



### ***Empires of Faith* seminar series**

in conjunction with the exhibition *Imagining the Divine: Art and the Rise of World Religions* (19<sup>th</sup> October 2017 - 18<sup>th</sup> February 2018), Ashmolean Museum, Oxford.

#### **Corpus Christi Classical seminar and (from weeks 4-8) combined with Late Antique and Byzantine seminar**

Seminar Room, Corpus Christi College, Oxford.  
Wednesdays at 5:00pm, Michaelmas Term 2017.

Conceived as an accompaniment to the Ashmolean exhibition *Imagining the Divine*, the *Empires of Faith* research project is pleased to announce a series of weekly seminars on art and religions in Late Antiquity. The series is intended to engage with questions explored by the *Empires of Faith* project's team over the past four years. Speakers from diverse fields will present aspects of their work and consider methodological approaches to the history and art of the first millennium AD. The papers will focus on problems of religious identity in relation to material culture, case-studies of the metamorphoses of ancient sites and the transmission of visual forms, as well as complex issues of modern historiography and museums as an artificially constructed environment. All of them will explore and question the ways in which we can think of and imagine the divine in Late Antiquity.

Convenor: Dr Maria Lidova, The British Museum/Wolfson College, Oxford

For more information about the British Museum & Oxford University *Empires of Faith* research project, please visit: [empiresoffaith.com](http://empiresoffaith.com)

11 October (Week 1)

**Phil Booth** (Oxford)

*Crucible of the Copts: Empire and faith in seventh-century Egypt*

18 October (Week 2)

**Richard Hobbs** (London)

*Representing belief on silver plate in late Antiquity*

25 October (Week 3)

**Susan Walker** (Oxford)

*Man with a mission: Charles Wilshere, a Victorian collector of early Christian and Jewish antiquities*

1<sup>st</sup> of November (Week 4)

**Nadia Ali** (London)

*Qusayr 'Amra and the continuity of post-classical art in early Islam: Towards an iconology of forms*

8<sup>th</sup> of November (Week 5)

**Alain George** (Oxford)

*The temple, church and first mosque at Damascus: New perspectives*

15<sup>th</sup> of November (Week 6)

**Michele Minardi** (Bordeaux)

*Chorasmian gods. Images of Zoroastrian deities throughout antiquity*

22<sup>nd</sup> of November (Week 7)

**Maria Cristina Carile** (Bologna)

*Re-approaching the late antique and medieval art of Ravenna: visuality and artistic culture of a Mediterranean city*

29<sup>th</sup> November (Week 8)

**Mattia Guidetti** (Vienna)

*Churches and mosques in early medieval Syria*