

Textiles & Identity in the Mediterranean (Athens, 3 Jun 16)

Athens, Jun 03, 2016

Nikolaos Vryzidis

Textiles & Identity in the Medieval and Early Modern Mediterranean: paradigms of contexts and cross-cultural exchanges

Workshop organized under the aegis of the British School at Athens and hosted by the Museum of Islamic Art (Benaki)

Textiles offer a rich opportunity to explore the projection of identity, both within and between social and cultural groups. A pertinent arena for such an exploration is the intercultural region of the Mediterranean. This workshop will bring together a group of junior and senior scholars to investigate and elucidate the role of textiles in the cultures of the Medieval and early Modern Mediterranean, and its periphery, with a focus on specific case studies. Our investigation will analyze textiles as tools for projecting identity within specific contexts, whether cross-cultural or not. Institutionalized practices of textile use and reuse, written and unwritten rules governing ceremonial use, the departure from standard practices, the active reception of imports and their interpretation will form the major topics examined by the participating scholars. Our directed investigation will seek to identify parallels and points of contact between the use of textiles in various political entities, and among social groups and cultures.

PROGRAM

3 June 2016

Venue: Museum of Islamic Art, 22 Ag. Asomaton & 12 Dipylou St., Athens

Welcoming remarks

9:30

John Bennet, British School at Athens

9:40

Mina Moraitou, Benaki Museum

Opening remarks

9:50

Nikolaos Vryzidis, British School at Athens

10:00

1. Medieval Islamic textiles in the Eastern Mediterranean

Chair: Alison Ohta, Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain & Ireland

10:10

Scott Redford, SOAS-University of London

Seljuk silks, standards and emblems

10:30

Marielle Martiniani-Reber, Musées d'Art et d'Histoire de Genève

The relationship between Islamic and Byzantine textiles during the Middle Byzantine period

10: 50

Maria Sardi, SOAS-University of London

Towards a standardization of Mamluk aesthetic: influences and identity as reflected on textiles

11:10

Discussion

11:30

Coffee break

11:40

2. Western Mediterranean cross-cultural encounters

Chair: Mina Moraitou, Benaki Museum

11: 50

Ana Cabrera, Museo Nacional de Artes Decorativas &

Laura Rodríguez Peinado, Universidad Complutense de Madrid

Medieval Textiles from the Iberian Peninsula: state of the art and new approaches of study

12:20

Vera-Simone Schulz, Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz

Entangled Identities: Textiles and the Art and Architecture of the Italian Peninsula in a Mediterranean Perspective

12:40

Discussion

13:00

Lunch break

14:00

3. The multi-cultural Ottoman Empire

Chair: Nurhan Atasoy, Istanbul University (Emerita)

14:10

Anna Ballian, Benaki Museum (Emerita)

Chios silks

14:30

Amanda Philips, University of Virginia

Interventions in technology and fashion: the case of Ottoman compound weaves

14:50

Elena Papastavrou, Hellenic Ministry of Culture & Sports

Greek-Orthodox cultural identity as reflected on Constantinopolitan Church Embroidery

15:10

Discussion

15:30

Coffee break

15:40

4. Eastern and Oriental Orthodox Christian textiles

Chair: Warren Woodfin, New York University

15:50

Dickran Kouymjian, California State University-Fresno (Emeritus)

Armenian Altar Curtains: Repository of Tradition and Innovation

16:10

Nikolaos Vryzidis, British School at Athens

Animal motifs on Asian silks used by the Greek Church: an afterlife of Byzantine iconography?

16:30

Jacopo Gnisci, Independent scholar

Towards a History of Ecclesiastical Dress in Early Solomonic Ethiopia

16:50

Discussion

17:10

General discussion and concluding remarks

Nikolaos Vryzidis, British School at Athens

Reference:

CONF: Textiles & Identity in the Mediterranean (Athens, 3 Jun 16). In: ArtHist.net, May 1, 2016 (accessed Sep 16, 2025), <<https://arthist.net/archive/12843>>.