Ornamented Membranes (online/Cologne, 19–21 Jan 26)

Cologne, Erich Auerbach Institute for Advanced Studies / Online, Jan 19–21, 2026
Registration deadline: Jan 11, 2026

Dudar Irina

Conference “Ornamented Membranes” – Erich Auerbach Institute for Advanced Studies/UoC

Program

19.1.26

18.00 Auerbach Lecture: Daniel González Erices:
Physicality and Material Agency in Medieval Grids: Affective Experiences of the Holy Sepulcher and Its Relics in Light of Posthumanism

20.1.26

9.00 Irina Dudar / Daniel González Erices / Susanne Wittekind: Introduction

I Section: Thresholds in Space

9.30 Susanne Wittekind: Iron grilles in medieval church interiors
10.15 Elisabetta Scirocco: The Materiality and Mediality of Liturgical Screens in 12th-Century Southern Italy

11.00 Coffee break
11:30 Gabriella Cianciolo: Women Behind Bars: Grill Design in Early Modern Sicilian Cloistered Convents

II Section: Membranes in the non-Latin World

12.15 Elizabeth Dospěl Williams: Concealing and Revealing Enslavement in Late Antique Interiors
13.00 Lunch break
14.30 Abbey Stockstill: Dis-Orienting Space Through Ornament and Architecture in the Maghrib
15.15 Elina Gertsman: Image Failures: Opacity and Openwork
16.00 Coffee break

III Section: Unfolding Membranes

16.30 David Ganz: Shielding from heat and flies. The Flabellum of Tournus as membrane between the natural and sacred spheres.
17.15 Pavla Ralcheva: Ornamental structures on foldable panels in the Late Middle Ages

19.00 Conference Dinner

21.1.26

IV Section: Seeing Through and Seeing Past

9.30 Matthias Friedrich: The Space in Between: The Agency of Openwork Objects in Early Medieval Europe
10.15 Tobias Frese: Latticed letters. Reflections on the calligraphy of Ottonian manuscripts
11.00 Coffee break
11.30 Vincent Debiais: Failure to Watch: Disappointment and Frustration in the Making of Medieval Reliquaries
12.15 Conclusion
12.45 Lunch Break
14.00 Museum Schnütgen/Domschatzkammer (optional)

The conference will take place in a hybrid format. For on-site registration and the link for virtual participation, please contact: irina.dudar@unibe.ch.

Address: Erich Auerbach Institute for Advanced Studies, Weyertal 59, 50937 Köln (rear building, 3rd floor).

Reference:
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