an article on Ephrem’s poetry, and the beginning of a larger book project on Syriac hagiographical poetry in the fourth through sixth centuries. The article on Ephrem dealt with the performance of Ephrem’s *madrashe* in the fourth century and the historical representation of that performative context in Syriac literature. I argued that while the Syriac literary tradition came to present Ephrem’s *madrashe* as a solely liturgical genre, Ephrem’s *madrashe* themselves present a more varied picture. Some appear to have functioned within solely liturgical contexts, while others are more akin to school texts. Having finished this article, I began to work on my next research project—a study of the Syriac hagiographical poetry attributed to Jacob of Sarug, treated in the context of Syriac literature and liturgy. When I began work on this project, I knew only that I wanted to engage in a diachronic study of Syriac poetry in late antiquity. The library collection provided the perfect resource to help me think through ways to narrow my ideas.

Luca Zavagno, Bilkent University, “Beyond the Periphery:
The Byzantine Insular World between Late Antiquity and the
Early Middle Ages”

I researched and prepared the introductory chapters for my book, *The Islands of the Byzantine Mediterranean in the Transition from Late Antiquity to the Early Middle Ages*, which focuses on the Byzantine insular world as explored through a metaphorical dialogue between different methodologies and a wide array of sources in comparative perspective. I completed the study of two islands discussed in my volume: Malta and the Balearics, which I intend to compare to Cyprus. This comparison is mainly based on material evidence such as ceramics, seals, and coins. By comparing these three islands, one can grasp how, while retaining strong links with Constantinople, they adjusted their loyalties to survive difficulties, chiefly the Arab incursions. These case studies demonstrate how local governments, which were common to territories located on the fringe but integrated into the empire’s culture and religion, adapted and took advantage of their strategic position along Mediterranean trading routes. I also explore how local authorities sought to economically bridge the political gap between Muslim Africa and the Byzantine world. The results of my research will be published in an article to bolster the completion of my forthcoming book.

Garden and Landscape Studies

Fellows

Verena Conley, Harvard University, “From the Colony to
Ecology: Theory and Practice of the Jardin d’essai du Hamma
(Algiers)”

My monograph on the Jardin Botanique du Hamma will soon be submitted for publication. I began with P. Carra and M. Gueit’s foundational *Le Jardin d’essai du Hamma* (Algiers, 1952), which contains a wealth of historical bibliographical information. This led me to specialized studies that Linda Lott graciously brought to my attention. The library proved a treasure trove for my research. General and specialized books in French and English about historical, international, African, Islamic, colonial, and ecological gardens, along with

Dumbarton Oaks publications such as *Cultural Landscape Heritage in Sub-Saharan Africa*, led me to develop a broader understanding of contemporary ecological landscape architecture. I was directed to bibliographical sources in conversations with fellows and colleagues as well as through the scholarly events of the Garden and Landscape Studies program. Having been trained in the narrow confines of literary theory and history, I discovered concrete approaches to landscape architecture that have opened my research and pedagogy to unforeseen horizons. With counsel from the staff and fellows and consultation of rare books and secondary sources, I have finalized the focus and structure of my project.

Jan Haenraets, Boston University (fall), “Planting Paradise: Mughal Garden Networks in Kashmir, India”

I explored how seventeenth-century Mughal rulers and their governors developed an extensive network of gardens and routes throughout the Kashmir Valley. The investigation brought together material from archival research and surveys that helped to identify several lost and forgotten Mughal gardens and to create a more accurate image of the spread and historical meaning of the gardens throughout the valley and in Srinagar. The study, which will result in a book, starts to show how many of the gardens’ locations were close to preexisting sacred sites in the valley, such as springs and temples. The positions of the gardens around Dal Lake in Srinagar and along transportation thoroughfares were closely linked to imperial rule and social hierarchy under the Mughals. The fellowship also gave me access to other key historical publications and important cartographic evidence. This enabled me to refine the core structure of my book and to establish a clear chronological overview of pre-Mughal and Mughal-era garden developments, which will form the basis of several chapters.

Hartmut Troll, Heidelberg University (spring), “Nature as Model, Taste and Convenience as Criteria—The Position of Friedrich Ludwig von Sckell within Garden Theory”

It is crucial to place Sckell’s work in a European context, as he studied in France and England. The key for this approach is his literary legacy, in which Sckell himself established such a network of references. The classification of his book remains unresolved to this day; furthermore, some information about his stay in England has been

questioned. I spent some time on these issues, though the main topic of my research was cultural transfer. I first focused on the situation for German court gardeners at that time and the range of different forms of acculturation, differentiating adaption from transformation. Comparisons to the theoretical remarks of Whately, Chambers, and Repton allowed a first sketch of his position in the context of English theory. Analyzing the history of the editions of the books to which Sckell referred, it may be assumed that the genesis of his position is his stay in England in the 1770s, subsequently completed by his long-term experiences and the supplementary literary suggestions of French authors. When Sckell wrote his book, landscape gardening was criticized as a fine art, with negative connotations of dilettantism; thus, the argument about its artistic character is of great importance for Sckell. Key aspects are the role of architecture in his theory and the relationship to painting, which I was able to elaborate on.

Junior Fellow

Alexander Brey, Bryn Mawr College, “The Caliph’s Prey: Hunting and the Landscape in Umayyad Visual Culture”

My project focuses on images of hunting that adorned the walls of rural estates in the territory of the Umayyad caliphate (661–750 CE). I argue that these images and the built landscapes in which they were situated reveal shifts of attitude toward visual culture and the landscape in the wake of the Muslim conquests in the seventh and early eighth centuries. At its height, the Umayyad caliphate extended from Spain in the west to Tajikistan in the east. Images, craftsmen, patrons, ideas about the landscape, and animals circulated along pathways of trade and transportation that were reshaped by the conquests. My research focused on early medieval sources in Arabic, Syriac, and Greek that provide insights into how the landscape was perceived and shaped. I also relied heavily on historical and archaeological publications that reveal how elite hunting culture manifested in practice, visual depictions, and the built landscape.

William R. Tyler Fellows

Abbey Stockstill, “Crafting an Identity: Landscape and Urbanism in Almohad Marrakesh”

I spent the first year of my Tyler fellowship developing the “urban” chapter of my dissertation, which focuses on the organization of the

twelfth-century royal district in Marrakesh under the first Almohad caliph. This research centered on an examination of the historical and archaeological records of a large garden complex known as the Agdal and a public square, or *raḥba*. Being at Dumbarton Oaks facilitated my research in two ways: first, the library and research staff helped me find material related to these sites, much of which is either rare or out of print, and speaking with other fellows taught me a great deal about the technical workings of these spaces. Second, Dumbarton Oaks and the Garden and Landscape Studies department created an atmosphere conducive to thinking about my material with a new frame of reference in terms of the landscape and how these sites fit together as a cohesive network.

John Davis, “The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the American Landscape, 1865–1904”

The fellowship has allowed me generous time to work on my dissertation, to reevaluate some of my approaches to writing landscape history, and to pursue other enriching projects. The scope and approach to writing this environmental, institutional, and technological history underwent a beneficial evolution during my time in the Garden and Landscape Studies program. Participating in the “Landscape and the Academy” symposium caused me to focus on the pedagogical intent of both constructed and wild landscapes in military education and led me to new areas of research into questions of military training to see landscapes in certain ways. Conversations with Jeffrey Hamburger about his work on medieval diagrams provoked fruitful investigation into military uses of geometric systems and how surface analysis affected the conception and execution of civil engineering projects. And the wealth of nineteenth-century sources on botany in the library helped my research on how particular sedges and a certain species of elm came to be seen as important structural elements in engineering practice.

Deirdre Moore, “Indigenous Knowledge and Breeding of Cochineal Insects in Eighteenth-Century Colonial Mexico”

I was fortunate to find my topic on cochineal insects in the Rare Book Reading Room in 2013. My dissertation investigates the historically complex breeding process involved in raising cochineal insects for dye in the colonial period. I explore how cochineal was understood

by indigenous inhabitants and discuss the importance of specific plants, environments, and landscapes. Native peoples had developed an intricate set of practices, highly dependent on local geography, to ensure cochineal's survival. I have also researched the contrast between native understandings of cochineal and colonial European approaches using early modern books, images, archival resources, and my own experience raising cochineal insects in Oaxaca, Mexico. Bound up in this history of cochineal farming are questions about the legitimacy of local science, indigenous knowledge, and the anthropology of science and technology. In addition, the fellowship allowed me to research Hans Sloane's involvement in networks of knowledge about cochineal at the Natural History Museum, the Royal Society, and the British Library in the United Kingdom. As a result of my research at Dumbarton Oaks, I have been able to research and plan the majority of my dissertation.

Mellon Fellows in Urban Landscape Studies

Megan Asaka, University of California, Riverside (fall), "The Unsettled City: Migration, Race, and the Making of Seattle's Urban Landscape"

My project examined the early period of Seattle's urban formation from the mid-nineteenth century to the Second World War. During this time, Seattle's urban workforce consisted of migratory and transient populations who labored in the seasonal, extractive economy of the Pacific Northwest. Though these Native American, African American, and Asian migrant workers figured centrally in the rise of Seattle as a modern metropolis, their role in building the city has largely been forgotten. My research demonstrates that this was not an accident but rather the result of specific laws, policies, and practices that allowed for their inclusion as laborers but not as full citizens or participants in urban society. The project, thus, returns to the origins of Seattle's urbanization with an attention to the racialized, transient workforce that made the city possible.

Sara Carr, University of Hawaii, Manoa (spring), "The Topography of Wellness: Health and the American Urban Landscape"

I am tracing how planners and designers have shaped the public realm in response to urban epidemics since the Industrial Revolution

in order to better understand the links between health and design today. The Mellon fellowship was a chance to tie historical precedent to contemporary practice, researching and drafting the introduction and opening four chapters. The access to primary sources—from original sanitary surveys of New York and Boston to medical topographies and accounts of “health resorts” in the Adirondacks and White Mountains of New Hampshire to the papers of Frederick Law Olmsted—gave insight into how city officials and public intellectuals at the turn of the twentieth century considered the landscape’s role in contagion and miasma. I was also given the opportunity to present my work in the Mellon Midday Dialogues, where the feedback from the directors, coordinators, and my peers was crucial to shaping the book’s theses.

Peter Ekman, University of California, Berkeley (spring),
“Suburbs of Last Resort: Vitality and Ruin on the Edges of
San Francisco Bay”

This spring, I undertook the first stages of adapting my dissertation for publication as a book. Principally, I took on the problem of disentangling two conceptual threads. One called forth a visually rich history of suburbanization in Northern California between 1880 and 1940—a kind of sidelong prehistory of the postwar suburb—with special attention to the morphology of industrial landscapes composed along the brackish Carquinez Strait. These chapters found their counterpoint in an intellectual history of American urbanism across the long twentieth century, detailing how planners and others speculated on, and then attempted to give form to, the underlying animacy of landscape as an accomplice in everyday life and work—a strain of vitalist environmental thinking that intensified in California in the early twentieth century and motivated both the design and the eventual critique (as “formless”) of these suburbs. Along the way, I adapted one chapter into a freestanding journal article on abortive federally led experiments in town planning at Clyde and Mare Island, California, during the First World War, and gave a conference paper on landscape, temporality, and the writing of urban history at the Harvard–MIT Joint Center for Urban Studies between 1959 and 1975.

Burak Erdim, North Carolina State University (fall), “The Academy and the State: Situating Land Economics and Development Planning in the Cold War Middle East”

My research traces the operations of transnational planning cultures during the postwar period with a focus on the establishment of the Middle East Technical University (METU) in Ankara, Turkey, in 1956. METU stands out among its contemporaries as the product of a full range of agents and agencies working during this period. Charles Abrams, a New York labor lawyer and later a United Nations housing policy expert; Jacob L. Crane, head of the National Housing Agency and later Constantin Doxiadis’s close collaborator; and G. Holmes Perkins, dean of the School of Fine Arts at the University of Pennsylvania and a central player in state and city planning offices in Philadelphia, are among those who contributed most directly to the school’s conceptualization. The multiple positions they held between public, private, and educational institutions reveal the complex structure of these networks; my manuscript addresses what these professionals were trying to do with the planning of METU. My work examines the conceptualization of METU as an educational institution as well as the planning, construction, and forestation of its campus, providing new insights into the role of the Academy in these contested territories of the Cold War in the Middle East.

Pre-Columbian Studies

Fellows

Brian S. Bauer, University of Illinois, Chicago, “The Lord of Vilcabamba”

My research focused on the Wari State (AD 600–1000) of the Peruvian Andes, investigating a major Wari occupation that was recently discovered in the Vilcabamba Valley. The site is the first Wari settlement found in the subtropical lowlands, and excavations have revealed three large D-shaped temple structures and some thirty high-status burials. One of the tombs is one of the most elaborate Wari burials ever discovered, and is believed to hold the remains of a regional lord. The discovery of this site and its noble

internments provides archaeologists an opportunity to reevaluate the nature of the Wari state and the areas that came under its control. I worked with the field notes from the excavations and reconstructed many of the gravel lots. I compared the artifacts recovered at the site with those found in other Wari sites over the past hundred years and with materials held in more than twenty museums around the world. I also reviewed the theoretical literature concerning the archaeology of colonialization and state expansion. The results of this research will be presented in a book, which is now well advanced thanks to the fellowship.

Ryan Clasby, University of Missouri, Saint Louis, “Bridging the Andean-Amazonian Divide: Examining Sociopolitical Developments at the Eastern Edge of the Andes”

I made progress on my upcoming monograph, which provides a comprehensive analysis of the prehistory of the eastern Andean montane forest, a region long thought marginal to the development of Andean civilization. Building on my doctoral research from the Jaén region of the Peruvian Andes, I used archaeological data from Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, and Brazil to argue that complex societies developed early in the eastern montane forest, with active long-distance interaction networks that connected the Andes to Amazonia, thereby significantly affecting historical processes in each region. This monograph examines the shifting mechanisms by which this interaction took place. I also worked on an article that examines the idea that the Jaén region was producing and distributing ceremonial stone bowls as a way of participating in the Chavín religious cult. My article, “Examining Diachronic Changes in Sociopolitical Developments and Interregional Interaction in the Eastern Andean Montane Forest during the Early Horizon,” went to print for a peer-reviewed volume published by Yale University Press (*New Perspectives on Early Andean Civilization: Interaction, Authority, and Socioeconomic Organization during the 1st and 2nd Millennia BC*).

Lori Boornazian Diel, Texas Christian University (fall), “An Aztec History Painting in the Codex Mexicanus”

The goal of my fellowship was to complete my book on the Codex Mexicanus, a sixteenth-century Aztec pictorial manuscript with miscellaneous contents. I focused on the chapter devoted to the

Mexicanus's pictorial history. The history has three main sections: a migration account, an imperial history of Tenochtitlan, and a history of the city's transformation into Mexico City. Facsimiles of Aztec pictorial histories and alphabetic accounts of the Aztec past written by native, mestizo, and Spanish authors allowed me to compare the Mexicanus with other Aztec histories. These comparisons facilitated my reading of the Mexicanus, and through this reading, I showed that the pictorial history creates a moral narrative, its outcome the triumph of Christianity over Aztec Tenochtitlan. In this regard, the pictorial history fits a larger goal of the codex, which I argue was modeled after Spanish almanacs, called *Reportorios de los tiempos*. These communicate a Spanish identity tied to its ancient Roman past, suggesting a pagan, but illustrious, foundation for the modern Christian nation. The Codex Mexicanus fashions a corollary identity for Christian New Spain, built on its own pagan, but equally illustrious, Aztec foundation. My manuscript is now largely complete and will soon be submitted for review for publication.

Junior Fellows

Ximena Chávez Balderas, Templo Mayor Project and Tulane University, "The Offering of Life: Human and Animal Sacrifice at the West Plaza of the Sacred Precinct, Tenochtitlan"

My dissertation research was composed of two main phases: bone analysis and historical source analysis. The first was conducted at the Templo Mayor Museum, the second at Dumbarton Oaks. The library's written sources and codices made it possible to understand the osteological evidence in the context of the rituals conducted by the Mexica priests. The library also has an important collection covering theoretical approaches to sacrificial practices. I am grateful to the interlibrary loan team for providing me with books on human and animal osteology, forensic, and paleopathology. Thanks to this generous support, I worked on five chapters of my dissertation. The first evaluates attitudes toward sacrifice from the arrival of the Spaniards to the present. The second analyzes the nature and function of sacrifice among the Mexica. In the third chapter, I conducted research on the "actors" involved in sacrifice, with an emphasis on nature and symbolism of victims (human and animal). In the fourth chapter, I analyzed sacrificial techniques; in the fifth chapter,

I evaluated postsacrificial treatments by combining osteological and historical information.

Eric Dyrdaahl, Pennsylvania State University (fall),
“Interregional Interaction and Craft Production at Las
Orquídeas, Imbabura, Ecuador, during the Late Formative
(800–400 cal BC)”

The Pre-Columbian societies of the Ecuadorian highlands do not receive much consideration in New World archaeology. I discussed developments in Ecuadorian archaeology with colleagues and completed rough drafts of five dissertation chapters. I focused on the artifactual evidence recovered from domestic refuse contexts at Las Orquídeas in the northern Ecuadorian highlands. The assemblage suggests Late Formative households in this region used a variety of raw materials, local and nonlocal, to produce goods ranging from adornments to informal stone and bone tools. This crafting appears to have been a part-time activity that diversified the economic activities of the site’s inhabitants. This case study of multicrafting in domestic contexts advances our understanding of possible links between pre-Hispanic societies in Ecuador, southern Colombia, and northern Peru.

Jessica MacLellan, University of Arizona, “Early Households
and Ritual in the Preclassic Maya Lowlands”

My dissertation is based on excavations of an early residential area at Ceibal, Guatemala. I am investigating the role of domestic ritual in the development of complex societies. I pored over hard-to-find site reports from earlier projects in the Maya lowlands, and found surprising parallels and differences between the Ceibal households and contemporaneous material at sites in Belize and Mexico. I developed a new understanding of the social processes that took place across the region following the transition to permanent farming villages. Conversations with other scholars here have helped me to reframe some of my theoretical perspectives. Rather than assuming early household rituals helped create a top-down hierarchical society, I now think it probable that they fostered horizontal relationships in the community, in opposition to the public rituals in Ceibal’s monumental plaza. I will complete my dissertation next year, at the University of Arizona. In addition to sections of the dissertation, I wrote two

chapters for edited volumes, one conference paper, and a draft of a journal article.

Summer Fellows

Melanie Miller, University of California, Berkeley, “Social Inequality and the Body: Food, Labor and Health in a Prehistoric Colombian Population”

I focused on Colombian archaeological research, particularly related to the prehistoric Muisca culture (AD 800–1600). My project examines social inequality through the study of food consumption practices and physical activity patterns as these intersect with social status, sex, and age in a specific Muisca “archaeological” community (AD 1000–1400). It is difficult to find Colombian archaeological research in institutions outside of Colombia, so I used library resources at Dumbarton Oaks and Harvard to interpret and contextualize my bioarchaeological data. I used books and articles related to Muisca scholarship to help me situate my research in the discussions of this field. I encountered important references to prehistoric food practices that have helped me understand patterns in the dietary data. I found key sources mentioning the types of work Muisca women and men did in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, which I used to interpret activity patterns related to daily labor. I enjoyed the opportunity to present a talk and share my data with a multidisciplinary scholarly community. I made progress on three chapters of my dissertation, two of which I will publish as research articles.

Paz Núñez-Regueiro, Musée du quai Branly, “Metalwork from Patagonia (Tenth to Nineteenth Centuries): Origins, Uses, and Distribution of Silverwork Jewelry “

I completed the chronological classification of Patagonian native jewelry, based on archaeological and ethnographic material. The library’s resources provided significant new material from archaeological reports of excavations in Patagonia, as well as travel accounts and sources from the colonial and modern periods. These enriched my current inventory of pre-Hispanic and postconquest silver jewelry and enabled me to identify museum collections for future silverwork analysis. The main outcome of this systematic approach has been to specify in more detail the uses and practices related to jewelry in time and space, working on ceremonial versus daily-use

and gender, and allowed me to establish formal regional identities. I benefited from wide-ranging discussions with colleagues on metallurgy, museum practices of collecting and producing knowledge, and pan-American subjects related to the collections I manage at the Musée du quai Branly. I completed writing in progress, and submitted an article and a short essay. I benefited greatly from visits to the National Museum of the American Indian and the National Museum of Natural History, which offered insights into American academic institutions.

ΕΣΤΙ ΑΠΟΛΥΟΛΘΟΣ



Byzantine Studies

The Byzantine Studies department at Dumbarton Oaks, since its establishment in 1940, has supported a continuous program of residential fellowships and academic events to enable historical, philological, art historical, archaeological, and theological research on the Byzantine Empire from the fourth to the fifteenth century.

Annual Symposium

The 2017 symposium, “Rethinking Empire,” was a success. Visiting scholar Paul Magdalino, emeritus Bishop Wardlaw Professor of Byzantine History at the University of St Andrews, and Dimiter Angelov, Dumbarton Oaks Professor of Byzantine History at Harvard University, gave the introductory presentation “Defining Empire.” The symposium addressed the question of what we mean when we call Byzantium an empire. A flurry of recent studies of other hegemonic civilizations have situated empire and imperialism as historical phenomena across different periods and geographical areas. Until now, the involvement of Byzantinists in this reevaluation has been relatively marginal. Speakers reexamined Byzantium’s imperial identity in the light of new research by Byzantinists and with reference to the methods of historians of other empires. Their presentations focused on fundamental problems of definition and questioned Byzantium’s



Participants in the “Defining Empire” symposium, April 2017.

culture and institutions of empire, the relations between its core and periphery, its territoriality, and its ethnic diversity.

Public Lectures

Florin Curta, a professor of medieval history and archaeology at the University of Florida, gave a lecture entitled “An Uneasy Relation: Byzantium and the Nomads” in October. Byzantine sources provide abundant information about how the imperial government in Constantinople dealt with the people inhabiting the steppe lands north of the Black and Caspian Seas. New evidence from excavations has enriched our understanding of relations between nomadic and settled communities and has questioned the pigeonholing of diverse communities into preconceived ethnic categories. Recent

research has moved beyond the study of burial mounds to focus on the cultures of nomads who moved into areas neighboring the Byzantine Empire or into Hungary between the eleventh and thirteenth centuries. These studies have emphasized the processes of sedentization, conversion to Christianity, and assimilation. The study of local settlements in the Balkans has revealed great differences between their relations with sedentary populations north and south of the Danube.

In April, Paul Magdalino gave a talk entitled “Constantinople in the Seventh and Eighth Centuries.” The talk provided insight into a period for which source material is scarce. Recent archeological excavations have produced evidence that may help researchers better understand these centuries, particularly relating to one of Magdalino’s areas of interest: the repopulation and reconstruction of Constantinople after this catastrophic period, often described as a “dark age” in the history of the city. The urban life of the Byzantine imperial capital was punctuated by a series of crises and is poorly documented in both the written and the material record. This gives the impression of general stagnation and low investment by the authorities, whose chief concern was to maintain the city center around the Great Palace as a theater of power. At the same time, it has long been clear that certain emergency measures of Constantine V, who repopulated the city after a plague outbreak and repaired the aqueduct in response to drought, marked the beginning of an upturn. The evidence of two surviving buildings, recently dated by dendrochronology to the end of the eighth century, and information from contemporary chronicles throw new light on the connection between the city’s demographic revival and the reconstruction of the built environment.

Collections

This year, we reached a milestone in the digitization of the Byzantine Seals Collection. Since 2011, a rotating team of cataloguers has digitized thousands of the seals. At the end of August 2016, they had digitized over one-third of the collection and uploaded the information on 6,000 seals to the online catalogue. This project will make our exemplary collection of Byzantine seals accessible to scholars and researchers across the globe.

Dumbarton Oaks acquired historian Frank Kidner's photographs of the Syrian countryside. Taken in the 1990s, these images document the architectural remains of the country. The collection covers Kidner's six trips to Syria and numbers more than 9,000 slides; it is now housed in the Image Collections and Fieldwork Archives. The collection is a rich resource for scholars, as many of the sites represented have been fundamentally altered or destroyed in the years since the photographs were taken. The images are beautiful, and their vast scope makes them a fundamentally adaptable resource, useful in any number of projects.

Summer Programs

The Byzantine Greek Summer School program, launched in 2000, continued this summer with a four-week course in medieval Greek and paleography. The two instructors, Professor Alexander Alexakis of the University of Ioannina and Professor Stratis Papaioannou of Brown University, engaged the students in readings of hagiography, charters, historiography, fiction, and rhetoric, and in the study of epigraphy and paleography. Daily sessions devoted to the translation of sample Byzantine texts were supplemented by assignments. Students also studied inscribed objects and original manuscripts in the Byzantine Collection and viewed facsimiles of manuscripts in the Rare Books Collection.

In collaboration with the Hill Museum and Manuscript Library (HMML), we launched a new four-week introduction to Syriac language and paleography. The Syriac Summer School, funded by Dumbarton Oaks, was hosted by HMML on the campus of Saint John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota. The course instructors were Scott Johnson of the University of Oklahoma and Adam McCollum of the University of Vienna. Morning sessions concentrated on the study of the Syriac language; afternoons provided orientation in the reading of Syriac manuscripts of all periods from the major script-types. The students visited D.C. in July for a long weekend of exploring the city and the scholarly resources available at Dumbarton Oaks. The ten participants had backgrounds ranging from classics and medieval studies to liturgical studies and classical Arabic, and left the course equipped to continue reading on their own or to enroll in Syriac reading courses at other institutions.



Participants in the Byzantine Greek Summer School program.

The Academic Year

Seventeen fellows were in residence during the academic year; they shared their work in research reports. Project grants were awarded to three researchers in Byzantine studies: Melissa Bailey, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, for her project “Economic Networks in Byzantine Dhiban”; Jordan Pickett, University of Michigan, for his project “Gölören Archaeological Project (GÖLAP)”; and Natalia Poulou, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, for her project “Archaeological Research at Loutres, Mochlos: Investigation of a Bath Complex of Medieval Crete.” Six short-term predoctoral residents joined Byzantine Studies this year; Danilo Valentino, a PhD candidate in Greek studies at the Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures (CSMC) at the University of Hamburg; Roxanne Radpour, a PhD candidate in the materials science and engineering department at the University of California, Los Angeles; Raf Praet, a PhD student at the University of Groningen; Tristan Schmidt, a PhD student in Byzantine studies at the Johannes Gutenberg University

of Mainz; Marco Fasolio, a PhD candidate at the University of Eastern Piedmont; and Nikos Mastrochristos, a PhD student at the University of Athens. One-month research awards were given to Micha Lazarus, a research fellow at Trinity College, Cambridge, who is working on the influence of classical poetics on Renaissance English literature; and art historian Anthi Andronikou, who is completing a project on “Venice before Venice: Serenissima’s Visual Culture in Pre-Venetian Cyprus.”

Special Activities

In February, Dumbarton Oaks held its seventh annual Teaching Fellows’ Day. The event, which is organized by postdoctoral teaching fellows in Byzantine studies, welcomes students from local universities and introduces them to research and resources at Dumbarton Oaks through scholarly presentations and gallery tours. This year, the theme was the nature of capital cities and their place at the center of the artistic, political, and administrative life of empires. “At the Center of Empire” examined these matters in Constantinople while at the same time foregrounding Dumbarton Oaks’ own resources, collections, and contributions to Byzantine studies.

Scholarly Activities

Annual Symposium

Rethinking Empire

April 21–22, 2017

Organized by **Dimiter Angelov**, Harvard University, and **Paul Magdalino**, University of St Andrews

Paul Magdalino and **Dimiter Angelov**, “Defining Empire”

Emma Dench, Harvard University, “Learning from the Past,
Learning from the Future: Contemporary Approaches to the
Earlier Roman Empire”

Sylvain Destephen, University of Paris, “From Moving Center
to Centralization: The Foundations of Byzantine Imperial
Government”

- John Haldon**, Princeton University, "Empire and Territory: Perceptions and Realities"
- Vivien Prigent**, Centre national de la recherche scientifique, "One for All, All for One? Provincial Elites and the Empire"
- Anthony Kaldellis**, Ohio State University, "Was Byzantium a 'Multiethnic' Empire?"
- Jennifer Davis**, Catholic University of America, "Rethinking Empire: The Carolingian Perspective"
- Angel Nikolov**, University of Sofia, "The Imperial Project of Symeon I of Bulgaria (893–927): Byzantine Frameworks and Aftermath"
- Niels Gaul**, University of Edinburgh, "Recording, Writing, and Enacting Empire: Officeholders as Agents of Empire in the Middle and Later Byzantine Periods"
- Annabel Wharton**, Duke University, "Imperial Peripheries and Holy Sepulchres"
- Cemal Kafadar**, Harvard University, "The Long and Winding Road to Empire: The Sublime State from the Late Fourteenth to the Mid-Sixteenth Century"
- Michael Puett**, Harvard University, "Comparative Reflections on Empires in Chinese Late Antiquity"
- Paul Magdalino**, "Rethinking Theocracy"
- Commentators: **Michael McCormick**, Harvard University, and **Maya Jasanoff**, Harvard University

Annual Colloquium

Monumental Painting in Byzantium and Beyond:

New Perspectives

November 4, 2016

Organized by **Ivan Drpić**, University of Washington, and **Tolga Uyar**, Nevşehir Hacı Bektaş Veli University

- Robert Ousterhout**, University of Pennsylvania, "Byzantine Mural Painting in Context"
- Sharon E. J. Gerstel**, University of California, Los Angeles, "Painting Chanted Prayers: Cognition and Monumental Decoration"
- Vicky A. Foskolou**, University of Crete, "Telling Stories with Pictures: Narrative and Narrativity in Middle and Late Byzantine Monumental Painting"

Maria Xenaki, École française d'Athènes, "Non-Figural Imagery and the Inscribed Word"

Miodrag Marković, University of Belgrade, "Painters in the Late Byzantine World"

Tolga Uyar, "The Archaeology of Monumental Painting: Ways of Looking at the Painted Sources of Byzantine Society"

Athanasios Vionis, University of Cyprus, "The Aegean Painted Church within Its 'Urban' and 'Rural' Landscape"

Cristina Stancioiu, College of William and Mary, "Monumental Painting, Identity, and Cross-Cultural Interaction in the Eastern Mediterranean"

Teaching Fellows' Day

At the Center of Empire

February 25, 2017

Nathanael Aschenbrenner, Harvard University, "From Imperial City to Urban Empire: Constantinople in the Fifteenth Century"

Elizabeth Dospel William, Dumbarton Oaks and George Washington University, "Reflections of a Capital City"

Jonathan Shea, Dumbarton Oaks and George Washington University, "Constantinople Is Broken"

Public Lecture

October 13, 2016

Florin Curta, University of Florida, "An Uneasy Relation: Byzantium and the Nomads"

Talks

September 25, 2016

Ioli Kalavrezou, Harvard University, "Images of Legitimacy: The Paris Psalter"

April 5, 2017

Paul Magdalino, University of St Andrews, "Constantinople in the Seventh and Eighth Centuries"

Summer Program

Byzantine Greek Summer Program

July 5–29, 2016

Faculty: **Alexander Alexakis**, University of Ioannina, and **Stratis Papaioannou**, Brown University

Participants: Kelly Andino, Sergio Basso, Walter Beers, Julian Bertola, Absalom Garcia-Chow, Kerim Kartal, Roman Kovalchuk, Andra Juganaru, Michael Lessman, Alessandro Pasquato, Yan Zaripov



Garden and Landscape Studies

In the 2016–2017 academic year, Garden and Landscape Studies continued its traditional activities while expanding its focus in urban landscape studies, funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation through their Architecture, Urbanism, and the Humanities initiative. The community of scholars in residence included two full-year fellows, two one-term fellows, four one-term Mellon fellows, and three William R. Tyler fellows. We also hosted our first humanities fellow, a new opportunity for recent Harvard graduates interested in careers in the humanities to spend one term working at Dumbarton Oaks and another at a partner institution in the city. We were especially fortunate this year to have an extended stay from visiting scholar Elizabeth Meyer from the University of Virginia, who had recently completed her term as Dean of the School of Architecture and came to Dumbarton Oaks to share her scholarship. We also had numerous short-term academic visitors, including recipients of predoctoral residencies and one-month research stipends.

The annual symposium was linked to the Mellon initiative and focused on “Landscapes of Pre-Industrial Cities.” The large city of today is often understood as an outcome of the Industrial Revolution; it is certainly dependent on a range of recent breakthroughs in construction technology, climate control, communication, and transportation. Yet features associated with contemporary urban landscapes—notably the extensive reshaping and ecological transformation of the sites where cities develop and expand—can also be

found in pre-industrial contexts. Pre-industrial urban settlements involved complex and dynamic relationships with the management of topography, climate, and natural resources, especially food and water. Ancient cities are traditionally studied as centers of commerce, trade, and artisan production as well as the seats of secular and religious authorities; this symposium brought attention to questions of how clusters of agrarian communities evolved into urban formations, their specific landscape characteristics, their spatial organization, and how their environments expressed political and cultural ambitions.

The fall colloquium was a collaboration with the Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts (CASVA) at the National Gallery of Art, and was held in conjunction with the National Gallery's exhibition *Hubert Robert, 1733–1808*. The colloquium opened with a tour of the exhibition for speakers and invited participants, followed by a lecture by Nina Dubin of the University of Illinois, Chicago. Six speakers presented papers at Dumbarton Oaks, addressing Robert's work in its artistic and cultural contexts. They highlighted Robert's contributions to landscape architecture and garden design in the second half of the eighteenth century—important aspects of his activities often overlooked in discussions of his other artistic output.

The year's academic events included a lecture on "Glorifying the City in Counter-Reformation Italy: Girolamo Righettino Rediscovered" by Denis Ribouillault of the University of Montreal. Righettino lived in Venice in the mid-sixteenth century, where he drew city views with elaborate ornaments and learned allegories. His city views constitute an important case study of the intricate relationships between religious and territorial powers, politics and urban space, and allegory and topography in Counter-Reformation Italy. Udo Weilacher, a landscape architect and professor at the University of Munich, joined John Beardsley in a dialogue "Between Land Art and Landscape Architecture." Both Beardsley and Weilacher have written extensively on land art; this was an opportunity for them to share their perspectives on the origins of the phenomenon and its impact on the contemporary practice of landscape architecture. Jane Padelford, program coordinator, continued in her role of skillfully managing all the department's academic events and public programs, as well as its many short-term academic visitors.

In the summer of 2016, in place of summer fellowships, Garden and Landscape Studies hosted an intensive two-week graduate



Speakers at the colloquium on “Hubert Robert and French Garden Culture,” September 2016.

workshop for advanced design students and doctoral candidates. Intended to develop the field of garden and landscape studies across different disciplines and to promote the depth and breadth of future landscape scholarship, the workshop assembled eight early-career scholars pursuing cross-disciplinary research on landscape-related topics. Organized by Anatole Tchikine, assistant director of Garden and Landscape Studies, the workshop included seminar presentations on key sites, figures, and texts in garden and landscape architecture, investigating the historical evolution of landscape as an idea and emphasizing theoretical underpinnings and methodological implications of such concepts as nature, ecology, sustainability, and design. Participants were invited to share selected aspects of their research and were treated to a staged reading of Tom Stoppard’s play *Arcadia* in the gardens.

Published in 2016 was *Sound and Scent in the Garden*, the proceedings of the 2013 symposium of the same name, edited by D. Fairchild Ruggles. While we often approach gardens as things to be seen—engaging the rational, intellectual part of the human brain—*Sound and Scent in the Garden* explores the more elusive experiences of sound and smell. These senses are important dimensions of garden design and performance and often have a powerful effect on the



A staged reading of Tom Stoppard's play *Arcadia* in the Dumbarton Oaks Gardens, June 2016.

human body, yet they may also be ephemeral and difficult to study. The volume demonstrates a variety of approaches to the study of sensory history and illuminates this important dimension of the experience of gardens past and present, East and West.

2016–2017 was the second full year of the Mellon Initiative in Urban Landscape Studies, which aims to bring together landscape architects and historians to explore how urban environments have developed and how best to manage them today. The initiative is one of seventeen grants the Mellon Foundation has made so far to major institutions of higher education and research to foster the contributions of the humanities and the design and planning disciplines to understanding the processes and effects of burgeoning urbanization. To this end, the Mellon initiative at Dumbarton Oaks hosts two fellows each semester, one designer and one scholar, and encourages them to work together and with other fellows. It also invites distinguished practitioners to reside at Dumbarton Oaks for briefer terms. In 2016–2017, the Mellon senior practitioner resident was Udo

Weilacher, a German landscape architect, author, and professor of landscape architecture at the Technische Universität München.

Synergy between Mellon fellows and other fellows is fostered through weekly “Midday Dialogues” with invited speakers, including landscape practitioners and scholars leading the field of urban landscape studies in new directions. Talks are supplemented by field trips and film screenings: when Sonja Dümpelmann from the Harvard Graduate School of Design discussed her research on street tree-planting initiatives in twentieth-century Europe and the United States, her talk was followed by a screening and discussion of *City of Trees*, which follows the nonprofit organization Washington Parks and People as they employ former inmates to plant trees in a public park in southeast Washington, D.C.

In addition to fellowships, an important dimension of the Mellon Initiative in Urban Landscape Studies is providing outreach to underserved high school students in Washington, D.C., both to foster urban environmental awareness and to introduce students to potential careers in urban landscape design and management. Led by Mellon postdoctoral fellow Jeanne Haffner, we focused on developing the relationships formed the previous year with Phelps Architecture, Construction and Engineering High School (Phelps ACE) and the Design Apprenticeship Program at the National Building Museum. Collaborations with Phelps landscape and architecture students in fall 2016 included a workshop on hydrology (storm water management, irrigation, and fountains) in the gardens at Dumbarton Oaks. This was followed in spring 2017 by a field trip to the Smithsonian National Zoological Park to meet Jennifer Daniels, a landscape architect responsible for designing public areas at the zoo, and a site visit to Kingman Park Community Garden. From March to May 2017, we worked with Phelps students to redesign this community garden. We also worked with Design Apprenticeship students at the National Building Museum on a series of weekly landscape architecture workshops in spring 2017, which resulted in the design and construction of three gardens at the Boys and Girls Club on Benning Road in southeast Washington, D.C.

In May 2017, we opened a public exhibition in the Rare Books Gallery entitled *City Water/City Life*, which showcased the shifting character and uses of urban waterfronts since the seventeenth century. Curated by humanities fellow John Wang, the exhibition

included rare historical images and contemporary photographs of Florence, Paris, and Amsterdam.

In the fall term, we jointly organized the colloquium “Landscapes of Housing” with the Harvard Mellon Initiative. Held in Cambridge on October 14, 2016, the event brought together landscape scholars and practitioners to examine the role of landscape—broadly defined to include ecology, landscape design, infrastructure, and environmentalism—in ecological housing designs from the late nineteenth century to the present. In the spring, we participated in the Smithsonian Earth Optimism Summit, whose purpose was to shift the discourse of environmentalism from gloom to hope by presenting stories of what is working in conservation around the globe. Our panel focused on success stories in cities, now home to over half the world’s population and thus one of the key battlegrounds in the effort to create a sustainable and equitable future.

Scholarly Activities

Annual Symposium

Landscapes of Pre-Industrial Cities

May 5–6, 2017

Organized by **John Beardsley**, Dumbarton Oaks, and **Georges Farhat**, University of Toronto

Suzanne Preston Blier, Harvard University, “Walls That Speak: Landscape Factors in Early West African Urban Centers”

J. B. Chevance, Archaeology and Development Foundation, Phnom Kulen Program, Siem Reap, Cambodia, “The Phnom Kulen’s Capital: A Singular and Early Case of Urban Planning in Ancient Cambodia”

Hendrik Dey, Hunter College, City University of New York, “Landscape Change and Ceremonial Praxis in Medieval Rome: From the Via Triumphalis to the Via Papalis”

Michael Heckenberger, University of Florida, “Xingu Garden Cities: Domesticated Forests of the Southern Amazon’s ‘Arc of Fire’”

Alan L. Kolata, University of Chicago, “The Autopoietic City: Landscape, Science, and Society in the Pre-Industrial World”

J. Cameron Monroe, University of California, Santa Cruz, “Seeing the Forest for the Trees: Cities and Their Hinterlands in Tropical West Africa”

Tim Murtha, The Pennsylvania State University, “Landscape and City in the Ancient Maya Lowlands: Regionalism, Settlement, and Ecology”

Timothy R. Pauketat, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, “What Constituted Cahokian Urbanism?”

Jordan Pickett, University of Michigan, “Hydraulic Landscapes of Roman and Byzantine Cities”

Christophe Pottier, École française d’Extrême-Orient, Paris, “Uncovering Ancient Landscapes in Angkor”

Priyaleen Singh, School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi, “The Weave of Natural and Cultural Ecology: Ekamrakshetra—The Historic Temple Town of Bhubaneswar, India”

Monica L. Smith, University of California, Los Angeles, “Monsoon Landscapes and Flexible Provisioning in the Early Historic Cities of the Indian Subcontinent”

Jason Ur, Harvard University, “Space and Structure in Early Mesopotamian Cities”

Annual Colloquium

Hubert Robert and French Garden Culture

September 27, 2016

Organized by **John Beardsley**, Dumbarton Oaks, in collaboration with the Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts (CASVA) at the National Gallery of Art

Sarah Catala, Université Lille III, “Hubert Robert and the Amateurs: From ‘Educating the Eye’ to Composing the Landscape”

Gabriel Wick, University of London, Queen Mary, “Between Artifact and Artifice: Hubert Robert and the Mise-en-Scène of History in the Aristocratic Garden”

Joseph Disponzio, New York City Department of Parks and Recreation, “Neither Painter nor Gardener Be: Hubert Robert and Eighteenth-Century French Picturesque Garden Theory”

Susan Taylor Leduc, Parsons Paris, “Designing in Rock: Hubert Robert and the Politics of the French Picturesque”

Elizabeth Hyde, Kean University, “‘Such Things as Would Enrich France,’ or Planting the Eighteenth-Century French Garden”

John Pinto, Princeton University, “*Robert des Ruines*: Landscape and Antiquity”

Garden and Landscape Studies Graduate Workshop

June 6–18, 2016

Organized by **Anatole Tchikine** and **John Beardsley**, Dumbarton Oaks

Participants:

Camilla Allen, University of Sheffield

Thalia Allington-Wood, University College London

Molly Briggs, Cornell University

Katherine Coty, University of Washington

Sylvain Hilaire, Université Sorbonne Paris Cité

Nicholas Serrano, North Carolina State University

Stephanie Shiflett, Boston University

Kaja Tally, Cornell University

Visiting Instructors: **John Dixon Hunt**, University of Pennsylvania,
and **Daniel Marriott**, Paul Daniel Marriott + Associates

Public Lectures

November 9, 2016

Denis Ribouillault, University of Montreal, “Glorifying the City in Counter-Reformation Italy: Girolamo Righettino Rediscovered”

March 30, 2017

Udo Weilacher, Technische Universität München, “Between Land Art and Landscape Architecture: A Dialogue with Udo Weilacher and John Beardsley”

Staged Reading

Tom Stoppard’s *Arcadia* in the Dumbarton Oaks Gardens

June 13, 2016

Organized by **John Davis**, Harvard University; directed by **Emily Townley**, Townley Productions

Contemporary Art Installation Program

2016–present

Hugh Livingston, *Livingston Sound, Garden Quartet, Mostly Intermezzos, Some Preludes, No Cadenzas*

Mellon Initiative in Urban Landscape Studies

Public Programs

Landscapes of Housing

October 14, 2016

Organized by **Jeanne Haffner**, Dumbarton Oaks

Moderators: **John Beardsley** and **Jeanne Haffner**, Dumbarton Oaks;

Eve Blau and **Anita Berrizbeitia**, Harvard Graduate School of Design;

Ellen Braae and **Henriette Steiner**, University of Copenhagen;

Markus Keller, Eötvös Loránd University

Daniel Bluestone, Boston University, “Landscapes Framed by Housing: Chicago’s Courtyard Apartments”

Sophie Hochhäusl, Boston University, “Making Community in Crisis: Cookbooks, War Produce Gardens and the Modern House, 1914–1919”

Thomas Nybo Rasmussen, Vandkunsten Architects, “Working with Landscape: Integrating Buildings and Landscape in the Work of Vandkunsten Architects, 1970–Present”

Christoph Bernhardt, Center for Metropolitan Studies in Berlin, “The Rise and Persistence of the Socialist Wohnkomplex in East Germany: A Special Type of Urban Landscape, 1950–2000”

Christina Crawford, Emory University, “The Afterlife of a Model Socialist Settlement”

Bruno Carvalho, Princeton University, “Urbanism without Urbanists: Domesticating Landscapes in the Anthropocene”

Christian Werthmann, Leibniz University, “The Right to Create: Observations on the Desirability of Co-Production of Housing and Landscape in the Rapid Urbanization of the Planet”

Vijayanthi Rao, Terreform Center for Advanced Urban Research, “Beneath the ‘Tent of the Horizonless Sky’”

Smithsonian Earth Optimism Summit

April 21–23, 2017

Panel organized by **John Beardsley** and **Jeanne Haffner**: “Success in the City: Social and Environmental Design for the 21st Century”

Damon Rich, Hector Urban Design, Planning, and Civic Arts,
“Between Superfund and Superstorm: The Riverfront that
Newark Wants, 2008–2015”

David Auerbach, Sanergy: Sustainable Solutions for Growing
Cities, “Solving the Sanitation Crisis in Kenya’s Urban Informal
Settlements”

Murray Fisher, New York Harbor Foundation, “The Billion Oyster
Project: Engaging Youth in Restoring the New York Harbor”

Timothy Beatley, University of Virginia, “Biophilic Cities”

Exhibition

City Water/City Life

May to August 2017

Rare Book Gallery, Dumbarton Oaks Museum

Curated by **John Wang**, **Anatole Tchikine**, and **John Beardsley**,
Dumbarton Oaks

Midday Dialogues

October 5, 2016

Meredith Miller, University of Michigan, “Making Post Rock:
Material Research through Design”

October 11, 2016

Jeremy Foster, Cornell University, “Dancing on the Grave of
Industry: Wenders, Bausch, and the Affective Re-Performance
of Environmental History”

October 19, 2016

Sonja Dümpelmann, Harvard Graduate School of Design, “Street
Tree Stories: On the Politics of Nature in the City”



Smithsonian Earth Optimism Summit panel, April 2017.

October 26, 2016

Burak Erdim, North Carolina State University, “Landed
Internationals: Planning Cultures in the Cold War Middle East”

November 8, 2016

Elizabeth Meyer, University of Virginia, “Landscape Entanglements:
Aesthetic Practices in a Networked World”

November 22, 2016

Megan Asaka, University of California, Riverside, “Unsettled
City: Migration, Race, and the Making of Seattle’s Urban
Landscape”

November 29, 2016

Jeanne Haffner and **John Davis**, Dumbarton Oaks, “Shape the
Earth: Landscape Architecture in the Anthropocene”

February 1, 2017

Saskia de Wit, Delft University of Technology, “The Metropolitan Garden as a Sensorial Expression of Place in the Metropolitan Context”

February 8, 2017

Sara Carr, University of Hawaii, Manoa, “The Topography of Wellness: Health and the American Urban Landscape”

March 1, 2017

Peter Ekman, University of California, Berkeley, “Middling Landscapes: Animating Life and Work on the Carquinez Strait”

March 7, 2017

Gareth Doherty, Harvard Graduate School of Design, “‘It’s Like Scotland, Minus the Weather’: An Ethnographic Account of Landscape in Bahrain”

March 15, 2017

Margot Lystra, Cornell University, “‘A Great Functioning Whole’: Urban Design and Emergent Environmentalism in San Francisco’s Panhandle Freeway Debates, 1959–1966”

March 28, 2017

Javier Mariátegui, Mariátegui Design, “Gardens for the Senses: The Influences of History and Family Values in My Gardens”

April 12, 2017

Amanda Rodewald, Cornell University, “How a Bird’s-Eye View of the City Teaches Us about Urban Ecology”

April 18, 2017

John Pinto, Princeton University, “*Rus in Urbe*: The Urban Landscape of Rome in the Age of the Grand Tour”

April 25, 2017

Rebecca Krinke, University of Minnesota, “Places to Share Beauty and Fear”



Phelps High School field trip to the Kingman Park Community Garden,
February 2017.

Film Screening

City of Trees

October 19, 2016

Panel discussion with directors **Lance Kramer** and **Brandon Kramer**, Meridian Hill Pictures; **Sonja Dümpelmann**, Harvard Graduate School of Design; and **Steve Coleman**, Washington Parks and People

Outreach Activities

September 20, 2016

Garden Hydrology: workshop with Phelps Architecture, Engineering and Construction (ACE) High School students

February 28, 2017

Smithsonian National Zoological Park: field trip with Phelps ACE landscape and architecture students. Tour of the park with landscape architect Jennifer Daniels

February 16, 2017

Kingman Park Community Garden: site analysis of Kingman Park Community Garden, in northeast Washington, D.C., with landscape and architecture students from Phelps ACE

March–May 2017

National Building Museum Design Apprenticeship Program: weekly landscape architecture workshops with thirty high school students from Washington, D.C., including site analysis and design reviews

April 11, 2017

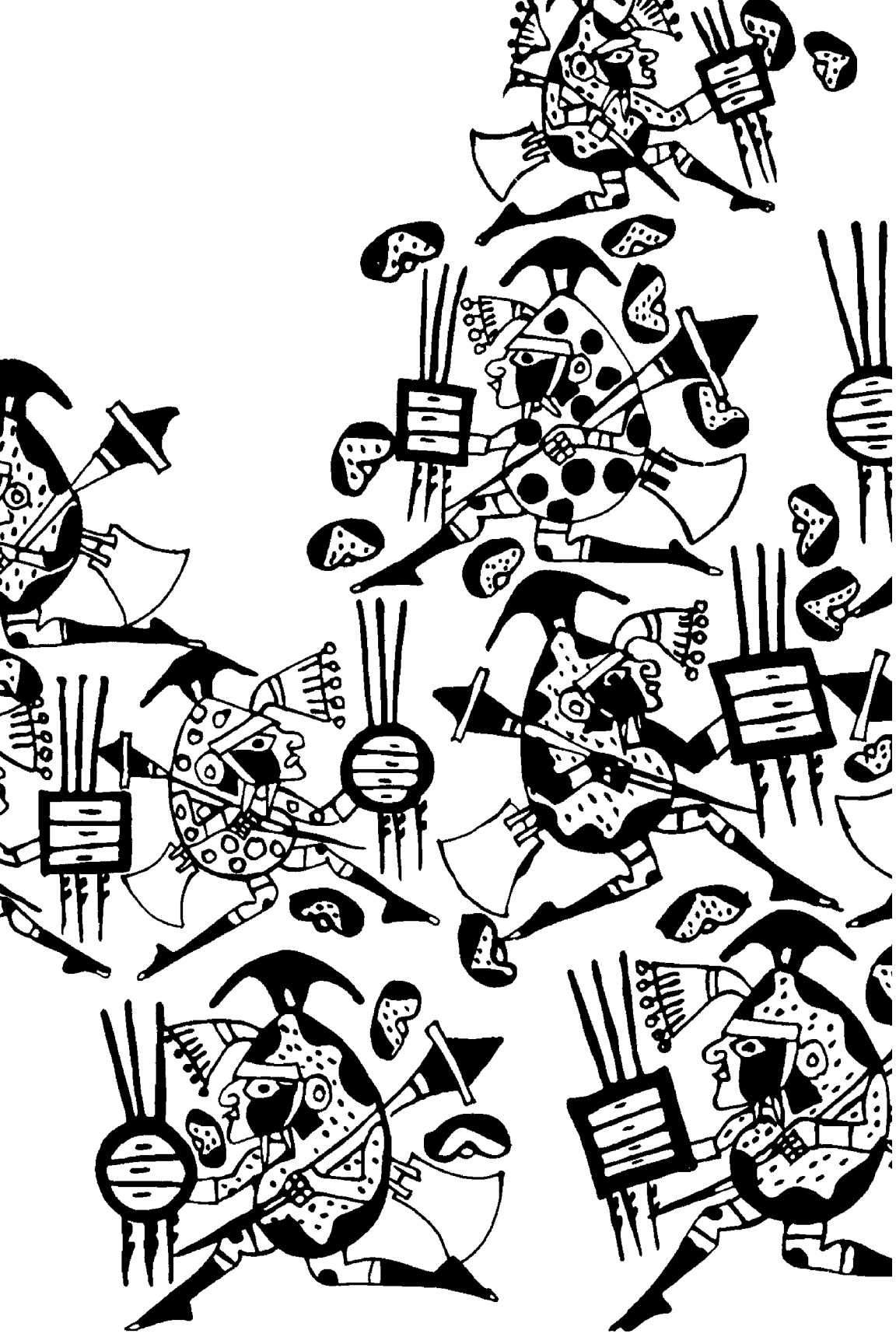
Phelps midterm: review of student landscape designs for Kingman Park Community Garden at Phelps ACE

May 10, 2017

“Designs for Anacostia”: Jeanne Haffner presented a paper at Oehme, van Sweden, and Associates on landscape architect Lawrence Halprin’s unbuilt designs for the Anacostia riverfront (1966–1970) and its relevance to contemporary waterfront planning in Washington, D.C.

May 23, 2017

Phelps final: final review of student landscape designs for Kingman Park Community Garden at Phelps ACE



Pre-Columbian Studies

This was another fruitful year for Pre-Columbian Studies, with the regular program of academic and public events enriched by visiting scholars from Harvard and further afield. The fall symposium was hosted off-site at the Naval Heritage Center in Washington, D.C., as the traditional venue in the Music Room was unavailable due to refurbishment. The symposium examined animism in the Pre-Columbian Americas, focusing on how objects and places played central social roles in practices that expressed and sanctified political authority in the Andes, Amazon, and Mesoamerica. Throughout these regions, Pre-Columbian people staked claims to their authority when they animated matter by giving life to grandiose buildings, speaking with deified boulders, and killing valued objects. Likewise, things and places often animated people by demanding labor, care, and nourishment. Such practices manifested political visions of social order by defining relationships between people, things, and the environment. An interdisciplinary group of contributors raised theoretical issues of interest to anthropologists, historians, and philosophers, and illustrated how scholars have come to see things and places as active components of social life. Similar to early anthropological theories of animism, as well as to more recent new materialist accounts, current scholarship tends to prioritize how things and places index cultural frameworks rather than focusing on the contexts and practices in which matter may come to life to realize political goals. Speakers

argued that the actions and authority of things and places rely on situated practices. Case studies revealed how Pre-Columbian social authority was claimed and sanctified in practices of transformation and transubstantiation—that is, practices that birthed, converted, or destroyed certain objects and places, as well as the social and natural order from which these things were said to emerge.

Later in the fall, a public lecture was given by distinguished Andeanist Ann Rowe, who has pursued a career-long interest in textile techniques and structures, with a focus on indigenous textiles and costume in Latin America. She was for many years curator, and is now research associate of Western Hemisphere Textiles at the Textile Museum (now incorporated into the George Washington University) where she generated some twenty exhibitions. She has also contributed to many other seminal volumes on Andean textiles, among them *Andean Art at Dumbarton Oaks* (1996). Textiles are among the most important art forms in the Americas and, as Rowe has brilliantly shown, the methodical study of their complexity offers unexpected insights into cultural origins and practices. Her lecture, “Interpreting Pre-Hispanic Peru through Its Textiles,” showed how textile production often required the most intensive technological development, and the textiles carried the most elaborate religious iconography and had the most political and social prestige of any medium in use at a given time.

Over the last three years, the Pre-Columbian Studies program has laid the groundwork for a comprehensive catalogue of the collection from Central America and Colombia. Workshops at Dumbarton Oaks and in Panama were instrumental to collaborative research for the object entries and essay contributions. Productive partnerships were forged with materials scientists working in the laboratories of the Walters Art Museum and the Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian to undertake analytical work on the gold objects. Postdoctoral research fellow Bryan Cockrell played a vital role in coordinating this research and in ensuring the entire manuscript was transmitted on schedule to publications. Following external peer review, it goes into production with an expected publication date of spring 2019. We bade farewell to Bryan, who has gone on to a post as curatorial fellow in the Arts of Africa, Oceania, and the Americas at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.



Participants in the symposium on “Sacred Matter: Animism and Authority in the Pre-Columbian Americas,” April 2017.

The spring term was marked by the “Future Directions in Pre-Columbian Studies” workshop. Eduardo Neves, professor of archaeology at the Universidade de São Paulo, Brasil, and visiting professor in the Department of Anthropology at Harvard University, gave the keynote, “Everything that Shines is Gold . . . But Does It Matter? The Conceptual Relevance of Amazonian Archaeology,” which proposed a new theoretical perspective on issues that may be applied elsewhere in the Americas. The goal of this first workshop was to undertake a

review of what is happening in and between our different fields, in order to propose future directions for Pre-Columbian studies at Dumbarton Oaks. The themes of art history and aesthetics; language, recordkeeping, and writing; and worldviews, myths, and histories were addressed by speakers Lisa Trever, Marc Zender, and Federico Navarrete. Landscape and environment, sciences, and heritage, indigenous participation, patrimony, and collections will be explored at a second workshop to be hosted by the Gold Museum in Bogotá, Colombia, in spring 2018.

Thomas Cummins, Dumbarton Oaks Professor of the History of Pre-Columbian and Colonial Art in the Department of the History of Art and Architecture at Harvard, presented a lecture for the Dumbarton Oaks community titled “Mirrored Reflections: Spanish Iconoclasm in the New World and Its Reverberations in the Old.”

Director of Publications Kathy Sparkes and Sara Taylor, managing editor of art and archaeology, continue to oversee the production of Pre-Columbian Studies volumes, the most recent in the Studies in Pre-Columbian Art and Archaeology series being *Painted Words: Nahua Catholicism, Politics, and Memory in the Atzaqualco Pictorial Catechism* by Elizabeth Boone, Louise Burkhart, and David Tavárez.

Work continued on preparing our two Pre-Columbian archives and the arrival of Tyler fellow Ari Caramanica in the fall helped reenergize the large task of enhancing the utility of the Moche materials for interested scholars. Donations of additional significant Andean materials to the Image Collections and Fieldwork Archives are in progress and the prospective transfer to Dumbarton Oaks of the Kerr Maya archive promises to ensure that this will continue to serve as a vital scholarly resource.

Scholarly Activities

Annual Symposium

Sacred Matter: Animism and Authority in the Pre-Columbian Americas

October 7–8, 2016

Organized by **Steve Kosiba**, University of Minnesota; **John Janusek**, Vanderbilt University; and **Thomas Cummins**, Harvard University

- Beth A. Conklin**, Vanderbilt University, "Burning Sorrow: Death, Ritual Destruction, Egalitarianism, and Ecology in Western Amazonia"
- Thomas Cummins**, "From the Known to the Unknown: Incarnation, Incantations, Animism, and the Politics of Pre-Columbian Visual Imagery"
- Marco Curatola-Petrocchi**, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, "On the Threshold of the Huaca: Sanctuaries of Sound in the Ancient Andean World"
- Carlos Fausto**, Museu Nacional, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, "Chiefly Jaguar, Chiefly Tree: Mastery and Authority in the Upper Xingu"
- Santiago Giraldo**, Global Heritage Fund, "Purpose, Belief, and Political Action in the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta"
- Byron Ellsworth Hamann**, Ohio State University, "Descartes, Jesus, and Huitzilopochtli: Ontologies"
- Scott R. Hutson**, University of Kentucky, "Maya Meyah: Making and Regenerating Authority within an Ontology of Work"
- John Janusek**, "Demanding Hosts: Engaged Monoliths and Geopolitical Bodies in Tiwanaku"
- Arthur A. Joyce**, University of Colorado, Boulder, "Animistic Practices in Formative-Period Oaxaca: Political and Ontological Implications"
- Steve Kosiba**, "The Stuff of Politics: How Things Authorized Action and Animated People in the Pre-Columbian Americas"
- Bruce Mannheim**, University of Michigan, "Southern Quechua Ontology"
- Patricia A. McAnany**, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, "Soul Proprietors: Managing Vital Energies in the Maya Region"
- Johannes Neurath**, Museo Nacional de Antropología, INAH, and UNAM, "Ambiguous Figuration and Relational Complexity in Huichol Art, as Compared to Other Amerindian Traditions from the Past and the Present"
- Mary Weismantel**, Northwestern University, "The Lanzón's Tale: Animist Practice and Political Authority at Chavín de Huantar"



Participants in the workshop on “Future Directions in Pre-Columbian Studies,”
March 2017.

Public Lectures

December 1, 2016

Ann Pollard Rowe, The Textile Museum, “Interpreting Pre-Hispanic Peru through Its Textiles”

March 16, 2017

Eduardo Neves, Universidade de São Paulo, Brasil, “Everything that Shines Is Gold . . . But Does It Matter? The Conceptual Relevance of Amazonian Archaeology”

Talks

July 25, 2016

Marcelo Campagno, “Processes of Urbanization and State Emergence in Hierakonpolis (Nile Valley) and Monte Albán (Oaxaca Valley): A Comparative Research”

July 28, 2016

Melanie Miller, University of California, Berkeley, “Tracing Social Difference through Food Consumption Practices: A Case Study from the Muisca of the Northern Andes, 1000–1400 AD”

August 1, 2016

Paz Núñez-Regueiro, Musée du quai Branly, “The Musée du quai Branly’s Pre-Columbian Collections: Objects’ Histories and Museum Trajectories over a Century”

May 1, 2017

Lisa Dunbar Solas, Australian National University, “Tanta Karwa and Her Ancestors: An Introduction to the Cultural Landscape of Ocros (Ancash, Peru)”

Workshop

Future Directions in Pre-Columbian Studies

March 17, 2017

Participants: Elizabeth Boone, Tulane University; Thomas Cummins, Harvard University; Kenneth Hirth, Pennsylvania State University; Douglas Kennett, Pennsylvania State University; Diana Magaloni, Los Angeles County Museum of Art; Patricia McAnany, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; Colin McEwan, Dumbarton Oaks; Mary Miller, Yale University; Barbara Mundy, Fordham University; Federico Navarrete, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México; Eduardo Neves, Universidade de São Paulo, Brasil; Frank Salomon, University of Wisconsin–Madison; Vernon Scarborough, University of Cincinnati; Lisa Trever, University of California, Berkeley; John Verano, Tulane University; Marc Zender, Tulane University

nudi nos, 1. Cor. 4, 11. *victores nos, Rom. 8, 37.*
 1. Job. 4, 11. Sic: *debitorum nos,*

4. Nomina hæc *pater, & frater, ante*
 affixum Jud assumunt vocalem quartam: ante alia
 affixa retinent pthochæ, & assumunt insuper loco
 Jod Ebræorum (conf. *suprà membr. 2.*) Wau. ut:
pater meus, Matth. 7, 21. *frater meus,*
 Marc. 3, 35. *pater noster, Rom. 14, 21, &c.* Sic &
frater noster, Matth. 6, 9.
 Chald. *pater tuus, Dan. 5, 11.* *pater ejus, Job. 18, 13.*
 5. Nomen Syr. Dominus, non assumit af-
 fixa, sub hac formâ, sed ut: *dominus*
domine mi, Matth. 7, 21.

II. De Affixorum subjunctione cum Verbis.

Chaldæi imitantur maximè hîc Syros.
 Apud Syros tertia & prima singula-
 Præteriti & tempus Infinitum assu-
 munt affixum *σ* masc. g: excipe verba
σ, quæ in tertia Præteriti Peal (extra
 rem.) assumunt *σ*. Secunda verò
 numeri, tertia & prima plurales
 Præ-

Cap.
 Pra
 num
 assum
 tiam

Ab
 appon
 na inte
 cavet co
 runt eos

III. Aff

Vocalem.

simum) ha

rum, scil. f

ra Jud; mode

sic Jud: σ

hoc modo:

σ in Præteriti

Futuri II.

Infinito.

σ Præter. 2: u

Futur. I. f

Futur. II. 2

Futur. I. mal

Futur. II. 2. fi

Library

The Research Library, including the Image Collections and Fieldwork Archives (ICFA) and the Rare Book Collection, continues to support specialized scholarship in Dumbarton Oaks' programs and related fields. The library is open to researchers 96 hours a week, 360 days a year. In 2016–2017, fellows made more than 8,000 visits; over 500 readers from nearly 150 institutions internationally visited over 2,500 times; 156 individuals were granted reader privileges; 71 researchers conducted research in the Rare Book Collection; and 21 researchers conducted research in ICFA. Over 1,000 rare books, photographs, and archival boxes were consulted, 949 interlibrary loan requests were filled for fellows and staff, 290 items were lent to other libraries, and nearly 500 images of ICFA and rare book materials were supplied to researchers for study and publication. More than 3,500 new books were added to the library collection, complementing over 1,000 active journal subscriptions. An additional 52 volumes from the Rare Book Collection were digitized and made available online and over 10,000 photographs and images from the ICFA collections were digitized and made freely available for researchers. Among the collection materials now online are over 700 line drawings by Donna McClelland of iconography on Moche ceramic vessels catalogued by Ari Caramanica, a Tyler fellow working in ICFA during the academic year. In December 2016, Byzantine Studies Librarian Deborah Brown Stewart left Dumbarton Oaks to become the head of the museum library at the University of Pennsylvania.

Noteworthy Acquisitions

The library's holdings grew impressively, with additions of early and rare printed books, manuscripts, photographs, and archival materials.

Byzantine Collections

Frank Kidner, professor of history emeritus at San Francisco State University, donated nearly 20,000 photographs of monuments of the eastern Mediterranean taken from the 1980s through the early 2000s. His initial gift of 9,750 slides documents late Roman, Byzantine, and medieval Islamic settlements and monuments in Syria and Lebanon. He subsequently transferred an additional 10,000 slides of early Christian sites in Egypt, Israel, Jordan, and Turkey. The Research Library has begun the process of digitizing and cataloging the photos of the Syrian monuments for online access. The library also acquired for the Rare Book Collection a seventeenth-century collection of philological treatises on Greek, Hebrew, Syriac, Arabic, and other Near Eastern languages by Andreas Sennert.

Garden and Landscape Collections

Growth of the Garden Library collection continues to build on strengths in architecture, urban design, and horticulture as well as in documentation of specific gardens and landscapes. Joan Blaeu's *Theatrum Civitatum et Admirandorum Italiae* of 1663 represents the signature acquisition of the past year. The three luxurious volumes at Dumbarton Oaks, bound in the original Dutch vellum with gilt borders, feature over a hundred engraved plates, some of which are hand-colored. The first volume, dealing with the cities of the Papal States, is a rich visual and textual introduction to their main monuments and landmarks. Some plates also depict major gardens, such as those of Frascati and Tivoli, as well as sacred and devotional sites located in the immediate vicinity. The second volume, on the monuments of ancient Rome, includes sections on circuses, theaters, and amphitheaters; its important focus, however, is on Egyptian obelisks with meticulously recorded hieroglyphic inscriptions, a source of scholarly fascination throughout the seventeenth century. A special highlight is an account of the moving of the Vatican Obelisk in front of St. Peter's Basilica, one of the greatest engineering feats of the sixteenth century, carried out in 1586 by the papal architect Domenico Fontana. For Blaeu and his readers, the glory of ancient



View of Palmyra, photographed by Frank Kidner (PHBZ024.2016.0978).

Rome was always interlaced with the achievements of the modern city. The third volume, which deals with Naples and Sicily, pays much attention to the natural attractions of these regions, especially the unique geology and vegetation in the areas of volcanic activity, such as Mount Vesuvius and the Phlegraean Fields.

Two newly acquired eighteenth-century manuscripts document gardening traditions in Japan. *Teizan sensui hiden* is a large scroll containing a ca. 1789 copy of a text dating to the fourteenth century CE. The second, on the art of bonseki, consists of four small volumes stitched together and prepared between 1783 and 1789. Other recent additions include descriptions of specific landscapes and gardens as well as horticultural and botanical books and almanacs.

Pre-Columbian Collections

Additions to the Pre-Columbian collections include an important photographic archive, two eighteenth-century manuscripts, and several early printed books.



Recently digitized watercolor of Asian fruits (RBR K-3-2 PHILV).

In spring 2017, Donald Proulx, professor of anthropology emeritus at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, donated to Dumbarton Oaks his archive of over 10,000 photographs and documentation of ceramic vessels produced by the Nasca culture. Likewise, Justin Kerr has begun to transfer photographic materials from his collection documenting Maya painted vases. The addition of these collections further strengthens the centrality of the Image Collections and Fieldwork Archives as a fundamental resource for research on Pre-Columbian ceramics and iconography.

Two important eighteenth-century manuscripts were added to the Pre-Columbian rare book collection that further bolster the sources available for the study of the indigenous cultures of Peru. The nearly 400-page *Relación de gobierno del Excmo. Sor. Virrey del Perú Frey D. Francisco Gil de Tobada y Lemus: presentada á su sucesor el Excmo. Sor. Varon de Vallemani año de 1796* contains the report by the governor of the Viceroyalty of Peru to his successor, Ambrosio O'Higgins, on the state of the colony and its administration. Although such reports were common, this manuscript is remarkable for its length and detail. The manuscript also includes several folded charts, closely observed drawings of representatives of twelve regional ethnic groups and two manuscript maps that depict the west coast of South America and the interior of Peru.

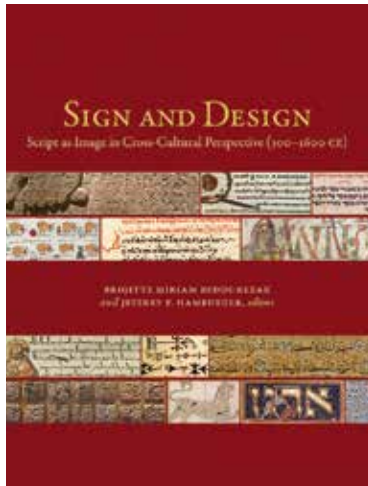
The second manuscript, entitled *Testimonio de la Rl. Executoria de los descendientes de los Sres. Reyes Emperadores del Perú, hecha en el Rl. Acuerdo de Lima, la qual se halla en una de las Alazenas de la Real Audiencia de Mexico sacado concitacion del Sr. Fiscal de esta Corte*, consists of 154 leaves and 3 paintings. A patent of nobility and proof of *limpieza de sangre*, an *ejecutoria* was a critical object through which colonial Inca nobility maintained their social and political position. Similar and most likely related to documents that María Joaquina Inca presented to the Council of Indies in 1800, this manuscript asserts her descent from the royal families of Mexico and Peru in order to receive the accorded privileges. Peruvian *ejecutorias* for the descendants of the Inca are extremely rare; this example survives because it was produced in Mexico.

The library also acquired distinctive books on indigenous languages of Mexico and Central America, primarily in the form of colonial-era dictionaries, grammars, and catechisms. Likewise, rare items on the physical sciences were purchased to complement the study of the material culture of the peoples of the Americas in the pre-conquest and early colonial periods, including books on flora and fauna, animal husbandry, medicinal uses of plants, and geology. In the same vein, the library also acquired William Walton's *An Historical and Descriptive Account of the Four Species of Peruvian Sheep, Called Carneros de la Tierra* (1811) and the Chihuahua Mining Company's report on the activities and yield of several mines in the District of Jesus Maria, Sierra Madre of 1865.

Publications

Dumbarton Oaks Books and *Dumbarton Oaks Papers*

This year, we released eight print volumes in our various publication series. Two of these releases are in our newest series, Dumbarton Oaks Symposia, which is based on interdisciplinary symposia sponsored by the Dumbarton Oaks administration. Joel Kalvesmaki, Byzantine managing editor, shepherded two Byzantine volumes, one in the Dumbarton Oaks Symposia series, and *Dumbarton Oaks Papers* 70. Sara Taylor, art and archaeology managing editor, produced five volumes—two Pre-Columbian books, one Garden and Landscape volume, one Dumbarton Oaks Symposia series volume, and one book for I Tatti. While maintaining high standards for print publications, the publications department is moving forward with our digital and web program. Lain Wilson, digital content manager, ran a user experience survey, followed by an upgrade to the navigation and styling of our website. He also created an online interface for the “Mapping Cultural Philanthropy” online publication, and worked on the online Byzantine Coins Catalogue and the Byzantine Textile Catalogue.



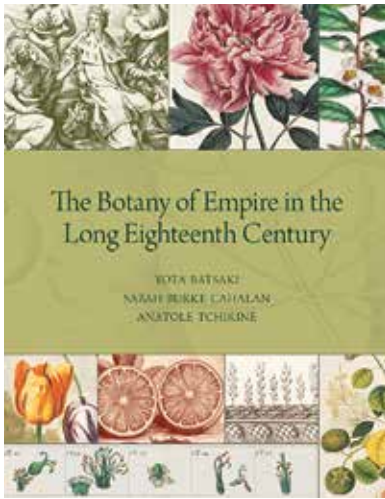
Sign and Design: Script as Image in a Cross-Cultural Perspective (300–1600 CE), edited by Brigitte Miriam Bedos-Rezak and Jeffrey F. Hamburger

From antiquity to the modern age, legal, documentary, exegetical, literary, and linguistic traditions have organized the relationship between image and letter in diverse ways. This relationship has long been a staple of scholarship, which has probed

the manner and meaning of its dynamics in terms of equivalency, complementarity, and polarity. This volume addresses the pictorial dimension of writing systems from cross-cultural and multidisciplinary perspectives. Historians—including specialists in art and literature, paleographers, and anthropologists—consider imagistic scripts of the ancient and medieval Near East, Europe, Byzantium, and Latin America, and within Jewish, polytheistic, Christian, and Muslim cultures. They engage with pictographic, ideographic, and logographic writing systems, as well as with alphabetic scripts, to examine cross-pollination between language and art.

The Botany of Empire in the Long Eighteenth Century, edited by Yota Batsaki, Sarah Burke Cahalan, and Anatole Tchikine

The eighteenth century witnessed widespread exploration, expanded trade in botanical specimens, new scientific agendas, taxonomic breakthroughs, and horticultural experimentation. *The Botany of Empire in the Long Eighteenth Century* investigates the cultural, economic, and political significance of plants in this time of rapid and groundbreaking developments. The complex relationship between natural history and empire in this period calls for a sweepingly comparative approach. The chapters in the volume reach beyond Europe and the Atlantic to encompass powers that had no overseas colonial possessions—such as the Russian, Ottoman, and Qing empires and the Tokugawa shogunate—as well as politically borderline regions such as South Africa, Yemen, and New Zealand. Viewed as a whole, this picture takes us



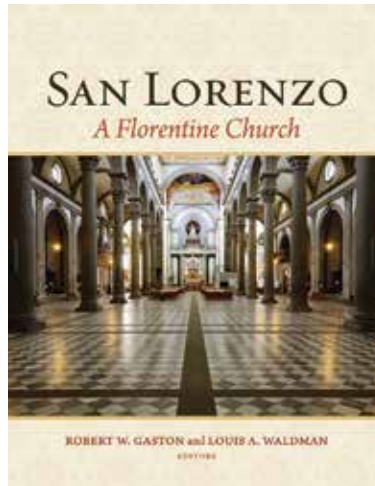
away from a mechanistic perception of how empires functioned, highlighting a broader range of actors (both complicit and resistant) and factors that underlay the imperial practice of natural history. Above all, this richly illustrated volume is deeply informed by material culture, from the practicalities of acquiring and transporting botanical specimens to the stunning variety of publications that documented local and foreign

floras. Objects that had been rare or exotic, from hothouse plants to illustrated books, became increasingly known, desired, and trafficked.

San Lorenzo: A Florentine Church, edited by Robert W. Gaston and Louis A. Waldman

Villa I Tatti Series 33, published by I Tatti, the Center for Renaissance Studies, and produced by Dumbarton Oaks

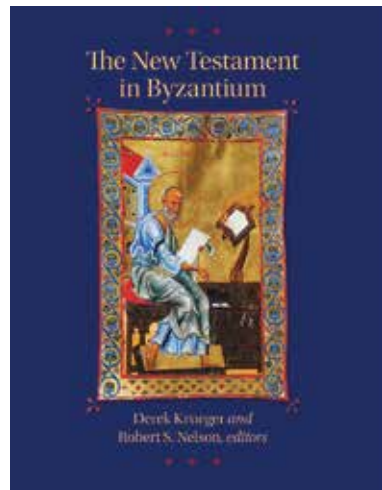
San Lorenzo: A Florentine Church examines many previously unexplored aspects of the history of the Basilica of San Lorenzo, from its Early Christian foundation to the modern era. Brunelleschi's rebuilt Basilica, the center of liturgical patronage of the Medici and their grand-ducal successors until the nineteenth century, is one of the most studied churches in Florence. Modern research has tended, however, to focus on the remarkable art and architecture created between 1400 and 1600. In this comprehensive and interdisciplinary collection, scholars investigate the urban setting of the church and its parish; San Lorenzo's



relations with other ecclesiastical institutions; the genesis of major buildings of the complex and their decorations; the clergy, chapels, and altars; the chapter's administration and financial structure; lay and clerical patronage; devotional furnishings, music, illuminated liturgical manuscripts, and preaching; and the annual or ephemeral festal practices on the site. The contributions offer fresh archival research, relevant documents, and critical assessments of the historiography. San Lorenzo is represented as a living Florentine institution, continually reshaped by complex historical forces.

The New Testament in Byzantium,
edited by Derek Krueger and Robert S. Nelson

The New Testament lay at the center of Byzantine Christian thought and practice. But codices and rolls were neither the sole nor the most important way the Byzantines understood the New Testament. Lectionaries apportioned much of its contents over the course of the liturgical calendar; its narratives structured the experience of liturgical time and shaped the nature of Christian preaching throughout Byzantine history. A successor

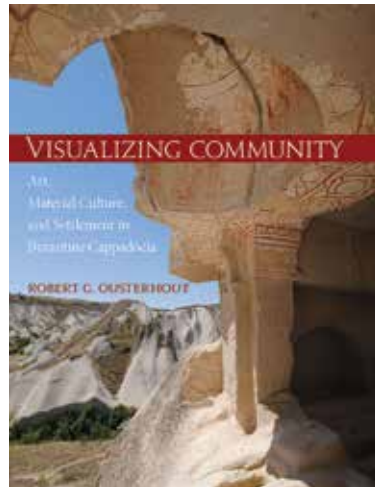


to *The Old Testament in Byzantium* (2010), this book asks: What was the New Testament for Byzantine Christians? What of it was known, how, when, where, and by whom? How was this knowledge mediated through text, image, and rite? What was the place of these sacred texts in Byzantine arts, letters, and thought?

Authors draw on the current state of textual scholarship and explore aspects of the New Testament, particularly as it was read, heard, imaged, and imagined in lectionaries, hymns, homilies, and saints' lives, and as it was illustrated in miniatures and monuments. Framing theological inquiry, ecclesiastical controversy, and political thought, the contributions here help develop understanding of the New Testament and its varied reception over the long history of Byzantium.

Visualizing Community: Art, Material Culture, and Settlement in Byzantine Cappadocia, by Robert G. Ousterhout

Cappadocia, a picturesque volcanic region of central Anatolia, preserves the best evidence of daily life in the Byzantine Empire, yet it remains remarkably understudied, better known to tourists than to scholars. Despite its lack of textual documentation, medieval Cappadocia is unrivaled in the Byzantine world for its abundant material culture. It preserves at least a thousand



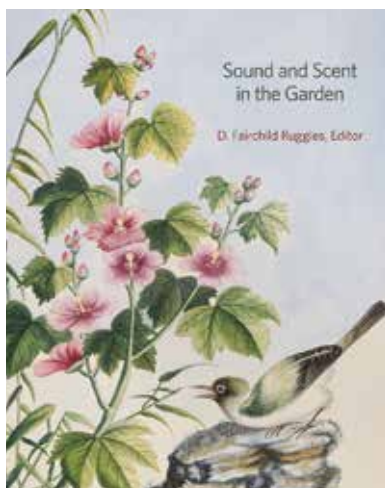
rock-cut churches or chapels, of which more than one-third retain significant elements of their painted decoration, as well as monasteries, houses, entire towns and villages, underground refuges, agricultural installations, storage facilities, hydrological interventions, and countless other examples of nonecclesiastical architecture.

Based on the close analysis of its material and visual residues, *Visualizing Community* offers a critical reassessment of the story and historiography of Byzantine Cappadocia, with chapters devoted to its architecture and painting, as well as to its secular and spiritual landscapes. In the absence of a written record, it may never be possible to write a traditional history of the region, but, as Ousterhout shows, it is possible to visualize the kinds of communities that once formed the living landscape of Cappadocia.

Sound and Scent in the Garden, edited by D. Fairchild Ruggles

While we often approach gardens as things to be seen—thus engaging the rational and intellectual part of the human brain—*Sound and Scent in the Garden* explores the more elusive experiences of sound and smell. Important dimensions of garden design and performance, and often having a powerful effect on the human body, these senses are ephemeral and can be difficult to study.

The contributors explore the sensory experience of gardens as places where people encounter landscape in a staged manner, as the

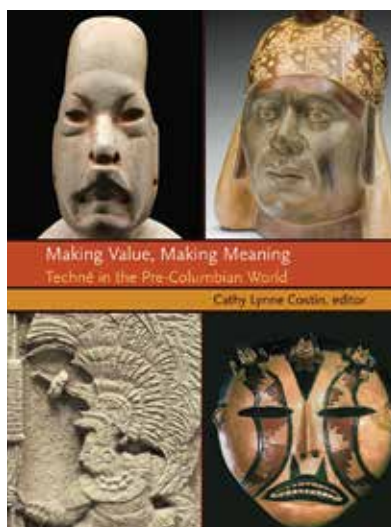


result of intentional design. How do the senses contribute to the experience of those places? How are plants, gardens, and landscapes produced to stimulate the senses? What evidence do we have for historical sensory experience? What is lost when we forget to acknowledge the sensory environment of the past or simply overlook its traces? The volume's most lasting contribution may be to show the wide variety of approaches we can

apply to the study of sensory history and to show that the senses have always been an important dimension of the experience of gardens, past and present, East and West.

Making Value, Making Meaning: Techné in the Pre-Columbian World,
edited by Cathy Lynne Costin

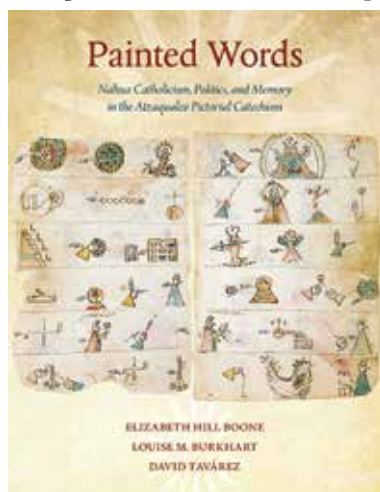
This volume adopts the concept of techné as an analytic tool to understand how the production process created value and meaning for social valuables and public monuments in complex societies in Pre-Columbian Mesoamerica and the Andes. The archaeologists and art historians contributing to this volume add to the study of ancient artisans and craftsmanship through the exploration of how technology, the organization of production, artisan identity, and the deployment of esoteric knowledge factor into the creation of symbolically and politically charged material culture. The wide-ranging case studies demonstrate that techné—thorough and masterful



knowledge of a specific field deployed to create things with social utility—is a powerful concept for understanding the political economy of craft production, the role of objects in social life, and how their creation and use helps to generate their social, political, and spiritual power.

Painted Words: Nahua Catholicism, Politics, and Memory in the Atzaqualco Pictorial Catechism, edited by Elizabeth Hill Boone, Louise M. Burkhart, and David Tavárez

Painted Words: Nahua Catholicism, Politics, and Memory in the Atzaqualco Pictorial Catechism presents a facsimile, decipherment,



and analysis of a seventeenth-century pictographic catechism from colonial Mexico, preserved as *Fonds mexicain 399* at the Bibliothèque nationale de France. Works in the genre present the Catholic catechism in pictures that were read sign by sign as aids to memorization and oral performance. They have long been understood as products of the experimental techniques of early evangelization, but this study shows they are better understood

as particularly indigenous expressions of devotional knowledge.

In addition to inventive pictography to recount the catechism, the manuscript features layers of additional material, including Nahuatl texts that focus on don Pedro Moteuczoma, son of the Mexica ruler Moteuczoma the Younger, and his home, San Sebastián Atzaqualco. Other glosses identify figures in the manuscript as Nahua and Spanish historical personages, as if the catechism had been repurposed as a dynastic record. The end of the document displays a series of Nahua and Spanish heraldic devices. These combined pictorial and alphabetic expressions make the text a spectacular example of how colonial pictographers created innovative text genres, through which they reimagined Pre-Columbian writing and early evangelization, articulated newly emerging assertions of indigenous identity, and memorialized native history.

The Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library

With forty-nine bilingual volumes published since the Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library (DOML) was launched in 2010, this fast-growing and critically acclaimed series is designed to make available the written achievements of medieval and Byzantine culture to English-speaking scholars and general readers. Each volume presents original texts in Byzantine Greek, Medieval Latin, and Old English alongside facing-page translations with limited commentary. Over the course of the 2016–2017 fellowship year, four volumes were published.

The Rhetorical Exercises of Nikephoros Basilakes: Progymnasmata from Twelfth-Century Byzantium was edited and translated from Byzantine Greek by Jeffrey Beneker and Craig A. Gibson. *Progymnasmata*, preliminary exercises in the study of declamation, were the cornerstone of elite education from Hellenistic through Byzantine times. Using material from Greek literary, mythological, and historical traditions, students and writers composed examples ranging from simple fables to complex arguments about fictional laws. In the Byzantine period, the spectrum of source material expanded to include the Bible and Christian hagiography and theology. This collection was written by Nikephoros Basilakes, imperial notary and teacher at the prestigious Patriarchal School in Constantinople during the twelfth century. In his texts, Basilakes made significant use of biblical themes, especially in character studies—known as *ethopoeiae*—featuring King David, the Virgin Mary, and Saint Peter. The Greek exercises presented here, translated into English for the first time, shed light on education under the Komnenian emperors and illuminate literary culture during one of the most important epochs in the long history of the Byzantine Empire.

The Old English History of the World: An Anglo-Saxon Rewriting of Orosius was edited and translated by Malcolm R. Godden. It is a translation and adaptation of the Latin history known as the *Seven Books of History against the Pagans*, written by the Spanish cleric Paulus Orosius at the prompting of Saint Augustine after the sack of Rome in 410. To counter the pagan and republican narratives of Livy and other classical historians, Orosius created an account of the ancient world from a Christian and imperial viewpoint. His work was immensely popular throughout Europe until the end of the Middle Ages. Around the year 900, an Old English version was produced by an anonymous writer, possibly encouraged or inspired by King



Alfred. The translator actively transformed Orosius’s narrative, cutting extraneous detail, adding explanations and dramatic speeches, and supplying a long section on the geography of the Germanic world. This volume offers a new edition and modern translation of an Anglo-Saxon perspective on the ancient world.

Poems was edited and translated from Medieval Latin by Michael Roberts. The eleven books of poetry by Venantius Fortunatus include well-loved hymns, figure poems, epigrams on miracles, and elegies in the voices of abandoned or exiled women. The sixth-century poet began his career in northern Italy before moving to Gaul, where he wrote for the remainder of his life—praising kings and elites of the Merovingian dynasty and describing the natural scenery and society of his adopted homeland during the transition from late antiquity to

the early Middle Ages. In his lively and inventive style, Fortunatus also addressed verses to religious figures such as his patron Gregory of Tours and to holy women like Radegund, founder of the Convent of the Holy Cross in Poitiers, and Agnes, the convent's first abbess. Fortunatus's imaginative metaphors and wry, self-mocking humor ensure his place in the canon of Christian Latin poets. This volume presents all his poetry, apart from a single long saint's life in verse, in English translation for the first time.

Christian Novels from the Menologion of Symeon Metaphrastes was edited and translated from Byzantine Greek by Stratis Papaioannou. Created in the tenth century, most likely as an imperial commission, the *Menologion* is a collection of rewritings of saints' lives originally intended to be read at services for Christian feast days. Yet Symeon Metaphrastes's stories also abound in transgression and violence, punishment and redemption, love and miracles. They resemble Greek novels of the first centuries of the Common Era, highlighting intense emotions and focusing on desire, both sacred and profane. Symeon Metaphrastes was celebrated for rescuing martyrdom accounts and saints' biographies that might otherwise have been lost. His *Menologion*, among the most important Byzantine works, represents the culmination of a well-established tradition of Greek Christian storytelling. A landmark of Byzantine religious and literary culture, the *Menologion* was revered for centuries—copied in hundreds of manuscripts, recited publicly, and adapted into other medieval languages. This edition presents the first English translation of six Christian novels excerpted from Symeon's text, all of them featuring women who defy social expectations.

The general editor for the series is Jan Ziolkowski and the assistant managing editor is Raquel Begleiter. Over the summer, four Harvard students interned in DOML and assisting with translations: Sasha Barish, George Hu, Charlie Hyman, and Joseph Shack.

Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library Titles, 2016–2017

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The Rhetorical Exercises of Nikephoros Basilakes:

Progymnasmata from Twelfth-Century Byzantium

Nikephoros Basilakes

Edited and translated by Jeffrey Beneker and Craig A. Gibson

Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library 44

The Old English History of the World: An Anglo-Saxon

Rewriting of Orosius

Edited and translated by Malcolm R. Godden

Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library 45

Christian Novels from the Menologion of Symeon Metaphrastes

Symeon Metaphrastes

Edited and translated by Stratis Papaioannou

Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library 46

Poems

Venantius Fortunatus

Edited and translated by Michael Roberts

Conferences and Meetings

General editor Jan M. Ziolkowski and assistant managing editor

Raquel Begleiter represented DOML at the following conferences and meetings:

July 4–7, 2016

International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds

December 9, 2016

Iberian Board Meeting

May 11–14, 2017

52nd International Congress on Medieval Studies,

Western Michigan University

Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library Residencies

Invited for short-stays, or residencies, a small number of translator teams are offered the opportunity to take advantage of on-campus resources. Preference is given to projects nearing completion, when concentrated intensive work is most needed, and to translators who would not otherwise be able to meet in person.

June 25–July 16, 2016

Suzanne Abrams Rebillard, translating Gregory of Nazianzus's

Poemata de Seipso

Editorial Boards 2016–2017

Byzantine Greek series

Series editor: Alice-Mary Talbot

Board members: Alexander Alexakis, Charles Barber, Niels Gaul, Richard Greenfield, Anthony Kaldellis, Derek Krueger, Eustratios Papaioannou, Claudia Rapp

Medieval Latin series

Series editor: Danuta Shanzer

Board members: Robert G. Babcock, Julia Barrow, B. Gregory Hays, David Townsend, Winthrop Wetherbee, Michael Winterbottom, Roger Wright

Old English series

Series editor: Daniel Donoghue

Board members: Peter Baker, R. D. Fulk, Malcolm Godden, Antonette diPaolo Healey, Susan Irvine, Christopher A. Jones, Katherine O'Brien O'Keeffe, Andy Orchard, Elizabeth Tyler

Iberian series

A Medieval Iberia editorial board is in development, with Josiah Blackmore to lead as series editor.

Digital Publishing and Website

Publications continued to support the institutional website and digital humanities projects in 2016–2017. These projects include ongoing work with the online catalogue of Byzantine lead seals and a new initiative, “Mapping Cultural Philanthropy.” We also undertook user testing of the institutional website and implemented an updated theme, refreshing the look of our site four years after it moved to the Plone content management system.

In September, the online catalogue of Byzantine lead seals reached 6,000 entries. With more than one-third of the world's largest collection of lead seals now online, we have made publicly available some of the richest material for Byzantine prosopographical and administrative research.

In December 2016, we launched a major new project, “Mapping Cultural Philanthropy.” Managed by archivist James Carder, the



The “Mapping Cultural Philanthropy” online project.

project presents short profiles of cultural institutions in Washington, D.C., that emerged from the private collections of individuals. The profiles, which have been researched and written by Harvard summer interns, humanities fellows, Priyanka Menon, and Carder himself, explore the biographies of the founders, their aesthetic sensibilities and collecting strategies, and the reasons why they chose to make their collections public. The interactive map and timeline visually relate the patterns of cultural philanthropy across time and the cityscape.

We have a number of digital projects and publications on the horizon, including the online catalogue of Byzantine coins, research portals for materials in the Image Collections and Fieldwork Archives, and an online catalogue raisonné of Byzantine and early Islamic furnishing textiles.



Museum

After the museum closed at the end of May 2016 and the galleries were deinstalled, the renovation project to upgrade gallery lighting to an LED system started swiftly. In November, the lighting project's first phase was completed and the Music Room reinstalled. The Courtyard Gallery, Textile Gallery, and Byzantine Gallery were upgraded with new skylight and shading technology and LED lighting, and by end of March all display cases in these galleries and in the Pre-Columbian Gallery were reinstalled. The museum opened to the public on April 25, 2017.

Exhibitions

Pre-Columbian Dress and Early Byzantine Furnishing Textiles

April 25, 2017–March 2018, Textile Gallery

The textile rotation features late Roman and early Byzantine hangings and curtains in tapestry weave used in private and religious spaces alongside looped and woven garments from the Andes, where elite individuals displayed their wealth and status by wearing clothing in dazzling colors and patterns.

Women in Art, 1850–1910

April 25, 2017–March 2018, Special Exhibition Gallery

By the last quarter of the nineteenth century, the Academic nude female and the realist peasant woman were replaced by the fashionably



LED Lighting and new display cases in the Courtyard Gallery.

dressed urban woman. Similarly, artists no longer depicted children as small adults but as playful, sometimes rebellious youngsters. The thirteen works in this exhibition are part of the collection formed by the Blisses, who admired the art of the French Impressionists and Post-Impressionists and were especially fond of the paintings of the Belgian artist Alfred Stevens. Five of his paintings in this show are on public display for the first time.

Ancient Bronzes in the Dumbarton Oaks Collections

April 25, 2017–March 2018, Courtyard Gallery

Mildred and Robert Bliss collected a sizable number of bronze objects from a wide variety of periods and cultures: prehistoric Chinese, Egyptian, Greco-Roman, Byzantine, and Inka. The manufacture of copper and its alloys, such as bronze, was well known in Mesopotamia and Egypt in the fifth and fourth millennia BCE. The display and juxtaposition of bronze sculptures and objects aims to



Museum technician Colin Kelly and art handler Rick Yamada.

draw attention to the highly specialized craft and its various techniques—direct, indirect lost-wax casting, hammering—and invites questions of craftsmanship, use, and meaning of ancient works in bronze.

*Early Acquisitions: Bliss Collecting in Paris
and London, 1912–1919*

April 25, 2017–March 2018, Bliss Gallery

When the Blisses lived in Paris, they developed their collecting interests and passion, becoming especially intrigued by unusual objects that were newly available at the avant-garde art dealers' shops.

Loans, Gifts, and Acquisitions

Loans

Loans from the Collections

March 25, 2016–July 20, 2016

Byzantine Collection

Portrait of Menander (BZ.1946.2) and *Statuette of an Emaciated Man* (BZ.1947.22): Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, *Pergamon and the Art of the Hellenistic Kingdoms*

April 1, 2016–August 10, 2016

Byzantine Collection

Textiles with a Hero Borne Aloft by a Two-Headed Eagle, three fragments (BZ.1929.101, BZ.1930.1, and BZ.1934.6): Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, *The Great Age of the Seljuqs*

June 10, 2016–January 15, 2017

House Collection

The Song Rehearsal by Edgar Degas (HC.P.1918.02(O): National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, and Museum of Fine Arts Houston, *Degas: A New Vision*

Loan to the Collections

April 18, 2016–June 30, 2018

Byzantine Collection

From Susanne Bennet: Mother Cat with Two Kittens.

Gifts

Pre-Columbian: William J. and Barbara Conklin, 136 textiles from their private collection

Byzantine: John Casey's Estate/Morton Eden, modern lead seal of a forged Bulgarian solidus

Acquisitions

Coins and Weights

Silver aspron trachy, Andronicus I Gidus, 1222–1235, Turkish mint (BZC.2016.003)

Bronze coin weight with silver inlay (BZ.2016.022)

Bronze solidus weight or exagium, Honorius, 393–423 (BZ.2016.023)



Wari Khipu (600–1000 CE) from the William J. and Barbara Conklin Collection.

Weight of 5 nomismata, ca. 5th–7th century (BZ.2016.024)

Weight of 18 nomismata, ca. 6th–7th century (BZ.2016.025)

Weight of 6 ounkia, ca. 5th–7th century (BZ.2016.026)

Weight of 3 ounkia, ca. 7th century or later (BZ.2016.027)

Bronze weight of 1 libra, ca. 11th–13th century (BZ.2016.028)

Bronze weight of 2 ounkia, ca. 11th–13th century (BZ.2016.029)

Gold solidus, Tiberius III, 698–705 (BZC.2017.002)

Silver trachy, Michael VIII and Andronicus II (BZC.2017.003)

Byzantine glass nomisma weight (BZC.2017.004)

Byzantine glass 5-siliquae weight (BZC.2017.005)

Billon trachy, John Comnenus Ducas, 1237–1242 (BZC.2017.006)

Billon tornese, Andronicus III Palaeologus, 1328–1341 (BZC.2017.007)

Bronze trachy, Michael II Comnenus Ducas, 1230–1266/68

(BZC.2017.012)

Silver aspron trachy, John III Ducas Vatatzes, 1222–1254

(BZC.2017.013)

Silver religious jeton, Constantine VIII, 1025–1028 (BZC.2017.014)

Billon aspron trachy, Manuel Comnenus Ducas, 1230–1237

(BZC.2017.015)

Gold bulla in the name of Andronicus II Palaeologus, 1282–1328

(BZC.2017.016)

Gold hyperpyron, John III Ducas Vatatzes, 1222–1254 (BZC.2017.017)

Purchase from the Clive Foss Collection

Eighteen Arab-Byzantine-type square coins, unknown mint, southern or central Palestine (BZC.2016.004– BZC.2016.021)

Purchase from the Peter Bartlett Collection

Gold Spanish coin of Heraclius (BZC.2016.030)

Textiles

Coptic textile fragment (BZ.2016.032)

Coptic textile wall hanging with a childlike flying dancer
(BZ.2017.008)

Coptic textile panel with a bird in a tree within a garden grid
(BZ.2017.009)

Coptic textile scarf edge with tiraz band (BZ.2017.010)

Coptic textile tunic with Bacchic dancers, crosses, and birds
(BZ.2017.011)

Manuscript

Collection of Dr. Charles Caldwell Ryrie, 10th century (Benton Gospels) (Temp.BZ.2017.001)

Docents Program

The past year has been a time of growth for the museum volunteer program; the number of volunteers almost doubled as eleven new members joined as docents and visitor service assistants. From February through June, all the volunteers participated in in-depth weekly training on the museum's collections and on tour-giving techniques. The addition of new volunteers, coupled with the training, will ensure that Dumbarton Oaks continues to offer high-quality visitor services and tours.

Garden tours continued while the museum was closed, and our garden tours for school groups continued to expand. In 2015–2016, the museum initiated a collaboration with the National Park Service to bring fourth-graders to study the design of the gardens. This year, that program expanded to include four additional public schools in Washington, D.C.



Dumbarton Oaks docents, 2016-2017.

Museum Shop

The past year of renovations provided new challenges and opportunities for the Museum Shop. From May through October, a pop-up store was installed in the Orangery while the museum was closed. To accommodate our regular customers, the Museum Shop opened for a short time during the winter holiday season. On March 15, 2017, with the opening of the garden gate and one month in advance of the museum galleries, the shop reopened to the public.



Gardens

As the culmination of work in the Arbor Terrace over the last few years, the garden staff, working with John Pond and his staff, lifted the terrace's flagstones between the Ruth Havey–designed curved stonework and removed the top three feet of heavy, compacted clay underneath. We filled the terrace's center with soil engineered to provide appropriate water retention for the intended plantings. Centered between Havey's four stone scrolls, John Pond and his staff relaid an ellipse of the original flagstone, and we planted four Chinese quince trees, *Pseudocydonia sinensis*, a species listed by Beatrix Farrand in her *Plant Book*. Around the trees, benches, and Eric Soderholtz pots and birdbath, we planted herb species chosen by Farrand for the Arbor Terrace of the 1920s.

In addition to the Arbor Terrace stonework, and with the support of the Lee and Juliet Folger Fund, Pond reworked all flagstone around the North Vista and in the Orangery Terraces and Green Terrace, creating narrower joints and a smoother surface. In more remote parts of the gardens such as Fairview Hill and Lilac Circle, Pond rebuilt deteriorating walls and uneven walkways.

In a set of drawings dated April 4, 1933, Beatrix Farrand designed two benches of different lengths proportioned to fit within the panels of the iron rail north of the swimming pool. Studying these drawings and the remaining bench, John Danzer of Munder-Skiles reproduced the pair in Costa Rican teak. Following a similar process of research, blacksmith Francis Flaherty recast lead pieces missing from the Arbor



Restored pebble mosaic in the Urn Terrace.

Terrace fountain cattails and from the wheat sheaf above the stone bench in the Rose Garden's eastern wall. By examining Ruth Havey's drawings from the early 1960s, George Graeber of Intown Restoration restored the pebble mosaic at the base of the urn in Urn Terrace to its original design.

In fall 2016 and spring 2017, garden staff members participated in two documentaries. The first, filmed in October by ARTE, a French and German television channel, is part of a series on the most beautiful gardens in the world. French landscape architect Jean-Philippe Teyssier and historian Cécile Bonneau researched the garden archives and interviewed staff about the gardens' design. The second, filmed by Insignia Films in April, is part of a documentary on Beatrix Farrand,



Specimen from the insect collection prepared by Tyler fellow Deirdre Moore.

including her work at Princeton, in Maine, and in estates of the Northeast. During filming, New York garden designer Lynden Miller asked about Farrand's design process and its implications for garden maintenance.

In summer 2016, Andrea Brown, a rising sophomore at Harvard, joined us as an intern to study biodiversity in the Dumbarton Oaks Gardens. Earlier in the spring, Tyler fellow Deirdre Moore designed and planted a pollinator garden of native trees, shrubs, and forbs in a swale on the western edge of the Gardeners' Court. As the swale came into bloom, Andrea compared the species of pollinators that visited it with pollinators visiting non-native plants in other parts of the gardens. In the process Andrea became increasingly interested in entomology, and left with a carefully labeled insect collection for future study.



Friends of Music

In 2016, the Music Room was closed from May to December for museum renovations, so the first three concerts of the season were moved to the Fellowship House's Oak Room. Opening the series in October, the German-based Henschel Quartett played string quartets by Haydn and Beethoven, in addition to a stunning performance of *Visions and Miracles* by American composer Christopher Theofanidis.

In November, the Italian Saxophone Quartet charmed the audience with virtuosity and humor in an attractive potpourri of pieces from Bach, Mozart, and Domenico Scarlatti to twentieth-century composers Jean Françaix, Pedro Iturralde, Philip Glass, Michael Nyman, and Astor Piazzolla.

The period-instrument ensemble Three Notch'd Road, comprising two singers (soprano and bass), two violins, cello, recorders, bagpipes, lute, and theorbo, presented "Bach's American Christmas," a sampling of the seasonal music that Johann Sebastian Bach might have heard had he settled in Virginia in 1710. The diverse program included early American and "imported" music from Europe, along with secular and sacred works by Bach himself.

With the new year, concerts returned to their traditional home in the Music Room. There, the historic but newly refurbished "Paderewski" Steinway was put through its paces in an impressive inaugural recital by Pedja Muzijevic. The Bosnian-born artist played three sonatas by Domenico Scarlatti and six selections from *Sonatas*



Ljova and the Kontraband with guest artists Kinan Azmeh and Sami Merdinian, February 2017.

and *Interludes* for prepared piano by the American composer John Cage. Returning to the Steinway, Muzijevic offered two late works by Franz Liszt—*Schlafloss! Frage und Antwort* and *Bagatelle sans tonalité*—rounding out the first half of the recital with Liszt’s transcription of Isolde’s “Liebestod” from Richard Wagner’s opera *Tristan und Isolde*. After the intermission, rarely heard gems by Wilhelm Friedemann Bach (Fantasia in C Minor), and Robert Schumann (Novelette in F-sharp Minor) framed Cage’s *Bacchanale* for prepared piano.

In February, Ljova and the Kontraband (viola, double bass, accordion, percussion, and vocals), joined by clarinetist-composer Kinan Azmeh and violinist Sami Merdinian, served up an international folk- and jazz-flavored event. Much of the music was composed or arranged by Lev (“Ljova”) Zhurbin, the group’s leader. A highlight of the evening was by the Damascus-born Azmeh. “Wedding,” a deeply affective work in improvisational style, evoked the general mood of

a wedding party in a Syrian village. Other works on the eclectic program derived from klezmer and Jewish folk traditions.

A high point of the season was the magnificent Tempest Trio: violinist Ilya Kaler, cellist Amit Peled, and pianist Alon Goldstein. An audience favorite since its 2014 debut at Dumbarton Oaks, the ensemble returned in March with stunning renditions of Beethoven's "Ghost" trio, Ernest Bloch's *Three Nocturnes*, and Antonín Dvořák's unconventional yet beloved "Dumky" trio.

As the season's finale, Fandango—a uniquely configured quartet of flute, violin, guitar, and cello—offered a mix of old and new, with a cultural emphasis on Spain and the Balkans. The artists opened with an arrangement of Luigi Boccherini's celebrated "Fandango" from his quintet for strings and guitar. Other works included *Trio Sefardí*, written for the ensemble by Alan Thomas, *Three Balkan Pieces* by Miroslav Tadić, and *Plegaria y Kanto (Al Bodre de la Mar)* by Carlos Rafael Rivera. An arrangement of *Danse espagnole* by Manuel de Falla brought the evening to a spirited close.

Performances

October 23 and 24 | Henschel Quartett

November 13 and 14 | Italian Saxophone Quartet*

December 4 and 5 | Three Notch'd Road

January 22 and 23 | Pedja Muzijevic

February 12 and 13 | Ljova and the Kontraband with guest artists

Kinan Azmeh and Sami Merdinian

March 12 and 13 | Tempest Trio

April 2 and 3 | Fandango*

* *Washington, D.C., debut*



Facilities, Finance, Human Resources, and Information Technology

Facilities

The engineering team continued to operate, maintain, repair, and replace building systems, totaling over twelve hundred pieces of equipment and building envelope systems. We continued to consolidate service contracts and revised existing contracts to better serve our needs. We recruited Claude Perera, seasoned chief engineer, to fill this position. We acquired a new CMMS (Computerized Maintenance Management System), FIIX, and trained the engineers and other key staff on this new software for efficiency and recordkeeping for campus maintenance work. The building assistance team did housekeeping and custodial duties, special event setup and breakdown, and internal and external mail services. The refectory staff provided lunch five days a week, fifty weeks a year, for staff, fellows, readers, and other members of the community. They were instrumental in preparing the food for small high-end special events at the Director's Residence.

We finished several projects: building the pool loggia, the terrace restoration project, and the Main House Phase II project, which expanded to include all gallery relighting and finishes upgrades. We also designed and planned the storm-water master compliance project. Construction is slated to start in midsummer. The project entails restoration of three major fountains, replacement of over two miles of underground irrigation lines, and improvements to the storm-water system for compliance. We completed the La Quercia building renovations design; construction is slated to start in fall 2017. The project will provide much-needed improvements to the buildings to meet housing needs for interns and academic programs. We continued to make improvements on our green initiatives. We bought cardboard

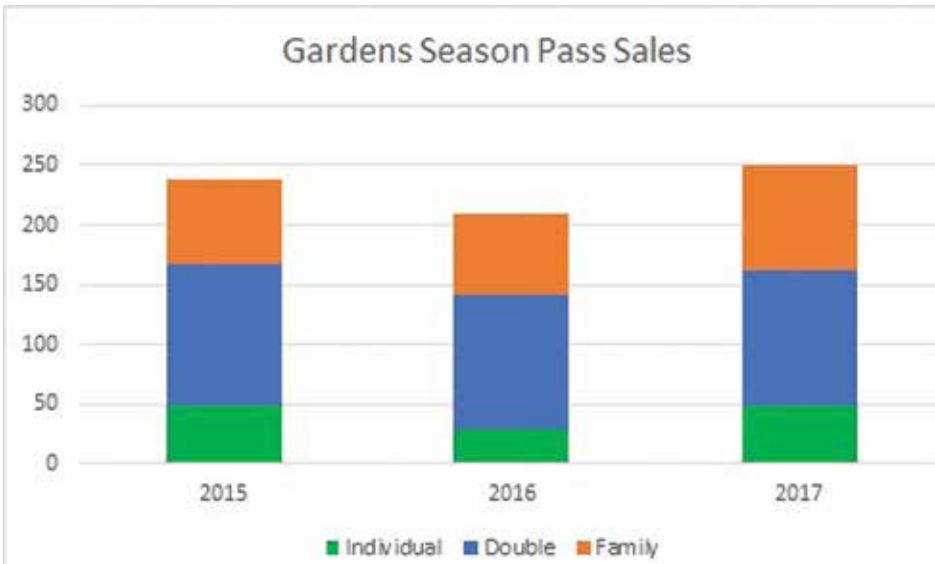
box crushers to better recycle paper products and get refunds for recycling costs.

In spring 2017, we hosted the D.C.–Baltimore chapter meeting of the IAMFA (International Association of Museum Facility Administrators). Approximately fifty facility administrators, architects, and architectural historians from D.C., Baltimore, and Virginia museums and institutions attended. Lighting designer Emrah Baki Ulas from Steensen Varming gave a presentation on new exhibition lighting technologies.

We continued to purchase electricity produced with 100 percent wind power this year and eliminated almost 3,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions, an environmental benefit equivalent to taking 600 cars off the road for a year or not consuming 330,302 gallons of gasoline. After the Main House Phase II project finishes, all museum lighting will be LED. This yields 80 percent savings in electricity consumption for those areas. We have been purchasing natural gas with 100 percent carbon offset. Based on our average consumption, this change will eliminate 1,439 metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions. These changes will not only make Dumbarton Oaks 100 percent carbon footprint-free in utility consumption but will also bring us an estimated savings of \$43,000 per year for electricity and \$36,000 per year for natural gas.

Finance

Accounts receivable oversaw all sales at both the Museum Shop and garden gate admissions box. In March 2017, the Museum Shop once again began welcoming customers in anticipation of the reopening of the museum in April. The 2016 gardens season for paid admission ended in October, capping off a year in which we welcomed more than 22,000 visitors. The 2017 gardens season ended in July for planned large-scale improvements to the gardens' water supply network. Because of the short season, we sold discounted season passes that proved very popular, with a record-breaking 250 passes sold. Despite a delayed opening due to a rare spring snowstorm and the earlier closing, we welcomed more than 15,000 visitors. On the payroll front, the Finance team worked throughout 2017 preparing to convert from a semimonthly to a biweekly payroll cycle to align with Harvard University's streamlined pay calendar.



Human Resources

The Human Resources office stayed focused on the principle of “success through people” and remained committed to continuous improvement. At staff coffees in July 2016, February 2017, and May 2017, we welcomed Claude Perera (chief engineer), Elena Boeck (director of Byzantine Studies), Marlee Clayton (senior executive assistant and project coordinator), Jennifer Boyd (financial analyst), Claire Aelion-Moss (editor), and Erica Bogese (communications manager). Lain Wilson transitioned to a new role as digital content manager. Human Resources held two employee orientations to introduce new staff to our policies, procedures, benefits, digital platforms, and resources. Presentations by Pallavi Jain (human resources manager) and Greg Blakey (support technician) were followed by a group lunch in the Refectory and tour of the library and Main House.

To kick-start the summer, we organized a staff outing to Pinstripes in Georgetown for bowling and games on July 15, 2016. Later in the summer, on August 15, we gathered again for a staff appreciation reception at the Director’s Residence. And on September 19, the entire community marked the beginning of the new academic year at the opening-of-term party at the Director’s Residence.



Staff members celebrating service anniversaries in February 2017.

In February 2017, our community marked the service anniversaries of six highly valued colleagues: Donald Mehlman (30 years), Carlos Mendez (25 years), Sandra Parker-Provenzano (15 years), Melissa Brizer (10 years), Susannah Italiano (5 years), Yota Batsaki (5 years), Pallavi Jain (5 years), and Prathmesh Mengane (5 years). In May 2017, the community had the pleasure of celebrating the anniversaries of James Carder (25 years), Domi Salao (15 years), David Cruz-Delgado (10 years), Babs Mersereau (10 years), Luis Marmol (5 years), and Pedro Paulino (5 years).

A number of professional training and development sessions were held to support staff in enhancing their job knowledge and skills. These included several Office 365 training sessions, the OSHA 10-hour general industry training for the gardens department, a project-management workshop, and a talent analytics assessment and team-building workshop for department heads.

Information Technology

Throughout the year, the Dumbarton Oaks Information Technology (DOIT) department invested much energy into transforming and improving how we do business. DOIT has undertaken several initiatives this year to improve the institution's data management. Our strategy was twofold: to enhance information access to develop better relationships, and to improve our internal and external workflows and communications.

Key accomplishments

Implementation of Salesforce CRM Solution

On June 12, 2017, DOIT released the first phase Salesforce. Staff from many departments participated in the development and provided abundant energy and input to the project. The goal for Salesforce is to improve our communications in these relationships. Salesforce tracks event participation, fellowship awards, project grant titles, etc. This CRM will meet multiple needs for the Dumbarton Oaks community, and will provide our constituents consistency and greater ease of interacting with us. This solution will significantly influence Dumbarton Oaks' ability to carry out its mission and expand as an institution.

Implementation of FIIX CMMS

This cloud-based solution supports facilities service requests, work orders, preventive maintenance, reporting, asset management, and inventory control. It will replace a system called ShowManager.

Upgrade to the New Campus Embark Application

Campus Embark was successfully released on June 1, 2017. This advanced cloud-based software provides online management of our entire fellowship awardee application lifecycle. The system is configured to capture prospective applicant data and sync with our robust CRM system for tracking and history purposes.

Implementation of Cvent

The first event management system with a built-in online payment function was released on April 10, 2017. This system modernizes and improves our event planning processes and the attendee experience. This system also integrates with Salesforce to give us an overview of institutional events and meetings.



Administration and Staff

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William F. Lee

Jessica Tuchman Mathews

Karen Gordon Mills

Joseph J. O'Donnell

David M. Rubenstein

Shirley M. Tilghman

Theodore V. Wells, Jr.

Executive Committee

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of Pre-Columbian and Colonial Art

Ioli Kalavrezou, Dumbarton Oaks Professor of Byzantine Art

Robin Kelsey, Dean of Arts and Humanities, Shirley Carter Burden
Professor of Photography, Ex Officio

Michael Puett, Walter C. Klein Professor of Chinese History; Chair
of the Committee on the Study of Religion

Mathilda van Es, Associate Dean for Administration for Arts and Humanities, Ex Officio
Jan M. Ziolkowski, Arthur Kingsley Porter Professor of Medieval Latin; Director of the Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection, Ex Officio

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Giles Constable, Director, 1977–1984
Robert W. Thomson, Director, 1984–1989

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Yota Batsaki, Executive Director
Raquel Begleiter, Assistant Managing Editor of Medieval Library
Erica Bogese, Communications Manager
Marlee Clayton, Senior Executive Assistant and Project Coordinator
Nevena Djurdjevic, Human Resources Specialist
Susannah Italiano, Events Manager
Emily Jacobs, Manager of Academic Programs
Pallavi Jain, Human Resources Manager

Research Appointments

Lane Baker, Postgraduate Research Fellow, Ephemera
Elizabeth Dospel Williams, Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow in Byzantine Art History, Dumbarton Oaks and George Washington University
Rebeca Frankel, Postgraduate Research Fellow, Medieval Latin
Jeanne Haffner, Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in Urban Landscape Studies
Konstantina Karterouli, Postdoctoral Fellow in Byzantine Art History, Image Collections and Fieldwork Archives
Spencer Lenfield, Postgraduate Media Fellow
Eric McGeer, Consultant for Byzantine Sigillography
Priyanka Menon, Humanities Fellow

Nathalie Miraval, Postgraduate Research Fellow, Communications
and Outreach

Rebecca Rosen, Humanities Fellow

Jonathan Shea, Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow in Byzantine History/
Sigillography and Numismatics, Dumbarton Oaks and George
Washington University

Bailey Trela, Postgraduate Research Fellow, Writing and Reporting

John Wang, Humanities Fellow

Byzantine Studies

Elena Boeck, Director of Byzantine Studies

Seh-Hee Koh, Program Coordinator in Byzantine Studies

Senior Fellows

John Duffy, Chair

Dimiter Angelov

Ioli Kalavrezou

Derek Krueger

Ruth Macrides

Robert Ousterhout

Garden and Landscape Studies

John Beardsley, Director of Garden and Landscape Studies

Anatole Tchikine, Assistant Director of Garden and Landscape Studies

Linda Lott, Librarian, Rare Book Collection

Jane Padelford, Program Coordinator in Garden and Landscape Studies

Senior Fellows

Georges Farhat, Chair

Sonja Dümpelmann

Kathryn Gleason

Gert Gröning

Ron Henderson

Thaisa Way

Pre-Columbian Studies

Colin McEwan, Director of Pre-Columbian Studies

Kelly McKenna, Program Coordinator in Pre-Columbian Studies

Senior Fellows

John Verano, Chair

Tamara Bray

Kenneth Hirth

Diana Magaloni

Patricia McAnany

Barbara Mundy

Facilities

Alan Dirican, Director of Facilities

Manuel Delgado, Assistant Director of Facilities

Buildings

Mario García, Facilities and Services Coordinator

Carlos Mendez, Events and Services Coordinator

Bryan Anderson, Building Assistant

J. David Cruz-Delgado, Building Assistant

Noel Gabitan, Building Assistant

Jose Luis Guerrero, Building Assistant

Larry Marzan, Cleaning Assistant

José Pineda, Building Assistant

Adebayo Thomas, Building Assistant

Engineering

Claude Perera, Chief Engineer

Kenneth Johnson, Senior Building Engineer

Michael Neal, Mechanical Maintenance Technician

Albert Williams, Mechanical Maintenance Assistant

Refectory

Hector Paz, Executive Chef Manager

Deysi M. Escobar-Ventura, Refectory Assistant

Dominador Salao, Kitchen Assistant

Finance

Gayatri Saxena, Director of Finance

DeWahn Coburn, Manager, Financial Operations

Jennifer Boyd, Financial Analyst

Dina Haiderzad, Staff Accountant

Jonathan Lee, Payroll and Benefits Coordinator

Friends of Music

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Gardens

Gail Griffin, Director of Gardens and Grounds

Ricardo Aguilar, Gardener

Miguel Bonilla, Crew Leader

Melissa Brizer, Greenhouse Specialist

Rigoberto Castellon, Crew Leader

Kim Fietze, Garden Administrative Assistant

Walter Howell, Gardener

Luis Marmol, Gardener

Donald Mehlman, Gardener

Nathan Neuffer, Gardener

Pedro Paulino, Gardener

Manuel Pineda, Crew Leader

Marc Vedder, Integrated Pest Management Specialist

Information Technology

Charlotte Johnson, Information Technology Manager

Gregory Blakey, Support Technician

Prathmesh Mengane, Database and CMS Developer

Komlan Segbedji, System Engineer

Michael Sohn, Web and Graphic Designer

Library

Daniel Boomhower, Director of Library

Kimball Clark, Cataloger

Bridget Gazzo, Librarian, Pre-Columbian Studies
Ingrid Gibson, Interlibrary Loan Librarian
Wendy Johnson, Cataloger
Sarah Mackowski, Acquisitions and Interlibrary Loan Assistant
Barbara Mersereau, Acquisitions Assistant
Sandra Parker-Provenzano, Head Cataloger
Sarah B. Pomerantz, Serials and Acquisitions Librarian
Bettina Smith, Manager, Image Collections and Fieldwork Archives
Toni Stephens, Library Assistant
Deborah Brown, Librarian, Byzantine Studies
Alyson Williams, Reader Services Librarian

Museum

Gudrun Bühl, Curator and Museum Director
Renée Alfonso, Museum Exhibitions and Programs Coordinator
James N. Carder, Archivist and House Collection Manager
John Hanson, Assistant Curator, Byzantine Collection
Joni Joseph, Museum Collections Manager and Assistant Registrar
Colin Kelly, Museum Exhibit Technician
Joseph Mills, Photographer
Cécile Morrisson, Advisor for Byzantine Numismatics
Juan Antonio Murro, Assistant Curator, Pre-Columbian Collection
Patti L. Sheer, Museum Shop Manager
Laura Symcak, Docent Coordinator

Publications

Kathy Sparkes, Director of Publications
Claire Aelion-Moss, Editor
Joel Kalvesmaki, Managing Editor, Byzantine Studies
Sara Taylor, Managing Editor, Art and Archaeology
Lain Wilson, Digital Content Manager

