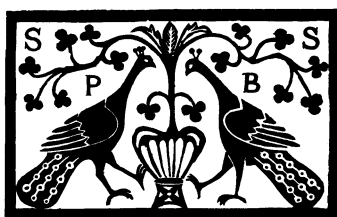


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# Society News

Society for the Promotion of Byzantine Studies



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## BYZANTINE TRADE (4th-12th c.): RECENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK

The **38th Spring Symposium of Byzantine Studies**, to be held 27-29 March 2004 at Oxford University under the auspices of the Committee for Byzantine Studies and based at St. John's College, will be devoted to Byzantine Trade. The aim of the symposium is to examine questions relating to the extent and nature of Byzantine trade during both Late Antiquity and the early Middle Ages. Recent publications (P. Horden and N. Purcell, *The Corrupting Sea*; M. McCormick, *Origins of the European Economy*, and *The Economic History of Byzantium*, ed. A. Laiou) have reopened the Pirenne debate about the role of the Mediterranean prior to and in the wake of the Arab Conquest of the Levant. The Byzantine state was the only political entity of the Mediterranean to survive antiquity and thus offers a theoretical standard against which to measure diachronic and regional changes in trading practices within the area and beyond. To complement extensive work already carried out on late antique long-distance trade within the Mediterranean (based on the grain supply, amphorae and fine ware circulation), the symposium will concentrate on other material, particularly local and international trade. The main emphasis of the papers will be on recently uncovered or studied archaeological evidence relating to key topics. These include local retail organisation within the city, some regional markets within the empire, the production and/or circulation patterns of particular goods (metalware, ivory, silk, glass, pottery), and objects of international trade, both exports and imports. In particular, new work relating to specific regions of Byzantium's international trade will be highlighted: Britain, the Levant, the Red Sea, the Black Sea and China. There will be nine sessions of 30-minute papers, 12-minute communications, and a final round-table discussion. Submissions for communications should be sent to Marlia Mango or Lukas Schachner by 15th January, 2004.

The Symposiarch is Marlia Mango. The speakers are:

P. Armstrong	F. Goddio	O. Karagiorgou	M. Mango	I. Shchapova
C. Bowles	N. Günsenin	S. Kingsley	A. McCabe	J. Shepard
J. Cole	J. Hayes	H. Kinoshita	D. Phillipson	S. Sidebotham
B. Cunliffe	J. Henderson	R. Kostova	E. Rodziewicz	Y. Tsafirir
M. Decker	M. Horton	N. Makarov	C. Salter	A. Vokaer
I. Dimopoulos	D. Jacoby	C. Mango	E. Savage-Smith	

For further information contact: [marlia.mango@arch.ox.ac.uk](mailto:marlia.mango@arch.ox.ac.uk) (Dr. M. Mango, St. John's College, Oxford OX1 3JP) or [lukas.schachner@sjc.ox.ac.uk](mailto:lukas.schachner@sjc.ox.ac.uk)

## 21st INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF BYZANTINE STUDIES London, 20-26 August 2006

The first International Congress of Byzantine Studies met in Bucharest in 1924. The founding fathers of the Association International des Etudes Byzantines (AIEB) included C.Diehl, H.Gregoire, N.Iorga, N.Kondakov, G.Millet and Sir W.Ramsay - all bearded. The first (and last) quinquennial Congress of the AIEB to be held in Great Britain was the 13th, in September 1966, in Oxford. Of its main organisers only two survive, but for a generation of younger Byzantinists it was a memorable stimulus to, and formative influence on, the international development of our subject. Forty years on, it is clearly time to hold the 21st Congress (2006) in Great Britain again. The proposal of the British National Committee (BNC) of the AIEB, which is also the Executive of the SPBS (chair Robin Cormack) was accepted by the AIEB in 1998. In April 2000 it set up BYZCONG2006, a free-standing steering committee responsible to it and the AIEB, initially consisting of the following elected and co-opted members: Anthony Bryer (Convenor), Averil Cameron, Robin Cormack, James Crow, Judith Herrin, Liz James (Secretary), Elizabeth Jeffreys (Deputy Convenor), Ruth Macrides, Marlia Mango, Rosemary Morris and Margaret Mullett. In the First Report of the Convenor, BBBS 27 (2001), pp.95-96. he wrote that "As hosts of the Congress all [*italics*] members of the SPBS are not just invited to contribute their views, but will be badgered to do so, through reports in this Bulletin [*italics*], the SPBS website, and at our annual Symposia, beginning in Oxford in March 2001." Foreign proposals were equally invited, culminating in the presentation of an outline plan by Bryer, Cormack and E.Jeffreys for discussion at an InterCongress meeting of the AIEB on Andros in May 2003.

By its 7th meeting on 31 October 2003, attended by the President (Peter Schreiner) and Secretary (Evangelos Chrysos) BYZCONG2006 had expanded to include domestic co-chairs, the current BNC, and professional and other officers, including Karen Wraith (Administrator), Philip Bowden (Treasurer), John Smedley (Publisher), Ruby Clark (Exhibition Researcher) and Fiona Haarer (Communications Manager). Sub-committees include Administration and Finance, Publications, London Exhibitions (Cormack) and Oxford (M. Mango). BYZCONG2006 remains a working party, behind which I reiterate my original statement and plea: the entire British Byzantine community is host to the Congress. It is getting late to make your views known if you have not done so, but they are welcome by the Convenor at: [bryer@compuserve.com](mailto:bryer@compuserve.com).

Logistical decisions taken so far for a Congress of up to 1,000 Byzantinists, have been to book the Institute of Education, Bedford Way, London. There will be

excursions certainly to Oxford for related exhibitions, and perhaps to York thereafter. Funding and sponsorship beyond registration fees (which will be gradated), is naturally a headache where any legal proposal is welcome. The £40,000 so far raised (including from the British Academy and private sponsors) is about a quarter of what is needed - especially if you want a parties as good as the exhibitions. [Cheques made out to 'BYZANTINE CONGRESS 2006' are acceptable. Send to the Treasurer, 55 Ravenhurst Road, Birmingham B17 9TB. Your anonymity is assured by transfer to Lloyds TSB sort code 30-19-14, account 2762858].

The framework is of eight Sections, each advised by a domestic and foreign co-chair. Most consist of three plenary papers, with a Commentator, and eight related Panels each of six speakers with co-ordinator. Between now and 31 December 2003 main speakers and Panel co-ordinators (but not panellists) are being approached and will be formally invited in early 2004. A full Congress website c/o the SPBS one at [www.byzantium.ac.uk](http://www.byzantium.ac.uk) will be set up in mid-2004. [The AIEB website is at [www.aiebnet.gr](http://www.aiebnet.gr)]. A first circular and call for Communications will be sent in early 2005. Thereafter the deadlines are 1 September 2005 for submission of main papers, abstracts of Panel papers and titles of Communications, for paper and web publication, and 1 April 2006 for the final submission of abstracts of Communications for web publication. Posters are welcome.

The principles of Youth and Internationality have informed the programme making. Easier said than done. We have also tried to anticipate and encourage fresh fields, as well as to respond to the demands of about 120 proposals. Well, that is the theory. But, more interestingly, Byzantine Congresses (e.g. Vienna, Washington, Moscow, Copenhagen) are commonly given identity by an overall theme. Since 2000 the proposed Congress theme of DISPLAY has been discussed and adopted in committee, in open Symposium meetings and on Andros. It is clearly controversial, so is already serving its purpose: to make Byzantinists think. Your BYZCONG2006 Committee can offer a decent platform, but the quality of the matter is entirely in your hands.

An outline programme follows. Further details of speakers will be announced in early 2004.

A.A.M.B.

## I EMPIRE DISPLAYED

Co-chairs: J. Herrin  
Plenary speakers: (3)  
Commentator: (1)

Panel I i	Rival empires
Panel I ii	Mechanisms of Empire
Panel I iii	Byzantium and theory of 'empire'
Panel I iv	Byzantine states after 1204
Panel I v	Empire and art
Panel I vi	Institutions of empire
Panel I vii	Monasticism and evangelisation
Panel I viii	Being Byzantine

## II WORKS AND DAYS: material and historical evidence for everyday life

Co-chairs: J. Crow  
Plenary speakers: (3)  
Commentator: (1)

Panel II i	Landscape, archaeology and society
Panel II ii	Logistics and transport
Panel II iii	Vessels and tableware
Panel II iv	Burial and funerary practice
Panel II v	Secular and vernacular space
Panel II vi	The economic history of Byzantium since Dumbarton Oaks
Panel II vii	The Natural World (N. Sevcenko)
Panel II viii	Medicine and pharmacology

## III INFRASTRUCTURES

Co-chairs: Michael Jeffreys

**Plenary reporters:** a range of representatives chosen from a number of disciplines, as usual. Their reports will be pre-printed and pre-circulated, but discussed in panel III.1.

**Plenary speaker:** a distinguished Byzantinist to give a personal view (for 30 mins.) of the state of the discipline, with particular reference to its infrastructure.

This should be preceded of followed by a segment called "News". This will consist of 10 developments in the infrastructure of Byzantine Studies published or inaugurated since the Paris Congress.

Panel III i	Instrumenta studiorum (reports from appropriate disciplines)
Panel III ii	Technology in the service of Byzantine studies
Panel III iii	From BZ to <a href="mailto:display@byzantium.com">display@byzantium.com</a>

A range of publishers of books, periodicals and monograph series, including those who have

embraced new technology and those who have not, those with large resources and those without.

Panel III iv The uses of the computer (including the internet) in Byzantine studies (including teaching)

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Panel III v	Sigillography
Panel III vi	Numismatics
Panel III vii	Prosopography
Panel III viii	Science

## IV DISPLAYING WORDS

Co-chairs: M. Mullett  
Plenary speakers: (3)  
Commentator: (1)

Panel IV i	Words on the page
Panel IV ii	Epigraphy and epigrams
Panel IV iii	Literature, liturgy and ceremony
Panel IV iv	Hymnography and homilies
Panel IV v	Byzantine book culture
Panel IV vii	Letter collections
Panel IV vi	Epideictic oratory
Panel IV viii	Translations and travel (but cf. V v)

## V DISPLAYING TEXTS

Co-chairs: R. Macrides  
Plenary speakers: (3)  
Commentator: (1)

Panel V i	Historiography and chronology
Panel V ii	Historiography and hagiography
Panel V iii	Rhetoric and gender
Panel V iv	The texts of ceremony
Panel V v	Translation and interpretation but cf. IV viii
Panel V vi	Documents as literature
Panel V vii	Displaying knowledge
Panel V viii	Mimesis of Byzantine texts in foreign languages

## VI DISPLAYING ORTHODOXY

Co-chairs: Averil Cameron

Plenary speakers: (3)  
Commentator: (1)

Panel VI i	Control of belief
Panel VI ii	Philosophy and freedom of thought
Panel VI iii	Texts, theology and orthodoxy
Panel VI iv	Sacred space
Panel VI v	Dissenting minorities
Panel VI vi	Orthodoxy and heterodoxy in action
Panel VI vii	Monastic mountains and deserts
Panel VI viii	Art and orthodoxy

## VII BYZANTIUM AS DISPLAY

Co-chairs: L. Brubaker

Plenary speakers: (3)

Commentator: (1)

- Panel VII i Orthodoxy on display: ecclesiastical and monastic decoration  
Panel VII ii The Great Palaces and courtly display  
Panel VII iii On display in the street  
Panel VII iv On display in the village  
Panel VII v The movable feast: portable objects and display  
Panel VII vi Displaying the world: images of landscape, topography and paradise  
Panel VII vii Displaying Byzantium abroad  
Panel VII viii Byzantium on the catwalk: dress and fashion

## VIII PAST AND FUTURE

Co-chairs: R. Cormack

Plenary speakers: (3)

Commentator: (1)

- Panel VIII i Conservation of monuments  
Panel VIII ii Constantinople/Istanbul  
Panel VIII iii St Catherine's at Sinai  
Panel VIII iv Anatolia  
Panel VIII v Georgia and Armenia  
Panel VII vi Ethiopia, Syria, Egypt  
Panel VIII vii Collectors of Byzantium  
Panel VII viii Byzantium in peril

**Opening: C. Mango**

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### CALL FOR INFORMATION.

An exhibition is planned to coincide with the 2006 International Congress of Byzantine Studies. The exhibition is to be held at the Courtauld Institute Galleries and will take "British Travellers to Byzantium" as its general theme. It is hoped that a collection of diverse objects will be brought together from various British collections which will provide the visitor with a colourful description of who travelled to Byzantium from Britain, and what it was they chose to record and bring home. In the process of researching this exhibition on behalf of the Congress Committee, I am trying to collect information on the existence of as many examples of such objects, paintings, drawings, photographs and memorabilia as is possible. It would be greatly appreciated if anyone with any such information or ideas would contact me. The form of the exhibition is as yet very malleable, so all suggestions will be gratefully received. Thank you.

Please send your ideas to me, **Ruby Clark**, at [rbyclark@hotmail.com](mailto:rbyclark@hotmail.com), or, Flat 5, 1-3 Voltaire Rd, London. SW4 6DQ.

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## Byzantine Studies at Birmingham

From October 2003 the Centre for Byzantine, Ottoman and Modern Greek Studies at the University of Birmingham has two research fellows in residence, **Dr Dimiter Angelov** and **Dr Mary Cunningham**. Dr Angelov is a recipient of a two-year Marie Curie postdoctoral fellowship (2003-2005) from the European Commission. Dr Cunningham holds a three-year AHRB grant (2003-2006).

Dr Angelov who is assistant professor of medieval history at Western Michigan University holds a doctorate in Byzantine history from Harvard University (2002) where he studied with Michael McCormick and Angeliki Laiou. He specialises in late Byzantine history and literature and has published on late Byzantine rhetoric, Greek epigraphy and the discovery of Byzantium in the Enlightenment. At Birmingham he will complete his book on late Byzantine imperial ideology and political thought. He will also collaborate with Dr Ruth Macrides on a translation and study of Pseudo-Kodinos' fourteenth-century treatise on court hierarchy.

Dr Cunningham, AHRB fellow, holds a BA from Harvard University where she studied with Ihor Sevcenko and a MA and PhD from Birmingham in Byzantine Studies. She has taught church history and Byzantine literature at Kings College, London, Belfast, Nottingham, and Birmingham where she also held a lectureship in Theology. Dr Cunningham has published widely on the church and preaching. Her research project at Birmingham, in collaboration with Dr Leslie Brubaker, concerns the relationship between relics, icons and the cult of the Virgin in the 8th century. Dr Cunningham will write a study of hymns and homilies on the Theotokos which will include all previously unpublished and untranslated homilies.

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### From the Treasurer...

Please could members remember that annual subscription to the Society is due by 31st January, 2004.