

## Palmyra – Pearl of the Syrian Desert (Copenhagen, 18 Jan 20)

Ny Carlsberg Glyptotek, Dantes Plads 7, 1556 Copenhagen, Denmark, Jan 18, 2020  
Registration deadline: Jan 11, 2020

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Symposium: Palmyra – Pearl of the Syrian Desert

In a time when globalisation, migration and cultural conflict permeate the agenda in many places in the modern world, the ancient city of Palmyra has again attracted attention with its fascinating history as one of the world's first multicultural societies.

Palmyra was an oasis in the Syrian desert that had its golden age during the Roman period. Outside Syria, The Glyptotek holds the world's largest collection of the city's funerary portraits, currently on display in the critically acclaimed special exhibition The Road to Palmyra.

This day-long event will take an in-depth look at Palmyra; at the city and rich culture that flourished for centuries before the Romans destroyed the city in 273 AD, following Queen Zenobia's attempt to break away from the Roman Empire.

The day will feature talks on the development of Palmyra, on the trade between East and West, on the Palmyrene elite and societal structure, and on the gods worshipped in Palmyra and their temples, with rich opportunity to learn more about the intriguing portraits that provide us with such vivid insight into how the Palmyrenes portrayed themselves for the outside world.

### PROGRAMME

10.15: Introduction to the topic and to the exhibition The Road to Palmyra by curator Anne Marie Nielsen (in the exhibition)

11.00: Welcome with Professor Rubina Raja and curator Anne Marie Nielsen

11.15: Grzegorz Majcherek: From village to city and back again – an outline of urban development of Palmyra

11.45: Eivind Seland: Palmyrene trade networks

12.15: Lunch break

13.15: Jean-Baptiste Yon: Belonging to the elite in Roman Palmyra

13.45: Ted Kaizer: Palmyrene religion in 5 objects

14.15: Coffee break

14.45: Maura Heyn: Men, Women, and Children in Palmyra

15.15: Kenneth Lapatin: Palmyra in Malibu – Exhibition at the Getty Villa

15.45: Summary

16.00: Opportunity to join the speakers in the exhibition

Ticket prices (tickets include entrance to the museum, lunch, coffee and water):

Adults: 150 DKK

Season ticket holder and under 27: 85 DKK

Students with valid student ID/under 18: free of charge

As there is a limited number of seats, it is necessary to purchase a ticket in advance here:

<https://billetto.dk/e/symposium-at-the-glyptotek-palmyra-pearl-of-the-syrian-desert-billetter-398818>

Reference:

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(accessed Jul 16, 2025), <<https://arthist.net/archive/22307>>.