

# Looking for Byzantium

## Modernism & Byzantine Cultures

11-12/10/2024

**Organised by:**  
Demet Karabulut Dede  
Christos Hadjiyiannis  
Benjamin Kohlmann

**Venue:**  
Istanbul Bilgi University  
santralistanbul Campus  
ÇSM-403

Fritz Thyssen Stiftung  
für Wissenschaftsförderung



Istanbul  
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# LOOKING FOR BYZANTIUM: MODERNISM & BYZANTINE CULTURES

An international, interdisciplinary conference

held at **İstanbul Bilgi University, santralistanbul Campus, ÇSM-4023**

[location: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/yo2dJaMgraRt3Czs7>]

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THURSDAY, 10 OCTOBER

**18.00: Book Launch: *Syrian Stylites: Rereadings and Recastings of Late Ancient Super-Heroes*, with the Swedish Research Institute and Koç University, ANAMED (Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations)**

[location: ANAMED, Koç University: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/CMYnJDxfYTkX9C3r6>]

FRIDAY, 11 OCTOBER

**9.30-9.45am: Welcome: Looking for Byzantium**

Demet Karabulut Dede, Christos Hadjiyiannis, Benjamin Kohlmann

**9.45-11.30: Panel 1: Looking for Byzantium in Late Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century Art**

- Robert Nelson (Yale): 'Byzantine Revival Architecture and Modernism'
- Demet Karabulut Dede (Princeton): 'Post-Byzantinist Art in the Bloomsbury Group'
- Sean Leatherbury (UCD), 'The Byzantine Modernisms of Mainie Jellett and Norah McGuinness'

11.30-11.45 - COFFEE BREAK

**11.45-13.30: Panel 2: Looking for Byzantium in Late Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century Writing**

- Christos Hadjiyiannis (Regensburg): 'The Byzantine Modernism of Djuna Barnes'
- Kai Wiegandt (Barenboim-Said Akademie): 'Yeats's Byzantium and Orientalism Reconsidered'
- Siren Çelik (Marmara): 'Images of Byzantium in *Count Belisarius*'

13:30-14:30: LUNCH

**14:30-15.45: Panel 3: The Flow of Byzantine Cultural Material in Modernist Literary and Artistic Circles**

- Mark Byron (Sydney): 'Byzantium and the Geopoetics of Modernism'
- Benoit Tadié (Paris Nanterre): 'Riding to Byzantium on the Orient Express: Dos Passos, Greene, Christie'
- Benjamin Kohlmann (Regensburg): 'Modernism's Now: Poetic Mysticism and Byzantium's Afterlives'

**16:30-18:30: Byzantine Tour in Zeyrek and Unkapanı with David Hendrix**

DINNER (SELF-PAID)

## SATURDAY, 12 OCTOBER

### 10:15-12:00: Panel 4: Moments and Momentum: Greek Modernists Rediscover Byzantium

- Tony Paraskeva (Roehampton): 'Cavafy and Byzantium'
- Stavroula Constantinou (University of Cyprus): 'Nikos Kazantzakis and Byzantine Pilgrimage'
- Nikoleta Tzani (Volos Municipality, Greece): 'Crossroads of the Imagination: Mount Athos (Hagion Oros) through the eyes of Modernist Artists'

12:00-13:00 - LUNCH

### 13:00-14:45: Panel 5: Looking for Byzantine Studies in Turkey

- Bengü Vahapoğlu (Haliç): 'Writing New Myths about a Vanished City: Byzantium in Hulki Aktunç's Short Stories'
- Nektaria Anastasiadou: 'Byzantium 2024'
- Koray Durak (Boğaziçi): 'The Development of Byzantine Studies in Turkey: The Late Ottoman and Early Republican Periods'

14:45-15:00 - COFFEE BREAK

### 15:00-16:00: Roundtable: Where to Look for Byzantium Next?

Mark Byron, Tony Paraskeva, Stavroula Constantinou, Koray Durak

### 16:00-16:10: Concluding Remarks

### 18.00: Exhibition Visit: 'The Odyssey of Byzantine Studies in Turkey', curated by Koray Durak

[location: ANAMED, Koç University: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/CMYnJDxfYTkX9C3r6>]

DINNER (PAID BY CONFERENCE)

The organisers would like to warmly thank **Boğaziçi University, Byzantine Studies Research Center** and **Koç University, ANAMED (Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations)** for their support.



For any questions, please contact Demet at [dmtkrblt@gmail.com](mailto:dmtkrblt@gmail.com)  
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