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Late Byzantine Thessalonike

Dumbarton Oaks Symposium 2001

The annual Byzantine Studies symposium at Dumbarton Oaks was held May 4–6, 2001 under the direction of Jean-Michel Spieser. Fourteen papers explored various aspects of urban life in Thessalonike during the Palaiologan period, from the 13th to 15th centuries, a time when the city's significance increased, after the re-establishment of the Byzantine capital in Constantinople by Michael VIII Palaiologos. Even in the middle of the civil wars, which were so frequent in the 14th century, Thessalonike on occasion became almost a rival of the capital. Despite its troubled situation, Thessalonike experienced a flourishing religious, intellectual, and artistic life: in no other period since early Christian times were so many churches built and decorated. The symposium was intended to give fresh insights into the second city of the empire, and to provide a new synthesis, based on the increasingly rich documentation which has become available over the course of the last century.

Program

Session I: Historical and Topographical Frames

Jean-Michel Spieser (University of Fribourg)

Introduction

John Barker (University of Wisconsin)

The Trials and Tribulations of a Second City

Charalambos Bakirtzis (Ephoreia of Byzantine Antiquities, Thessalonike)
Topography of Late Byzantine Thessalonike: Urban Continuity and Extent

Slobodan Ćurčić (Princeton University)

The Role of Thessalonike in Late Byzantine Church Architecture in the Balkans

Session II: Society

David Jacoby (Hebrew University)

Foreigners in Thessalonike

Nevra Necipoğlu (Boğaziçi University)
The Aristocracy in Late Byzantine Thessalonike (14th–15th centuries)

Franz Tinnefeld (University of Munich)
Intellectuals in Late Byzantine Thessalonike

Session III: Administration and Economy

Cécile Morrisson (C.N.R.S.–Collège de France)
The Emperor, the Saint, the City: Coinage and Money in Thessalonike
(13th–15th centuries)

Angeliki Laïou (Harvard University–Academy of Athens)
Economic Concerns and Attitudes of the Intellectuals of Thessalonike

Session IV: Arts

Euthymios Tsigaridas (Aristotle University, Thessalonike)
L'activité artistique des peintres thessaloniens Manuel Panselinos et Georges Kaliergis:
Nouveaux éléments

Sharon Gerstel (University of Maryland)
Pride of Place: Civic and Regional Influences on Subjects Portrayed in Macedonian
Wall Painting

Katia Tsigaridas (Ephoreia of Byzantine Antiquities, Thessalonike)
Les arts mineurs à Thessalonique pendant la période paléologue

Session V: Religious Life

George Dennis (Catholic University of America)
Metropolitans of Thessalonike

Christophe Giros (C.N.R.S.–Collège de France)
Présence athonite à Thessalonique

Alexander Lingas (St. Peter's College, Oxford)
Cathedral Worship in Late Byzantine Thessalonike: Liturgy, Music, and Mystagogy

Angeliki Laïou (Harvard University–Academy of Athens)
Conclusion