



Imagining the Divine: art in religions of Late Antiquity across Eurasia

Thursday 11th - Saturday 13th January 2018

Ioannou Centre for Classical & Byzantine Studies, 66 St Giles', Oxford

Thursday 11th January, from 16:00

16:00 Keynote Address Prof. Finbarr Barry Flood (NYU)

Followed by a drinks reception, and private view of *Imagining the Divine: Art and the Rise of World Religions*, Ashmolean Museum.

Friday 12th January - Materiality of Religions

9:00 Registration and coffee

9:30 Welcome

Chair: Prof. Greg Woolf (Institute of Classical Studies, University of London)

9:45 Prof. Christoph Uehlinger (University of Zurich)
Material Religion in comparative perspective: how different is BCE from CE?

10:45 Prof. Verity Platt (Cornell University)
Fungible Gods and the Limits of Greco-Roman (Anthropo)morphism

11:45 Break

12:05 Prof. Lars Fogelin (University of Arizona)
Material Practice and Metamorphosis of a Sign: Early Buddhist Stupas and the Origin of Mahayana Buddhism

13:05 Lunch

Chair: Prof. Bryan Ward-Perkins (University of Oxford)

14:05 Prof. Martin Goodman (University of Oxford)
Images in synagogue mosaics in late-Roman Palestine

15:05 Prof. Catherine Karkov (University of Leeds)
Empire and Faith: Religious Encounters on the Franks Casket

16:05 Break

16:30 Prof. Zsuzsanna Gulácsi (University of Northern Arizona)
The sideways images of Eastern Christian gospel-books and Manichaean service-books

17:30 General discussion Chair: Prof. Finbarr Barry Flood

Saturday 13th January - Visual conversations in art and religions of Late Antiquity

9:30 *From Kufa to Kells: The Church, the Caliphate, and the Illuminated Word (7th-9th centuries)*
Prof. Ben Tilghman (Lawrence University, Wisconsin) and Dr Umberto Bongianino (University of Oxford)
Chaired by Dr Katherine Cross (Empires of Faith)

11:00 Break

11:30 *From Sarapis, to Christ, to the Caliph. Faces as a re-appropriation of the past*
Prof. Ivan Foletti (Maysak University) and Dr Katharina Meinecke (University of Vienna)
Chaired by Dr Nadia Ali (Empires of Faith)

13:00 Lunch

14:00 *Sacred symbols on domestic and martial objects*
Dr Ine Jacobs (University of Oxford) and Dr Katherine Cross (Empires of Faith, The British Museum & University of Oxford)
Chaired by Robert Bracey (The British Museum, formerly Empires of Faith project)

15:30 Break

16:00 *Buddhist and Islamic amulets: forms and functions*
Prof. Emilie Savage-Smith (University of Oxford) and Dr Gergely Hidas (The British Museum)
Chaired by Dr Maria Lidova (Empires of Faith)

17:30 Concluding discussion. Chair: Prof. Jaś Elsner (Empires of Faith)

19:00 Conference party. All welcome.

The conference is generously supported by the John Fell Fund; The British Museum; The Oxford Centre for Byzantine Research; Centre for the Study of Greek and Roman Antiquity at Corpus Christi College, Oxford; and the Institute of Classical Studies.



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