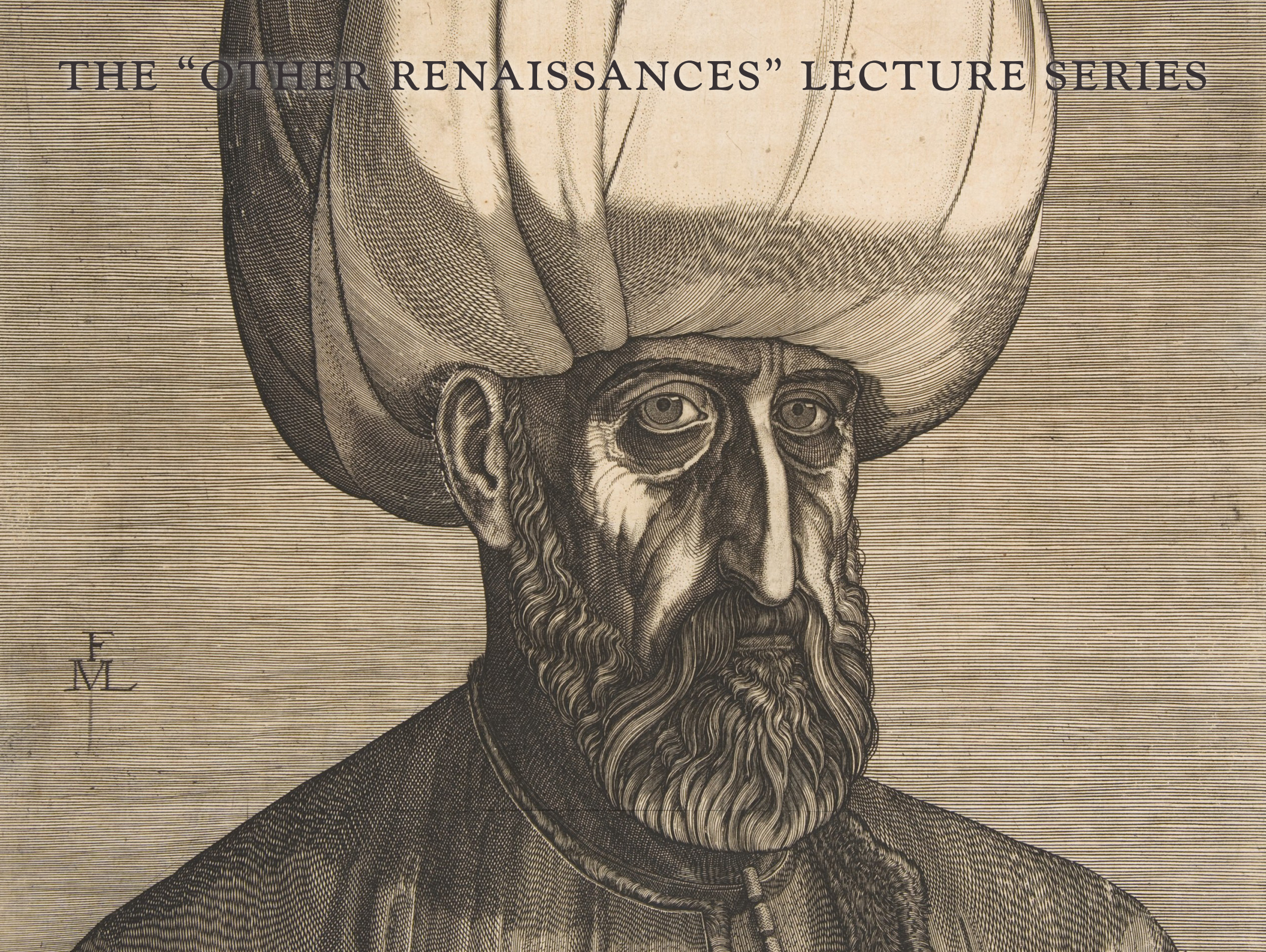


# THE “OTHER RENAISSANCES” LECTURE SERIES



In collaboration with the Islamic Studies Program, the Renaissance Studies Program presents a lecture by:

## GÜLRU NECİPOĞLU

“THE AESTHETICS OF EMPIRE: ARTS, POLITICS & COMMERCE  
IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF SULTAN SÜLEYMAN’S MAGNIFICENCE”

**ABSTRACT:** This lecture considers how a perspective on the empire of the Ottoman Sultan Süleyman (r. 1520-66), seen through the lens of visual culture, presents a rather different picture compared to the official record. Necipoğlu focuses on the first half of the youthful sultan’s reign, when expansion into Central Europe and Italy constituted the main priority, and concludes with an epilogue that zooms into the elderly Süleyman’s changing priorities. Ultimately, the aim is to remind us of the cosmopolitanism of court culture before a mature Ottoman idiom in the arts and architecture was codified in the late 1540s.

**GÜLRU NECİPOĞLU** (Aga Khan Professor of Islamic Art at Harvard University) is the most prominent Islamic art historian of her generation. She specializes in the medieval and early modern periods, with a particular focus on the visual culture and architecture of the Ottoman realm, the comparative study of the Ottoman, Safavid, and Mughal empires, and cultural exchanges between the Byzantines, the Islamic world, and Renaissance Italy.

Professor Necipoğlu’s lecture will be followed by an IU faculty roundtable featuring **MARGARET GRAVES** (Department of Art History), **BRET ROTHSTEIN** (Department of Art History), and **KAYA ŞAHİN** (Department of History). Please join us for a reception afterward.

## Friday, February 21, 2020, 3-5 PM

### UNIVERSITY CLUB, INDIANA MEMORIAL UNION

This event is presented by the Renaissance Studies and Islamic Studies Programs with generous support from the College Arts & Humanities Institute, the College of Arts & Sciences, the Robert E. and Avis Tarrant Burke Foundation, and the Departments of Art History, of Comparative Literature, and of History.

Image: Süleyman the Magnificent. Engraved by Melchior Lorck, 16th century. The Metropolitan Museum of Art.