

RESEARCH SEMINAR SRII, Wednesday May 11 2022, 14:00–16.00

Migrating Relics: Dynamics of Long Distance Relic Relocation in Late Antiquity András Handl

The rapid rise of the relics' cult in the fourth century changed 'overnight' the distinctively reserved classical attitude towards human's mortal remains. After a short period of initial hesitation, martyrs' bodies were more and more frequently exhumed and relocated, which happened reportedly in geographic vicinity to the tomb. Sometimes, however, bodies or body parts crossed the Roman Empire and travelled thousands of miles before they found their final(?) resting places. This talk takes a closer look into the long distance translations in the period before the commercialisation. It will shed light on the underlying mechanisms and asks, why martyrs' bodies have been moved across the Empire in the first place and how the communities tied to the cult were evolving after the removal or arrival of the sacred bodies; and which narratives.

Cultural negotiation in the illumination of the Sarajevo Haggadah Cedomila Markinkovic

The Sarajevo Haggadah is the most valuable medieval Jewish manuscript in Bosnia and Herzegovina's National Museum. I'll talk about how such manuscripts came to be in Jewish surroundings, who illuminated it, and how several concealed visual methods were utilized to spread the Jewish message without being sanctioned by Christian authority.