SYMBOLIC ASPECTS OF ARCHITECTURE
LATE ROMAN, BYZANTINE AND OTTOMAN PERSPECTIVES

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

ORGANISERS:
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PROGRAMME

Day 1, Thursday 5 November:

9.30 Registration
10.00 Welcome

Session 1: Transcending realities: architecture and symbolic conception. Chair: Inge Utterhöven, Kø, University of Istanbul
10.10 Maria Cristina Carlucci (Università di Bologna): Iconicity and architecture in late antiquity and Byzantium: on the role of represented architecture between material and immaterial, real and ideal
10.50 Cecilia Olovsson (Swedish Research Institute in Istanbul): From earth to heaven: transcendental concepts of architecture in Late Roman and Early Byzantine art (c. 300-700)
11.30 Coffee break
11.45 Fedorica Brilli (Bologna Art University): The fountain of paradise: symbolism and function of the sebilj fountain in the Mediterranean world
12.20 Gertud Olsson (Kungl. Tekniska högskolan, Stockholm): Some remarks on in-built symbols in the Ottoman era (13.05 Lunch break)

Session 2: Architecture in Literary vision. Chair: Johan Mirtolak, Swedish Research Institute in Istanbul
15.00 Helena Bodin (Stockholms Universitet; Neumann Institute, Upsala): "Dwelling place and palace": the Theotokos as a spatial paradigm in the verbal imagery of Byzantine hagiology
16.40 Ingela Nilsson (Uppsala University): "In the chambers of emperors of old": symbolic meaning in twelfth-century description
16.20 Coffee break
16.35 Ali Uzay Peker (Middle East Technical University, Ankara): Architectural symbolism and theosophical cosmology in medieval Anatolia under the Türkic dynasties
17.15 Birza Aktug Kekaya (Istanbul Teknik Üniversitesi): Symbolic aspects of architecture in the Classical Ottoman period

Day 2, Friday 6 November:

Session 3: Frames for power and ceremony. Chair: Cecilia Olovsson, Swedish Research Institute in Istanbul
10.00 Michael Featherstone (CNR/HESS Paris; Université de Fribourg): Historical symbolon of the Great Palace of Constantinople
10.40 Ruth Macrides (University of Birmingham): Ceremonial and architecture after the Book of Ceremonies
11.20 Coffee break
11.35 Frouke Schrijver (Amsterdam): The hybrid architecture of a royal reception room; the Basilica palace trikonos and the Cappella Palatina compared (12th-14th c.)
12.15 Aga Erkiz (Koç Universiteleri, Istanbul): Status, power, and sound: the decorum of theiconisation programmes in Minar Sinan’s mosques
12.55 Lunch break

Session 4: Sacral structures. Chair: Ali Uzay Peker, Middle East Technical University, Ankara
14.10 Sabine Feld (Martin-Luther-Universitats, Halen-Wittenberg): Symbolic aspects of late-antique church architecture. Sacred spaces on the threshold of a new era
14.50 Paul Magdalino (University of St Andrews): Some lost and little-known Byzantine churches in the vicinity of Hagia Sophia
15.30 Coffee break
15.45 Helenia Biyskianlis (Iowa State University): Nested in its own shape: on the modularity and transposition of canopies in the Byzantine church
16.25 Johan Mirtolak (Swedish Research Institute in Istanbul): Fountains of life and afterlife — symbolon in the Ottoman period
17.05 – c. 17.40 Concluding discussion