



SRII WINTER AND SPRING LECTURES 2022

THE CITY

January 25, 2022

19:00 (Turkey), 17:00 (CET)

## The Splendor Far Away

### Assembling Popular Images of Constantinople

Emir Alışık, Istanbul University

'*What Byzantinism Is This in Istanbul!*': *Byzantium in Popular Culture* is an exhibition organized by Istanbul Research Institute for Pera Museum. It explores multiple and conflicting meanings of Byzantinism, and questions popular culture's interaction with the Byzantine legacy by scrutinizing a selection of topoi representing Byzantium in popular culture. The exhibition coins four topoi – Sailing to Byzantium, Jewel of the World, Riotous Colors, and Cloak and Dagger – which crosscut artistic genres and mediums, such as literature, music, comics and graphic novels, illustrations, video games, movies, and fashion. The first two topoi largely define Byzantinisms that are built upon the attributes of Byzantium/Constantinople – both the empire and the city – and its monuments. The latter group explains the inner workings and interrelations of the peoples of Byzantium.

This talk will discuss each topos with exemplary artworks to illustrate how the sections of the exhibition came to being.

Emir Alışık is the curator of the exhibition '*What Byzantinism Is This in Istanbul!*': *Byzantium in Popular Culture* at the Pera Museum.

— Zoom admission code after registration to [event@srii.org.tr](mailto:event@srii.org.tr) —