

on Friday and Saturday September 11 – 12, 2015

an international workshop¹

**LIVES, ROLES AND ACTIONS OF THE BYZANTINE
EMPRESSES (4th – 15th c.).**



The workshop will take place at the conference center of the Czech Academy of Sciences **Villa Lanna** (Prague 6, V Sadech 1). Guests are heartily welcomed. Due to limited space, the organizers request that the guests register with the secretary of the symposium Dr. Martina Čechová at cechova@slu.cas.cz. Please note that guests will be served on the first come first serve basis and no registrations will be accepted after September 7.

Petra Melichar

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Program September 11, 2015

Judith Herrin, *Opening remarks*

8,30–10,30 Section 1: The roles of the Byzantine Empresses

Chair: Judith Herrin

- Leslie Brubaker** (Birmingham), Empresses and Agency
Katerina Nikolaou (Athens), Empresses and augustae as wives, lovers and mistresses (5th – 11th c.)
Günter Prinzing (Mainz), Frauen als Garanten machtpolitischer Konstellationen. Ihre Rolle und ihr "Stellenwert" beim Abschluss und Scheitern politisch-dynastischer Eheverbindungen zwischen Byzanz und seinen Nachbarn

Discussion

10,30–11 Coffee break

11–12 Section 2: Late Antique Empresses

Chair: Elisabeth Malamut

- Judith Herrin** (London), Fifth century empresses in East and West compared.
Cecily Hennessy (London), Galla Placidia: Patronage and Myth

Discussion

Break

14–15 Section 3: Middle Byzantine Empresses of Foreign Origin

Chair: Peter Van Deun

- Lynda Garland** (Armidale), Empress Mart'ā–Maria of Alania (c. 1052 – 1103+) and the Byzantine 'Natural World'
Elisabeth Malamut (Aix-en-Provence), Margaret-Marie de Hongrie (1185–1223). Imperatrice byzantine et reine de Thessalonique: une personnalité troublante

Discussion

15–16,30 Section 4: Byzantine and Foreign Empresses in the Neighboring Countries

Chair: Michael Grünbart

- Ekaterini Mitsiou** (Athens), A Collapsed Empire and its Empresses: the Case of Nicea
Małgorzata Dąbrowska (Łódź), The Trebizondian Empress in the 14th Century
Mihailo Popović (Vienna), Byzantine Princesses and Serbian Rulers in the 14th and 15th Centuries – A Story to be Told

Discussion
16,30–17,00 *Coffee break*

17–18 Section 5: Early Life and Afterlife of the Byzantine Empresses

Chair: Lynda Garland

Despoina Ariantzi (Mainz), Childhood and adolescence of Byzantine empresses in medieval Byzantium

Lioba Theis (Vienna), The empresses and their afterlife

Program September 12, 2015

9–10,30 Section 6: Byzantine Historiographers on Empresses

Chair: Małgorzata Dąbrowska

Michael Grünbart (Münster), Like man, like woman: Byzantine historiographers describe empresses

Milan Vukašinović (Paris/Belgrade), “Great is the Imperial Dignity”: Constructing the Image of the First Macedonian Empresses

Petra Melichar (Prague), Misogyny and xenophobia or a faulty marital policy of the late Byzantine emperors?

Discussion

10,30–11 *Coffee break*

11–12,30 Section 7: Byzantine Empresses in/on Manuscripts, Seals and Coins

Chair: Günther Prinzing

Peter Van Deun (Leuven), Markos Monachos and the Byzantine Court

Christos Tsatsoulis (Ioannina/Vienna), The Empresses of Byzantium, their role and position, viewed by the evidence of seals

Pavla Gkantziou-Drápelová (Athens), Byzantine Empresses on coins in Early Byzantine period (565 – 610): Problems of Interpretation and Identification. A survey

Discussion

Leslie Brubaker, *Closing remarks*

Festive conclusion

14,30 – 17,30 *Excursion*

