



MODERNISM'S GILDED MIRROR: BYZANTIUM AND MODERN AESTHETICS

HOSTED BY THE EPHORATE OF ANTIQUITIES OF THESSALONIKI

8-10
September 2024

Conference Committee:

Tony Paraskeva (University of Roehampton)

Konstantinos Raptis (Ephorate of Antiquities of Thessaloniki)

Mark Byron (University of Sydney)



Hybrid International Conference
Modernism's Gilded Mirror: Byzantium and Modern Aesthetics
Thessaloniki, 8-10 September 2024

Hosted by the Ephorate of Antiquities of Thessaloniki City

Convened by Tony Paraskeva (University of Roehampton), Konstantinos T. Raptis (Ephorate of Antiquities of Thessaloniki),
and Mark Byron (University of Sydney)

Saturday 7 September

5-7pm, Optional visit to the Museum of Byzantine Culture (Stratou Avenue 2, Thessaloniki), followed by a reception at a local venue, 7-9pm (meet at the Museum entrance at 7pm).

Sunday 8 September, Museum of Roman Agora

9-9.30am Welcome and Introduction

9.30-11.30am PANEL 1: CURATING BYZANTIUM

Ioanna Rapti, Director of Studies, École Pratique des Hautes Études:
Modernity meeting Byzantium: the Gabriel Millet Byzantine and Christian collection at the École Pratique des Hautes Études

Anastasia Drandaki, Associate Professor in Byzantine Art and Archaeology, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens and Benaki Museum: **Antonis Benakis and Byzantium as Modernism in Interwar Greece**

Georgios Pallis, Associate Professor of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Archaeology and Art, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens:

The monastery of Daphni near Athens: A gate for the discovery of Byzantium in modern Greece

George Manginis, Academic Director, Benaki Museum: **Byzantine mosaics redefined for the twentieth century: Boris Anrep's work at the Saint Sophia Cathedral in London**

11.30am-12pm Morning Tea

12-2.30pm PANEL 2: BYZANTIUM IN LITERARY MODERNISM

Mark Byron, Professor of English, Sydney University: **From Justinian to Leo the Wise: Early Medieval Byzantium in Ezra Pound's *Cantos***

Tony Paraskeva, Associate Professor of English, Roehampton University, **Cavafy's Byzantium**

Christos Hadjiyiannis, Lecturer in English, University of Regensburg, **Djuna Barnes and Byzantium**

Andrew Walker White, Adjunct Faculty, History and Art History and Religious Studies, George Mason University: **Visions of Empires: Julian, Ibsen's 'Emperor and Galilean,' & The Spectacle of a Byzantine Modernity**

Peli Mastora, Archaeologist-Byzantinist PhD, Ephorate of Antiquities of Thessaloniki: **Platon Rodokanakis' pioneering work on Byzantium**

2.30-4pm Lunch

4-6pm Panel 3: BYZANTIUM AND THE MODERN ARTS IN GREECE

Konstantinos Kouroudis, Head of the Library of the Society for Macedonian Studies and PhD candidate in Byzantine Art at the Democritus University of Thrace: **Byzantine art and Nikos Gabriel Pentzikis: the association of modern aesthetics with the Byzantine tradition**

Efthymia Georgiadou-Kountoura, Associate Professor Emeritus of Art History, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, and Vicky Chatziparadeisi, Archaeologist-Art Historian and Museologist: **The Iconography of the Annunciation in Amphissa: An Example of Modern Greek Modernism**

Maria D. Kagiadaki, Art Historian PhD, Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Adjunct Academic Staff, Hellenic Open University: **Aspects of Byzantine Art and Modernism in 20th century Thessaloniki; the case of Christos Lefakis**

Agathoniki Tsilipakou, Archaeologist-Byzantinist PhD, General Director of the Museum of Byzantine Culture, Thessaloniki: **The Reception of Byzantium in Contemporary Art: the Case of the Museum of Byzantine Culture**

6-8pm Dinner

Monday 9 September, Museum of Roman Agora

9am-11.30pm PANEL 4: BYZANTIUM, AESTHETIC FORM, AND ARCHITECTURE

Dimitra Kotoula, Art Historian and Archaeologist, Greek Ministry of Culture: **“Very Byzantine”: The reinvention of Byzantium at the British School at Athens - An Arts & Crafts approach**

Rowena Loverance, Independent Scholar: **A Quaker view of Roger Fry’s appropriation of Byzantium**

Demet Karabulut Dede, Fulbright Scholar and Visiting Fellow in English, Princeton University: **"The tyranny of perspective": Byzantine Art and the Concept of Significant Form in Clive Bell's Aesthetics**

Konstantinos T. Raptis, Archaeologist-Byzantinist PhD, Ephorate of Antiquities of Thessaloniki: **Aspects of Modernism in early 20th Century restorations of Byzantine architectural heritage**

Flora Karagianni, Archaeologist-Byzantinist PhD, Head of the Department of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Antiquities, Ephorate of Antiquities of Thessaloniki: **Remarks on the appearance of the "Neo-Byzantine" style in the 20th century architecture of Thessaloniki**

11.30-12pm Morning Tea

12-2.30pm PANEL 5: INTERNATIONAL CONTEXTS

Maria Taroutina, Assistant Professor of Slavic Studies, Brown University: **Reinventing the Byzantine Icon: Avant-Garde Art and New Theories of Modernism in Pre- and Post-Revolutionary Russia**

Lora Gerd, Researcher at the Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg Institute of History: **Neo-Byzantinism in Russia, 1956-1914: political ideology and implementation in art**

Ufuk Serin, Weinberg Fellow in Architectural History and Preservation, Columbia University, The Italian Academy for Advanced Studies in America; Orta Doğu Teknik Üniversitesi/Middle East Technical University, Department of Architecture: **Turkey's Contested Byzantine Heritage: Challenges of Interpretation and Approaches to Conservation**

Thomas Kaffenberger, Associate Researcher in Art History, University of Fribourg: **Authenticity and Exuberance: Reflections of Byzantium in German Mausolea, 1860–1920**

Giovanni Gasbarri, National Research Council (CNR, Italy), Institute of Heritage Science: **Byzantium at Hand: Italian Mosaics and their Impact on Modernist Aesthetics (19th-Early 20th Century)**

2.30-4pm Lunch

4-6pm PANEL 6: MULTI-MEDIA BYZANTIUM

Platon Petridis, Professor of Byzantine Archaeology, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens: **"Passions Ablaze!": Byzantium in Literature, Theatre, Cinema and Comics**

Elena Boeck, Professor of History of Art and Architecture, DePaul University: **Constant Theodora: Benjamin-Constant Discovers Byzantium**

Bissera Pentcheva, Professor of Medieval Art, Stanford University: **AudioVision in Byzantine Art**

Jelena Bogdanovich, Associate Professor of History of Art and Architecture, Vanderbilt University: **Consumer-Oriented Imagery of Hagia Sophia and Architecture of St. Nicholas Church in New York City**

7.30-8.30pm **Contemporary Greek Music in a Byzantine Environment**, Byzantine Bath, 13A Theotokopoulou Street, Upper Town

Jukka Tiensuu: *Hei for 4 performers*

Thomas Kaitaitzis, electric guitar

Yannis Antonoglou, Flute

Nikiforos Kourmbetis, piano

Konstantinos A. Raptis, bandoneon

Duration: ca 5'

Apostolis Koutsogiannis: *Instinct*

Iraklis Vavatsikas: *Toccata*

Yannis Konstantinnidis: *From the 8 Greek Island Dances (1, 3, 8)*

Konstantinos Zigeridis, Accordion

Duration: ca 20'

Demetra Vaka: *Purple shrimp*

Nikiforos Kourmpetis: *Spin*

Kostis Palaiogiannis: *Divertimento Nr. 1*

Thomas Kaitaitzis, electric guitar

Yannis Antonoglou, Flute

Nikiforos Kourmbetis, piano

Duration: ca 15'

Tuesday 10 September, Rotunda: Multimedia Hall

9.30-11am Concluding Roundtable (convened by Tony Paraskeva)

12-2pm Visit to the MOMus-Museum of Modern Art-Costakis Collection
Presentation of current exhibitions by artistic director, Dr. Maria Tsantsanoglou (transport will be arranged between the conference venue and the Museum)

COVER IMAGE:

Agenor Asteriadis, *Angel of the Annunciation*, copy of a wall painting from the church of Hagioi Theodoroi, Mystras, 1927, watercolour on paper, BXM 1679, Byzantine and Christian Museum, Athens.

IMAGE RIGHT:

Map of Important Sites in Thessaloniki: Antiquity and Byzantium



SPONSORING INSTITUTIONS



ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ
Υπουργείο Πολιτισμού
HELLENIC REPUBLIC
Ministry of Culture

Γενική Διεύθυνση Αρχαιοτήτων &
Πολιτιστικής Κληρονομιάς
Εφορεία Αρχαιοτήτων Πόλης Θεσσαλονίκης
General Directorate of Antiquities &
Cultural Heritage
Ephorate of Antiquities, Thessaloniki



Εφορεία Αρχαιοτήτων Πόλης Θεσσαλονίκης
Ephorate of Antiquities of Thessaloniki City



HELLENIC REPUBLIC - MINISTRY OF CULTURE

MOMus
METROPOLITAN ORGANISATION OF MUSEUMS OF VISUAL ARTS OF THESSALONIKI

MUSEUM
OF MODERN ART-
COSTAKIS COLLECTION