

TRADING PLACES

BYZANTIUM AND THE MEDITERRANEAN WORLD IN THE LATER MIDDLE AGES

A SYMPOSIUM AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY | APRIL 16 & 17, 2015



*The departure of Nicolò and Matteo Polo from Byzantium (Constantinople)
Illumination from the Livre des Merveilles, c. 1410–12 (author: Marco Polo; manuscript
illuminator: maître de la Mazarine) | Bibliothèque Nationale de France, Département
des manuscrits occidentaux, MSS Français 2810*

*The Mediterranean basin has long been a zone of cultural, economic, and artistic encounter and exchange. This was particularly true in the Middle Ages (c. 500–1500), as the three great religious traditions of Late Antiquity (Christianity, Judaism, and Islam) battled, bartered with, and borrowed from one another in a variety of political and cultural contexts. Focusing on the centuries from 1200 to 1500, **Trading Places: Byzantium and the Mediterranean World in the Later Middle Ages** explores the Mediterranean world as a “trading place” between Byzantine, Islamic, Jewish, and Western societies.*

THURSDAY, SACKLER BUILDING

5.30–6.30: Registration & Reception, Sackler lobby

6.30: Sackler Auditorium

6.30: Welcome: Nicholas Watson and Brandie Ratliff

6.45: Introduction: Eurydice Georganteli

6.55: Keynote address: David Abulafia (Cambridge University)

FRIDAY, SACKLER BUILDING

8.30: Coffee & tea, Sackler lobby

Panels I–III: Sackler Auditorium

I: CRAFTING CULTURES

CHAIR: Ioli Kalavrezou (Harvard University)

9.00: Ece Turnator (University of Austin Texas), Not Just Fancy Pots and Pans: Fine Ware Production in Byzantium in the Thirteenth Century as a Yardstick of Economic Success

9.30: Aysin Yoltar-Yıldırım (Harvard Art Museums, Harvard University), Echoes of the Alexander Romance: An Islamic Illustrated Manuscript in Late Medieval Anatolia

Discussion

10.20–10.40: Coffee & tea, Sackler lobby

II: COMMERCE AND COMMUNITY

CHAIR: Dimiter Angelov (Harvard University)

10.40: David Jacoby (The Hebrew University, Jerusalem), Western Merchants in the Eastern Mediterranean, the Black Sea, and Beyond: Cross-Cultural Communication and Interaction in the Twelfth–Fifteenth Centuries

11.10: Eurydice Georganteli, Ali Asgar H. Alibhai (Harvard University), and Ali Miynat (University of Birmingham, UK), The Many Names of Kingship: Minting Power and Prestige in Late Medieval Christian and Islamic Markets

11.40: Rena Lauer (Oregon State University), *Jews, Jewish Law, and Venetian Justice: Cultural Crossings in the Courtrooms of Late Medieval Crete*

Discussion

12.30–1.30: Lunch break

III: OLD PATHS, NEW JOURNEYS CHAIR: Susanne Blier (Harvard University)

1.30: Barry Cook (The British Museum, London), *Echo of a Distant Empire: the Byzant and English Royal Ceremony*

2.00: Leland Grigoli (Harvard Divinity School), and Mike McCormick (Harvard University), *Mapping the Mediterranean: Historical GIS and the Digital Atlas of Roman and Medieval Civilizations*

2.30: Eurydice Georganteli, Ioanna Koukouni (University of Birmingham, UK), and Silvia de los Ríos Pérez (Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, Spain), *From Trebizond to al-Andalus: Digital Stories from the late Medieval Mediterranean*

Discussion

Closing Remarks: Sean Gilsdorf

3.00: Coffee & tea, Sackler lobby

FRIDAY, HARVARD ART MUSEUMS

3.30–4.30, Study Center, Harvard Art Museums, *Seals and Coins Workshop* led by Joachim (John) Cotsonis (Hellenic College Holy Cross), and Eurydice Georganteli

FRIDAY, FIRST CHURCH CAMBRIDGE

5.30–6.00: Reception, First Church Cambridge (11 Garden Street, Margaret Jewett Hall. Please use Mason Street entrance.)

IV: CROSSING LINES. MEDIEVAL MUSIC ENCOUNTERS CONCERT

Holy Cross St. Romanos the Melodist Byzantine Choir, *The Joy of the Resurrection: Greek Orthodox Hymns of the Paschal Season*

Natasha Roule (Harvard University), *vielle*, and Ian Pomerantz (Voice of the Turtle), voice, *Singing the Crusades: Representations of the Crusader East in Trouvère and Troubadour Songs*

Voice of the Turtle (Ian Pomerantz, Lisle Kulbach, and Jay Rosenberg), *Jewels of the Mediterranean: Multicultural Experiences and Memories of the Past in the Music of the Sephardic Jewish Community of the Eastern Mediterranean*

SYMPOSIARCHS

Eurydice Georganteli, Department of History of Art + Architecture and
Committee on Medieval Studies, Harvard University

Brandie Ratliff, Mary Jaharis Center for Byzantine Art and Culture,
Hellenic College Holy Cross

Nicholas Watson, Department of English and Committee on Medieval
Studies, Harvard University

Sean Gilsdorf, Committee on Medieval Studies, Harvard University

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Holy Cross