

Co-Organizers:

Charlie Barber, Donald Drew Egbert Professor of Art and Archaeology

Julia Gearhart, Director, Visual Resources

Dimitri Gondicas, Stanley J. Seeger '52 Director, Seeger Center for Hellenic Studies / Lecturer in the Council of the Humanities and Hellenic Studies

Molly Greene, Professor of History and Hellenic Studies

Maria Alessia Rossi, Index of Medieval Art

[image on cover: View of Docheiariou monastery, 1929
Mount Athos Expedition Collection, Department of Art and Archaeology, Princeton University]

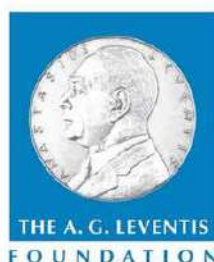
Funding and support provided by:



PIIRS
Princeton Institute
for International
and Regional Studies



Hilandar Research
Library
The Ohio State University
Columbus, Ohio



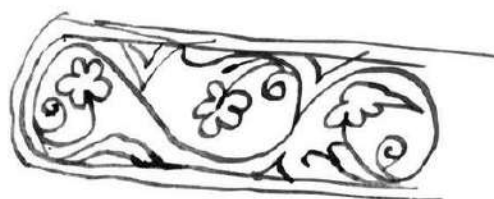
SEEGER CENTER FOR
HELLENIC STUDIES

This workshop is part of the Connecting Histories. The Princeton and Mount Athos Legacy project. Connecting Histories aims to explore and bring awareness to the rich, complex, and remarkable historical and cultural heritage of Mount Athos in Greece, and its connection to Princeton.

Princeton students and faculty have been drawn to Mount Athos time and again, but its histories have not been told, in some cases because the collections have been misplaced and forgotten, and in others because the materials are not accessible, as they have not been digitized and researched yet.

The topic of the workshop is collections, collecting, and archives. Speakers will focus on either Mount Athos collections held in Princeton or more broadly on Athonite collections and archives on the Holy Mountain or beyond, discussing their significance, how easily accessible they might or might not be, efforts to preserve or digitize them, and what we can learn from them. This long-week workshop will combine in-person lectures with virtual presentations and visits to holdings related to Mount Athos in Visual Resources and the Index of Medieval Art in the Art & Archaeology Department, the Graphics Art Collection and Special Collections at Princeton University Library, and the Princeton Theological Seminary.

<https://athoslegacy.project.princeton.edu/>





Workshop Participants

Julia Gearhart is the Director of Visual Resources in the Department of Art and Archaeology.

Kyriaki Giannouli is a doctoral candidate specializing in Byzantine History at the University of Ioannina and a professional conservator of paintings. Her research focus is the significance of Greek landscapes within the travelogues of Western Holy Land pilgrims spanning from the 12th to the 17th centuries. She joined the team in spring 2024 to work on the digitization of the Index card files related to Mount Athos.

Talia Goldman, class of 2027, is anticipating a major in Art and Archaeology at Princeton University. She has joined the team as a Digital Imaging Specialist and is spending the 2023/24 and the 2024/25 academic year helping to digitize the Kurt Weitzmann collection of photographic negatives of Mount Athos manuscripts.

Mary-Allen Johnson is the Curator of the Hilandar Research Library (HRL), Director of the Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies (RCMSS), and Associate Professor of the University Libraries at The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio. The core of the HRL's collection of medieval Slavic manuscripts on microfilm—and still the most frequently consulted and requested—are those photographed in the early 1970s in Hilandar Monastery (Mt. Athos, Greece).

Maria Alessia Rossi, Ph.D., is an Art History Specialist at the Index of Medieval Art at Princeton University. She is the author of *Visualizing Christ's Miracles in Late Byzantium: Art, Theology, and Court Culture* (Cambridge University Press 2024). Rossi is the co-founder of the initiative North of Byzantium and the digital platform Mapping Eastern Europe.

Bettina Smith has worked in archival and special collections across Washington D.C. for over 20 years and has served as the manager of the Image Collections and Fieldwork Archives at Dumbarton Oaks since 2016.

Beatrice Spampinato is a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Venice and the Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz. Her current projects focus on architectural sculpture in the medieval architecture of eastern Anatolia and on the historical landscape of the South Caucasus as seen through the Italian photographic campaigns of the 1960s. She joined the team to help uncover the art historical narratives of the 1929 Expedition to Mount Athos photographic collection held by Princeton University's Visual Resources.

Aleksandar Vasileski is an Associate Researcher at the Institute of Old Slavic Culture in Prilep, North Macedonia. His research work is focused on Orthodox art and architecture in the Balkan from the 11th to the 19th century, with a particular emphasis on the cultural heritage of the Ohrid Archdiocese. He has authored numerous publications and actively participates in various archaeological and conservation projects at significant historical sites in the region.

Vangelis Maladakis is a Byzantine archaeologist at the Hellenic Ministry of Culture, Ephorate of Antiquities of Chalcidice and Mount Athos. He studied History and Archaeology at the Aristotle University of Thessalonike (Ph.D., 2014), and he has taught as an adjunct lecturer at the University of the Peloponnese, the University of Athens and the National Hellenic Research Foundation. His research interests focus on Byzantine archaeology and art, and on the historiography of the Athonite studies.

Dubravka Preradović is an art historian at the Institute for Balkan Studies, Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts. Her research partly focuses on historiographical studies of medieval heritage in the Balkans. She is the author of *In the Name of Knowledge and Homeland* (2023) and editor of two volumes: one on Gabriel Millet's research on Serbian medieval architecture (2021), and the other on Vladimir R. Petković scholarly legacy (2024).

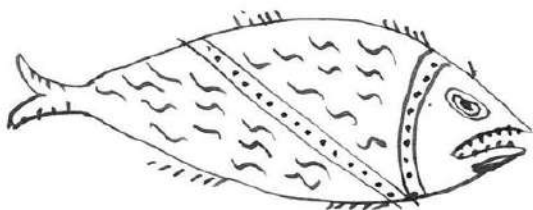
Ioanna Rapti is, since 2014, Professor of Art History and Archaeology of the Byzantine World and the Christian East at The École Pratique des Hautes Études - Paris Sciences et Lettres (EPHE-PSL) and Director of the Gabriel Millet Collection and photo-archive. Specialist of medieval Armenian art, she works on the visual culture of the Byzantine world focusing mainly in areas of interaction and cross-cultural exchange. She has contributed to several exhibitions and is editing the journal *Cahiers archéologiques*.

Virtual presentations

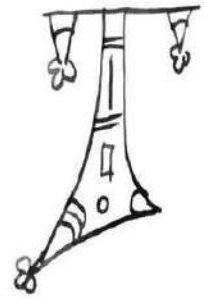
Fr Evgenios is a monk of Iveron Monastery on Mount Athos. In his previous life (as Nicholas Marinides) he studied at the University of Chicago and at Princeton University. At the latter he completed a doctoral dissertation in History, on lay piety in relation the monastic ideal in seventh-century Byzantium, which he is revising for publication. He also dabbles in research into the history of Iveron and of Athos.

Symeon A. Paschalidis is professor of Patristics and Hagiography at the Department of Social Theology and Christian Culture, at the faculty of Theology of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and Director of the Patriarchal Foundation for Patristic Studies, at Vlatadon Monastery/Thessaloniki. He has also served as President of the Byzantine Research Centre of the Aristotle University. He is currently director of the postgraduate program on the history, art, spirituality, and music tradition of Mount Athos at the faculty of Theology, AUTH.

Kostis Smyrlis, Ph.D. (2002), University of Paris I, is senior researcher at the Institute of Historical Research, National Hellenic Research Foundation. Working on the middle and late Byzantine period, his publications focus on the society and economy as well as the documents of the monasteries of Mount Athos. He is the author of *La fortune des grands monastères byzantins* (2006) and co-editor of *Actes de Vatopédi II and III* (2006 and 2019).



Monday, April 28



9am-9:30 Breakfast (Room 2-S-5 Green Hall)

9:30-10 Introduction and Welcome

10-11 Visual Resources visit (2-N-7/8 Green Hall)

11-12 presentation by Vangelis Maladakis (Ephorate of Antiquities of Chalcidice and Mount Athos) on the Weitzmann archive

12-13:30 Lunch at the Seeger Center for Hellenic Studies (Scheide Caldwell House)

13:45-14:15 Film screening (1929 Princeton expedition to Mount Athos and Meteora)

14:15-15:15 presentation by Beatrice Spampinato (University of Venice and the Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz) on the 1929 expedition

15:15-15:45 Break

15:45-16:45 presentation by Dubravka Preradović (Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts) on the Slobodan Nenadović collection

Dinner

Tuesday, April 29

9am-9:30 Breakfast

9:30-11 Index of Medieval Art visit and presentation by Kyriaki Giannouli (University of Ioannina) on Index cataloging of Mount Athos material

11-12:15 virtual presentation by Kostis Smyrlis (National Hellenic Research Foundation)

12:30-13:30 Lunch

13:30-14:30 Princeton University Library visit and Special Collections (Graphic Arts) (Firestone Library, C-Floor)

14:30-14:45 Break

14:45-15:45 Princeton University Library visit and Special Collections (Manuscripts) (Firestone Library, C-Floor)



Wednesday, April 30

9am-10:30 Breakfast and Campus tour with Megan Coates (PU Byzantine graduate student)

10:45-11:45 presentation by Aleksandar Vasileski (Institute for Old Slavic Culture) on the Princeton University Library Graphic Arts collection

12-14 Lunch and Roundtable on Mount Athos project at the Seeger Center for Hellenic Studies (Scheide Caldwell House)

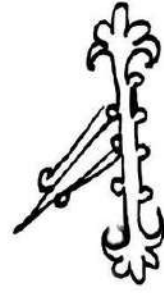
14:15-15:15 presentation by Mary-Allen Johnson (Associate Professor and Curator of Hilandar Research Library at Ohio State University)

15:15-15:45 Break

15:45-16 presentation by Ioanna Rapti (The École Pratique des Hautes Études – Paris Sciences et Lettres)



Thursday, May 1



9am-9:30 Breakfast

9:30-10:30 virtual presentation by Fr Evgenios (Iveron monastery)

10:30-10:45 Break

10:45-11:45 virtual presentation by Symeon Paschalidis (Director of PFPS)

12:30-13 After Noon Concert *optional (Princeton Chapel)

13-14 lunch

14-14:30 presentation by Talia Goldman (PU undergraduate) on the digitization of the Weitzmann archive

14:30-15 Break

15-16 presentation by Bettina Smith (Manager, Image Collections and Fieldwork Archives, Dumbarton Oaks)

16:30 Haley lecture (Louis A. Simpson Building A71)

Friday, May 2

9:00-10 Breakfast and walk to Princeton Theological Seminary

10-12 Wright Library, Princeton Theological Seminary
Special Collections visit (25 Library Place)

12-13:30 Lunch and final discussion

Afternoon: Seventeenth International Graduate Student
Conference in Modern Greek Studies *optional (Scheide
Caldwell House)



Pen and ink doodles are adapted from original drawings in the Kurt Weitzmann Mount Athos collection. They represent his own illustrations from (in order):

Koutlounousiou codex 38 fol. 41r

Koutlounousiou codex 90

Dionysiou codex 18 fol. 8r

Koutlounousiou codex 11

Vatopedi codex 108

Vatopedi codex 108

Iviron codex 415

Koutlounousiou codex 32