

Authors of Cultural History from the Ottoman Empire to Nation-States (CAA, Chicago, 10-13 Feb 10)

Elvan Altan Ergut

Call for Papers for the 2010 College Art Association Conference

Session: Authors of Cultural History from the Ottoman Empire to Nation-States

Chairs: Belgin Turan Ozkaya and Elvan Altan Ergut

This session critically engages with 'authors' of cultural production who shaped contemporary discourses often informed by larger historiographical projects during the dissolution of the Ottoman Empire into nation-states in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Focusing on such 'pioneer' and 'powerful' intellectuals, that is, art and architectural historians, archaeologists, and museum founders, among others, the papers should ask what kinds of pasts they envisaged, what kinds of aesthetics they propagated, and how their historical and aesthetic preferences affected the cultural contexts of their time. Papers should analyze cases imbued by various kinds of modernization as well as imperialism, colonialism, nationalism, and orientalism, yet go beyond the hitherto tired usage of these concepts by defying conventional oppositions - particularly geographical oppositions such as the 'West' versus the 'non-West' - and show that such seemingly familiar categories can work in unexpected ways.

Please submit an abstract and CV by May 8, 2009 by email to belt@metu.edu.tr, tomris@metu.edu.tr or by mail to:

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