

News & Events

Event List Symposium—Art and Ideology in the Twelfth-Century Western Mediterranean

Event List
 Calendar
 Press Room
 Faculty News - September 2016
 Newsletter
 Past Events
 Event Photos
 Multimedia
 Youtube
 Vimeo

Event/Speaker
 Symposium—Art and Ideology in the Twelfth-Century Western Mediterranean

Date
 Friday, October 14, 2016

Time
 9:00 am – 5:30 pm

Place
 38 West 86th Street, Lecture Hall

RSVP: 212.501.3019, academicevents@bgc.bard.edu

Description
 Sponsored by the Trehan Research Fund for Islamic Art and Material Culture in conjunction with the Spain-North Africa Project.

In the twelfth century, new powers emerged throughout the Western Mediterranean, from the Almohads of North Africa to the Norman Kingdom of Sicily. In the Iberian Peninsula, upstart rulers with broad ambitions emerged in both Muslim and Christian territories. New city-states appeared with the dissolution of the Almoravid Empire in al-Andalus, and older kingdoms, including Castile-Leon and Aragon, began massive expansions under rulers who claimed imperial titles. This symposium explores how the rulers of this region deployed art (conceived in the broadest sense) to legitimate new claims, how they asserted their authority through the construction of palatial and liturgical spaces, and what kinds of objects their kingdoms produced, traded, or coveted. Talks will investigate how these rulers looked to imperial and caliphal precedents and rivals for models, how they elaborated on these models, and which communities of artisans and workmen they drew from. By bringing together scholars who work on the component kingdoms of this region, this symposium seeks to clarify the connections among them, crossing the geographic, ethnic, and religious lines imposed by modern scholarship. In doing so, it aims to develop new models for understanding the imbricated world of the medieval Western Mediterranean.

9 am
Peter N. Miller
 Dean and Professor, Bard Graduate Center
 Welcome

Abigail Krasner Balbale
 Assistant Professor, Bard Graduate Center
 Introduction

Camilo Gómez-Rivas
 Assistant Professor of Mediterranean Studies, University of California, Santa Cruz;
 President, Spain-North Africa Project
 Introduction

9:15 am
Lev Arie Kapitakin
 Faculty Lecturer, Islamic Art, Tel Aviv University
 “Evoking Tales in a Medieval Ceiling: Sulayman’s / Solomon’s Birds in the Capella Palatina of Palermo”

10 am
Juan Carlos Ruiz Souza
 Professor of Art History, Complutense University of Madrid
 “Al-Andalus and Castile in Front of Hispania: Art and Its Protagonists in the Construction of a Shared Identity”

10:45 am
Coffee Break

11:15 am
María Judith Feliciano
 Independent Scholar
 “Twelfth-Century Textiles in Iberia at the Crossroads of Commerce and Ritual”

12 pm
Lunch Break

1 pm

Francisco Prado-Vilar

Director of Cultural and Artistic Projects, Harvard University, Real Colegio Complutense
“*Laudes Regiae*: Kingship, Transfiguration, and Eschatology in the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela”

1:45 pm

Response and Q&A

Abigail Krasner Balbale

Assistant Professor, Bard Graduate Center
Respondent

2:30 pm

Coffee Break

3 pm

Graduate Student Papers and Panel

Linda G. Jones

Ramón y Cajal Research Professor, Pompeu Fabra University, Barcelona
Chair

Umberto Bongianino

Doctoral Candidate, Islamic Art and Archaeology, University of Oxford, Khalili Research Center
“The Ideological Power of Some Almohad Illuminated Manuscripts”

Negar Rokhgar

Doctoral Student, Art History, Rutgers University
“Squinches, Signifiers of Muslim-Norman Integration at the Church of S. Cataldo in Palermo”

Heather Hoge

Doctoral Candidate, History of Art and Architecture, The Pennsylvania State University
“The Towers of Cefalù: A Display of Power in Roger II’s New Kingdom”

4:30 pm

Concluding Discussion

5 pm

Reception

RSVP is required. Please click on the registration link at the bottom of this page, email academicevents@bgc.bard.edu, or call 212.501.3019.

Academic Programs, Symposia

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