The Art and Archaeology of Lusignan and Venetian Cyprus (1192-1571): Recent Research and New Discoveries

12-14 December 2014
Archaeological Research Unit,
University of Cyprus
12, Gladstonos Str.,
Nicosia, Cyprus

Conference Programme
International Conference

The Art and Archaeology of Lusignan and Venetian Cyprus (1192-1571): Recent Research and New Discoveries

Conference Programme

Friday, 12 December

• 9:30 – 10:00 Registration

• 10:00 – 10:20 Welcome Addresses

Panagiotis Agapitos, President of the Byzantinist Society of Cyprus

Marina Solomidou-Ieronymidou, Acting Director of the Department of Antiquities, Cyprus

• 10:20 – 11:20 Session I: Visual Culture in the Lusignan Period

Chair: Michalis Olympios

10:20 – 10:40 Justine M. Andrews (University of New Mexico), Cyprus in the Medieval Mediterranean: Visual Culture in the Lusignan Period

10:40 – 11:00 Georgios Philotheou (Department of Antiquities, Cyprus) and Maria Parani (University of Cyprus), The Church of the Transfiguration at Sotera and Its Murals: Some Preliminary Remarks

11:00 – 11:20 Discussion

• 11:20 – 11:50 Coffee Break

• 11:50 – 13:10 Session II: Cyprus and the Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem in the Thirteenth Century

Chair: Nasso Chrysochou
11:50 – 12:10 Edna J. Stern (Israel Antiquities Authority), A New Perspective on Lusignan Paphos and Its Harbour: Using the Ceramic Record

12:10 – 12:30 Robert Kool (Israel Antiquities Authority), Lusignan Money and the Mainland Economy of Outremer in the Thirteenth Century: A Reappraisal

12:30 – 12:50 Vardit Shotten-Hallel (Israel Antiquities Authority / The Hebrew University of Jerusalem), The Lusignans and the City of Acre

12:50 – 13:10 Discussion

• 13:10 – 14:45 LUNCH BREAK

• 14:45 – 16:05 SESSION III: DIGGING FOR NUNS: THE EXCAVATIONS AT THE CISTERCIAN NUNNERY OF ST THEODORE, NICOSIA

Chair: Eftychia Zachariou

14:45 – 15:05 Michalis Olympios (University of Cyprus), Housing the Nuns: The Architectural History of St Theodore Abbey

15:05 – 15:25 Smadar Gabrieli (University of Sydney / University of Western Australia), At Home with the Nuns: The Ceramics Assemblages of St Theodore, Nicosia

15:25 – 15:45 Xenia-Paula Kyriakou (Cranfield University / University of Edinburgh / CAARI), Osteological Findings and Bioarchaeological Implications in Cypriot Monasticism: Evidence from the St Theodore Nunnery in Nicosia

15:45 – 16:05 Discussion

• 16:05 – 16:35 COFFEE BREAK

• 16:35 – 17:25 KEYNOTE LECTURE: CONFRONTING THE HISTORIOGRAPHY: CYPRUS AND THE EAST

Chair: Panagiotis Agapitos

16:35 – 17:05 Michele Bacci (University of Fribourg), The Art of Latin-Ruled Cyprus and the Christian East: Some Thoughts on Historiography and Methodology

17:05 – 17:25 Discussion
Saturday, 13 December

• 9:00 – 10:20 SESSION IV: CROSS-CREEDAL ARTISTIC ENCOUNTERS IN FAMAGUSTA AND ITS REGION

Chair: Tassos Papacostas

9:00 – 9:20 Maria Paschali (Courtauld Institute of Art), Byzantine Monumental Painting in Fourteenth-Century Famagusta: New Frameworks and New Interpretations

9:20 – 9:40 Max Ritter (Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz), The Transformation of a Frankish Fortification Site into a Venetian Monastery – The Case of Ayia Napa

9:40 – 10:00 Guido Petras (Freie Universität Berlin), A Lithic Iconostasis in a Multi-Confessional Sanctuary in Lusignan and Venetian Cyprus? An Art-Historical Approach to the Cave Church in Ayia Napa

10:00 – 10:20 Discussion

• 10:20 – 10:50 COFFEE BREAK

• 10:50 – 12:10 SESSION V: CYPRIAN ARISTOCRATIC PATRONAGE AT HOME AND ABROAD

Chair: Michele Bacci

10:50 – 11:10 Aspasia Louvi (Greece), Une princesse, un monastère et la rencontre de deux mondes chrétiens à Mistra

11:10 – 11:30 Dimitris Minasidis (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki), Νέα στοιχεία για το βασιλικό παρεκκλήσι στα Πυργά [New Evidence for the Royal Chapel at Pyrga]

11:30 – 11:50 Thomas Kaffenberger (King’s College London / Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz), A Domed Basilica of the Sixteenth Century: Thoughts on the Architectural Concept and Historical Context of the Unfinished Church in Agios Sozomenos

11:50 – 12:10 Discussion

• 12:10 – 14:00 LUNCH BREAK

• 14:00 – 15:00 SESSION VI: SELF-REPRESENTATION AND IDENTITY IN VENETIAN CYPRUS

Chair: Justine Andrews
14:00 – 14:20  Barbara McNulty (Lebanon Valley College), *Fresco at Kaminaria: Landscape as Allegory*

14:20 – 14:40  Tassos Papacostas (King’s College London), *Renaissance Portrait Medals for Eminent Cypriots: An Untold yet Telling Tale*

14:40 – 15:00  Discussion

• **15:00 – 15:30  Coffee Break**

• **15:30 – 16:50  Session VII: The Topography and Urban Fabric of Cypriot Settlements**

  Chair: Athanasios Vionis

  15:30 – 15:50  Nikolas Bakirtzis (The Cyprus Institute), *Byzantine Monastic Patterns in Crusader Cyprus*

  15:50 – 16:10  Hesperia Iliadou (University of Cyprus), *The Pictorial Representation of a Lost Architecture: Cyprus Settlements on the Eve of the Venetian Period as Illustrated in a Fifteenth-Century Manuscript*

  16:10 – 16:30  Andria Pelekanou, Stephani Georgiou and Marina Andreou (Frederick University), *The Exploration and Understanding of a Venetian-Period Building in the Walled City of Nicosia. An Addition to the Enigma that is Venetian Nicosia*

  16:30 – 16:50  Discussion

• **16:50 – 17:20  Coffee Break**

• **17:20 – 18:40  Session VIII: Art and Piety, Private and Public**

  Chair: Fryni Hadjichristofi

  17:20 – 17:40  Stella Frigerio-Zeniou (Switzerland), *Templa du XVI siècle à Chypre : une nouvelle approche*

  17:40 – 18:00  Christodoulos A. Hadjichristodoulou (Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation), *Βιογραφική εικόνα των Αγίων Γεωργίου και Μάμαντος στη Μόρφου [A Biographical Icon of Sts George and Mamas in Morphou]*

  18:00 – 18:20  Discussion
Sunday, 14 December

• 9:30 – 10:50 SESSION IX: URBAN AND RURAL LANDSCAPES

Chair: Nikolas Bakirtzis

9:30 – 9:50  Nasa Patapiou (Cyprus Research Centre), Νέα στοιχεία για ορθόδοξες γυναικείες μονές της Λευκωσίας βάσει αρχειακών μαρτυριών (16ό αι.) [New Evidence for Nicosia’s Orthodox Nunneries on the Basis of Archival Testimony (Sixteenth Century)]

9:50 – 10:10  Fryni Hadjichristofi (Department of Antiquities, Cyprus), New Light on the Topography of Nicosia: The ‘Archbishopric’ Excavation

10:10 – 10:30  Stylianos Perdikis (Museum of Kykkos Monastery), Άγνωστη μεσαιωνική εγκατάσταση [Avli Tillyrias: An Unknown Medieval Site]

10:30 – 10:50  Discussion

• 10:50 – 11:20 COFFEE BREAK

• 11:20 – 12:20 SESSION X: STATUS DISPLAYED: THE USES OF LUXURY METALWORK

Chair: Smadar Gabrieli

11:20 – 11:40  Georgios Markou (University of Cambridge), Luxury Items of Minor Arts: The Household Silver of the Gentilhuomini in Venetian Cyprus


12:00 – 12:20  Discussion

• 12:20 – 14:00 LUNCH BREAK

• 14:00 – 14:40 SESSION XI: YOU ARE WHAT YOU EAT: AN INTERDISCIPLINARY CASE-STUDY IN MEDIEVAL TECHNOLOGY AND DIET

Chair: Maria Parani
14:00-14:20  Athanasios K. Vionis (University of Cyprus), Maria Dikomitou-Eliadou (University of Cyprus), Maria Roumbou (Harokopeio University) and Vassilis Kilikoglou (N.C.S.R. ‘Demokritos’), *Stirring Pots on Fire: Medieval Technology, Diet and Daily Life in Cyprus*

- 14:20 – 14:40  Discussion

**14:40-15:20  CONCLUDING REMARKS – FINAL DISCUSSION**

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**Monday, 15 December**

- **EXCURSION TO PYLA, SOTERA AND AYIA NAPA**

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**Conference logo**

The ‘eye’ motif which constitutes the conference’s logo is a composite image, combining a detail of the right eye of the central standing figure of St Nicholas of the Roof in his vita panel from Kakopetria (now in the Archbishop Makarios III Foundation Byzantine Museum, Nicosia) with a *mouchette* from the flowing tracery of the window once adorning the gatehouse to the last Lusignan palace in Nicosia (now in the Lapidary Museum, Nicosia). While Cypriot art of the Lusignan and Venetian periods flourished at the confluence of several artistic traditions, conventional disciplinary boundaries have assigned the St Nicholas panel to the Byzantinists and the palace sculpture to the medievalists. We hope that the conference will go some way towards promoting the regular and fruitful crossing of these boundaries, which appear increasingly constricting and unhelpful in the study of the vibrant artistic culture of the Latin East. Furthermore, we are confident that current and future collaborations between scholars from both sides of the divide will render much more balanced and organic service to this idea than a composite image ever could.

**Illustrations**

Front cover: Lusignan knight in prayer, inspired by the Limassol *Deesis* incised slab, fourteenth century (Limassol, Medieval Museum) / mixed media, painting and compositing by Michalis Olympios.

Back cover: Anna of Lachanas in prayer, next to her patron St Anne, in the narthex of Panagia Phorbiotissa at Asinou, 1332/33 / modifications by Michalis Olympios